



# National Environmental Education Week

A National Environmental Education Foundation Program

February 2009

[www.EEWeek.org](http://www.EEWeek.org)



## Greetings!

EE Week is less than two months away! Register your school or organization today for National EE Week, **April 12-18, 2009**, by visiting [www.eeweek.org/register](http://www.eeweek.org/register). Certificates are provided to recognize registered educators and students. In addition, our generous partners at **Acorn Naturalists**, providers of science and nature resources for the trail and classroom, are providing EE Week registrants \$10 off of a purchase!

EE Week's 2009 theme is *Be Water Wise!* New resources on water quality and water conservation are being added at EEWeek.org each week. *Be Water Wise!* resources currently available include:

- A new series of water-themed [Nature Journaling Blogs](#);
- A new "Water" category in the EE Week [Curricula Library](#);
- A [Water Resources](#) page with resources on teaching about water, helpful websites, and web activities for students;
- Water-related additions to the [Green Reading for Educators](#) and [Green Reading for Students](#) lists; and
- A [Water Quality Testing](#) page with resources for monitoring water quality with students.

Join us this April for the nation's largest environmental education event. When you register you will join a national network of educators dedicated to increasing environmental literacy, promote environmental learning, and gain national exposure for your school or organization. Register today!

Sincerely,

Jessica Culverhouse  
National Environmental Education Week Coordinator

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### Our Program

National Environmental Education (EE) Week, made possible by [Canon USA](#), Inc., is the largest organized environmental education event in the United States. EE Week promotes understanding and protection of the natural world by creating a full week of environmentally-themed lessons and activities in K-12 classrooms, nature centers, zoos, museums, and aquariums.

### Contact Us

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## EE Week Registrants receive \$10 off at Acorn Naturalists!

This year, our partners at [Acorn Naturalists](#) are providing all educators who register for National EE Week a coupon for \$10 off purchases. Acorn Naturalists is known as a leading provider of affordable science and nature resources for the trail and classroom. Here are some of the resources they offer that support EE Week's *Be Water Wise!* theme:

- [The Water Atlas](#), with maps and data on worldwide water distribution, the real costs of water use, and the influence of politics and economics on access to water around the globe;
- [Aquifer Demonstration Kit](#), with instructions and materials for six groundwater demonstrations;
- [Make Your Own Watershed Kit](#), to help students in grades 3-7 better understand the effects of runoff in a watershed;
- [Water Quality Educator](#), an interactive CD-ROM with tools for understanding and interpreting water quality data; and
- [Watershed Field Trip Kit](#), a teachers manual and simple water quality testing tools for students in grades 3-5.

Register today for National EE Week to receive your coupon and start shopping for high-quality environmental education resources at Acorn Naturalists.

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## EE Programs and Resources

### NOAA National Marine Sanctuaries *Oceans For Life* Program - Application deadline: Feb. 27, 2009

The *Oceans for Life* Program is an initiative to increase cultural understanding through ocean science by providing high quality, immersive ocean field studies that facilitate cross-cultural learning, appreciation, and lasting experiences between Middle Eastern and Western students. High School students will produce youth media projects with the help of National Geographic photographers and American University film students to share with their schools and local communities. Selected participants receive an all-expense paid field study in a national marine sanctuary and a 3-day trip to Washington, DC. [Learn more](#)

### Siemens *We Can Change the World* Challenge - Entry deadline: March 15, 2009

The Siemens *We Can Change the World* Challenge offers a unique way for middle school student teams to create sustainable local solutions that can have global impact. It's the first and only national sustainability education initiative aligned to national standards and classroom objectives. Teams of two or three students, along with a teacher or adult mentor, research and propose a solution to an issue that affects their community, then work together to implement their action plan. [Learn more](#)

