



# California Project WET Gazette

A project of the Water Education Foundation

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## **Spring Measures**

Spring arrived early in my neighborhood this year with the roar of lawn mowers, the scent of freshly cut grass and sparkling streams of water erupting to life in February. Time to once again check the house and yard for leaks before the long, hot summer arrives. I've heard from some who think this is such a silly waste of time when our water is so cheap and conserving it only provides more water to spur greater loss of the local landscape to development or for export to other regions of the state, but we tend to forget we are all collectively paying for the delivery and treatment of water whether through a bill or well maintenance costs - and small leaks add up to huge losses we are also paying for when spread across thousands of homes and businesses. Yes, we do consider new water conservation measures, but for many of us greater 'water use efficiency' is the larger goal - Are we getting the most out of the water we are using?

Let's start with a challenge for anyone who thinks leaks don't add up to much. The Project WET activity '*Money Down the Drain*' (*p: 351*) helps students of all ages learn how to measure leaks and calculate average rate of water loss and cost into the future, then you can apply your new skills on actual leaks at home or school. Most people are shocked at the amount of water even a barely dripping faucet can lose over a month or year if left in disrepair. Most people are equally shocked at how little that same volume of water will cost you on your water bill throughout much of the state, despite rhetoric that claims the opposite. Check your water bill or ask your local water provider to get your local water rates. Use the local prices for bottled water - or better yet, the bulk water some stores sell in re-fill stations - to see what your water would cost in the open market!

Each of us leaves unique footprints as we travel through life, whether it is the prints we leave on a trail, walking barefoot through the grass - or using natural resources. The Project WET activity '*My Water Footprint*' (*p: 441*) helps students and adults alike begin to understand, investigate and begin to measure their own water footprints. The activity begins with each person brainstorming the ways they use water on a daily basis, then creating a simple pocket water meter to get a rough approximation of the water they use over a 24-hour period. This is followed by an analysis of the amount of water used, a brainstorm of conservation actions they could implement and another 24-hour period using the meter to measure the reduction in their water use using their water conservation actions.

'*Water Audit*' (*p: 469*) is a similar activity, but where '*My Water Footprint*' is solely focused on personal water use and behavioral changes that can conserve water, '*Water Audit*' has students assessing water use throughout their home or school and comparing technological as well as behavioral changes to use water more efficiently. One of the conundrums in achieving greater efficiency and conservation in water use at home is the relatively low cost of water and our ability as humans to rationalize avoiding anything that seems complicated - including fixing drippy faucets, leaking toilet valves or out of whack sprinklers or irrigation timers! With this activity, students assess the likelihood of success to affect a behavioral change to achieve great water use efficiency versus the cost of using a technological change.

'*Water Audit*' also shifts student focus from purely conservation to evaluating water use efficiency - Where is the water being used at home or school? Is this the correct volume of water for the given use? Can water from other uses be reused to reduce the volume of new water required by the high volume use? Can the water be applied at a different time of day to reduce cost? The student recommendations from the '*Water Audit*' activity can easily be used and integrated into a service-learning program that not only engages student interest in real-life applications, but can also potentially save the bottom line for their school and parents!

Project WET activities are designed to help students understand a concept in as simple a format as possible and use the lowest cost materials available based on teacher reviews, but there is nothing stopping an educator from adding other elements. Don't like the paper meters or water calculation worksheets? There are a number of on-line calculators that can be used to assess personal and home water use, including one developed by the U.S. Geological Survey. Would you like to instill greater appreciation in students for

the wonders of modern plumbing? Run them (literally!) through the Project WET activity ‘[The Long Haul](#)’ (*p: 273*), which gives students a sense of what life was like – and still is in some parts of the world – without modern plumbing. Please use the remaining water at the end of the activity in the school garden or landscape! Looking for more detail – including higher level math equations – to use with the ‘Water Audit’ activity? The Project WET guide activity was derived from the Arizona Project WET School Water Audit Program (SWAP) and all the materials to implement the entire program at your school are available online. Would you like to expand student awareness on hidden water uses, water users or get them thinking about career opportunities in the water sector? Check out the Project WET activities ‘[Virtual Water](#)’ (*p: 289*), ‘[8-4-1, One for All](#)’ (*p: 299*) and ‘[Urban Waters](#)’ (*p: 413*). Want to know how to take more sophisticated measurements of water use or how to repair or install some of the more efficient water technology? Greg Chick is a certified Green Plumber in Ramona, Calif. who has developed the “do it yourself” website DIY Plumbing Advice.com, where you can learn how to replace faucet aerators, toilet flapper valves, check for hidden leaks – and when it is time to call a plumber!

