



Welcome to The Buzz! Please Pass It On!

Booking Dates for the Leopold Education Project!

The Leopold Education Project is a K-12 staff/faculty training workshop co-sponsored by MAEF and the Leopold Education Foundation. This one day curriculum development workshop features the literature of Aldo Leopold as the focal point to infuse agriculture, natural resources, and environmental literacy into existing units in social studies, science, literature, and service learning. Teachers receive a beautiful curriculum guide, a copy of Leopold's *A Sand County Almanac*, and experiential education training! Please contact me to arrange for training at your school or facility! peppig@maefonline.com

LEND a Hand, LEARN A lot, LUG a Little - (EMNC)

A unique opportunity is available to the public at Eden Mill Nature Center's educational gardens! Lend a hand, Learn a lot, Lug a little is an exchange program. The public may work alongside Master Gardeners, ask any questions about all things green and leave with a bag of vegetables! Experience how composting, vermiculture, raised beds and container gardens work. Please attend on any Tuesday and/or Saturday June-August from 9:30 am - 11:30 am. Pre-registration is required by calling 410-836-3050 or emailing edenmillnaturecenter@gmail.com

National Sustainable Agriculture Coalition Internship Position Fall 2012 – (NSAC)

NSAC is currently accepting applications for an internship that begins August 20 and ends December 20, with some flexibility on dates. This is a temporary, full-time (40 hours per week) position located in NSAC's office on Capitol Hill in Washington, DC. Hours are between 9 am and 5:30 pm Monday through Friday. The position will provide the opportunity to learn about legislative and administrative aspects of federal policy through attendance at meetings, briefings, and hearings on Capitol Hill. Duties include research and writing for outreach materials, position papers, and the NSAC blog and Weekly Roundup, as well as making updates to the NSAC website and database. The intern will also manage incoming calls and share other administrative duties with the NSAC staff. See website for application details:

http://sustainableagriculture.net/about-us/jobs/?utm_source=roundup&utm_medium=email

Center for Agricultural Science and Technology Online Resources – (CAST)

CAST began its life as an answer to the perceived threats of ecological agriculture to establishment agriculture in the 1970s. Over time, with much scientific input, research-based reports and a strong turn towards environmental concerns in agriculture, CAST now represents a unique blend of sustainable and conventional ag thinking and research, providing a range of wide stakeholders and audiences including farmers, land grant colleges, trade groups, agribusiness and policy makers. “CAST addresses issues of animal sciences, food sciences and agricultural technology, plant and soil sciences, and plant protection sciences with inputs from economists, social scientists, toxicologists or plant pathologists and entomologists, weed scientists, nematologists, and legal experts.” (website) I recommend the video presentations provided on the publications page to undergrads and graduate students and their teachers. Documents, papers, and reports are available in a variety of formats, though some access does require membership to CAST. <http://www.cast-science.org> CAST also sponsors a SchoolTube channel!

Maryland Harvest Screening! (Houpla!)

The Maryland Agricultural Resource Council will host a special summer screening of "The Maryland Harvest," a documentary about Maryland farms and farmers and the chefs who love them, and a panel discussion with Chef Cindy Wolf of Charleston, Tom Albright of Albright Farms and "Maryland Harvest" host Al Spoler on Thursday, May 31, at 5:30 at the Baltimore County Center for Maryland Agriculture with a reception featuring Maryland wines and hors d'oeuvres by Richardson Farms. Tickets are \$25 and available at <http://www.marylandagriculture.org>

BioBlitz! (EMNC)

Citizen science is a powerful way to contribute meaningful, relevant, and very important inventory data on species – and a bioblitz is a great way to get involved! Join the scientists and volunteers at Eden Mill as they inventory the flora and fauna of northern Harford County on June 23, 9am – 3pm. Be prepared for anything! Each group will have an experienced, knowledgeable person leading the way. This is a quick event that identifies and moves quickly to the next interesting find. All species observed will immediately be recorded, i.e., time of day, where found (or best guess), and photos if possible. There will be crossover between groups, which is fine. The information gathered that day will be kept at Eden Mill where anyone can look at the results.

Maryland Agricultural Education Foundation
June 1, 2012

Please wear appropriate attire - closed toe shoes and clothing you wouldn't mind getting dirty. Please be mindful of ticks, mosquitoes, poison ivy, etc. If handling animals, please make sure your hands are pesticide free.

Lunch will be served by a local boy scout troop, at the Pavilion. However, please feel free to bring your own. Enter to win the "Guess The Total Species Count" contest! Simply place your guess in an provided envelope with \$5! Winner gets half of the collective pot!

Please pre-register at www.edenmill.org or call 410-836-3050. Ask for Stacey!

Arcadia Center for Sustainable Food and Agriculture Family Fun Day!

A spring celebration with healthy snacks, arts and crafts, and fun farm activities for the whole family: Saturday, June 16th, 1pm-5pm at Arcadia Farm, part of the Woodlawn Estate, 9000 Richmond Highway, Alexandria, VA.

We've got some great activities planned!

- Learn to make healthy farm-fresh snacks
- Meet our chickens
- Check out Arcadia's Mobile Market
- Play farm-based games with your family
- Face painting, arts and crafts, and more

Just \$5 per person (Children 2 & under are free). Pay online (preferred!) or in cash at the door. Rain date: Sunday, June 17th. More information at <http://familyfundayatarcadia.eventbrite.com>

Why Aren't You?

