



National Environmental Education Week

A National Environmental Education Foundation Program

October 2010

www.EEWeek.org



twitter

Find us on
Facebook

Greetings!

October is the perfect time to get your students outdoors to discover their environment. Online at EEWeek.org you will find a wealth of resources to help you engage students in outdoor learning. Check out our [Children & Nature](#) webpage for links to lesson plans and activities, our Nature Journaling Blog, our Nature Center Map and much more.

Educators around the country are also launching service-learning projects this fall to focus their lessons and activities for the remainder of the school year. Visit EE Week's [Environmental Service-Learning](#) page for ideas and tools.

Please remember: we want to hear from you! Share your environmental education projects, programs and activities with us, and your school or organization may be featured in an upcoming newsletter or at EEWeek.org. Contact us at eeweek@neefusa.org if you're interested in sharing your story.

And Mark your calendar -- EE Week is **April 10-16, 2011**. Stay tuned as we plan to announce EE Week's 2011 theme this fall.

Sincerely,

Jessica Culverhouse
Program Manager

Sarah Kozicki
Program Associate

In This Issue

[Samsung Solve for Tomorrow Contest](#)

[EE Events & Celebrations](#)

[EE Resources](#)

[Student Contests and Awards](#)

[Grants](#)

[Professional Development](#)

Our Program

National Environmental Education (EE) Week is the largest organized environmental education event in the United States.

EE Week connects educators with environmental resources to promote K-12 students' understanding of the environment.

Quick Links

Samsung Solve for Tomorrow Contest

Your school can win a part of \$1 million in technology

Samsung and its technology partners are donating computers, flat screen TVs, camcorders, software and more to 50 schools around the country to give students the tools they need to pursue an interest in science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) education to create a more sustainable future. Challenge your 6-12th grade students to find an innovative solution to an environmental problem in your community and create a video showing how it can be done for a chance to win great gear for your school. **The brief initial application is due by October 24.** NEEF is proud to be a partner of the Samsung Solve for Tomorrow Contest. [Learn more](#)



Upcoming EE Events & Celebrations

NeighborWoods Month - October

National NeighborWoods Month is an annual community service campaign from the the Alliance for Community Trees (ACT). During the month of October, volunteer events are organized by local partners in cities across the country to educate and engage volunteers in tree planting and sustainability through education and media outreach. Go online to register an event, view the events calendar, apply for a grant, enter a photo contest and view pictures from around the country. [Learn more](#)

Geography Awareness Week - November 14-20

Geography Awareness Week (GAW) is held the third week of November to promote the importance of geography education in the United States. The theme this year will be freshwater. Educators are encouraged to coordinate a GAW event, either by following the suggested school-based events on the *Geography Action!* [website](#) or by creating their own. The *Geography Action!* Program, which provides training and resources for educators to inform and excite their students and communities about geography, culminates during Geography Awareness Week. [Learn more](#)



[Register for EE Week 2010](#)

[FAQs](#)

[Success Stories](#)

[More On Us](#)

Contact Us

Jessica Culverhouse
Program Manager
National EE Week
(202) 261-6484

Sarah Kozicki
Program Associate
National EE Week
(202) 261-6474

EEWeek@neefusa.org



EE Resources

Finding My Forest

Finding My Forest provides the tools educators of grades 3-5 need to integrate the wonder of our forests into the curriculum. Download the curriculum or take a "virtual hike" and explore the rest of site to find information about forests, what to do when you get there and ways to connect with other "forest friends." Finding My Forest is a free conservation curriculum from the US Forest Service and the Ad Council. [Learn more](#)



National Geographic Great Migrations

National Geographic Channel's *Great Migrations* is a seven-part global programming event that takes viewers around the world on the arduous journeys millions of animals undertake to ensure the survival of their species. Educational resources are provided online to assist teachers in sharing the series with their students and bring content about animal migration and behavior to their classroom. [Learn more](#)



SMILE Science and Math Activities

SMILE (Science and Math Informal Learning Educators) is an online clearinghouse of math and science activities designed for those who teach school-aged children in non-classroom settings. Educators are encouraged to both use and add to the growing collection of inquiry-based learning resources. Users must register to access the online database. Registration is free and activities can be downloaded from the site's database. SMILE is a project of the National Science Digital Library. [Learn more](#)



For more resources and classroom materials, visit us [online](#).

Student Contests and Awards

My Place in Space Art Contest - Submission deadline November 1

The Institute for Global Environmental Strategies (IGES) invites young scientists and explorers in grades 2-4 to explore our solar system and beyond. Contestants are urged to research our solar system and draw a picture of what they have learned.

Winning artwork will be featured on the IGES website and first, second and third place winners will receive Visa gift cards for \$100, \$75 and \$50, respectively. [Learn more](#)



Nestlé USA Very Best in Youth Program - Entry deadline November 1

The Very Best in Youth Program honors young people between the ages of 13 and 18 who have excelled in school and are making their community and the world a better place. Nestlé will award winners \$1,000 to donate to a charity of their choice as well as a trip to Los Angeles to attend the Nestlé Very Best in Youth awards ceremony. [Learn more](#)



Oceans 2030: Youth Outlook - Submission deadline November 22

Oceans 2030: Youth Outlook is a multimedia (photo, video and art) contest for youth to share their vision for our oceans over the next 20 years. The contest is being organized as part of the National Council for Science and the Environment's Our Changing Oceans Conference. Winning entries will be showcased at the upcoming conference in Washington, D.C. January 19-21 and published online in [Encyclopedia of Earth](#). Individuals or groups of up to five people between the ages of 15 and 24 are eligible to submit their works. [Learn more](#)

The Volvo Adventure Competition - Submission deadline January 31

The Volvo Adventure is an educational program for students between the ages of 13 and 16 working in teams to design and manage an environmental project in their local community. Projects can be submitted online. The best projects are selected for an all expenses paid trip to Sweden, and the winning teams will receive \$10,000 for first place, \$6,000 for second place and \$4,000 for third place.

