

## 13<sup>th</sup> Annual Barnegat Bay Environmental Educators Roundtable Program Descriptions

APRIL 28, 2010

LIGHTHOUSE CENTER FOR NATURAL RESOURCE EDUCATION IN WARETOWN

DOORS OPEN AT 2:30. PROGRAMS BEGIN PROMPTLY AT 4:15.

*Come early to enjoy the exhibits, a light dinner and network with area educators.*

### 2-Hour Sessions: (You can choose 1 of these sessions)

4:15 PM – 6:15 PM

#### A. Explore the World with Shorebirds –

*Arthur Webster, USFWS, Edwin B. Forsythe Wildlife Refuge*

Join us for an overview of the Explore the World with Shorebirds educators' guide and a short walk to identify birds and try out one of the field trip activities in the guide. Explore the World with Shorebirds educators' guide is the curriculum for the Shorebird Sister Schools Program, an internet-based conservation education program designed for educators and their students. The content of Explore the World with Shorebirds CD-ROM includes chapters on connecting cultures, shorebird primer, interdisciplinary classroom activities, field trip planning, and field trip activities. Activities found within the guide are correlated with the 2004 New Jersey Core Curriculum Content Standards. Participants will receive a free CD-ROM!

#### B. Nature Activities for Preschool Students

*Elizabeth Faircloth, NJ Division of Parks and Forestry*

*Karen Leskie, NJ Division of Fish and Wildlife*

Ever wonder how to connect preschoolers to nature? Project Learning Tree and Project WILD each have new activity guides specifically for early learners! Each guide contains lessons and student pages, as well as music, movement, literature and snack ideas to use with young students. Find out more about these programs, participate in some activities, and gain ideas on how to encourage young children to learn about the natural world around them using their senses, the seasons, and songs.

Note: Participants will have the chance to purchase guides for \$10 each.

#### C. Exploring the Hidden Pond and Macro-Invertebrates

*Lindsay Harrington, Watershed Ambassador, WMA 13*

*Shane Toohey, Watershed Ambassador, WMA 12*

A freshwater pond, a mini watershed, a secret oasis – all a short walk from the parking lot at the Lighthouse Center! Join IN this exploration of this special place and learn about fresh water biological monitoring and hands-on pond study. Curriculum will be provided for this activity. The Hidden Pond is one of 9 Learning Stations developed on the Lighthouse Center property. Each Learning Station has a curriculum guide to accompany it. The Learning Stations are available as educational programs for visiting classes.

#### **D. Exploring the Habitats of Jake's Branch County Park**

*Michele Von Schmidt, OC Parks and Recreation*

*\* Space is limited. This is an off-site trip. A van will transport participants.*

What is HABITAT? It's much more than just an animals *home*. We will take a walk through different park habitats and highlight things of interest along the way. Participants will get to try out one of our field trip activities during the walk. All participants will receive materials they can use in their classrooms or on their school grounds. We will also get a quick tour of the parks new nature center with 5-story observation tower overlooking the beautiful Pinelands!

#### **1- Hour Sessions - (You need to choose 2 of these sessions. One for each time slot)**

**4:15 PM – 5:15 PM**

#### **E. Teaching about Invasive Species Using an Integrated Curriculum Unit**

*Amanda Traina, Georgian Court University*

*Dr. Louise Wootton, Georgian Court University*

In this workshop we will showcase an integrated curriculum unit centered on the invasive plant species, *Phragmites australis*. Teachers will participate in some of the science, math, social sciences, art and language arts active learning experiences that have been developed. The workshop will provide a flavor of both content and the innovative approaches to learning.

#### **F. The Island Blue Pages**

*Angela Contillo Andersen, Science Co-Chair for the LBI Foundation for the Arts and Sciences and Recycling Coordinator for Long Beach Township*

I will show how the Island Blue Pages and accompanying Interactive CD can be used as a teaching tool. There will be a live demo of the interactive CD. I will also describe the facility and explain how the LBI Foundation for the arts and sciences can be used as a cross curricular education destination-- For science; on-site rain garden, marsh tours/osprey, terrapin hatchery, alternate energy demo along with the Arts programs.

#### **G. The Buzz about Honey Bees**

*Terry O'Leary - Forest Resource Education Center*

*McDuffy Barrow – Forest Resource Education Center*

Participants will investigate the fascinating world of these beneficial social insects, learning about the behaviors of the Queen, Worker Bees, and Drones. At the Honeybee Learning Station, the beehive mockup will be opened to reveal the honeycomb, pollen, royal jelly, bees wax, as well as beekeeper's tools including a veil and smoker. A Curriculum Guide and a sample of locally produced honey will be provided

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**5:30 PM – 6:15 PM**

#### **H. Linking Water Conservation Education to Environmental Impacts in Local Watersheds**

*Jennifer Mattiello, Georgian Court University*

*Dr. Louise Wootton, Georgian Court University*

Looking for a way to make the water cycle more interesting to your students? Want some new ideas for enhancing student awareness of the links between water conservation and the health of local ecosystems? This workshop will provide you with the opportunity to try some active learning activities on this topic that we've developed for use in the elementary and middle school classrooms.

**I. Climate Change in the Classroom**

*Mary Judge, Barnegat Bay National Estuary Program*

Learn about the resources available to incorporate lessons about climate change into your curriculum. How does climate change affect us here in the Barnegat Bay watershed? What effect does sea level rise have on coastal plants and animals? Teach your students how to calculate their carbon footprint and help familiarize them with some of the key concepts of climate change. Climate literacy will help students understand how they can be better environmental stewards and do their part for their school, their home, and their community.

**J. Fishy Tales and Shark Scales**

*Danni Logue, Education Assistant/Volunteer Coordinator, Jenkinson's Aquarium*

What makes a fish a fish? We'll observe similarities and differences in fish color, shape, fins, and behavior. Discover why sharks are unique, how this feared predator benefits our oceans, and learn about conservation efforts to protect them. Then practice the ancient art of gyotaku, or fish printing, and get your hands dirty making a fish print of your own. Be green and bring your own t-shirt or canvas bag to decorate! NJCCS: 5.1, 5.4, 5.6, 5.7, AND 5.12

**Key Note Presentations: Student Stewardship Projects**

There will be two separate Sessions occurring simultaneously from 6:30 PM – 7:30 PM.

Please choose the session that you would like to attend on the reservation form.

According to the EPA, Environmental stewardship is the responsibility for environmental quality shared by all those whose actions affect the environment. Environmental stewards strive to sustain natural resources and our environment for future generations. People depend on natural resources for their livelihood. However, pressures on the environment resulting from development are steadily increasing. Therefore, it is necessary for citizens and the business community to ensure that their activities and operations are environmentally responsible.

**Session 1: Middle – High School**

Presented by:

Jaime Baumiller, New Egypt High School - Rain Garden and Trout in the Classroom

Gary Paxton, Lake Riviera Middle School and his Student Stewards - The Kettle Creek Crusaders

Throughout the school year you can teach your students to become environmental stewards. Teacher Jaime Baumiller will give a synopsis of her students' two projects: Trout in the Classroom (TIC) and Creating a Rain Garden. Gary Paxton, teacher, and the 6<sup>th</sup> grade "*Kettle Creek Crusaders*" will present the highlights of their outdoor classroom project at their extensive school campus and the focus on their local watershed, the Kettle Creek in Brick.

**Session 2: Pre - K – Elementary**

Presented by:

Gail Hunt and Roni Strain, Pinelands Stories, Jersey Juniors

Dr. Jim Merritt, Director, Sedge Island Natural Resource Education Center

Sister authors Gail and Roni will share their inspirational story that led to their creation of their unique program entitled "Jersey Juniors." Their storybooks, A Tree Frog in a Cranberry Bog, and The Bat's Toe, will bring the history and ecology of the Pinelands to life for your students. Dr. Jim Merritt will share some inspirational programs that aim at getting students involved in natural resource stewardship projects. From "Re-Clam the Bay" to "Oysters in the Classroom"; Dr. Jim will inspire you to involve your students in making a difference.

Partial funding for the 2010 Roundtable has been provided by the Barnegat Bay National Estuary Program