### Duckey and the Ocean Protectors Youth Eco-Essay Contest - Entry deadline: May 31, 2009

Duckey and his team of Ocean Protectors are calling on students between the ages of six and 16 to help conserve and save our oceans. The essay contest is part of the launch of a new environmental and educational tale of Duckey and his sea creature friends who set out to save the ocean from going black. Contestants write an eco-essay explaining why the oceans need protecting and develop a character and special power for a new Ocean Protector. The winner's character will be featured in the next book, and the top ten finalists will receive an autographed copy of the book and have their essays featured online. [Learn more](#)

### WET in the City

WET in the City engages K-12 youth in hands-on activities that find creative ways to explore the science of water, its cultural context and the complex issues surrounding its management and stewardship. The program is delivered at the local level, city by city, and targets urban educators with relevant, localized water education through a network of city partners. Curricula and classroom resources are available for purchase. Sample activities can be downloaded on the website. [Learn more](#)

### Ranger Rick's Green Zone

Ranger Rick's *Green Zone* is the National Wildlife Federation's interactive web site for kids. Students can help the Greenway family green up their house, complete a green Mad Lib, take a quiz to find out their "green I.Q.," take the Ranger Rick Pledge and watch the new Ranger Rick Adventure cartoon to learn how bottled water affects the environment. [Learn more](#)

### Healthy Rivers: A Water Course

*Healthy Rivers: A Water Course* was created by the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources. This free, interactive, online water course uses engaging graphics, literary references and testimonials from experts to help guide readers through the ecology of rivers, the threats facing them and what we can do about it. Suitable for both students and educators, the course is a great overview of stream life and its importance. [Learn more](#)

### Classroom Earth: Online Resource for High School Environmental Curricula

The National Environmental Education Foundation, in partnership with The Weather Channel, recently launched Classroom Earth, a program designed to encourage the inclusion of environmental education into all high school subjects and make it easier for teachers to access best practices online. The site features a myriad of resources and information focused on the integration of environment-themed lessons into high school curricula. This site also allows teachers to post their own lesson plans, activities and other resources. Visit [Classroom Earth](#) today!

### H2O For Life

Your school can make a difference by providing clean water, sanitation and hygiene education for a school in need. H2O for Life will help you teach about global water issues, partner with a school overseas, get fundraising tools and tips, find classroom activities, and engage your students in a meaningful service learning project. [Learn more](#)

For more classroom resources, be sure to visit the [General EE Resources](#) page and the [Curricula Library](#) on our website.

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## Funding Resources

### The Stockholm Junior Water Prize - Entry deadline: April 15, 2009

The Stockholm Junior Water Prize is the world's most prestigious youth award for water-related science projects. High school students submit their research papers online. State winners and their science teachers win a trip to the U.S. competition in Alaska. U.S. winners participate in the international competition in Sweden. Other awards include scholarships, research publication, and travel to water-related events. [Learn more](#)

### Teens for Planet Earth Service Awards - Entry deadline: April 15, 2009

The Teens for Planet Earth Service Awards recognize teens around the world for service-learning projects that demonstrate their commitment to the environment. Teams submit a report with specific project data, photo documentation, testimonials and more. Exceptional projects are given bronze, silver or gold awards, which include certificates, Web pages and cash prizes. *Disponible en espaÑol.* [Learn more](#)

### Brower Youth Awards - Entry deadline: May 15, 2009

Brower Youth Awards recognizes six young people in North America annually for their outstanding leadership on projects with positive environmental and social impact. The winners of the award receive a \$3,000 cash prize, a trip to California for the award ceremony and wilderness camping trip, and ongoing access to resources and opportunities to further their work at Earth Island Institute. Young activist leaders ages 13-22 living in North America are eligible to apply. [Learn more](#)

### RBC Water Stewardship Projects

The RBC Blue Water Project™ was established to help foster a culture of water stewardship around the world. This year the project will provide \$100,000 for water stewardship projects in U.S. schools. To apply for RBC Blue Water Project Funding, set up an account online at [www.DonorsChoose.org](http://www.DonorsChoose.org) and submit project requests for tools and materials that will help your students learn about clean water and watersheds.