One final note on why an assessment of our personal and combined water use may be important this spring – the recent snow survey results confirmed that January and February have been the driest in California’s recorded precipitation history. Despite a few early storm events that brought heavy precipitation, the amount of actual water deposited has only been a fraction of what is needed to fully maintain California ecosystems, urban areas and food production. Farms and cities have already received notice of severe water delivery cutbacks if a ‘March miracle’ of storms does not materialize to bring the much-needed precipitation – and you can probably guess what this could mean for future water rates. Please check out the ‘[Websites of Interest](#)’ to learn more. If you are able to use the water assessment activities with your students this spring, please send me a note and share your results on the amount of water your class was able to save or use more efficiently!

## **WEBSITES OF INTEREST**

### **DWR: California Cooperative Snow Surveys**

<http://cdec.water.ca.gov/snow>

As the successful use of snow surveys in the forecasting of runoff became known, several water agencies began independent snow survey programs. After a few years, these agencies and the State of California, recognized both the inherent value that such information could have for water users throughout the State and the need for centralized coordination of the snow survey program. *This page includes the latest snow survey results and a link to current California statewide water conditions.*

### **The USGS Water Science School**

<http://ga.water.usgs.gov/edu/sq3.html>

How much is your daily indoor water use? How much water do you use when you take a shower? Wash a load of clothes? Flush a toilet? Even brush your teeth? Enter your use data from the Project WET ‘[My Water Footprint](#)’ or ‘[Water Audit](#)’ activities, choose the submit button, and we’ll give you an estimate of how many gallons of water you used. NOTE: Our survey here is very general in nature...just to give you a quick idea of your water use, but we have links to more accurate calculators on this page!

### **H2O House Water Saver Home**

<http://www.h2ouse.org>

Take the virtual home tour to investigate your water saving opportunities in each area of your home. Click on each location to show you both the facts and specific advice. Visit the virtual encyclopedia of water conservation information for your home and select the area of the home where you are interested in learning more about saving water, including leak detection and repair, water use efficiency in and outside the home and incentive or rebate programs available to you: <http://www.h2ouse.org/action/index.cfm>

### **HomeWaterWorks: Calculator**

<http://www.home-water-works.org>

Want to conserve water? Not sure where to start? Our Water Calculator quickly estimates how much water your household uses and compares it to a similar average and a highly efficient home. The Water Calculator also shows you where to begin your home water conservation efforts. Throughout Home Water Works, you’ll find useful tips and resources for saving water and money without sacrificing comfort or convenience.

### **School Water Audit Project**

<http://cals.arizona.edu/arizonawet/teachersupport/swap>

Start a School Water Audit today! Developed by the Arizona Project WET program, the School Water Audit Project combines water education with practical applications of scientific methodology. It brings community members together with students for the purpose of accomplishing a unified goal. It empowers students and adults alike to be responsible water stewards. Download the SWAP lessons individually by clicking on the download option inside your lesson bubble. SWAP water waste for water efficiency!

### **Save Our Water**

<http://www.saveourh20.org>

Save Our Water is a statewide program aimed at helping Californians reduce their everyday water use. Browse the Save Our Water website to uncover ideas on saving water indoors and out. You’ll find ideas for creating a beautiful, water-efficient garden, tools for calculating your water use and fun ways for kids to save water. Young or old, we can all make a difference in California’s water use by making simple changes to our daily habits.

## **BeWaterWise: Landscape Water Calculator**

<http://www.bewaterwise.com/index.html>

Many of us overwater our plants and lawns. But now, figuring out how much water your lawn and garden really need is easy with the Watering Index and Calculator. Get started by using the calculator below to create a customized watering schedule. Then use the Watering Index daily, weekly or monthly to adjust your schedule. The Watering Index is updated daily. You could save as much as 1,000 gallons a month by watering your plants only as much as they need.

## **WaterSense**

<http://www.epa.gov/watersense>

The WaterSense program seeks to help consumers make smart water choices that save money and maintain high environmental standards without compromising performance. Products and services that have earned the WaterSense label have been certified to be at least 20 percent more efficient without sacrificing performance. Something as simple as twisting on a WaterSense labeled aerator and upgrading to a WaterSense labeled faucet could save a household 11,000 gallons over the life of the faucet. Learn more about how you can save water and help WaterSense preserve and protect our nation's water resources.

