


TEACHER'S SYMPOSIUM

 All Classes in this Section may be of special interest to Educators but are open to all adults participating in the Summit as well.

ANIMAL TRACKS SAMPLER: Explore hands-on activities from the Animal Tracks Action Packs—environmental action curriculum units for the classroom. Participants will investigate environmental issues including habitat, water, wetlands, urban communities, and forests. The session will feature hands-on activities that can be easily incorporated into the curriculum including modeling experiments, role playing activities, and nature studies. Activities will be presented with modifications and extensions for multiple disciplines and age levels ranging from elementary to middle school. All participants will receive a free copy of one of the Animal Tracks Action Packs.

Animal Tracks® is a nation-wide program of the National Wildlife Federation designed to increase environmental awareness and understanding in classroom students and provide hands-on support to groups involved in community-based environmental initiatives.

Schedule: 1½ hour workshop

Bring to class: Note pad and pencil

Instructors: **Elenor Hodges** is the Senior Program Coordinator for the Animal Tracks program at the National Wildlife Federation, managing the Animal Tracks environmental education resources and training program and the education components of NWF's World Wide Web home page. Elenor is currently in a Master's program in Instructional Technology and has a BA in Environmental Science.

Cheryl Dixon is the Training Coordinator for the Animal Tracks program of the National Wildlife Federation. Cheryl has a degree in Forestry from Stephen F. Austin State University and a MS in Environmental Education from the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point. She has taught at two other Conservation Summits and has a rich history with NWF's education programs, including Wildlife Camp, NatureQuest, and NatureLink.

DISCOVER NORTHERN FORESTS: Focus on a special ecosystem—northern forests—with Animal Tracks newest Action Pack. Participants will examine the issues of ecosystems, land stewardship, and wildlife habitat through a regional focus on northern forests ecosystems. The Action Pack framework consists of discovery (background), awareness (learning activities), and action (guidelines for community service) sections which provide educators with a pathway for expanding their involvement. The session will feature hands-on activities pertaining to northern forests that can be extended to learning about our forests and trees all over the world. All participants will receive free copies of the Animal Tracks Forests Action Pack.

Schedule: 3½ hour workshop

Bring to class: Note pad and pencil

Instructors: Elenor Hodges and Cheryl Dixon (see biographies under ANIMAL TRACKS SAMPLER)

THE ENERGY ENVIRONMENT SIMULATOR: The Energy-Environment simulator is a unique exciting hands-on computer simulation presentation that allows YOU to make decisions about how and when to use energy resources in a race against time to prolong the life of the world. You'll take a look at our finite supply of certain energy resources and how they are affected by increasing and competing demands as well as environmental concerns.

Teacher's Symposium participants will receive the simulation software and an energy background notebook compiled by Lt. Ron Furstenuau with the United States Air Force Academy.

Schedule: 1½ hour interactive presentation

Instructors: Daryl Prigmore is an environmental energy professor at the University of Colorado—Colorado Springs. He has developed several programs relating to energy. He was in charge of the West Side Youth Energy Program that utilized high-risk children to conduct energy audits. He develops and conducts adult, family and school programs at the Beidleman Environmental Center.

Robin Spaulding has been a forester since 1977. She has worked in the urban forestry field, specializing in educational programs. She currently manages the Beidleman Environmental Center within the Colorado Springs Parks and Recreation Department. She has been on the youth staff at the Asilomar, Montana and Colorado Summits

EXPLORING YOUR WATERSHED:

AN INTEGRATED LOOK AT THE LAKE CHAMPLAIN BASIN: During this session, educators will work with the Champlain Basin Education Initiative to explore how to teach about watersheds in their classrooms. This workshop will enable teachers to foster students' curiosity and concern about streams, wetlands, lakes and rivers in their communities. A recently released curriculum guide book "This Lake Alive:

An Integrated Middle School Curriculum Guide" will be presented and given to workshop participants. Participants will explore many of the hands-on activities in this guide which will help to integrate issues such as water quality, nuisance non-native species and cultural and historical issues into their classrooms.

Schedule: 1½ hour workshop

Bring to class: Comfortable clothing and something to write with. A portion of the workshop may take place outdoors, so be prepared.

