

## OCEAN COUNTY SOIL CONSERVATION DISTRICT PRESENTS:

### The 11<sup>th</sup> Annual Barnegat Bay Environmental Educators Roundtable

**JOIN US FOR WHAT PROMISES TO BE A FUN, INFORMATIVE AND WORTHWHILE WORKSHOP!**

**Date:** *Wednesday, April 30, 2008*

**Location:** *Lighthouse Center for Natural Resources Education, Waretown*

**Time:** *Doors Open 2:30 for Open House with FREE Resources & Refreshments & Light Dinner*  
*1 Hour Sessions – 4:30 – 5:30 PM & 5:40 - 6:40 PM*  
*2 hour Sessions – 4:30 – 6:30 PM*  
*6:45 – 7:30 – Keynote Presentation: MATES Students – Stories of Inspiration*  
*7:30 – 7:45 – Wrap-up, Door Prizes, Evaluations & Certificates (Provider #1872)*

#### **2 Hour Sessions:**

##### **A. Rain Gardens – Design & Implementation –**

**Presenters: Terry O'Leary, Education Coordinator, NJ Forest Service, Forest Resource Education Center & Wendy Clayton, Crawford Rodriguez Elementary School**

Participants will get hands-on, step-by-step training in the planning, designing, and implementing of an outdoor classroom, using a courtyard or detention basin on their school sites. Rain gardens are a specific type of outdoor classroom in which native plants are utilized in areas where water collects. They are planted to absorb stormwater runoff and prevent non-point source pollution. Topics will include: how to get started, custom designing, selecting proper plantings, garden themes and features, site considerations, wildlife enhancements, interactive activities with curriculum connections. Come find out how to get a Rain Garden at your school!

##### **B. What's New in the World of WET?**

**Presenters: Ray Nichols, NJDEP Division of Watershed Management & Kevin Kopp, Project WET Coordinator**

The Project WET Curriculum and Activity Guide is just the tip of the educational resources iceberg (pun intended!) offered by the New Jersey Project WET Program. Come learn about additional activities guides and workshops offered, including, Conserve Water; Healthy Water, Healthy People; WOW! Wonders of Wetlands; and Discover a Watershed. Hands-on activities from these guides will be presented. Teachers will also learn how they can apply for mini-grants to run either a Water Festival or a Watershed Stewards Program at their school. In addition, the AmeriCorps Watershed Ambassador for Barnegat Bay will describe the types of programs she can present to your classes.

##### **C. Frogs and Toads of the New Jersey Pine Barrens –**

**Presenter: Dr. Walt Bien, Drexel University, Director of Pinelands Research**

Frogs and toads are an important component of the ecology of the New Jersey Pine Barrens. Through an interactive PowerPoint presentation you will hear their different mating calls, learn about their habitats, and discover why they are declining in many areas of the world. How does landscape use impact local frog and toad populations? Can you imagine a world without frogs and toads? Frog extinctions continue to occur in many parts of the world. Could it happen here in the Pine Barrens? Learn about conservation measures, recent scientific studies, and resources available to protect our local neighbors. Weather permitting: a "frog hop" to nearby wetlands on the grounds of the Lighthouse Center to hear anurans that maybe calling.

##### **D. Nature Journaling –**

**Presenter: Sean Grace, NJ Audubon Society**

The Nature Journal can be a fun and effective tool for learning about your local environment and developing creativity in and out of the classroom. You will be introduced to a variety of journaling activities and several drawing techniques that can be seamlessly added to your science curriculum to enhance your student's observation skills and encourage better comprehension of concepts. Please bring a sketchbook or blank journal and a pencil and black pen. Feel free to bring along colored pencils or water color if you have them; not required. This two hour session will get you started and introduce you to a variety of reference material about "Nature Journaling". Sean Grace is the Sanctuary Director for New Jersey Audubon Society's Plainsboro Preserve and an environmental educator who enjoys sharing how to incorporate the nature journal in the classroom. He completed his master's thesis on "Using the Nature Journal as a Tool for Learning" in 2001.

