

2010 WINTER & SPRING WORKSHOPS

Many teachers participated in the fall schedule of workshops that included a field trip to observe and participate in Salmon spawning, learning about bats and owls, how to compost food scraps with worms, the new Washington Green Schools program, Clark County's Save Organic Scraps program and finally about the good and bad about Plastics. Planning is underway for the next workshop series that will begin in January. Please check out the Columbia Springs EEO webpage www.columbiasprings.org/eo for the latest details.

Here is a sneak peek at the WINTER/SPRING offerings:

- Project Learning Tree: Secondary Modules (Jan or Feb)
- Project WILD- Elk, Aquatic & the new Growing Up Wild (Feb)
- Leopold Education Project (March)
- Climate Change & Alternative Energies (April)
- Washington Green Schools Summit (May)
- Columbia River Gorge Tour: Geology, Floods & Air Quality (May)
- Reduce, Reuse & Recycle plus tour of West Vancouver Transfer Station (June)

Please remember that these workshops are low cost and usually include curricula, activities, and other materials that will make it very easy for teachers to implement what they have learned into their teaching immediately. Funds are available to pay for sub-reimbursement and teachers may receive clock hours for attending. Pre-payment is required.

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Teachers gear up to help with spawning Fall Tule Chinook salmon at U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service Spring Creek Hatchery. (September 2009)

USFWS- EDUCATIONAL TRUNKS

AVAILABLE

Animal Tracks Literacy Project



Presents the basics of animal track identification and interpretation in a simple, fun, hands-on format where participants use stencils to draw life-size animal tracks, learn about the natural history of local wildlife and become engaged in creating their own animal track stories.

Bat Education Trunk



Learn everything about bats from around the world including habitats, adaptations, and their importance to the ecosystem. Lots of fun activities incorporating math, science, and conservation

The Salmon Life Cycle Game

A board game which follows the adventures of a salmon as it grows and travels from freshwater to the ocean, then back to its' birthplace stream. Up to six individuals may play the game or two to six teams with two players or more per team.

Fin Bin, a salmon education trunk

Of People and Fish



An educational trunk and curriculum designed to introduce students to the complex cultural and scientific history leading to the "salmon crisis". Includes a trunk with reusable equipment, preserved specimens, books, videos, and replicas of equipment used by Native Americans to catch and process fish.

Lewis and Clark Trunk

A trunk of activities and materials to introduce your students to some of the central themes and contributions of the Lewis and Clark

expedition. The four main activities include plants, animals, maps, and trading.

Cargo for Conservation

An information kit designed to increase awareness and understanding of the effects of illegal wildlife trade on protected plants and animals and to encourage actions to reduce that trade's harmful effects.

Macroinvertebrates as Indicators of Water Quality



Designed to introduce students to macroinvertebrates, or stream bugs, six activities are arranged in order from pre-assessment to identification, bio-monitoring, non-point source pollution, and finally, reflection and post-assessment.

Worms and Vermicomposting Trunk

This educational trunk has activities that will help your class learn how to create a healthy compost bin. Support materials are included that will assist teachers who have worm bins in their classrooms.

Columbia River Trunk



Investigate three lesser known but more interesting species of the Columbia River. The species include the Coastal Cutthroat Trout, Pacific Lamprey, and Western Pearlshell Mussel. The kit also has a section focusing on Aquatic Nuisance Species. Learn how these species live and interact with one another.

Contact: Donna Allard to reserve a trunk

Email: donna_allard@fws.gov

Phone: 360-604-2500

<http://www.fws.gov/columbiariver/education.html> for additional information

Teacher Notes...

This is a new addition to The Greenlines, I want to share some comments from teachers who have participated in the Columbia Springs EEO program offerings. If you would like to write an article please do so! --Amy

Last June, my friend and I had to opportunity to take a class called Missoula Flood Plains, offered through Columbia Springs Environmental Education Outreach Program. The class was not only educationally beneficial but, also a wonderful way to make new professional contacts.

Since the Missoula Flood Plains experience last spring I have taken an additional 5 classes. Each one has been thoughtfully organized. The instructors are awesome and the accommodations wonderful. Whether it is a hands on experience of spawning salmon or a road trip up the Columbia River Gorge these classes are phenomenal.

Participant cost is minimal considering as an educator I walk away from each course with lessons and materials I can use immediately in my classroom. Another benefit is clock hours are offered and Columbia Springs has resources available to pay for substitutes if necessary. I eagerly await the next educational opportunity they will offer. It's way more bang for the buck than any other classes, workshops or offerings given by any educational institution.

Now I will turn this over to my friend to explain why she thinks this is a wonderful opportunity for all.

-- Carrie Kelly, Maple Grove- BGSD

As a participant of the classes offered by Columbia Springs-EEOP I agree with everything that Carrie has said. I too have never been to any educational opportunity that has offered me more material to work with in my classes.

I am pleased that EALR's and GLE's are mapped out for you to take back to your class and be able to post the targets easily for the kids. The curriculum is easy to use and there is enough curriculums to make it meaningful. All the materials are cross curricular and help the students make the connections, which we as educators are striving to achieve all the time.

I am looking forward to taking advantage of the upcoming classes that are going to offered through the rest of the year. Amy Carpenter is a true professional who understands the needs of the classroom teacher and responds with a meaningful, thoughtful and enlightened program.

--Barb Hoffman, Maple Grove, BGSD

Volunteers Needed for Leverich Park Planting

Join Vancouver Urban Forestry for our volunteer planting event at Leverich Park. Building on our ongoing habitat restoration work at this site, we will be planting four hundred native shrubs. We hope you can join us!

Tuesday, December 29
10a to noon
Leverich Park, near the restrooms

No experience required. Urban Forestry will provide all tools and materials. Due to space limitations at the site, please register in advance by calling (360) 619-1108 or [emailing](mailto:info@urbanforestry.org). For more information, please visit www.cityofvancouver.us/urbanforestry.

Plant with Friends of Trees



Neighborhood Tree Planting's with Friends of Trees in Vancouver this Winter!

Friends of Trees, in partnership with Vancouver Urban Forestry, will be holding three tree planting events in Vancouver this year! Join us on Saturday mornings to help plant trees and create healthy communities.

The dates and neighborhoods for the neighborhood plantings are as follows:

- **East Vancouver** January 16 (Airport Green, Hearthwood, Image, N. Image, Landover Sharmel, Parkside, & Parkway East)
- **West Vancouver** February 27 (Arnada, Carter Park, Central Park, Hough, Lincoln, Hudson's Bay, Rose Village, Shumway, Edgewood Park, Harney Heights, & Northwest)
- **Central Vancouver** March 20 (Burton Ridge, Fircrest, Marrion, Oakbrook, & Ogden)

Planting a tree in your yard or parking strip creates long lasting benefits enjoyed by everyone! Did you know that trees remove pollutants from the air? A typical tree absorbs 10 pounds of pollutants, cleans 330 pounds of carbon dioxide, and creates 260 pounds of oxygen each year! Trees also help intercept and retain 760 gallons of rainwater each year, which help keep our rivers clean and help save us money on storm water fees! Trees can cool our

homes in the summer and shade our city which helps us stay cool all summer! Trees raise the property value of your home by up to 20%. Also, unlike many other things, trees appreciate in value each year! And by planting trees now, we can keep our city green into the future. Trees don't last forever, but it is easy for us to keep planting to ensure a "green" future.

This winter, Vancouver Urban Forestry is teaming up with Friends of Trees to offer homeowners trees for their yard or parking strip for \$46.99. The cost will include a site inspection by the Urban Forestry Department to ensure you choose the right tree for your home, hole digging, help with planting your tree, stakes, mulch, ties, labels, follow-up monitoring, and information on proper tree care techniques! For more information, please visit www.friendsoftrees.org.

Planning has begun for all three of these events, so contact Jesse at (360) 619-1127, or email neighborhood.trees@ci.vancouver.wa.us to order trees and to get involved with these great events!



COLUMBIA CAMP II

Exploring the Lower Columbia River Basin through energy, salmon, wetlands and cultural history

4 Days, 4 Sites

August 9-12 from 9-3:30

\$25 per person 8 minimum 25 maximum

Up to 24 clock hours

Target Teachers grades 3 through 8

We will be investigating the importance of wetlands, salmon, energy and cultural history at each site:

- Water Resources Education Center
- Ridgefield National Wildlife Refuge
- Carson National Fish Hatchery
- Bonneville Lock and Dam

Join us for this 4 day workshop. Walk each site, learn about local resources and have fun! You will take back tested Project WET and other activities to your classroom.

Activities and guided talks can enhance the following units:

- ♣ Social studies – southwest Washington and local tribal history
- ♣ Geography – Columbian Basin geography
- ♣ Science – water, land forms, wildlife, plants, energy, environments

For more information or to register contact Bev Walker at 360.487.7114 or bev.walker@ci.vancouver.wa.us.

DID YOU KNOW?

In high income countries, there is one passenger car for every two residents; in low income countries, there is approximately one passenger car for every 100 residents.

Source: **EarthTrends Database**

2010 Columbia River Watershed Festival

The 2010 Columbia River Watershed festival will be held September 29 to October 1st at Kline Park. Students, teachers and chaperones who attend may experience storytelling, games, and informational presentations on a wide variety of environmental topics. Fourth grade classes from portions of Vancouver, Evergreen and Ridgefield schools will be invited first to attend. If spaces are available, other schools may be able to attend.



Thanks to sponsors such as Clark Public Utilities, Clark County and the City of Vancouver, this event is free for students to attend, we even pay for the transportation! If you are a teacher in one of the “targeted” schools, please be on the lookout for your registration packet coming in March/April 2010.





Washington Green Schools is a voluntary, web-based program your school can use to reduce its environmental and carbon footprint. This program provides resources and tools to involve your school community in assessing the current status of your campus and taking action in the following categories:

- Energy Efficiency
- Recycling & Waste Reduction
- Toxics Reduction & Indoor Air Quality
- Transportation & Outdoor Air Quality
- Water Quality & Conservation

Clark County is committed to assisting schools in obtaining “Green School” status. This past month, teachers were invited to attend a workshop in which they learned about the program and how to get started at their schools. Another workshop will be held in the future, but you don’t need to attend the workshop to get started, all the information you need can be found online at <http://www.wagreenschools.org/>.

**Student Environmental Leadership Forum-
March 24, 2010**

Save the date! The third annual SELF conference for high school student will be held at Clark College on March 24, 2010.

Information packets will be coming to high schools in the next few weeks. If you would like to bring students please contact Erin Rowland at erin.rowland@clark.wa.gov.

We hope to see you and your students in March.



Sign Up for FREE Watershed Stewards Volunteer Training!

[This course is approved for 34 clock hours through ESD 112. Clock hour payment may be the responsibility of trainee. Contact Jenifer Naas for more details.](#)

Learn what you can do to maintain healthy watersheds for your community, fish and wildlife and future generations.

**Wednesdays, 6:30 - 9:00 pm
January 20 - March 24, 2010**

To apply or for more information please contact: jenifer.naas@clark.wa.gov 360-397-6060 x 7703
<http://clark.wsu.edu/volunteer/ws/training>

Offered by WSU Clark County Extension in partnership with the Clark County Clean Water Program, Watershed Steward training uses community experts and environmental professionals.