



National Environmental Education Week

A National Environmental Education Foundation Program

September 2011

www.EEWeek.org



Greetings!

Happy September! In this back to school edition of the National EE Week newsletter, read about ways to involve your students in environmental learning this fall. Learn about the [Be Water Wise DC](#) program which will engage students in the District of Columbia in water conservation at their schools. Check out [World Water Monitoring Day](#), which runs from September 18 through December 31 for an opportunity to engage your students in an international event.

Don't forget to get your students outside on September 24 for [National Public Lands Day](#), an excellent service-learning opportunity. Go online to find a volunteer site near you.

Finally, EE Week is April 15-21, 2012, so mark your calendars now! More information on the theme and offerings will be coming soon.

Sincerely,

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Program Manager

Sarah Kozicki
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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

[Register for EE Week 2011](#)

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Get Ready for National Public Lands Day

September 24, 2011

Looking for ways to engage your students in the outdoors this fall? National Public Lands Day (NPLD) is a great opportunity for both outdoor activity and service-learning. NPLD is the nation's largest, single-day volunteer event for public lands. NPLD educates a diverse audience of adult and youth volunteers about critical environmental and natural resource issues and the need for shared stewardship of our public lands. Whether at a national park, nature center or school garden, opportunities for engagement with and service to nature abound.



Register or find a site near you [online](#), or visit the NPLD educational [resources page](#) to learn about ways to connect service on National Public Lands Day to activities in the classroom.



Call for Stories!

Don't forget to submit your stories of successful environmental education projects and programs to help inspire your peers and share ideas! Contact EEWeek@neefusa.org to get started.

Contact Us

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Webinar: School Buildings as Green Teaching Tools

Wednesday, October 19 at 7:00 p.m. EST

This October, the [National Environmental Education Foundation](#) in partnership with the [National Education Association Foundation](#) and [Green Schools National Conference](#) is launching the first of a series of three webinars to help educators around the country learn from experts and peers how to green their schools and curriculum. Webinar participants will interact live with national experts and teachers who are transforming their schools for the 21st Century.



Registration is free! All educators are invited to join us for the webinar. [Learn more](#)

Students Learn How to Protect Local Watershed

Be Water Wise DC Launches this October

Students at 15 Washington, D.C. schools will take part in a unique water education activity this year as part of a partnership between the National Environmental Education Foundation, District of Columbia Public Schools, businesses and local government agencies and nonprofits. Stormwater runoff is a major challenge for the District of Columbia as rainwater collects pollutants on its path to storm drains leading to local waterways and ultimately the Chesapeake Bay.



Be Water Wise DC, an environmental education demonstration project of the National Environmental Education Foundation, includes math, science, geography and reading activities focused on water use at school and at home, building awareness of this precious resource. Students citywide, from kindergarten through high school, will participate. The program formally launches this October with a workshop for teachers and school facilities staff.

The Be Water Wise program involves students in investigating water use and stormwater management throughout their school building and grounds. Students then develop and implement projects to address a water conservation or stormwater issue at their school. The program culminates with a student presentation event to local officials. This is the third Be Water Wise program, following successful pilots in Miami and Atlanta.

Interested in engaging your students in learning about the local watershed, no matter where you live and teach? Participate in World Water Monitoring Day, which runs from September 18 through December 31 and join hundreds of thousands of students all over the world in monitoring local waterways to build awareness and involvement in protecting water resources.

Grants and Awards

2011 Subaru Healthy Sprouts Awards - Application deadline October 1

The 2011 Subaru Healthy Sprouts Awards program will recognize and award 50 schools or organizations gardening with children and demonstrating a relationship between their garden program and nutrition and hunger issues in the United States. [Learn more](#)

Lowe's Toolbox for Education Grants - Application deadline October

14 Lowe's Toolbox for Education program donates \$5 million to K-12 public schools and parent teacher groups each school year for projects that have permanent impact and are completed within one year of when the grant is received. [Learn more](#)

America's Home Energy Challenge - Submission deadline December 31

America's Home Energy Challenge uses the link between saving money and energy to teach 3-8 grade students about energy. Participating schools compete for more than \$200,000 in prizes. [Learn more](#)

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

Student Opportunities

Earth Science Week Contests 2011 - Entry deadline October 14

The Earth Science Week 2011 contests award \$300 and a copy of the American Geological Institute's *Faces of the Earth* DVD to winners in a photography contest, a visual arts contest and an essay contest, featuring themes relating to the general Earth Science Week 2011 theme: "Our Ever-Changing Earth." [Learn more](#)

Lexus Eco Challenge - October 31

The Lexus Eco Challenge offers teams of students in grades 6-12 the chance to win \$10,000 by developing action plans to address environmental issues in Land/Water and Air/Climate, as well as an opportunity to win \$30,000 in a final challenge. [Learn more](#)

SeaWorld & Busch Gardens Environmental Excellence Awards - Application deadline December 1

The SeaWorld & Busch Gardens Environmental Excellence Awards recognize and award the outstanding efforts of students and teachers across the country who are working at the grassroots level to protect and preserve the environment with cash prizes and a trip to one of the parks. [Learn more](#)



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

Professional Development

2011 NAAEE Call for Leadership - Nominations due September 23

The North American Association for Environmental Education (NAAEE) is looking for inspired professionals in the environmental education field to serve on the Board of Directors, as well as on Committees, Advisory Boards, Task Forces and Special Interest Groups. [Learn more](#)

PolarTREC - Applications due September 30

PolarTREC is a program that brings K-12 teachers to polar regions for 2-6 weeks to participate in hands-on field research. [Learn more](#)

AMNH Seminars on Science

Seminars on Science are online courses from the American Museum of Natural History co-taught by an experienced classroom teacher and a research scientist. [Learn more](#)

Earth Gauge Online Weather and Environment Courses

In partnership with the [COMET Program](#), Earth Gauge provides a series of free, online courses and training materials that address the connections between weather and the environment. [Learn more](#)

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

EE Resources

World Water Monitoring Day - September 18

World Water Monitoring Day™ is an international education and outreach program encouraging citizens to monitor the quality of local water bodies, and runs until December 31. [Learn more](#)

National Fossil Day - October 12

National Fossil Day celebrates the United States' rich paleontological resources with activities across the country hosted by organizations including the National Park Service, the American Geological Institute and the Bureau of Land Management. [Learn more](#)

Interactive Earth Science Animations

The Incorporated Research Institutions for Seismology (IRIS) offers resources for educators, including a series of interactive graphics, animations and videos on Earth Science fundamentals. [Learn more](#)

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