### **E. Shorebird and Fish Decoys –**

**Presenters: Ray & Barbara Nyman & Duffy Barrow**

Join master carvers Ray, Barbara and Duffy as they demonstrate this traditional baymen's craft. Science, history and art combine in this unique presentation. They will surely amaze you with their skills and abilities in capturing the details of birds, fish and wildlife in wood. An activity that you can take back to your classroom is also included, and you will leave with your very own creation of a fish or shorebird decoy. All materials and supplies provided.

### **F. Ecological Adventures - Boat Ride\* Subject to cancellation due to weather conditions.**

**Presenters: Chris Claus, Chief Naturalist, Cattus Island Park Staff**

**Karen Leskie, NJ Division of Fish and Wildlife & Art Webster, Forsythe Wildlife Refuge join this cruise and offer additional insight and expertise.**

Just sit right back and you'll hear a tale... (this is actually a two-hour tour, not three!) As with swimming, boating provides a uniquely intimate Barnegat Bay experience. The Bay Cruiser, a 30 passenger pontoon boat is a comfortable way to explore the bay and will allow you this unique perspective of the estuary. Captain Chris and Cattus Island staff are prepared to share with you the wonders of the bay beneath the waves. Be prepared for wind and getting wet!

### **1 Hour Sessions: \* You must choose 2 of the 1 hour sessions, 1 from each time slot**

**Session 1- 4:30 – 5:30 PM**

### **G. The Pine Barrens: Up Close & Natural: A New Inquiry-Based Curriculum for High School**

**Presenter: Mike Hunninghake, Pinelands Preservation Alliance**

This new curriculum accompanies the Up Close & Natural video and Teachers Guide to allow teachers and students to delve deeper into the Pine Barrens. The curriculum will help science and social studies teachers use Pine Barrens settings and themes to teach broader topics in biology, ecology, chemistry, earth science, history and social studies. Workshop will include hands-on demonstrations of lessons from the curriculum.

### **H. Marine Edible Delights:**

**Presenters: Cindy Claus, Jenkinson's Aquarium & Claire Antonucci, Marine Sciences Consortium**

Join future Food Network superstars Cindy Claus (Jenkinson's Aquarium) and Claire Antonucci (NJ Marine Sciences) as they show you how you and your students can prepare and enjoy delicious treats that are ocean-educational too. Sample a salt marsh sundae, tear into a sea urchin snack, build a pan of barrier beach brownies and more during this innovative session.

**Session 2 – 5:40 – 6:40 PM**

### **I. Fire in the Pinelands**

**Presenter: Patricia Perrini, Ocean County Parks and Recreation**

Each year an average of 1,500 wildfires blaze across New Jersey's forests. These wildfires have become an increasing threat to homeowners who move into areas of Ocean County known as the Wildland Urban Interface. Over the last decade, State Forest Fire Service Officials have taken an increased interest in protecting these homes. Our innovative and interactive Firewise Landscape Model uses a hands-on approach which enables participants to see the dangers of living in fire prone areas and understand how they can protect property against wildfire, and teach the essentials of wildfires.

### **J. What the Bay HINGES ON**

***Shellfish Restoration, Bay Stewardship, and Education***

**Presenter: Cara Muscio, Marine Agent, Rutgers Cooperative Extension**

This sampler workshop is a sneak preview into the educational opportunities provided by the Barnegat Bay Shellfish Restoration Program and "Re-Clam the Bay". Learn about clam aquaculture, and how water quality and clams affect each other. Talk about the possibilities for getting your class/school involved in shellfish restoration. "What the Bay Hinges On" curriculum guide uses shellfish as a key to a multidisciplinary understanding of our bay water environment, ecology, culture, and economy. Lessons focus issues such as: the relationship between clams and water quality, the health of bay ecosystems, the economics of aquaculture, and the impact of human growth on our food supply. The workshop will also provide exposure to a working model of environmental stewardship that benefits both the environment and the community.

**DON'T MISS THIS REGIONALLY SIGNIFICANT ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION EVENT!**