### Coca Cola/NRC Recycling Bin Grants

The Coca Cola/National Recycling Coalition Bin Grant Program supports local community recycling programs by providing bins to selected grant recipients for the collection of beverage container recyclables in public settings. Grants will be provided to a limited number of applicants who can demonstrate how their proposals will lead to sustainable recycling opportunities. The grant programs is open to government, civic, school, nonprofit groups and for-profit companies. [Learn more](#)

### Captain Planet Foundation Grants

The Captain Planet Foundation accepts applications four times each year for funding projects that help students better grasp environmental issues. Grants range from \$250 to \$2,500. Projects must promote understanding of environmental issues, focus on hands-on activities, involve children and young adults ages six to 18, promote interaction and cooperation within a group, help young people develop planning and problem-solving skills, include adult supervision and commit to follow-up communication with the Foundation. Grant cycles also in June, September and December. [Learn more](#)

**For more grants and awards, be sure to visit the [Funding Resources](#) page on our website!**

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## Professional Development

### **Shedd Aquarium Teacher Field Experience: Biology in the Bahamas - Application deadline: Feb. 28, 2009**

Shedd Aquarium announces their second annual Teacher Field Experience: Biology in the Bahamas program, held from June 27 through August 12. Learn about marine science while conducting your own research project for one week in Bimini, Bahamas. Pre- and post-trip coursework is conducted at the Shedd Aquarium. This application-based program accepts 10 teachers to participate, with limited funding opportunities through the COSEE Great Lakes Marine Immersion Scholarships. [Learn more](#)

### **International Educators Institute (IEI) Forest Study Tour - Application deadline: Feb. 28, 2009**

Combining content-rich, hands-on experiences in the field with a multicultural exchange of best practices in education and research, IEI seeks to advance effective teaching and learning about social, economic, and environmental challenges facing the world's forests. The course is scheduled for the week of July 12-17, 2009 in Portland, Oregon. [Learn more](#)

### **The 20<sup>th</sup> Annual National Service-Learning Conference: Growing Hope, Cultivating Change - March 18-21, 2009**

The National Youth Leadership Council and Volunteer Tennessee invite you to join them in Nashville, Tenn. March 18-21, 2009 for the largest gathering of youths and practitioners involved in the service-learning movement. The conference offers three days of general sessions, featured forums, service-learning projects and networking opportunities with service-learning leaders through more than 150 experiential workshops, receptions, and informal meetings. The list of distinguished speakers includes Richard Louv, author of *Last Child in the Woods: Saving Our Children From Nature-Deficit Disorder* and chairman of the Children and Nature Network. [Learn more](#)

### **The NEED Project 2009 National Energy Conference for Educators - July 19-23, 2009**

The National Energy Education Development National Energy Conference for Educators trains teachers on how to incorporate energy programs into their classroom and extracurricular activities. This five-day program, held July 19-23, covers all aspects of energy education and includes a one-day field experience. Attendees may be eligible to receive three graduate credits offered through Virginia Commonwealth University. [Learn more](#)

### **America Walks Webinars**

For teachers and community organizers looking to encourage students to walk and bike to school, the Safe Routes Coaching Action Network is a way to learn from people who know how to make things happen. Attend free monthly presentations from experts across the country. Get free coaching from America Walks organizers with experience in your region. [Learn more](#)

**For more professional development opportunities, be sure to visit the [Professional Development](#) page on our website!**

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The National Environmental Education Foundation (NEEF) provides knowledge to trusted professionals who, with their credibility, amplify messages to national audiences to solve everyday environmental problems. Together, we generate lasting positive change.

NEEF partners with professionals in health, education, media, business and public land management to promote daily actions for helping people protect and enjoy the environment. Through our primary programs - Classroom Earth, National Public Lands Day, National Environmental Education Week, Business and Environment, Earth Gauge<sup>(r)</sup> and Health & Environment - we offer Americans knowledge to live by. To learn more, call (202) 833-2933 or visit <http://www.neefusa.org/>.

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National Environmental Education Week is made possible by [Canon USA, Inc.](#)