## **DIY Plumbing Advice**

<http://diyplumbingadvice.com>

Do-It-Yourself Plumbing info you can actually use! DIY Plumbing Advice strives to provide you with plumbing and water information that is reliable, responsible, and free. The purpose of this site is to show *YOU* how to do it, not just to show an abbreviated video of how I did it. A plumbing glossary is included on each subject page. The site was developed by Greg Chick, a certified Green Plumber who works in Ramona, CA. You can learn more about Greg at: <http://www.ramonasplumber.com>. You can learn more about Green Plumbers at: <http://www.greenplumbersusa.com/what-is-a-greenplumber>.

## **Water Efficient Landscapes**

[http://www.water.ca.gov/wateruseefficiency/docs/water\\_efficient\\_landscapes.pdf](http://www.water.ca.gov/wateruseefficiency/docs/water_efficient_landscapes.pdf)

In California, the largest use of all urban water is watering landscapes. When a landscape or irrigation system is poorly designed or poorly maintained, or the landscape consists of plants not suited to the dry and often hot California climate, water demand increases as a result of excessive evaporation, leaks, and runoff. Water consumption can be greatly reduced with careful planning, good plant selection, efficient irrigation systems and good water management and maintenance practices.

## **Recycled Water Use in the Landscape**

<http://www.water.ca.gov/wateruseefficiency/docs/RECYLbrochure.pdf>

Recycled water is highly treated wastewater from various sources such as domestic sewage, industrial wastewater and storm water runoff. Gray water is untreated, non-disinfected wastewater that has not come into contact with toilet waste. Gray water includes wastewater from residential showers, bath tubs, bathroom sinks and washing machines which may be used in landscapes using an onsite collection system and must employ a subsurface irrigation method. Recycled water is cleaner, safer and has far less restrictions on its use than gray water.

## **Ecology Center: Greywater**

<http://www.ecologycenter.org/factsheets/greywater.html>

Greywater is untreated waste water which has not come into contact with toilet waste. Graywater includes waste water from bathtubs, showers, bathroom wash basins, washing machines, and laundry tubs. It does not include waste water from kitchen sinks, photo lab sinks, dishwashers, or laundry water from soiled diapers. The Ecology Center facilitates urban lifestyles consistent with the goals of ecological sustainability, social equity, and economic development.

## **Greywater Guidelines**

[http://www.water.ca.gov/wateruseefficiency/docs/graywater\\_guide\\_book.pdf](http://www.water.ca.gov/wateruseefficiency/docs/graywater_guide_book.pdf)

California's Graywater Standards were developed and adopted in response to Assembly Bill 3518, the Graywater Systems for Single Family Residences Act of 1992. This Guide was prepared to help homeowners and landscape and plumbing contractors understand the Graywater Standards and to help them design, install and maintain graywater systems.

## **Water Science Storytime**

<http://ga.water.usgs.gov/edu/dryville.html>

Have you ever had the desire to strike out on your own? Maybe you've had enough of big-city life and want to build you own town? Well, you can't begin your new town without considering water. From the smallest town to the biggest city, there always has to be a water plan. You need to be able to get water, use it, and dispose of what you don't want. You and some friends have found your (desolate) spot and have moved in. How would you develop your "Water Plan for Dryville?" Share this story with your students and bring it to life with any number of Project WET activities!

## **Water Facts & Fun**

<http://www.water.ca.gov/education/wffcatalog.cfm>

Lots of free materials for California educators, including '**The California Water Works**' that has a colorful comic book character, Professor Goodwater, leading students through the water cycle, showing them how water is delivered through California's built and natural water systems to the end users. Guidelines for water conservation are provided as well.

## The Water Cycle for Kids

<http://ga.water.usgs.gov/edu/watercycle-kids.html>

The U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) and the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) have teamed up to create a water-cycle diagram for kids and elementary and middle schools. The diagram is available in tabloid (17x11 inches) and poster (33x24 inches) sizes. The PDF versions are about 2 megabytes, the tabloid JPG is about 400 kilobytes, and the poster JPG is about 2.5 megabytes.

## PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT OPPORTUNITIES

### Summer 2013

#### Forestry Institute for Teachers: *Various*

These one-week institutes bring together natural resource specialists and K-12 teachers for one week, working side by side to gain a deeper understanding of the intricate interrelationship of forest ecosystems and human use of natural resources. You'll walk away with a wealth of knowledge and environmental education curriculum- including Project Learning Tree, Project WILD and Project Aquatic WILD! This FREE training includes all housing, meal and materials you will receive throughout the week. *Register at: <http://www.forestryinstitute.org>*

### April 6, 2013

#### Project WET Workshop: *Debs Park*

**LOS ANGELES UNIFIED TEACHERS!** Project WET has evolved from providing awareness of water resources to empowering students to take action in their communities to help solve local water resource issues, and the LAUSD San Pedro Math, Science & Technology Center invites you to experience Project WET activities for yourself. Thanks to the CAL FIRE Urban Forestry Program and USGS California Water Science Center, you'll leave this workshop with your own copy of the fully revised *Project WET Curriculum and Activity Guide 2.0*, containing 65 multidisciplinary water-related K-12 activities and aligned with state and national curriculum standards – including Common Core. *Please contact John Zavalney, San Pedro MST Center, to register at: [John.zavalney@lausd.net](mailto:John.zavalney@lausd.net)*

### April 20, 2013

#### Project WET Workshop: *Pacific Palisades*

**LOS ANGELES UNIFIED TEACHERS!** Here is another opportunity to experience Project WET brought to you by the LAUSD San Pedro Math, Science & Technology Center, USGS California Water Science Center and CAL FIRE Urban Forestry Program! You'll leave this workshop with your own copy of the fully revised *Project WET Curriculum and Activity Guide 2.0*, containing 65 multidisciplinary water-related K-12 activities and aligned with state and national curriculum standards – including Common Core. *Please contact John Zavalney, San Pedro MST Center, to register at: [John.zavalney@lausd.net](mailto:John.zavalney@lausd.net)*

### April 27, 2013

#### Project WET Workshop: *Beverly Hills*

**LOS ANGELES UNIFIED TEACHERS!** Here is one more chance to experience Project WET this Spring! LAUSD San Pedro Math, Science & Technology Center and Tree People are teaming up with the USGS California Water Science Center and CAL FIRE Urban Forestry Program to offer this workshop. As with the previous sessions, you'll walk away with your own copy of the *Project WET Guide 2.0*, containing 65 multidisciplinary water-related K-12 activities and aligned with state and national curriculum standards – including Common Core. *Please contact John Zavalney, San Pedro MST Center, to register at: [John.zavalney@lausd.net](mailto:John.zavalney@lausd.net)*

### May 8 & 9, 2013

#### Project WET-EEI Workshop: *McClellan*

**TWIN RIVERS UNIFIED TEACHERS!** Explore the new *Project WET Guide 2.0* with standards-based, hands-on interdisciplinary activities (science, math, language arts, and social studies) to promote awareness and understanding of water resources and selected units of the *California Education and the Environment Initiative (EEI) Curriculum*, which makes learning fun and relevant by teaching academic content standards within the context of environmental topics. You'll be able to experience activities and *walk away with the materials to try them in your classroom the next day, a copy of the Project WET guide and receive a complimentary EEI unit of their choice*. Participants will also enjoy light dinners and learn about other local resources to teach about water and water conservation. *Please contact Ginna Guiang-Myers, Coordinator of Professional Development, Twin Rivers Unified School District at: (916) 825-4600 or [Ginna.Myers@Twinriversusd.org](mailto:Ginna.Myers@Twinriversusd.org) for more information.*

### May 11, 2013

#### Project WET Facilitator's Training: *Chico*

**WATER EDUCATION & PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT COORDINATORS!** The Water Education Foundation and Chico Creek Nature Center invite school professional development staff, water education outreach educators with experience in providing school professional development and methods course faculty interested in utilizing Project WET in their programs to attend this training. Participants completing this training will be certified to provide workshops and trainings on the Project WET Curriculum and Activity Guide 2.0. *Please contact Brian Brown, California Project WET Coordinator at: (916) 444-6240 – OR - [projectwet@watereducation.org](mailto:projectwet@watereducation.org)*

### May 17-18, 2013

#### Project WET-EEI Workshop: *San Luis Obispo*

**SOUTH COAST EDUCATORS!** Rancho El Chorro Outdoor School is presenting a Teacher Workshop Series for 4th-8th grade teachers this school year. *'All About Water'* is the first session and will feature the Project WET Guide 2.0. The session will engage educators in Project WET's hands-on water

activities, demonstrate the links to California and Common Core standards and connect the activities to Education & the Environment Initiative units. *Teachers will receive a classroom set of an EEI unit in addition to Project WET Guide 2.0. Please contact Teresa Lees, CREEC Region 8 Coordinator at: tlees@slcoce.org or (805) 782-7265.*

