



April 2008

# EE InfoLink

## Colorado Alliance for Environmental Education

*Connecting Colorado's  
Environmental Education Network*

### In This Issue

Spring Advisory Council  
Meeting

EE Certification Program Pilot

Teacher's Institute

Bulletin Board- Career,  
Workshops, Grants, Resources  
and Announcements

### CAEE

15260 S. Golden Rd.  
Golden, CO 80401  
303-273-9527  
303-273-5780 (fax)  
[www.caee.org](http://www.caee.org)  
[info@caee.org](mailto:info@caee.org)

### STAFF

#### **Executive Director:**

Ali Goulstone Sweeney

#### **Program Assistant:**

Kate Gardner

### BOARD OF DIRECTORS

#### **President:**

Skip Spensley,  
Spensley &  
Associates

#### **Vice President:**

Karen Hardesty, CO  
Division of Wildlife

## Environmental Education Advisory Council Meeting

### *Taking it Beyond the Talk: Diversity and Inclusiveness in Environmental Education*

Thursday May 22, 2008  
1:00-4:00pm  
Mile High United Way  
2505 18th Street,  
Denver, CO 80211

**Co-Facilitators Ana Soler from Front Range EarthForce and  
Ali Sweeney from CAEE**

The EE Advisory Council is a twice-yearly assembly of the state's EE leaders. As a member of the Alliance, you are invited to be part of the EE Advisory Council, and lend your knowledge, experience and leadership to this visionary group. If you are interested in shaping environmental education or finding out where we're going in Colorado, you should be at this meeting.

#### **On the Agenda:**

Our society is changing; will we advance with it or stay behind? Do our volunteers, staff, and leadership reflect the diversity of our community? Do we recognize the real value of becoming more inclusive? The purpose of the meeting will be to design a vision for how the Alliance can move from talking about the importance of diversity to engaging diverse people in environmental education. We will challenge you to explore, dream, and design a new vision for the environmental education community in Colorado.

**RSVP to CAEE at 303-273-9527 or [info@caee.org](mailto:info@caee.org) by May 15**

**Secretary:**

Linda Hamilton, Lory  
State Park

**Fiscal Officer:**

Patrick Tennyson,  
Butterfly Pavilion

**Directors:**

Jill Cooper,  
Faegre & Benson LLP

Julie Gustafson,  
National Wildlife  
Federation

Kelly Keena,  
University of  
Colorado Health  
Sciences Center

Hillary Mizia,  
PriZm Sustainability

Diane Simmons,  
Colorado Academy

[Join Our Mailing List!](#)

[Click Here to  
Update your  
Directory Entry](#)

**Executive  
Directors Corner**

**Ali Goulstone  
Sweeney**  
[director@caee.org](mailto:director@caee.org)  
(303)273-9527

## The Certification of Environmental Educators Pilot Program is here!

**Are you interested in helping launch CAEE's new Certification  
Program of Environmental Educators?**

CAEE is looking for educators, both formal and non-formal, who would be interested in completing a certification portfolio that will be reviewed by the certification committee.

### Get Certified for Free!

Once the certification program is in place, there will be a fee for certification. Participation in the pilot program will be free and participants can be certified free of charge when all competencies have been met. Certification Portfolios will be due by September 1st and reviews will be completed by December 1st.

For more information or to participate visit [www.caee.org](http://www.caee.org), contact CAEE at [info@caee.org](mailto:info@caee.org) or 303-273-9527.

## Online Environmental EducationTeacher's Institute

*A Distance Learning Course About  
Teaching Environmental Issues*  
June 2 - August 8, 2008

The online EE Institute is a professional development course designed to actively involve educators in facilitating the investigation and evaluation of environmental issues with their learners. It models a variety of EE strategies to assist learners in exploring and seeking responsible courses of action toward the resolution of environmental issues specific to their community. Via distance learning, course participants will explore, at their own pace and from the convenience of their home or office. Participants will engage in selected readings; self-directed activities; self-reflection, one-on-one communications with the instructor, and group debate via an electronic discussion board.

Registration: \$100

Two optional graduate level recertification credits are available through the Colorado School of Mines Teacher Enhancement program for an additional fee.

***Class space is limited, so sign-up soon!***

To register or for more information,

Contact CAEE at 303-273-9527 or [info@caee.org](mailto:info@caee.org).

### Executive Director's Corner:

Ali Goulstone Sweeney  
[director@caee.org](mailto:director@caee.org),  
(303)273-9527

### Teaching OUTSIDE the Box 2008

Close to 200 educators gathered last weekend at a snowy Snow Mountain Ranch for the annual Teaching OUTSIDE the Box conference. From the opening to the closing, everyone was encouraged to investigate the world around them. The sessions this year were fantastic - climate change, connections between spirituality and EE, incorporating stewardship and action in programs, gardening, and responsible investing - just to name a few of the more than 50 that filled the 3 days. There was lots of sharing of skills, knowledge, and best practices for sure, but the transformation from Friday to Sunday was the amazing part. Participants came in weary from their travels and their programs and walked away feeling supported, excited, part of something larger, and inspired.

