



ICEEC

IOWA CONSERVATION EDUCATION COALITION



ICEEC
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EDUCATION COALITION

NEWSLETTER
Pathways to Education

To empower Iowa's formal and nonformal educators to promote environmental literacy and facilitate networking.

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**ICEEC Board
Members**

Emily Klein
Boone County
Conservation Board

Lisa Ralls
Winnebago County
Conservation Board

Martha Tushaus

Issue 1

April 2015



Dear ICEEC Member:

"Passion does not arrive on videotape or on a CD; passion is personal. Passion is lifted from the earth itself by the muddy hands of the young, it travels along grass-stained sleeves to the heart. If we are going to save environmentalism and the environment, we must also save an endangered indicator species: the child in nature". - Richard Louv, Last Child in the Woods: Saving Our Children from Nature Deficit Disorder, 2005

Workshop Words from Jane Shuttleworth

Thanks to all the participants, presenters and planners who attended the ICEEC "Diving into Networking" February workshop!

We took the plunge (and pledge) at the workshop to roll out a new model for accomplishing ICEEC's mission "to empower and network Iowa's formal and nonformal educators for environmental literacy."

That is, the main venue for carrying out ICEEC's mission over the years has



McCormick
Next Step Adventure

Terrie Hoefler
S.O.A.R.

Heather Anderson
Waukeg Schools

Beth Martin
Des Moines Schools

Jane Shuttleworth
Iowa Lakeside Lab

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been through Winter Solstice workshop. Several hundred teachers, naturalists and other educators attended this annual professional development workshop. There were keynote speakers and a plethora of concurrent sessions on a range of topics.

Over the past decade, due to various factors and trends, attendance began to drop. At the same time, ICEC's mission remained as urgent and necessary as ever. It was time for a new approach.

Enter the "Diving into Networking" workshop. Not only is this a new model for implementing ICEC's mission, it is also more focused, targeted, and relevant. It is based on building strong local networks between teachers, naturalists, AEA science consultants, and conservation professionals, and linking them into a statewide network. It is about sharing and promoting best science education practices, and connecting the research of Iowa's top scientists and conservation professionals with schools, nature centers and other learning communities.

In the coming year, ICEC network coaches will follow up to support the new connections and relationships made at the Diving into Networking workshop. ICEC is also already planning the 2016 workshop.

But ICEC is more than just workshops. In this newsletter read about our other projects, such as our awards and scholarship programs, and our grant to update Project WILD - including incorporating an early childhood environmental education component with KINDER NATURE - to address STEM and Next Generation Science Standards initiatives. ICEC depends on and thanks you, our membership, for support. We also thank Iowa's Resource Enhancement And Environmental Protection Conservation Education Program for ongoing grants to support our programs.

Last but not least, huge thanks to Linda Zaletel, ICEC's outgoing Executive Director, for her wisdom, hard work and passion. Linda will retire the end of May, and the Executive Committee is accepting applications for a new director until April 15. [Job Announcement](#)



Project **WILD**



Growing Up **WILD**

Winter Workshop Presentations

[Click here](#) for the PowerPoint presentations available from the workshop. Agriculture and Water Management - Matt Helmers; Drinking Water from Source to Tap - Linda Kinman; ICEC Network Introduction; Iowa Lake Restoration Status - Steve Hopkins; Soil Erosion in Iowa - Rick Cruse; Urban Conservation - Wayne Petersen; Watershed Improvement - Steve Hopkins; Iowa Water Dependent Wildlife - Rebecca Christoffel and Watery Resources

Thank you to the Workshop Committee and Network Coaches

[Thank you](#) to those who worked to make ICEC's Winter Workshop "Diving into Networking" committee and Area Education Agency's (AEA) Science Consultants and naturalists network coaches! Thanks to Conference chair: Jean Eells, E Resources, Phyllis Anderson, E Resources and retired AEA!



REAP-CEP Grants - Deadline May 15

[Got an idea to advance environmental literacy, but lack funds?](#) The Resource Enhancement and Protection Conservation Education Program (REAP CEP) annually awards \$350,000 for conservation education in Iowa.

Plan now for the May 15 grant deadline. The average grant award is approximately \$22,000, and mini-grants for \$3,500 or less are also available.

For more information about the application process and the types of programs funded, go to the REAP Conservation Education

website <http://www.iowadnr.gov/Environment/REAP/REAPFundingatWork/ConservationEducation.aspx>

For a quick overview, go to <http://www.iowadnr.gov/Portals/idnr/uploads/REAP/files/facts.pdf>

eii Environmental Issues Instruction

Tuesday, June 16, 2015 - 6/18/2015

8:30 AM - 3:30 PM

St. Paul the Apostle School, Davenport, Iowa

Energy Systems of the Prairie

Two graduate credits for \$198!!!!

June 16, June 17, June 18, 2015 and April 16, 2016

An interdisciplinary, undergraduate or graduate level college credit course for all teachers K-12.

Total cost of \$198 includes the 2 college credits, food, lodging, and a plethora of teaching materials.

Complete information and registration at:

<http://www.uiu.edu/eii>

Email questions to Assistant Professor of Education Barbara Ehlers ehlersb@uiu.edu 563-425-5322

Two graduate credits for \$198!!!! [What teachers say...](#)

RFP KinderNature Web Development

We are currently looking for a website developer for the future website KinderNature. For more information contact:

-

Linda Zaletel

Iowa Conservation Education Coalition

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Help Students Protect the Environment and Live Well

Coming this summer!!! UNI PD: Help Students Protect the Environment and Live Well

Part I: Mon., June 15 (9-4) & Tues. June 16, 2015 (9-4)

Part II: Sat. November 14, 2015 (9-12:30)

Explore with your K-6 students the products Americans use daily-"the stuff of life." These products have a life cycle: They are extracted, transported, produced, used and disposed of around the globe-including in Iowa. Study how this "stuff" is a primary source of environmental problems and examine how this relates to life satisfaction. Then, identify individual and collective actions to address these challenges. Course content is real and relevant. Materials introduced are interdisciplinary and classroom-ready and are designed so your students learn essential skills and concepts from the Iowa Core as well as NGSS Science and Engineering Practices.

For more information, go to <http://www.uni.edu/ceee/education/way-we-live/workshops>.



Plant. Grow. Fly. Butterfly Festival

[Plant. Grow. Fly. Butterfly Festival](#)- Blank Park Zoo July 26, 2015

Pollinators are in decline due to a variety of reasons. How can you help, by planting a much-needed pollinator habitat at your home, school or even place of work! Start by attending a Butterfly Festival "Plan. Grow. Fly., July 26, 2015 at the Black Park Zoo. For more information on this event visit them online at www.blankparkzoo.com

Discover Your Watershed - Polk County Conservation

[Discover Your Watershed - Polk County Conservation Board](#)

This curriculum takes students through "Define a Watershed" in their schools watershed. It will allow your students to analyze major land use patterns in their watershed and explain how those patterns

might impact water quality. The Urban Runoff Model is a easy and inexpensive way your students can create their own watershed, using paint roller trays, spray bottles, felt, markers, measuring cups and modeling clay. Another aspect of this curriculum is the Physical/Chemical Sampling, which gives students real hands on experiences. The curriculum correlates into the Iowa Core, Life Science, and 21st century skills.

Contact beth.waage@polkcountyiowa.gov

Resources

Water resources

IDNR Data Resources can be used by student researcher's using "Big Databases"

Iowa Fish Survey Data: <http://limnoweb.eeob.iastate.edu/fishpub/>

BioNet: <https://programs.iowadnr.gov/bionet/>

Fish Kill Data base: <https://programs.iowadnr.gov/fishkill/default.aspx>

CitizenScience

Great Backyard Bird Count: <http://gbbc.birdcount.org/>

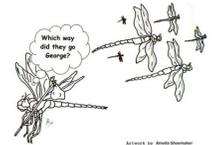
IOWATERWaterQuality Monitoring:

<http://www.iowadnr.gov/environment/WaterQuality/watermonitoring/IOWATWE.aspx>

PondWatch Dragonfly PondWatch and Dragonfly Migration Monitoring

<http://www.xerces.org/dragonfly-migration/pondwatch/>

<http://www.xerces.org/dragonfly-migration/migration-monitoring/>



Books

Hands-on Herpetology (NSTA Press)

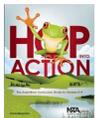
Project Wild Aquatic

A Thousand Friends of Frogs Educator Activity Guide (Hamline University, MN)

Hop into Action - Amphibian Curriculum Guide for Grades K-4 (NSTA Press)

Wetland Wonders - Instructional Materials for the Study of Midwestern Wetlands (IL Natural History Survey)

NatureScope series of National Wildlife Federation, including *Wading into Wetlands*; *Lets Hear it for Herps*; and *Birds, Birds, Birds*.



New Board Member

Beth Martin attended the "Diving into Networking" workshop and decided she wanted to be a part of ICEC. According to the bylaws, the board can appoint a new board member! She is a teacher in the Des Moines Schools system. ICEC will benefit from having two teachers to "network" with other formal educators to attend workshops in the future!

P.S. She is noted naturalist Sylvan Runkel's granddaughter!

MEEC - www.meeconference.org



ICEC needs you! Join or renew your membership and support "Networking" with formal, nonformal, AEA Science Consultants, and conservation professionals!

ICEC is collaborating with the Iowa DNR on Project Wild, Growing Up Wild and web site resources including KinderNature!

The ICEC Winter Workshop has already set a tentative date for the next workshop - Feb. 5 & 6, 2016!

Iowa Conservation Education Coalition (ICEC) has been environmental education materials, workshops, conference for more than 50 years.

ICEC strives to ensure a healthy environment in Iowa by improving environmental literacy; promoting innovative educational methods and strategies; developing diverse environmental issues. ICEC is a statewide nonprofit organization.

Sincerely,

Linda Zaletel

Executive Director

Iowa Conservation Education Coalition

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