



# National Environmental Education Week

A National Environmental Education Foundation Program

January 2009

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



## Greetings!

Happy New Year from National EE Week! We are excited to begin a new year of helping educators bring environmental education to their students. Throughout the next few months we will unveil many new resources at [www.eeweek.org](http://www.eeweek.org) in preparation for EE Week 2009 *Be Water Wise!* EE Week 2009 is shaping up to be the biggest event to date, with more themed resources than ever before and more participants than predicted. I hope you will join us!

NEEF, in partnership with HSBC Bank USA, has chosen three DC-area schools as the first grant recipients in the National EE Week Small Grants program! Horace Mann Elementary School (Washington, DC), Rock Terrace School (Rockville, MD), and George Mason Elementary School (Alexandria, VA) have each received a \$1,000 grant to take part in a school greening project that reduces their carbon footprint and improves the environmental literacy of their students. [Read more](#) about the small grants recipients and their projects.

Be sure to register your school or organization 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, and thanks to two of EE Week's generous partners, we now have two perks to offer registrants. **Acorn Naturalists**, providers of science and nature resources for the trail and classroom, is providing EE Week registrants \$10 off of a purchase. And if you register **before January 30**, you will receive a **free copy of *National Geographic Explorer*** magazine! Don't miss these offers!

Sincerely,

Jessica Culverhouse  
National Environmental Education Week Coordinator

### Quick Links

[Register Now for 2009!](#)

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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

Jessica Stelzner Culverhouse  
EE Week Coordinator  
(202) 261-6484

[eeweek@neefusa.org](mailto:eeweek@neefusa.org)



## Why Register for EE Week?

National Environmental Education Week (EE Week) promotes understanding and protection of the natural world by actively engaging K-12th grade students and educators of all subjects in an inspired week of environmental learning and service before Earth Day. This year's EE Week theme is *Be Water Wise!* Registered partners will have access to a wide variety of FREE environmental education resources, including a school water auditing tool and water quality monitoring resources. Partners receive certificates of participation for themselves and their students and a coupon for \$10 off a purchase at [Acorn Naturalists](#), providers of science and nature resources for the trail and classroom. Additionally, those who register **before January 30** will receive a free copy of *National Geographic Explorer* magazine. You can join a national network of educators dedicated to increasing environmental literacy, promote environmental learning, and gain national exposure for your school or organization by registering today at [www.eeweek.org](http://www.eeweek.org).

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## EE Programs and Resources

### River of Words Annual Art and Poetry Contest for Students - Entry deadline February 15, 2009

Each year, in affiliation with The Library of Congress Center for the Book, River of Words conducts a free international poetry and art contest for youth on the theme of watersheds. The contest is designed to help students explore the natural and cultural history of the place in which they live and express, through poetry and art, what they discover. The contest is open to any child in the world, from 5-19 years of age. There is no fee to enter. Teacher training workshops are held to help educators incorporate the contest into the curriculum. Contact your River of Words [regional coordinator](#) for more information. [Learn more](#)

### Write On! Wetlands Challenge - Entry deadline March 1, 2009

This competition, designed to celebrate American Wetlands Month in May, challenges students to create a book written and illustrated by kids for kids. Students in grades 6-8 are invited to participate in the Writers Challenge in which they write and submit a mystery based on a wetlands theme. The winning story will be illustrated and published by Environmental Concern as a children's book. [Learn more](#)

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

The National Environmental Education Foundation (NEEF), 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!

### What's Your Climate Change Story?

WGBH Lab and Teachers' Domain along with FRONTLINE, are announcing the open call for youth (ages 13-18), to produce video segments on climate change for "Youth Voices," a series of three informative webinars for student filmmakers. Teens are challenged to create a video short on a story of how climate change is impacting their communities. [Learn more](#)

## 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

### Award for Excellence in Science Teaching - Entry deadline February 2, 2009

The Amgen Award for Science Teaching Excellence (AASTE) annual awards program recognizes extraordinary contributions by K-12 educators across the United States and Canada. The selection of winners will be based on: creativity and effectiveness of teaching methods; plans for the use of grant money to improve science education resources in their schools; and submission of a science lesson plan showcasing innovative methods in the classroom. [Learn more](#)

### Richard C. Bartlett Environmental Education Award - Nomination deadline extended to February 13, 2009

The Richard C. Bartlett Environmental Education Award is awarded annually by NEEF to an outstanding educator who has successfully integrated environmental education into his or her daily education programs. The award is given to a 5th-12th grade educator who can serve as an inspiration and model for others. A \$5,000 cash award is provided for the recipient to continue his or her work in environmental education. Do you know a teacher who stands out among the rest? If so, please nominate him or her for the 2009 Richard C. Bartlett Award. [Learn more](#)

### International Young Eco-Hero Awards - Entry deadline February 28, 2009

Action For Nature's International Young Eco-Hero Awards honor the work of young people between the ages of 8 and 16 who have done creative, self-initiated environmental projects which concern environmental health, advocacy, research, or protection of the natural world. Winners will receive public recognition and cash prizes and serve as role models for other young people by demonstrating that each individual can make a difference. [Learn more](#)

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

The Stockholm Junior Water Prize is the world's most prestigious youth award for a water-related science project. 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](#)

## Junior Energy

Junior Energy's mission is to work in classrooms and schools helping children discover how they can positively impact the planet by engaging their parents, family, friends and neighbors in small, simple actions. They offer curricula, an engaging video, and a fantastic website geared toward kids in order to support their compact fluorescent lightbulb (CFL) fundraiser, which gives 100 percent of funds raised back to schools for environmental programs. [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 February 28, 2009

Shedd Aquarium is pleased to announce 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 Forest Study Tour - Application deadline February 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](#)

### M.S. in Ecological Teaching and Learning at Lesley University

This 32-credit master's degree program brings educators from schools, museums, nature centers, and alternative teaching settings together in learning communities to develop and deepen their capacity to integrate ecological concepts into the curriculum. The program includes two field-study summers and three distance learning school-year semesters. For more information visit the [website](#) or contact [info@lesley.edu](mailto:info@lesley.edu)

### Seminars on Science Online Courses for Educators from the American Museum of Natural History

The American Museum of Natural History developed *Seminars on Science*, its online teacher professional development program, in order to connect teachers across the United States and around the world to cutting-edge research and to provide them with powerful classroom resources. The program consists of eight online graduate courses in the life, Earth, and physical sciences. Online courses rich with imagery, video, interactive simulations, and vibrant discussion connect learners to the Museum's scientists, laboratories, expeditions, and specimens. [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>(t)</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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The Canon logo is displayed in its signature red, bold, serif typeface.

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