Our keynote speaker this year was Louise Chawla. For those of you unfamiliar with her work she has conducted much of the foundational research to support the value of environmental education and connecting to nature. Louise has developed some incredible tools in the form of fact sheets to help us build support for the field. These fact sheets are perfect for you to make the case to the powers that be in your world about the research behind kids in nature and place based education. You can find them on the conference portion of CAEE's website.

It was fantastic to look across the room in these large gatherings and see the faces that I see all of the time, the faces I only get to see at the conference, and all of the new faces and know that our Alliance is growing. I knew that all of those folks, just like I did at the very first conference, had found a place where their work is fully supported, where the other people have the same struggles, and where you can be a part of something more than you can be on your own.

If you missed it, don't worry the conference committee will cook up something wonderful for next year May 1-3, 2009. Many, many thanks to the conference team for donating so much time to make the conference the place to go for professional development in Colorado.

#### Conference Team:

Nicole Bickford, Co-Chairperson  
Skot Latona, Co-Chairperson  
Susan Beckett, Shawna Crocker, Linda Fuller, Pat Millsap, Paul Reimer, Constance Roth, Sue Schafer, Kent Simon, Marcos Stoltzfus, Dave Sutherland, Joy Thompson, and Liz Wickard

## Bulletin Board

### Career

#### **The Butterfly Pavilion: Birthday Party Ambassador**

Seeking a creative, highly motivated and energetic individual to fill our youth education Birthday Party Ambassador position. Hours will vary according to scheduled parties each week, typically Saturday and Sundays, 9:00 am -5:00 PM. This is a part-time, permanent year-round position. In an effort to minimize environmental impact, please email cover letter and resume to [education@butterflies.org](mailto:education@butterflies.org).

#### **National Wildlife Federation: Education Outreach Coordinator**

Seeks an Education Outreach Coordinator to drive NWF's Habitats Program related outreach, as well as wildlife gardening and habitat restoration and education efforts. The position includes representing NWF's Rocky Mountain Natural Resource Center (RMNRC) in collaborative projects, executing specific projects, volunteer management and ongoing general administration tasks. It requires a mix of self-directed work in addition supporting activities with the RMNRC office, Habitats Program and Volunteer Program Teams. Apply at [www.nwf.org/careergateway](http://www.nwf.org/careergateway).

### Workshops

#### **Institute on Urban Service Learning**

June 2-4, 2008, 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the REI Flagship store  
The Summer Institute is a three day training for teachers, administrators and community partners that emphasizes service-learning best practices. Learn how to use authentic reflection using techniques you can bring into your classroom, attend workshops on reaching a diverse population, and methods for fostering youth leadership through the creation of youth councils. In addition, attendees will be taken on a field trip that focuses on local water and will provide teachers with ideas they can take back to their classrooms. There is a \$225 Registration Fee, includes curriculum, field trip, and lunch. Scholarships are available and space at the training is limited. Visit <http://www.earthforce.org/section/offices/frontrange/2008suminst> for more information or to register.

#### **Fire Ecology Institute for Educators**

June 15-20, 2008

Join 4th-12th grade educators at beautiful Colorado Mountain College, in Glenwood Springs to learn about current "hot topics" and "burning issues" in forest health and management! Gain knowledge, experience and materials to provide your students with relevant information about fire ecology, fire behavior, fire history, mitigation and opportunities for community service projects. Receive a take home a cache of materials and resources including Project Learning Tree activity guides, FireWorks experiments and information, videos,

posters, CDs, DDS, grant opportunities. For more information call or email: 303-202-4662, [scrocker@colostate.edu](mailto:scrocker@colostate.edu).

### **River Watch Training Opportunities**

River Watch is a statewide volunteer water quality-monitoring program operated by the Colorado Watershed Network. As water quality data must be recorded over time they are seeking volunteers that can make a several year commitment to the program. River Watch will be holding two trainings this fall. If you are interested in attending these trainings or learning more about this program, contact River Watch Program Coordinator Curtis Hartenstine at [curtis.hartenstine@state.co.us](mailto:curtis.hartenstine@state.co.us) or at (303) 291-7412.

### **Online EE Classes**

National Environmental Education and Training Partnership (EETAP) at the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point has developed four online courses titled "Applied Environmental Education Program Evaluation," "Fundamentals of Environmental Education," "Strategic Planning and Implementation," and "Making EE Relevant for Culturally Diverse Audiences." To learn more about the courses view the website at: <http://www.uwsp.edu/natres/eetap/index.aspx>.