[Learn more](#)



NASA Waste Limitation Management and Recycling Design Challenge - Proposal deadline February 28

NASA is inviting students in grades 5-8 to participate in the second Waste Limitation Management and Recycling Design Challenge, a challenge that uses real-world scenarios to meet science and math content standards. Teams of up to six students will design a water recycling system for the unique environment of the moon. The first place team will receive an expenses paid trip to NASA's Kennedy Space Center in Florida. [Learn more](#)

2011 Thacher Environmental Research Contest - Entry deadline April 11

The 2011 Thacher Environmental Research Contest, sponsored by the Institute for Global Environmental Strategies, challenges high school students to conduct innovative research on our changing planet using the latest geospatial tools and data. The best projects will win \$2,000 for first place, \$1,000 for second place and \$500 for third place. Winners will also be featured in an [Encyclopedia of Earth](#) article. In addition to the student prizes, teachers of winning students or teams will receive a \$200 Amazon.com gift card. [Learn more](#)

For more student contests and awards, visit us [online](#).

Grants and Funding Opportunities

Documen-Tree - Entry deadline October 29

Cintas and American Forests have partnered to award one winning school or community with Historic Trees from American Forests' Historic Tree Program to be planted during a special presentation in honor of Earth Month in April. To enter, submit a creative 60-90 second video explaining why your school deserves to win. The winner will receive five historical trees and \$5,000 toward school supplies. [Learn more](#)



Youth Garden Grants - Application deadline November 1

Youth Garden Grants are awarded to schools and community organizations with child-centered garden programs. Schools, youth groups, community centers, camps, clubs, treatment facilities and intergenerational groups throughout the United States are eligible to apply. Applicants must plan to garden with at least 15 children between the ages of three and 18 years. Five programs will receive a \$1,000 gift card to Home Depot and National Gardening Association (NGA) and 95 programs will win a \$500 gift card to Home Depot and educational materials from NGA. [Learn more](#)



Disney Planet Challenge Gulf Coast Clean-up Projects - Submission deadline November 1

[DonorsChoose.org](#) and [Disney Planet Challenge](#) are teaming up to fund classroom projects aimed at helping to clean up or learn from the Gulf Coast oil spill. Full-time teachers of grades 3-8 at public schools in Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Louisiana, Mississippi and Texas are eligible to apply. Hands-on projects focused on cleaning up the Gulf oil spill requesting \$650 or less in materials will be funded. [Learn more](#)



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](#)

Sylvan Dell Publishing School & Library Resource Grant - Application deadline December 31

Sylvan Dell Publishing offers award-winning picture books that integrate science, math and geography, as well as interactive eBook technology. The School & Library Resource Grant provides schools and libraries with one year of access to 55 Sylvan Dell eBooks, each with auto-flip, auto-read and selectable English and Spanish text and audio. [Learn more](#)

For more grants and awards, visit us [online](#).

Professional Development

Lessons from the Deep - October 11-29

The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Association (NOAA), in partnership with the College of Exploration, will offer a free online workshop titled *Lessons from the Deep: Exploring the Gulf of Mexico's Deep-Sea Ecosystems* October 11-29. The online workshop will be supported by keynote addresses from scientists and a collection of materials on exploring the Gulf of Mexico's deep-sea ecosystems. The collection includes a selection of lesson plans and additional information about the Deepwater Horizon blowout event. The workshop will be free for all participants and will be available online. [Learn more](#)

Endeavor Science Teaching Certificate Project - Application deadline October 29

The NASA Endeavor Science Teaching Certificate Project awards highly competitive one-year fellowships to over 40 current and prospective K-12 teachers across the nation. The fellowship consists of five online graduate courses, and fellows will be awarded graduate credit from regionally accredited college partners, course materials, a stipend for resources and the NASA Endeavor Certificate in STEM Education from the Teachers College at Columbia University. [Learn more](#)



Webinar: From Environmental Education to Education Reform - Registration deadline November 1, webinar on November 9

This webinar, from Creative Change Environmental Solutions, will address strategies, case studies and capacity building models for schools interested in using sustainability as a platform for in-depth curricular and course revisions. K-12 teachers, administrators and leadership teams are invited to attend. An email associated with a K-12 schools is required for registration. The webinar will be held on Tuesday, November 9. [Learn more](#)

Webinar: Educating Students for Sustainability - November 10

The U.S. Partnership for Education for Sustainable Development K-12 and Teacher Education Sector is offering a free webinar during National Sustainability Education Week (November 8-12). Teachers will share resources and stories about sustainability education. The webinar will be held from 3-4:30 p.m. PST on November 10. [Learn more](#)



NOAA's Teacher at Sea Program - Application deadline November 30

The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Association's (NOAA) Teacher at Sea program provides a unique environment for learning and teaching by sending kindergarten through college-level teachers to sea aboard NOAA research and survey ships to work under the tutelage of scientists and crew. Teachers can then enrich their classroom curricula with the knowledge they have gained. [Learn more](#)

Life On a Water Planet

Nova Southeastern University Oceanographic Center Distance Education offers *Life on a Water Planet*, an online interdisciplinary course exploring water issues from physical, social, cultural, economic, legal and institutional perspectives. The course is organized into ten units. Most units run from Monday to Monday and include readings, online activities and discussions and web resources. Undergraduate, graduate and general interest credit is available. [Learn more](#)

For more opportunities, visit us [online](#).



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(r) and Health & Environment - we offer Americans knowledge to live by. To learn more, call (202) 833-2933 or visit <http://www.neefusa.org>.