#### **June 12, 2013**

#### **Project WET Workshop: Bakersfield**

**BAKERSFIELD EDUCATORS!** The Kern County Water Agency's Project WET workshop and practicum for teachers features classroom-proven, hands-on learning activities that make water topics come alive for students. Our workshop models activities that are practical for teachers, yet also engages student critical thinking skills. During the practicum portion of the workshop, the Agency will supply teachers with materials to make classroom kits for many of activities demonstrated. For more on this **FREE** training, please visit: [http://www.kcwa.com/water\\_education/projectwet.shtml](http://www.kcwa.com/water_education/projectwet.shtml). *To pre-register for the workshop or for more information, call (661) 634-1424 or email [sclayton@kcwa.com](mailto:sclayton@kcwa.com).*

#### **June 13-15 & November 6, 2013**

#### **Floodplain and Delta Ecology Institute: Stockton**

**CENTRAL CALIFORNIA EDUCATORS!** The Floodplain and Delta Ecology Institute brings together the curricula of *Education & the Environment Initiative*, *Delta Studies* and *Project WET* to create meaningful activities for the classroom and interesting content learning for the teacher of grades 3 - 8. The institute includes direct engagement with the curriculum provided, content expert speakers, a full-day bus tour of the Sacramento/San Joaquin Delta and a **\$200 Stipend upon completion of the project**. *To register, contact Connie Bock, SJCOE Science and Special Projects at: [cbock@sjcoe.net](mailto:cbock@sjcoe.net).*

#### **June 18, 2013**

#### **Project WET Workshop: Palm Desert**

**COACHELLA VALLEY EDUCATORS!** The issue of water may very well define the 21st century and the better you understand water issues in the Coachella Valley, the more effective you can be in teaching about it. In addition to being engaged in activities throughout the day, each participant will walk out the door with their own copy of the new *Project WET Guide 2.0* - this new full color guide boasts a variety of new, updated and expanded activities with more thorough student pages and free access to a web portal connecting you to additional resources and fellow educators using Project WET activities around the world! What's even better is that this workshop is **FREE!** *For more information, contact Maureen Perry - [mperry@cvwd.org](mailto:mperry@cvwd.org) -or- 760-398-2661, ext. 2550 Space is limited so register today at: [www.cvwd.org](http://www.cvwd.org)*

#### **June 19, 2013**

#### **Project WET Workshop: Hemet**

**RIVERSIDE COUNTY EDUCATORS!** Mount San Jacinto Community College, the City of Riverside Public Utilities and Western Municipal Water District invite you to an interactive day of learning about water resources at Diamond Valley Lake. You'll walk away with your own copy of the *Project WET Guide 2.0*, containing 65 multidisciplinary water-related K-12 activities and aligned with state and national curriculum standards – including Common Core. *Please contact Kathy Havert at: [havert.royland@verizon.net](mailto:havert.royland@verizon.net).*

#### **June 21-23 & 28-30, 2013**

#### **Sierra Nevada Climate Change Institute**

While climate change is one of the most important issues facing humanity today, it can be a rather daunting topic to present to students without the conversation turning pessimistic. CIB hopes to help you change all that with our Climate Change Institute, which will not only inform you about the basics of climate science, but will also prepare you to facilitate an action project with your students focusing on local solutions to global climate change. *Visit <http://calalive.org/?q=content/sierra-nevada-climate-change-institute-think-globally-act-locally>*

#### **June 24-26, 2013**

#### **Bay Area Field Journaling Workshop**

Join naturalists and educators Emilie Lygren and John Muir "Jack" Laws as they show you how to actively observe and ask scientific questions about the natural world through sketching and creative writing exercises. This mix of art, science, and language arts as well as Emilie & Jack's unique teaching styles will give you the confidence and skills necessary to guide your students through journaling activities in your schoolyard and beyond. *Visit [http://calalive.org/?q=content/bay-area-field-journaling-workshop\\_to\\_register](http://calalive.org/?q=content/bay-area-field-journaling-workshop_to_register)*

#### **July 15-19, 2013**

#### **RESTORE Sacramento Schoolyard Restoration Training**

**SACRAMENTO EDUCATORS!** Learn the steps to creating a restoration project on school grounds through field trips to local schoolyard habitat projects; meeting a network of engaged educators and schoolyard restoration specialists; learning about funding and partnership opportunities; and outdoor, content standards-based lessons designed to extend and enhance your existing curriculum *For more information or to register contact Karleen Vollherbst, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service at: 916-478-9247 or [karleen\\_vollherbst@fws.gov](mailto:karleen_vollherbst@fws.gov) by June 29, 2013.*