Instructors: Elizabeth Soper is currently the Educational Outreach Coordinator for the NWF Northeast Natural Resource Center in Montpelier, VT. Before this she worked for the Lake Champlain Basin Program as their Outreach Coordinator and helped to develop an integrated series of workshops and summer institutes for educators in the Lake Champlain Basin. She has been a member of the Champlain Basin Education Initiative, a consortium of environmental education organizations promoting watershed education in the Champlain Basin, for the past six years.

Pat Straughan leads workshops and other presentations on Shelburne Farms, a non-profit environmental and agricultural education organization located south of Burlington, Vermont. The mission of Shelburne Farms is to increase awareness and appreciation of our agricultural and natural resources, and to inspire active stewardship. This 1400 acre working farm has residential facilities, a dairy and cheese operation, children's farmyard, walking trails, and year-round school and family programs and is open to the public May-October.

FOLLOW THE TRACKS TO ACTION: Learn how to expand your focus on the environment beyond the classroom with ideas for taking action in the community. Discover project ideas that benefit the community while teaching participants about environmental issues. The session will include skills-building exercises on project planning, finding resources, and networking. The information will be geared towards educators, but would be appropriate for anyone interested in doing more in the community at any level: parents, club leaders, grandparents and kids. Participants will receive materials including Animal Tracks and the 1997 Wildlife Week Kit, Nature's Web: Communities & Conservation, filled with project ideas and success stories.

Schedule: 1½ hour workshop

Bring to class: Note pad and pencil

Instructors: Elenor Hodges and Cheryl Dixon (see biographies under ANIMAL TRACKS SAMPLER)

FOREST ECOLOGY FOR SECONDARY EDUCATORS: During this hands-on workshop, you'll learn how to teach others to study a forest utilizing many of the same techniques a forester uses. Topics will include basic forest ecology, plant growth, succession, exotic species, and fire ecology. This workshop is appropriate for any educator, youth leader or parent who is interested in helping youth (ages 13-18) explore their local forest or neighborhood park.

All participants will receive a copy of Project Learning Tree's new secondary level module, *The Changing*

Forest: Forest Ecology. This module contains eight ready-to-use activities that incorporate science, math, social studies, and language arts. Both indoor and outdoor activities are offered, including experiments, record keeping, role playing, and debates.

Schedule: 2½ hour workshop

Instructor: Sheri Sykes is the Associate Director of Project Learning Tree. She holds an M.S. in Environmental Education and a B.S. in Environmental Studies and Biology. She has trained educators throughout the United States and presented at several international environmental education conferences. Prior to her work with Project Learning Tree, she worked with the National Wildlife Federation as manager of the Conservation Summits program

GET WET! (WATER EDUCATION FOR TEACHERS): Project WET is an interdisciplinary water education program for educators of K-12 youth. The program is modeled after the highly successful Project WILD and Project Learning Tree programs and encourages stewardship of water resources through dissemination of teaching materials and training by state sponsored Project WET programs.

Josetta Hawthorne will provide a cruise through the *Project WET Curriculum and Activity Guide* using hands-on activities to familiarize participants with this new program. The session will include a demonstration of watershed activities that can be conducted with students utilizing the Enviroscope model. Josetta will also provide information on grant opportunities for educators involved in environmental education activities.

Schedule: 1½ hour workshop

Instructor: Josetta Hawthorne is the Executive Director of the Council for Environmental Education (CEE) and lives in Houston, Texas. CEE co-sponsors Project WILD, Project Learning Tree and Project WET. The Council is also a partner in the Environmental Education and Training Partnership (EETAP) program supported by the EPA to enhance environmental education training for educators. Josetta is a former NWF Conservation Summit coordinator and is looking forward to visiting with old friends from the Adirondacks, Nova Scotia, Blue Ridge, and Maine Summits she hosted in 1984-1987.

KEEPERS OF THE WATER PROGRAM: Take the plunge! We'll begin with a hands-on presentation about water and some of its properties. Then we'll get scientifically acquainted with our liquid friend through lake-side investigations. You'll leave with an enhanced appreciation of water's behavior and importance. This award winning curriculum was recognized at the 1996 Networking Environmental Energy Education Conference. Educators and adults will receive the Keepers of the Water Resource notebook filled with various hands-on activities.

Schedule: 1½ hour interactive presentation

Instructors: Daryl Prigmore and Robin Spaulding (see biographies under THE ENERGY ENVIRONMENT SIMULATOR class.)

NATUREQUEST® LEADERSHIP TRAINING WORKSHOP: NatureQuest is the National Wildlife Federation's certified training program for camp instructors, naturalists, teachers, and outdoor educators. NatureQuest will help you establish a nature program based on your specific needs and location. During this session, you will experience a sample of nature study activities from NatureQuest's complete three day action-packed workshop. You'll learn about NWF's award winning environmental education programs, participate in a few icebreakers, discuss how connecting youth to nature makes a life-long impact, review effective outdoor teaching techniques, and sample "The Quest" program model.

Each participant will receive a certificate of completion, as well as the following educational materials: NatureQuest Workbook, Day Hiker's Guide, Animal Tracks Action Pack "Habitats", and Wildlife Week Kit: Nature's Web, Communities and Conservation.

Schedule: 3½ hour training program

Bring to class: Notebook and pencil; dress to spend some time outdoors.

Instructor: Susan Johnson has been working with the National Wildlife Federation for the past 16 years. Currently, she is the director of the Outdoor Education Division. She served as the Camp Director at Wildlife Camp for 11 years. Susan is responsible for creating NatureQuest, NWF's environmental education instructor training program. Susan holds a B.S. in Environmental Education from the University of North Carolina and a Masters in Environmental Education/Resident Programming from Pennsylvania State University.

PROJECT LEARNING TREE: ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION FOR THE 90's: Project

Learning Tree's new preschool through grade 8 *Environmental Education Activity Guide* meets the demands of today's educators, youth leaders, and parents by offering state-of-the art activities that can stand alone or enhance any existing educational program. This new guide provides almost 100 activities that are easy to use and relevant to current environmental topics, such as biodiversity, ecosystems, recycling, and wildlife. PLT uses a thematic approach that correlates with many of the new education standards in science, math, and social studies. Throughout the lessons, cooperative learning, critical thinking skills, and problem-solving techniques are incorporated. In addition, authentic assessment suggestions are provided for each activity.

During this hands-on session, you will have the opportunity to try several Project Learning Tree activities and see how they can be adapted to a variety of settings—indoors and outdoors; city, suburb, or country. You will also have time to plan how you can use these activities in your own teaching situation. All participants will receive Project Learning Tree's *Environmental Education Activity Guide*, filled with 400 pages of activities, student handouts, and more!

Schedule: 4 hour workshop, limited to 25 participants

Instructor: Sheri Sykes (see biography under PROJECT LEARNING TREE workshop)

PROJECT SEASONS WORKSHOP: FROM FARM TO YOU: Farms are an integral part of our everyday lives. Though few of us now live on working farms, we all still rely on them to provide our food and much of our clothing. Make this connection come alive with hands-on, fun and interdisciplinary activities for your students. Participate in activities from Project Seasons, the field-tested handbook for discovering the wonders of the world, published by Shelburne Farms. Our staff will share ways to bring our reliance on farms alive in your classroom or home (you don't need a cow to learn about one!), and also offer suggestions for making farm visits a reality. Activities will be indoors and out. Please dress appropriately and be ready to be active. The Project Seasons handbook will be available to participants at the special workshop price of \$20.

Instructor: Pat Straughan (see biography under EXPLORING YOUR WATERSHED)

PROJECT WILD WORKSHOP: Do you need to expand your teaching bag of tricks? Are you looking for new environmental activities and resources? Would some new teaching tips and techniques jazz up your lessons? Project WILD is a lively, engaging professional workshop which introduces participants to new materials, activities, and strategies for teaching about wildlife. Project WILD is a K-12 thematic program focusing on wildlife and habitat. Participants will be immersed in minds-on, hands-on, interactive, action-packed and FUN activities to take back to the classroom or nature center. In addition, you will receive a copy of the Project WILD interdisciplinary activity guide.