## **Grants, Awards and Competitions**

### **Rachel Carson Sense of Wonder Intergenerational Poetry, Essay, and Photography Contest**

Deadline: June 16, 2008

This US EPA Aging Initiative, Generations United, and Rachel Carson Council Inc., contest is seeking submissions on the theme of one of Rachel Carson's books The Sense of Wonder. Entries must be intergenerational involving a team of persons related or unrelated and describe the project and how this project brought the team in touch with the natural world. This intergenerational approach reflects Carson's desire to have adults share nature and discovery with children. Contact: Shakeba Carter-Jenkins, 202-564-4355, or [carter-jenkins.shakeba@epa.gov](mailto:carter-jenkins.shakeba@epa.gov)

### **National Environmental Education Foundation - The National High School Challenge: Classroom Earth (national)**

Grants support teacher's efforts to incorporate environmental themes and education into the classroom and coursework. The two grants available are Course Integration Grants and Professional Development Grants. Supports teachers as they integrate environmental themes across one or more courses. The Professional Development Grant is for teachers who want to learn more about environmental education and its purpose and place in the classroom. For detailed information go to:

[http://www.neefusa.org/programs/ce\\_grant.htm](http://www.neefusa.org/programs/ce_grant.htm)

## **Resources and Announcements**

### **Climate Change Tales for Young Children**

Tales for young children (ages 5-8) such as Where are the igloos of Iglooville? and Tears from the other side of the world are told by Professor Sneeze, Reckless, and Breakneck explaining in easy terms, the Kyoto protocol and the problems linked to global warming in the Arctic region. Appropriate for children ages 5-8. Visit

[http://www.educapoles.org/index.php?educational\\_material/tales/&s=2&rs=29&lg=en](http://www.educapoles.org/index.php?educational_material/tales/&s=2&rs=29&lg=en)

#### **2008 NAAEE Awards ~ Call for Nominations**

The NAAEE Awards Committee announces the Call for Nominations for the 2008 NAAEE Awards. NAAEE members can recognize individuals and organizations that excel in EE through our annual awards program. Nominations must be received by May 2, 2008. (Please note that you or your co-nominator must be a member of NAAEE in order to nominate an individual or organization for an award.) The Awards will be presented on October 18, 2008, at the 2008 NAAEE annual conference in Wichita, Kansas. Please see <http://www.naaee.org/programs-and-initiatives/awards/call-for-nominations> for directions and access to online nomination forms.

#### **Seeking Environmental Films**

The North American Association for Environmental Education is looking for films for a Film and Video Contest as part of the association's annual conference in October 2008. Prizes will be offered for programs that tell a positive story of how individuals and communities have come together to solve environmental problems, in accordance with NAAEE's Guidelines for Excellence in Environmental Education. The Film and Video Contest is one element of a larger effort by NAAEE to re-invigorate the use of arts and culture in the EE field. Entry forms and rules are attached to this email and can be found on the NAAEE Web site at [www.naaee.org/conference](http://www.naaee.org/conference)

#### **"Rocky Mountain Tunes for Rocky Mountain Kids" CD**

A fun & educational journey through the magical landscapes of the Rocky Mountains that kids, parents and teachers will love. The music helps introduce children to key environmental concepts such as: rocky mountain wildlife, alpine ecology, and energy conservation. For more information or to purchase the CD visit

<http://rockymountainmusic.info/>

#### **We welcome you to join us as a member of the Colorado Alliance for Environmental Education!**

##### **Membership Levels:**

Student or Teacher: \$15/year

Individual: \$35/year

Organization, Agency, Non-profit or Institution: \$65/year

Corporation: \$500/year

**For more information or to become a member please visit**

[www.caeec.org](http://www.caeec.org)

Posting of resources or events does not constitute endorsement of those materials or activities by the Colorado Alliance for Environmental Education or sponsors of CAEE.

Previous issues of EE-InfoLink can be accessed at: <http://www.caeec.org/info/additional-ee-resources/>

If you have an announcement for EE InfoLink, please [email](#) by the 10th of each month.

EE InfoLink Editor: Kate Gardner

Phone: 303-273-9527 Fax: 303-273-5780

[E-mail](#)

<http://www.caeec.org>

### [Forward email](#)

✉ **SafeUnsubscribe**®

This email was sent to info@caee.org by [admin@caee.org](mailto:admin@caee.org).

[Update Profile/Email Address](#) | Instant removal with [SafeUnsubscribe](#)™ | [Privacy Policy](#).

Email Marketing by



Colorado Alliance for Environmental Education | 15260 South Golden Rd. | Golden | CO | 80401