



# Central Coast CREEC

Linking Central Coast Teachers with Quality Environmental Education Resources

September 2010

Region 8 Serves San Luis Obispo, Santa Barbara, Ventura and Kern Counties

## In This Issue

- EE Success Stories
- EE Resources
- Trainings/Workshops
- Community Events
- Conferences/Classes
- EE Grants/Contests

Have a newsletter submission?

Contact Teresa Lees for submission guidelines!

Contact CREEC 8  
Teresa "Tree" Lees  
CREEC 8 Coordinator  
[trees@slocoe.org](mailto:trees@slocoe.org)  
805-782-7265  
[www.creec.org/region8](http://www.creec.org/region8)

## EE Success Stories

### EE Providers Receptions to be held in each County in Region 8

The CREEC Network will be hosting county-wide meetings for EE Providers to collaborate and network with one another. The first of the series of receptions will be held in San Luis Obispo County. Look here for information on the other meeting dates for Santa Barbara, Ventura and Kern Counties.

### Wednesday, October 27, 2010 – 4pm to 6pm at Rancho El Chorro Outdoor School

The purpose of this meeting is to convene all regional Environmental Education Providers, agencies and organizations that provide services to San Luis Obispo county schools. Agenda items include Green Schools Guide for the Central Coast as well as alignment of your programs to EEI units. Our guest speaker will be Celeste Royer, State Director of the CREEC Network and Director of the Rancho El Chorro Outdoor School.

### Bioneers Conference is coming to the Central Coast October 15-17, 2010

Bioneers is inspiring a shift to live on Earth in ways that honor the web of life, each other, and future generations. <http://www.ecologistics.org/centralcoastbioneers/>

Central Coast Bioneers is the Beaming Bioneers conference partner for the San Luis Obispo County, Santa Barbara County and Monterey County region. This means that some of the keynote speakers from Marin will be beamed via satellite for local viewing. Our inaugural conference will take place at the Cal Poly Performing Arts complex, including the Spanos Theater, Philips Hall, and Pavilion, and in the adjacent UU.

## EE Resources

### Engaging Lifecycle of "Stuff" Lesson Plans from Facing the Future



Students are surrounded by "stuff" - from blue jeans to the latest cell phone - in their everyday lives. With [Buy, Use, Toss? A Closer Look at the Things We Buy](#), a comprehensive unit for Grades 9-12 on consumption that is aligned with standards in all 50 U.S. States, your students will investigate the lifecycle of products as they do things such as...

- Gain math and science skills while determining ways to reduce the carbon footprint of shipping blue jeans,
- Engage in civic discourse during a discussion of how we dispose of our waste,

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- Develop corporate policies to protect workers and consumers, and
- Gain media literacy skills while analyzing ads.

[http://www.facingthefuture.org/Curriculum/BuyUseToss/tabid/469/Default.aspx?utm\\_source=BUT+launch&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_campaign=BUT+Launch](http://www.facingthefuture.org/Curriculum/BuyUseToss/tabid/469/Default.aspx?utm_source=BUT+launch&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=BUT+Launch)

## Oil Spill Resources and Curricula

Now Available at [EEWeek.org](http://EEWeek.org)



On April 20, 2010, an explosion on the Deepwater Horizon oil rig in the Gulf of Mexico resulted in the largest offshore oil spill to date. Young people are asking their teachers and parents difficult questions about the causes and effects of the spill. The resources and curricula provided at [EEWeek.org](http://EEWeek.org) offer students and educators an opportunity to explore the effects of oil spills on people, wildlife and ecosystems, investigate cleanup strategies and reflect on ways to prevent future environmental catastrophes of this scale. Visit the Oil Spill webpage to browse oil spill resources and curricula.

[http://www.eeweek.org/oil\\_spill.htm](http://www.eeweek.org/oil_spill.htm)

### World Water Monitoring Day - September 18, 2010

World Water Monitoring Day is an international education and outreach program that builds public awareness and involvement in protecting water resources around the world by engaging citizens to conduct basic monitoring of their local water bodies.

Participants are encouraged to register their site and report their data before December 31 to be included in the Year in Review report. Test kits can be ordered online and resources are available as free downloads. <http://www.worldwatermonitoringday.org/>



### Earth Science Week - October 10-16, 2010

Since 1998, the American Geological Institute has organized Earth Science Week to help the public gain a better understanding and appreciation for the Earth Sciences and to encourage stewardship of the Earth. "Exploring Energy," the theme of Earth Science Week 2010 will engage young people and the public in learning about Earth's energy resources. Resources for teachers and students are available on this website:

<http://www.earthsciweek.org/>

### National Park Foundation Electronic Field Trips

Electronic Field Trips (EFT) give students the opportunity to learn about a particular topic through national parks they may never get a chance to visit. Each EFT consists of two components: 1) a televised broadcast from a national park featuring National Park Service Rangers and youth hosts and 2) a website featuring downloadable lesson plans for teachers and interactive games for students. On October 13, 2010 the next installment in the Electronic Field Trip series will teach students about climate change through a visit to North Cascades National Park. <http://www.nationalparks.org/npf-at-work/our-programs/electronic-field-trip/>

### Young Voices on Climate Change

Young Voices on Climate Changes is a series of short films featuring young people using science and data to reduce the carbon footprint of their homes, schools, communities and states. The films represent replicable success stories. The films can be viewed online. <http://youngvoicesonclimatechange.com/climate-change-videos.php>

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## Morro Bay Museum of Natural History School Tours for Seventh Grade

Field trips based on 7th grade science standards are now available at the Museum of Natural History and at Montana de Oro State Park. Topics include Evolution, Cell Biology, Estuary Systems, Plant and Vertebrate Evolution, and Marine Geology. Transportation grants available thru April 2011. For more information go to: [http://creec.edgateway.net/cs/creec8p/view/creec\\_org/1351](http://creec.edgateway.net/cs/creec8p/view/creec_org/1351) or the Central Coast Natural History Association website at [www.ccnha.org](http://www.ccnha.org).

## Homegrown - The Importance of Agriculture in Ventura County

The Importance of Agriculture in Ventura County Education Program is offered free of charge and teaches 2 - 4 grade students about the many facets of the local agricultural industry from planting to market, parts of the plant, top ten crops, careers in agriculture and the workforce behind the agricultural industry. Part II of the program is consists of taking students on an outdoor field trip to a local agricultural producer. There the students pick fruit first hand, visit a packing house and learn about clean renewable energy in the solar orchard. Another program the Resource Conservation District of Ventura County offers is the Farmer of the Month highlighting Ventura County farmers.

**Web Site Address** <http://conserveventura.org>

**Contact's Name** Mary Maranville

**Phone** 805-746-0606

**Fax** 805-386-4890

**Email** [mary.maranville@vcrd.org](mailto:mary.maranville@vcrd.org)

## A plan to clean up ocean plastic - [www.thecleanoceansproject.org](http://www.thecleanoceansproject.org)

Much has been said about the millions of tons of plastic suspended in mostly tiny bits in the North Pacific gyre as well as others worldwide. Now there is at least one organization developing a plan to try to clean it up.

Plastic doesn't biodegrade, but salt water, wind and sun breaks it into pieces that retain its toxic, polymer structure, displacing surface plankton while birds and mammals ingest the pieces thinking they are food. The toxins also concentrate on up the food chain.

The cleanup plan is called The Clean Oceans Project, and its goals are to locate consistent concentrations of the Pacific's plastic soup, remove as much of it as possible and find ways to re-use the waste.

The Clean Oceans Project needs volunteers, funds, and other types of help. Call 476-8267 or check out their website at [www.thecleanoceansproject.org](http://www.thecleanoceansproject.org).

**International Walk to School Day 2010 - Wednesday, October 6:** It's not too late to host a simple Walk to School (W2S) day at your local school! The W2S website has many free resources available for your use such as: 'Getting Started' step-by-step directions, pre-made flyers, press releases, logos, event ideas, classroom activities and more! For pre-made principal and teacher letters, safety brochures and more in SPANISH and ENGLISH visit [California's W2S website](http://www.cawalktoschool.com/toolkit.html).

<http://www.cawalktoschool.com/toolkit.html>

**More EE Resources can be found on the CREEC 8 Website in the "Resource Directory" as well as the "For Teachers" or "For Providers" link.**

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## Trainings & Workshops

### Waves, Wetlands, and Watersheds Workshop – Oct. 15

Oxnard College Marine Center & Aquarium - **Registration deadline is October 4, 2010.**

When you attend this free workshop, you will receive a free copy of the California Coastal Commission's science activity guide for teachers, Waves, Wetlands, and Watersheds. You'll try out some of the activities in the guide and get an overview of the other free educational resources and programs available through the Coastal Commission. You will be eligible for professional growth credit from University of the Pacific upon completing additional work. REGISTER by contacting Annie Kohut Frankel at [afrankel@coastal.ca.gov](mailto:afrankel@coastal.ca.gov), (415) 597-5888, or (800) Coast4U. Please provide your name, phone number, email, and organization/school/grade as applicable. This workshop is open to both formal and informal educators.

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### Fresh Fruits & Vegetables Training in San Luis Obispo – October 13<sup>th</sup> & 14<sup>th</sup>

Free Professional Development Training Opportunity for school personnel and community partners. This two-day training provides tools to support and increase of fresh fruits and vegetables on school campuses through interactive and skill-building activities. To register and access agenda and handouts go to: [www.healthyschoolenvironment.org](http://www.healthyschoolenvironment.org)

### CLIMATE CHANGE TEACHER TRAINING – Oct. 16, 2010 in SLO

The San Luis Obispo County Air Pollution Control District, in partnership with the San Luis Obispo County Planning and Building Department and Strategic Energy Innovations, Inc., is recruiting school teachers to implement a science based climate change curriculum in their 2010 & 2011 lesson plans.

- Training is Saturday, October 16, 2010 from 9:30 am to 3:30 pm;
- Lessons explore the science behind the causes and solutions to climate change;
- Curriculum is linked to California State Standards, as well as California's Environmental Principles and Concepts;
- Receive a teacher manual, curriculum, lesson plans, visual materials, and supplies for experiments;
- A Cal Poly student intern will provide classroom experiment and lesson assistance;
- Receive a \$100 stipend to attend the training; and,
- Great food – catered breakfast and lunch is provided at the training

Space is limited; to reserve your spot, contact Gary Arcemont at 805 781 5743 or [garcemont@co.slo.ca.us](mailto:garcemont@co.slo.ca.us)

### GBL Teacher Training – October 23, 2010

at the Master Gardener Demo Garden called the Sunshine School Garden by the UCCE Offices on Sierra Way across from County Hospital on Johnson Ave. The workshop will be from 9am to 2pm and will cost \$20. This will be a "teachers teaching teachers" professional development workshop about what successful teachers do in their school gardens to connect to state standards and classroom learning. To register contact Master Gardener's GBL Chair, Teresa Lees at [treelees@charter.net](mailto:treelees@charter.net) or register online at the UCCE website's calendar section: <http://cesanluisobispo.ucdavis.edu/>

### Garden Based Workshops from Life Lab!

We are happy to announce our fall 2010 professional development workshops. 1 unit of graduate education credit from the University of the Pacific is available for each workshop day.

Attend a workshop here at our spectacular Garden Classroom in Santa Cruz, or have us come to your school or community. Workshop registrations are processed on a first-come first-serve basis.

**Plant It, Grow It, Eat It: Garden-Enhanced Nutrition Education - Sept 17. \$150**

**The Growing Classroom: An Introduction to Garden-Based Learning - Sept 30-Oct 1. \$300**

**Sowing the Seeds of Wonder: Discovering the Garden in Early Childhood Education - Oct 23. \$150**

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Fees include workshop instruction, curriculum to take home, and a farm-fresh lunch.

To learn more about our workshops, financial assistance, and registration, please visit: <http://www.lifelab.org/workshops.php>

For more information on our workshops, you can visit our website or contact Whitney Cohen at [education@lifelab.org](mailto:education@lifelab.org) or (831) 459-3833.

**More Trainings & Workshops can be found on the CREEC 8 Website in the "For Teachers" link.**

## Community Events

### Get Ready for National Public Lands Day – September 25

An excellent service-learning opportunity

Looking for service-learning opportunities this fall? September 25, 2010 is National Public Lands Day (NPLD), the nation's largest hands-on volunteer effort to improve and enhance America's public lands. NPLD engages a diverse audience of adult and youth volunteers, whether at a national park, nature center or school garden. Visit [www.publiclandsday.org](http://www.publiclandsday.org) to find an existing project or register your own.



NPLD is also a great opportunity to educate youth about environmental stewardship and bring learning outdoors.

For ideas, check out NPLD's [educational resource library](http://publiclandsday.org/library/index/ed_resources.htm), [http://publiclandsday.org/library/index/ed\\_resources.htm](http://publiclandsday.org/library/index/ed_resources.htm) which includes lesson plans, project ideas, recreational opportunities and more.

### Conservation Celebration at Charles Paddock Zoo – Sept. 25, 2010 - Atascadero

The 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Conservation Celebration is here! The Conservation Celebration will take place inside the **Charles Paddock Zoo** in Atascadero Saturday, September 25<sup>th</sup>, 11am - 3 pm. The event includes animal spotlights, hands-on exhibits, workshops and live music.

### Autumn Garden Tour – Celebrating Our Landscapes – October 9<sup>th</sup>, 9am to 3pm

The Atascadero Mutual Water Company is hosting its 5<sup>th</sup> annual garden tour. The self guided tour will showcase water-wise, resource-friendly landscape designs for the Atascadero Area. Tickets are \$10 in advance and \$15 the day of the event. For more information call 461-7217 x17.

### 26th Annual Coastal Cleanup Day – Sept. 25<sup>th</sup>, 2010

Each fall, people all over the country participate in *COASTWEEKS*, a celebration of our coastal and water resources. This year *COASTWEEKS* takes place from September 25 to October 16, kicked off by the 26<sup>th</sup> annual California Coastal Cleanup Day. The California Coastal Commission will feature and publicize a calendar of events in a special section of our website.



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Special events created for *COASTWEEKS* and prescheduled coast- and water-related events are eligible. We encourage events from throughout the state. This celebration is a great way to expand your outreach and to participate in a nation-wide effort to encourage appreciation and preservation of our coast and inland waterways. For more information, visit [www.coastforyou.org](http://www.coastforyou.org)

#### **Alternative Fuel Car Show at Hearst Castle Visitor's Center Parking Lot October 3, 2010 from 1 – 4pm**

We are revving up to make the October 3rd "Meet the Members" Reception and Alternative Fuel Show at Hearst Castle the best one yet! New alternative fuel technology vehicles including electric natural gas, propane, biodiesel, ethanol and hybrids. Adults and children welcome. FREE EVENT. Put on by the C5 Coalition.

#### **Health Events in San Luis Obispo – October 22, 2010**

Health Summit *Turning the Tide of Obesity* on **October 22, 2010** from 8am to 4pm at Embassy Suites (find out more at [www.healslo.com](http://www.healslo.com)) and a Hands On Health symposium at Cal Poly that same day from 3:30pm to 6pm (find out more at <http://stride.calpoly.edu/hands/index.html> ).

#### **Seed Exchange – Saturday, October 23, 6pm at SLO County/City Library**

The SLO City Dept of Parks and Recreation has reserved the SLO Library community room on Saturday October 23 from 6-9 pm for our 2010 Seed Exchange. Do you have a box or can of dated vegetable and garden flower seed that you haven't used and probably won't use. Start packing it up! If you have native pollinator-attracting plants going to seed, after they dry out, clip them and fill a grocery bag or a zip lock or a basket. Bring in acorns if you collect them and also other native tree seeds. Save your envelopes from junk mail and bring them to the exchange for seed distribution.

**More Community Events can be found on the CREEC 8 Website in the "EE Calendar" link.**

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#### **Conferences/Classes**

#### **2010 GROWING GREENER SCHOOL GROUNDS CONFERENCE**

**Date: September 24th & 25th, 2010**

**Location:** San Francisco, CA

The 2010 conference will feature hands-on workshops where you can learn how to use the sun as a teaching resource, understand the basics of organic gardening, build your own planting beds, create colorful mosaics, install irrigation, and more. In addition, many workshops will cover how to connect the outdoor classroom to the education content standards at all grade levels. Visit the San Francisco GREEN SCHOOLS website for more information. <http://sfgreenschools.org/conference/>

#### **BIONEERS Conference is coming to the Central Coast - October 15-17, 2010**

Bioneers is inspiring a shift to live on Earth in ways that honor the web of life, each other, and future generations. Bioneers has two keystone goals to help make this shift successfully: Connect people with solutions by popularizing breakthrough ideas and practices, and grow social capital by catalyzing, connecting and strengthening strategic networks, including bioregional and community based alliances. Will be held at Cal Poly. For more information go to:

<http://www.ecoagistics.org/centralcoastbioneers/index.php?sent=1>

### 2010 CAITC California Agriculture in the Classroom Conference – Nov. 5 & 6, 2010, located in the Central Coast in Shell Beach, CA

Educators of all grade levels are invited to participate in the 2010 California Agriculture in the Classroom Conference, being held November 5<sup>th</sup> & 6<sup>th</sup>, 2010 in Shell Beach. A variety of hands-on workshops will be held designed to help educators teach about agriculture and increase student awareness of the role of agriculture in the economy and society. Learn more <http://www.cfaitc.org/conference/>

### California World Ocean 2010 Conference – September 7-10, San Francisco



We are very pleased to announce that the Program Guide for the California and the World Ocean '10 (CWO '10) conference is now available online at <http://www.cce.csus.edu/cwo>. Through the efforts of countless people over the last year and a half, we have put together an impressive conference program that consists of four plenary sessions, 64 concurrent sessions, and other events.

### Green Schools National Conference - Oct. 24-26, 2010

The 1st Annual Green Schools National Conference will be held October 24-26 in Minneapolis, Minn. The focus will be Growing Green Schools Across America with breakout sessions built around the topics of sustainability education, green practices at school, green school facilities, community involvement, green economics and green careers. Learn more <http://www.greenschoolsnationalconference.org>

**More Conferences/Classes can be found on the CREEC 8 Website in the “EE Calendar” or “For Providers” links.**

## EE Grants & Contests

### Local Pollution Prevention School Challenge – County of SLO APCD Pre-register by September 22, 2010 at [www.slocleanair.org](http://www.slocleanair.org)

Develop a project or a program in your class or club that would reduce air pollution in your school. Projects can be anything you dream of but they will be judge on feasibility, implementation and environmental stewardship. Projects are due by October 22, 2010.

### Pollution Prevention Week 2010 Statewide Video Contest

*What if everyone ...* took one small action to reduce their environmental impact? For the 20th anniversary of the Pollution Prevention Act and in celebration of National Pollution Prevention Week, DTSC and the Western Sustainability and Pollution Prevention Network (WSPPN) are asking everyday people just like you to make a short video that shows how making small changes in our daily lives can have a big, positive impact on the environment. Pollution Prevention Week 2010 is about the power of the people to make positive changes that can gain critical mass to change the world! Read below for more information, rules on submissions and potential topics.

All you need to do is fill out the submission form, review the rules and submit your video response **on or before Sept. 19, 2010**, to our promotional video on DTSC's YouTube contest site. The best videos will be featured throughout Pollution Prevention Week on the DTSC Web page. Videos submitted by September 24 may be considered to be featured on the DTSC web page, and will be considered for acknowledgement at the 2010 Western Sustainability and Pollution Prevention Network conference in San Diego.

<http://www.dtsc.ca.gov/pollutionprevention/p2week.cfm#competition>

**California Sea Grant College Program is soliciting applications for the 2010–2011 California Sea Grant State Fellows Program**

**APPLICATION DEADLINE: WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 15, 2010**

The State Fellows Program provides a unique educational opportunity for graduate students at California higher education institutions who are interested both in marine resources and in the policy decisions affecting those resources in California.

Modeled after the highly successful national Knauss Marine Policy Fellowship Program, the State Fellows Program provides an opportunity to acquire "on the job" experience in the planning and implementation of marine and coastal resource policies and programs in the state of California. The program matches highly motivated and qualified graduate students and recent graduates with "hosts" in state or federal agencies in California for a 12-month, paid fellowship (\$2,833 per month).

This year, the following seven organizations are available as hosts :

- 1) California Ocean Protection Council
- 2) California Ocean Science Trust
- 3) Ocean Resources Management Program, California Resources Agency
- 4) Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary
- 5) Channel Islands National Marine Sanctuary
- 6) NOAA National Marine Protected Areas Center
- 7) California Department of Parks and Recreation, Natural Resources Division

The full request for applications with guidelines and host position descriptions are available on California Sea Grant's State Fellows Program website at

[www.csgc.ucsd.edu/EDUCATION/STATEFELLOW/StateFellow\\_current.html](http://www.csgc.ucsd.edu/EDUCATION/STATEFELLOW/StateFellow_current.html)

For more information, please contact Shauna Oh at [shaunaoh@ucsd.edu](mailto:shaunaoh@ucsd.edu) or call her at 858-534-4440.

**Bright Ideas Grants for Schools 2010 Applications**  
**Deadline for Fall Submission is September 20, 2010**

\$250,000 in \$1,000, \$2,500, \$5,000 or \$10,000 grants will be given.

<http://pge.need.org/node/2>

**PG&E Expands the Solar Schools Bright Ideas Program to Bring More Environmental Resources and Programs to Public School.**

PG&E recognizes that public schools are facing hard economic times. This is why the company has expanded its Bright Ideas Grant Program to include new categories that will provide additional learning opportunities for students and teachers while creating energy and money saving programs for school campuses throughout northern and central California.

**Who Should Apply:** Credentialed teachers, professors, instructors, principals, deans, department heads, district administrators and facilities managers may apply to receive a **\$1000, \$2,500, \$5000, or \$10,000 grant** to promote environmental stewardship in any of the five following categories:

**Educational Solar Projects:** Successful submissions will include innovative classroom and extracurricular programs/projects that explore the science of solar energy and the generation of electricity from solar

**Youth Energy and Environmental Programs:** Successful submissions will include energy efficiency, recycling, composting, water reclamation and/or gardening programs and clubs that serve as learning and leadership opportunities for students, the faculty, and the community at large.

**Renewable Energy or Science Related Field Trips:** Successful submissions will include transportation, admission, or expenses associated with field trips that excite students about science, energy, careers in energy and the environment.

**Green Your School Projects:** Successful submissions will include energy efficiency upgrades, energy monitoring systems, and communication tools that will promote energy education and smart energy use at the school and in the community.

**Professional Development/Service Learning Projects/ Workforce Development Programs:** Successful submissions will include projects that expand the teacher's knowledge about renewable energy, energy resources and/or the future of the energy industry. High Schools and Community colleges may consider using the funding to create programs and curriculum to address workforce development in the growing renewable and efficiency industry and service learning opportunities in the local community.

**What's available?** Schools chosen to receive a "Bright Ideas Grant" are asked to designate attendees to attend the training programs provided by the PG&E Solar Schools Program.

**How do we apply?** The 2010 application is available in an [Online](#) format to submit directly to us. Spring 2010 Grants will be announced by June 1. A final report of grant activities for those receiving grants in the including photos, multi-media presentations, activities and lessons prepared for the project and documentation is due one year after the receipt of the grant. Reports should be sent to Mary Spruill, NEED Project, 8408 Kao Circle, Manassas, Virginia 20110 via mail or via email to [mspruill@need.org](mailto:mspruill@need.org).

**NOAA Ocean Guardian School Grants. Deadline is October 5, 2010**

Funds are now available for schools to create a project that focuses on current issues affecting local watersheds and the ocean, while promoting best environmental practices. Through a school- or community-based project, schools work to make a difference in the health and protection of their local watersheds and ocean. General project pathways include: Water quality monitoring, restoration, marine debris, schoolyard habitats/gardens, re-use/recycle/reduce.

Funding will range from \$2,000 to \$6,000 per project, depending on the scope of the conservation project proposed by the school. Schools will receive funds to implement their projects. If project goals are met, they will be officially recognized as an Ocean Guardian School and receive a colorful Ocean Guardian banner.

WHO: Public and private K-12 schools in the California counties of Contra Costa, Sonoma, Marin, San Francisco, Alameda, San Mateo, Santa Cruz, Santa Clara, Monterey, San Benito, San Luis Obispo, Santa Barbara, and Ventura.

WHEN: Applications are due via mail or fax on Oct. 5, 2010. Schools may apply for funding for projects scheduled to begin Jan. 1st, 2011. Projects must run for a minimum of six months, preferably one year.

WHERE TO APPLY: On the Web at

[http://sanctuaries.noaa.gov/education/ocean\\_guardian](http://sanctuaries.noaa.gov/education/ocean_guardian).

Questions? Contact Naomi Pollack at [naomi.pollack@noaa.gov](mailto:naomi.pollack@noaa.gov)  
831-236-7677

**John Muir Conservation Award - Application deadline October 1**

The John Muir Association is accepting applications for the John Muir Conservation Award in four categories: Conservationist of the Year, Environmental Education Conservation Award, Nonprofit or Public Agency Conservation Award and the Business Conservation Award.