A member of Farm-Based Education Association? Receiving their excellent quarterly newsletter and monthly bullet points? Joining the Maryland Network of FBEA? Coming to our first state meeting in November? Offering farm-based education on your farm or community garden?

Join for free and get involved! www.farmbasededucation.org

Citizens Invited to Celebrate Maryland Outdoors Days, June 9-23

In celebration of Maryland's abundant natural resources and exciting recreational opportunities, Governor Martin O'Malley today proclaimed June Great Outdoors Month in Maryland for the sixth year in a row, and the Maryland Partnership for Children in Nature is helping citizens find a way to celebrate! The inaugural Celebrate Maryland Outdoors Days encourages everyone to get outside and explore the State's natural wonders through a wide array of fun events and activities. Catch a fish, watch wildlife, follow a trail, camp under the stars, go for a swim... it's all available somewhere nearby! The 2-week statewide event kicks off in conjunction with National Get Outdoors Day on June 9 and culminates with the Great American Backyard Campout on June 23. <http://www.dnr.state.md.us/dnrnews/pressrelease2012/060112.asp>

Estuaries 101 Middle School Curriculum

The National Estuarine Research Reserves has released the Estuaries 101 Middle School Curriculum, a multi-media online science curriculum offering students virtual field trips to estuaries around the country. The curriculum provides interactive learning tools that teach fundamental concepts in science and develop scientific thinking skills, while helping students discover and virtually explore our nation's biologically rich estuaries. The curriculum offers videos, access to user friendly real-time water quality and weather data, teacher activity downloads, and interactive maps to help students better visualize the inner workings of an estuary.

Topics include Human Impact, Natural Resources, Research & Monitoring, Abundance of Life, and Dynamic Ecosystems. Many of the activities also have climate extensions. Teachers can download a Curriculum Overview to get started. Check this out, and while on the website, be sure to check out the many other resources available for estuary education.

<http://estuaries.noaa.gov/Teachers/Home.aspx>

50 States for Good Grant

Tom's of Maine's 50 States for Good supports the goodness behind grassroots community projects. The deadline for entry is June 12, 2012.

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

Crowdfunding

#SciFund, the largest Science Crowdfunding project on the Internet, has launched its second round of funding requests. The goal behind #SciFund is to give scientists an incentive to begin to couple outreach to the earliest stages of their research programs. Scientists create videos about their research and offer incentives to encourage the public to fund parts of the research, connecting participants to the excitement of doing science. Search for keyword education, and check out How to Use Education to Protect a Coral Reef, Honoring Traditional Ecological Knowledge, Sing About Science, and more.

<http://www.rockethub.com/projects/scifund>

Entomological Society President's Education Award

These awards recognize educators of grades K-12 who use insects as educational tools. The deadline for nomination is July 1, 2012.

<http://www.entsoc.org/awards/professional/educational>

Mazda Foundation Grants

The Mazda Foundation awards grants to programs promoting education and literacy, environmental conservation, cross-cultural understanding, social welfare, and scientific research. The deadline for application is July 1, 2012.

http://www.mazdafoundation.org/Grant_Guidelines.html

Friends of the National Wildlife Refuges

Just thinking what a beautiful place Eastern Neck Island is (Kent County) and how you run into the most interesting people while kayaking around it! Right, Karen? The National Wildlife Refuge Association hosts a webpage to promote refuge volunteer opportunities. It offers listings of current opportunities and contact information, along with profiles of some locations, issues, and species.

<http://refugeassociation.org/people/volunteer>

Collaborative Summer Program for High School Seniors

This free Collaborative Summer Program, July 1-August 10, 2012 in Princess Anne, Maryland offers stipends and course credit for high school students, particularly from underrepresented groups, in various areas of geosciences. Students will receive lectures and take part in hands-on activities in marine geology, physical oceanography and atmospheric science, remote sensing/GIS, and more.

<http://www.nosb.org/2012/noaa-geosciences-summer-program-for-high-school-students/>

ArcLessons

ArcLessons is a resource hosted by ESRI to share lessons for using GIS in the classroom. Visitors can browse a list of lessons by category or use the search tools to find lessons in a specific area of interest, including Life/Environmental Sciences. Teachers can also contribute lessons for other educators to use.

<http://edcommunity.esri.com/arclessons/arclessons.cfm>

Leafsnap App

Leafsnap is an electronic field guide developed by researchers from Columbia University, the University of Maryland, and the Smithsonian Institution. This free mobile app uses visual recognition software to help identify tree species from photographs of their leaves.

<http://itunes.apple.com/us/app/leafsnap/id430649829?mt=8>

Next Generation Science Standards

Through a collaborative, state-led process managed by Achieve, new K–12 science standards are being developed that will be rich in content and practice, arranged in a coherent manner across disciplines and grades to provide all students an internationally benchmarked science education. The standards will be based on the Framework for K–12 Science Education developed by the National Research Council. Check out the draft report. These will be operational in Maryland in 2013!

<http://www.nextgenscience.org/>

Firefly Voyeurs

The grey cat's keen eyes spy
them first, those sparks,
here,
there,
flying through twilight
in ferns and space.
Playing with purpose,
specks of light
for a second,
flash,
glint,
hide and seek in the silhouetted landscape
while we watch their acts
through a thick pane of glass.

- Jan Hasselman Bosman

Thanks to Sam Droege, USGS, my mentor in bee taxonomy, director of the Wild Bee Lab at Beltsville, MD, amazing poet and musician, for all of The Buzz poetry submissions for the past two years and (I hope) years to come!