Schedule: 6 hour workshop

Bring to class: paper and pencil, enthusiasm, and dress for outdoor activities

Instructor: Ray Perry holds a B.S. in Biology from Stonehill College in Massachusetts, and a Master's in Education from Rhode Island College. He has worked for the New York State Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation as an environmental educator, regional education and recreation coordinator, and Interpretive Program Coordinator for the 150 park system. He currently works at the Five Rivers Environmental Education Center as the Project WILD Regional Coordinator for 22 counties in New York State. Ray has been a Project WILD facilitator since 1985. He has a special interest and expertise in birds of New York State.

SCHOOLYARD WILDLIFE HABITATS:

-- A WORLD OF OPPORTUNITIES FOR A SCHOOLYARD AND ITS COMMUNITY: With twenty-four years of "backyard wildlife gardening" under our belts, NWF invites you to learn with us in a new setting -- the schoolyard. Although the schoolyard may be a new location, the shared philosophy, working to conserve wildlife habitat, remains the same. While the work may stop there for many homeowners, the Schoolyard Habitats program encourages habitat/curriculum integration, and community involvement throughout the life span of the project.

In this workshop, participants will learn the basic steps necessary in developing a Schoolyard Habitats site. We will consider the make-up of the habitat team, brainstorm funding sources, brush up on mapping and inventory skills, identify appropriate plants for specific habitats (where you can obtain plant lists and/or materials), discuss project challenges and suggest means to overcome, and pinpoint helpful agencies/organizations who are involved in schoolyard habitats regionally and nationally.

If you are interested in transforming your school grounds into an "outdoor classroom", come, share your knowledge, roll-up your sleeves, and join us in the process of planning a schoolyard habitat.

Schedule: 4 hour workshop

Bring to Class: Notebook and pencil.

Suggested reading: Rivkin, Mary S. *The Great Outdoors: Restoring Children's Right to Play Outside*. National Association for the Education of Young Children, Washington, D.C. 1995.
Stein, Sarah. *Noah's Garden, Restoring the Ecology of Our Own Back Yards*. Houghton Mifflin Company, New York, NY. 1993.
Tufts, Craig and Peter Loewer. *The National Wildlife Federation's Guide to Gardening for Wildlife*. Rodale Press. 1995.

Instructor: Sara Griffen, a Natural Resources major at Cornell University, received her Bachelor of Science in May 1995. Since graduation, her work with community outreach and education organizations has taken her from Cambridge, MA where she was exposed to environmental dispute resolution at the Consensus Building Institute to Fairbanks, AK where she organized community round table discussions bringing together disparate points of view focusing on the regional forest issue. Currently the Assistant Coordinator for NWF's Schoolyard Habitats program, Sara has developed and coordinated this new program since January 1996.

TEACHING ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES IN SECONDARY EDUCATION: Can kids really tackle

complex environmental issues? At what age should we try to teach issues investigation skills? How are environmental issues best taught? If you've been struggling with this, join us for a thought-provoking workshop that will attempt to answer these questions and more through presentations, group discussions, and hands-on experience with new issues education activities.

Activities from Project Learning Tree (PLT) new secondary level modules, *Exploring Environmental Issues: Focus on Forests and Solid Waste*, will be presented. These interdisciplinary activities are designed to teach youth "how" to think about complex environmental issues, not "what" to think. They sharpen youth's critical thinking, problem-solving, and decision-making skills. Participants in this workshop will receive copies of both modules.

Schedule: 3 hour workshop

Instructor: Sheri Sykes (see biography under Project Learning Tree workshop)

TEACHING POPULATION IN THE CLASSROOM: There are over 5.8 million reasons to talk about

population issues in your classroom. Join NWF's International Office Population Specialist Andreas Kristinus for an hour of activities you can use in your classroom to demonstrate population dynamics as they relate to our everyday lives and our environment. Activity kits from Zero Population Growth will be provided for all participants.

Schedule: 1½ hour indoor class

Bring to class: Paper, pencil, and enthusiasm

Instructor: Andreas Kristinus (see biography under POPULATION ISSUES)