<http://www.johnmuirassociation.org/php/conserv-award-submitnom.php>



**Healthy Sprouts Award - Application deadline October 1**

The Subaru Healthy Sprouts Award recognizes and supports youth gardening programs focused on teaching about the environment, nutrition and hunger issues in the United States. Schools planning to garden in 2011 with at least 15 children between the ages of 3 and 18 are eligible to apply. Award package includes a \$500 gift certificate to the Gardening with Kids catalog and online store, gardening supplies and educational materials.

<http://www.kidsgardening.com/grants/healthysprouts.asp>



**Get Ingrained Grants Program - Application deadline October 4**

The Get Ingrained Grants Program will award two \$15,000 grants to people or organizations committed to bettering the health of their communities through nutrition-driven initiatives. Some project examples include a community garden that provides access to fresh fruits and vegetables or a healthy eating workshop for kids. Applications must detail how their project helps endorse a healthy lifestyle and promotes informed food and beverage choice. <http://www.getingrained.com/>

**People's Garden School Pilot Program - Application deadline October 8**

The USDA Food and Nutrition Service (FNS) is accepting applications for a People's Garden School Pilot grant competition. Grants will be awarded to develop and run community gardens at eligible high poverty schools with the goal of teaching students about agriculture production practices, diet and nutrition. Public or private non-profit organizations are eligible to apply. The grant offering will be awarded as a cooperative agreement between the award recipient and the FNS.

Learn more <http://www.fns.usda.gov/fns/outreach/grants/garden.htm>

**Lowe's Toolbox for Education Grants - Application deadline October 15**

The Lowe's Toolbox for Education offers grants of up to \$5,000 to schools and parent/teacher groups across the United States to support grassroots school and community projects. Grant projects should encourage parent involvement and build stronger community ties. [Learn more](http://www.toolboxforeducation.com/)

<http://www.toolboxforeducation.com/>



## Student Contests

### Earth Science Week Contests - Submission deadline October 15

The Earth Science Week contests this year include photography, visual arts and essays. The photography contest challenges photographers of any age to use their camera to capture their community's use of energy. The visual arts contest asks elementary students to create a poster showing energy's place in the way the planet works. The essay contest, for students in grades 6-9, asks participants to write an essay on the ways energy interacts with the Earth system and how people can be efficient, responsible stewards of the planet's energy resources. Prizes include \$300 and a copy of the American Geological Institute's *Faces of Earth* DVD. Learn more <http://www.earthsciweek.org/contests/>

### SeaWorld & Busch Gardens Environmental Excellence Awards

#### Application deadline December 1

SeaWorld Parks & Entertainment recognize the outstanding efforts of K-12 students and teachers across the country who are working at the grassroots level to protect and preserve the environment. Eight school or community groups are selected each year to win \$10,000 and one environmental educator/leader receives \$5,000. Learn more <http://www.swbg-animals.org/conservation-matters/eea/index.htm>

### Ways to Help

WaysToHelp.org invites teens in the United States to apply for grants to fund their community service ideas across any one of 16 issue areas, including clean water, land preservation, global warming and recycling. Grant requests are reviewed and responded to on a monthly basis. Learn more <http://waystohelp.org/>

### Got Environment

#### Deadline: December 1, 2010

Participate in the It's My Environment video project coordinated by the U.S. EPA. Make a personal commitment to make environmental protection a part of your daily life. Send a video clip of you saying "It's My Environment" and holding up a sign. Anyone can enter! For more information, visit <http://www.epa.gov/earthday/>

### Volvo Adventure Contest – United Nations Environment Programme

#### Deadline: January 31, 2011

The Volvo Adventure - in partnership with the United Nations Environment Programme - is an educational programme that rewards environmental activities and the decision-makers of the future. To enter, you form a team of 2 to 5 members aged 13 to 16 (at competition opening - July 1st 2009). Perform an environmental project in your local community & submit the project via our online submission tool before the competition deadline, January 31, 2011. Projects are judged and the best projects are selected for an all expenses paid trip to Göteborg, Sweden where they can win: 1st place = 10,000 USD, 2nd = 6,000 USD and 3rd = 4,000 USD. See the registration details and guidelines for more information. <http://www.volvoadventure.org/home.aspx>

**This is the end of the September 2010 Region 8 CREEC Newsletter**