#### **July 29-31, 2013**

#### **Floodplain Ecology Institute: Chico**

**SACRAMENTO VALLEY EDUCATORS!** The Floodplain and Delta Ecology Institute brings together the curricula of *Education & the Environment Initiative*, *Delta Studies* and *Project WET* to create meaningful activities for the classroom and interesting content learning for the teacher of grades 3 - 8.

The institute includes direct engagement with the curriculum provided, content expert speakers, a full-day bus tour of the Sacramento/San Joaquin Delta and a **\$200 Stipend upon completion of the project.**

*Please contact Brian Brown, California Project WET Coordinator at: (916) 444-6240 – OR - [projectwet@watereducation.org](mailto:projectwet@watereducation.org)*

### **September 28, 2013**

### **Project WET Workshop: Redding**

**NORTHERN CALIFORNIA EDUCATORS!** Turtle Bay Exploration Center invites northern California educators to attend a Project WET workshop exploring water education concepts addressing regional water topics and issues through the hands-on activities of Project WET. Come enjoy a wonderful day with the Turtle Bay education team and walk away with your own Project WET guide and a wealth of ideas on how to use the activities to enhance your existing curriculum! *To register, please contact Jan at [jdehate@turtlebay.org](mailto:jdehate@turtlebay.org) or 530-242-3108*

## **SPRING EVENTS**

### **March 18-24, 2013**

### **Fix a Leak Week**

Nationwide, more than 1 trillion gallons of water leak from U.S. homes each year. That's why WaterSense reminds Americans to check their plumbing fixtures and irrigation systems each year during Fix a Leak Week. From family fun runs to leak detection efforts to a WaterSense demonstration home, explore our list of Fix a Leak Week 2013 events: [http://www.epa.gov/watersense/our\\_water/fix\\_a\\_leak.html](http://www.epa.gov/watersense/our_water/fix_a_leak.html)

### **March 22, 2013**

### **International World Water Day**

The United Nations General Assembly declared 2013 as the '*International Year of Water Cooperation.*' In reflection of this declaration, the 2013 World Water Day will also be dedicated to water cooperation, with the objective of this International Year focused on raising awareness, both on the potential for increased cooperation, and on the challenges facing water management in light of the increase in demand for water access, allocation and services. <http://www.unwater.org/watercooperation2013>.

### **March 27-28, 2013**

### **Children's Water Education Festival**

2013 marks the 17th year of the Children's Water Education Festival, the largest event of its kind in the United States, at the University of California, Irvine. More than 7,000 third through fifth grade students and their teachers are expected to attend the event, presented by the Orange County Water District, Disneyland Resort and the Orange County Water District Groundwater Guardian Team.

<http://www.childrenwaterfestival.com>

### **April 5-7, 2013**

### **National Association for Interpretation Conference, Oakland**

'*Rising Tides: Riding the Waves of Change*' is the conference them as an evolving world demands innovation in how we interpret changes now and into the future. The 2013 NAI Region 9 spring workshop will feature in-depth discussions and training on revolutionary interpretive techniques as well as how to navigate the challenges of maintaining relevancy in a shifting society. We invite front-line interpreters, managers, planners, and trainers from throughout Region 9 to share their methods and priorities for riding the waves of change. Visit [http://www.interpnet.com/nai/\\_membership/NAI\\_Region\\_9.aspx](http://www.interpnet.com/nai/_membership/NAI_Region_9.aspx)

### **April 5-13, 2013**

### **Creek Week 2013**

**TIME TO CARE FOR OUR CREEKS!** Creek Week offers families, clubs, businesses, service organizations and any concerned individuals a chance to volunteer outdoors – to do worthwhile community service, learn and have fun! Jump into Spring by visiting our website to learn about Creek Week events near you in Sacramento, Elk Grove, Folsom, Placer County and along the American River Parkway: <http://www.creekweek.net/>

### **April 12-14, 2013**

### **AEOE Statewide Conference**

The Association for Environmental and Outdoor Education (AEOE) Statewide Conference will be at Sierra Outdoor School in Sonora, California. Learn from 60+ environmental education workshops. Enjoy a keynote address, entertainment, job fair, and networking! