



News In Brief

August 7, 2009

EDUCATION & TRAINING

WOLF LAKE, Ind. — Area educators, conservation professionals and youth leaders can learn about outdoor ethics from 9 a.m.-4 p.m. Oct. 19 at a Leopold Education Project (LEP) workshop at Merry Lea Environmental Learning Center.

The program is aimed at instructing teachers and conservationists on ways they can deepen their own students' awareness of the outdoors, including hands-on and experiential activities. In addition to its applications in the classroom and the field, LEP is interdisciplinary and can be cooperatively integrated into ongoing units of math, science, social studies and language arts.

The LEP is an interdisciplinary conservation ethics curriculum based on the essays found in Aldo Leopold's conservation classic, "A Sand County Almanac," a book that contains month-by-month descriptions of his relationship with the natural world. Considered the father of wildlife management and of the wilderness system, Leopold combines an ecologically sound understanding of science, with excellent literary prose, so that the Almanac serves as foundation for students to build their own love, respect, and admiration for the land. The target audience is 6th thru 12th grade but can be adapted for any age.

Each workshop participant will receive LEP curriculum materials that include a teacher's guide, task cards and a copy of "A Sand County Almanac."

The fee for the workshop is \$50, including lunch, curriculum and more. For more information about Merry Lea or questions about the workshop or to register, call Paul Steury at (260) 799-5869 or check their website at www.goshen.edu/merrylea. For more information on the Leopold Education project, see www.lep.org.

Merry Lea, 300 S. 500 W. in Noble County south of Wolf Lake, is a natural sanctuary for northern Indiana's plants and animals, provides environmental education for people of all ages and a setting to recreate opportunities that benefit the human body and spirit without exploiting the land. (EEAI)

EXTRA EXTRA

FEDERAL GRANTS FOR YOUTH PROGRAMS
Stay on top of the latest information about federal programs, including grants, for your youth agency, school or youth ministry. The Web site "Find Youth Info" is a collaboration among 12 federal agencies offering information on youth programs, interactive mapping, and federal grants. <http://www.findyouthinfo.gov> (Indiana Youth Institute)

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Free 60 minute Webinar for Nonprofit Organizations: Introduction to Fundraising Planning

A successful nonprofit organization needs to cultivate multiple revenue streams through sound financial planning.

If your organization has never developed a fundraising plan or calendar, this hour-long session is for you. It provides an overview of the process of strategically thinking through the components of a fundraising plan.

<http://foundationcenter.org/getstarted/raining/webinars/ifpwebinar.html>

(Charity Advantage)

RISK MGMT/ STANDARDS

[Security Threats: A Guide for Small and Mid-Sized Nonprofits](#)

Security attacks — whether in the form of malicious Internet content, theft of physical devices, authentication and privilege violations, or denials of service — can catch nonprofits off-guard, especially smaller and mid-sized organizations that may be unaware of possible threats and unprepared to deal with them once they occur. This article aims to help small and medium-sized nonprofits with "accidental techies" and part-time IT consultants focus on threats and develop solutions to better security. <http://www.techsoup.org/learningcenter/techplan/page11904.cfm>

(Techsoup)

PR/MARKETING

5 tips for getting news releases used

Want to write a press release, but have no idea where to start? Janet Rice McCoy, assistant professor at Morehead State University, and Jeanette Drake, associate professor at Kent State University, explained the essentials in "PR Bootcamp: Media Kits" at Blackbaud's 2008 Conference for NonProfits. Keep these tips on hand the next time you want journalists to take you seriously:

- Have something that is actually newsworthy. Nothing irritates a journalist more than receiving the same information over and over again. News generating items include debates, events, special reports, surveys, predictions or significant speeches.
- Formatting. Cut the clutter for releases. Try size 12 font, double-spaced text. Label the information as a news release and make sure to include contact information.
- Quotes. When journalists are on deadline, they might not have enough time to call your organization and interview the CEO – so include them in the release.
- Writing tips. Keep your sentences short and simple. Don't be vague. Write clear information that the journalist can use.
- Grammar. Poor grammar can put some journalists on edge, but they can't expect you to know Associated Press style inside and out. Remember to put punctuation inside of quotation marks, abbreviate states and do not capitalize job titles if they appear after the person's name.

(NonProfit Times)

GREEN SPOKEN HERE

GreenWorks! Grants

Last fall, Most Precious Blood School in Fort Wayne received a *GreenWorks!* Grant from Project Learning Tree and in May, the school held a ribbon cutting ceremony for their Discovery Garden, funded by the *GreenWorks!* Grant. The student-driven service learning project was initiated by Leslie Hamilton, a graduate of the University of St. Francis trained in Project Learning Tree. Hamilton was one of fourteen faculty and staff from Indiana colleges and universities trained as PLT facilitators last fall. The gardens planted by the students have a Native American theme including Miami white corn, squash and other vegetables. The Discovery Garden also includes a small pond and temperature gauges. A webcam will be installed so that students can watch the garden.

GreenWorks! Grants are available to any PLT trained educator. The project must be a student-driven, service-learning, environmentally-focused undertaking. *GreenWorks!* now has two grant cycles per year with deadlines of October 31 and April 30 and the grants are competitive. For more information on the *GreenWorks!* Grants see the *GreenWorks!* section of the PLT website, www.plt.org.

(Indiana DNR Natural Resource Education Center)

(Just think camps- what a great way to increase your school programs enrollment- partner with schools to get the grant and EVERYONE WINS!)

SITE & FACILITY

Consulting Arborist Quiz

As part of our educational campaign, we are conducting a series of quizzes for you and your associates. We realize that claims concerning trees can be tricky and want to help you take some of the

Volunteer. Sometimes the jobs no one wants conceal big opportunities.

~ Life's Little Instruction Book, Volume II

guess work out of it.

Take a few minutes to review the quiz and submit your answers, this quiz is interactive and easy to reply to.

When you return your quiz you will be entered in the monthly drawing to win a free coffee card. You will also receive an email with the correct answers and a brief discussion concerning the subject.

When you're ready, the quiz is located <http://vineandbranch.wordpress.com/2009/08/03/july-consulting-arborist-quiz/>

(Vine & Branch)

HEALTH & WELLNESS/ FOOD SERVICE

ASHI Releases Upgraded CPR/AED Materials

Eugene, Ore.--American Safety & Health Institute (ASHI) announces the launch of new and improved CPR and AED for the Community and Workplace training materials, which incorporates both instructor and student resources. The instructor package features a 54-minute DVD hi-definition, an all new Instructor Guide as well as a modified PowerPoint presentation that corresponds directly to the updated student materials. The new student handbook offers larger, graphic-rich pictures in an easier-to-comprehend format. These new materials continue to follow the 2005 guidelines for first aid (new guidelines will not be released until 2010). For more information, call (800) 246-5101, or visit www.ashinstitute.org.

(Camp Business)

PROGRAMMING

FREE SCIENCE RESOURCES AND ACTIVITIES

If science was not your favorite subject in school, but you want to provide science programs in your youth organization, PBS offers several free Web sites that present useful information and invigorating activities:

"PEEP and the Big Wide World" is designed for ages 3-6:

<http://www.peepandthebigwideworld.org>

"Fetch with Ruff Ruffman" meets the interest level for ages 6-10:

<http://www.pbskids.org/fetch>

"NOVA," based on the popular television show, appeals to ages 11 and up:

<http://www.pbs.org/nova>

"Design Squad" teaches kids of all ages about ingenuity, design and engineering:

<http://www.pbskids.org/designsquad>

(Indiana Youth Institute)

SEARCH INSTITUTE ANNUAL CONFERENCE

Search Institute's annual conference will be held near Indiana. This year's event will be held in Cincinnati, November 5-7, 2009. The theme for the 40 Developmental Assets event is: "Successful Practices: Surviving to Thriving." More info:

<http://www.searchconference.org/> (IYI)

We're on the Web!

www.acaindiana.org

SAVE THE DATE for Hoosier Outdoor Experience!!! September 26-27, 2009

@ Fort Harrison State Park, Indy

The inaugural Hoosier Outdoor Experience (Sept. 26-27, at Fort Harrison State Park in Indianapolis) will give 20,000 people a hands-on chance to try many outdoor activities, with a special focus on teaching participants how to integrate outdoor activities into their daily lives.

In order to make the event a success, the Department of Natural Resources needs volunteers in four categories: hospitality, ambassador, first aid and shuttle attendant. Program and volunteer registration information is available at www.hoosieroutdoorexperience.IN.gov Call (317) 562-1338 or e-mail outdoorexperience@dnr.IN.gov with questions or to register a minor (under 18 years old) as a volunteer.

ALSO, ACA Indiana is a sponsoring partner and will have a booth set up in the Career Area (regarding camp and recreation as a career), a booth set up in the Marketplace/vendor area (to be able to "sell" ACA to youth workers, parents, etc.) as well as being an Activity Provider. A separate communication will be sent outlining volunteer opportunities specific to ACA Indiana.

NEWS YOU CAN USE

Depot dollars! The Home Depot Building Healthy Communities Grant Program funds nonprofits and schools the use volunteers to improve the physical health of their community. Grants are made in the form of Home Depot gift cards for the purchase of tools or materials.

Grant range: \$2,500.

Deadline: September 15, 2009.

<http://corporate.homedepot.com>

(Indiana Youth Institute)

Blue vest bucks! The **Wal-Mart Foundation** supports projects in **education, health and wellness, job training and the environment.**

Grant range: **\$25,000.**

Deadline: **September 18, 2009.**

<http://walmartstores.com/CommunityGiving/8168.aspx?p=8979>

(Office of Faith Based & Community Initiatives)

Kids In Need Foundation Invites Innovative Learning Projects for Teacher Grants Program

Grants of up to \$500 will be awarded to K-12 certified teachers working to create unique learning opportunities for their students at public, private, and parochial schools....

Deadline: September 30, 2009

http://foundationcenter.org/pnd/rfp/rfp_item.jhtml?id=259000018

(Foundation Center)

Thanks, Tom! Tom's of Maine, through the "50 States for Good" nonprofits making a positive impact in their local communities, including through effective programs for children and youth. initiative, funds Grant range: \$20,000. Deadline: August 30, 2009.

<http://www.tomsofmaine.com/community-involvement/project-sponsorships.aspx>

(Indiana Youth Institute)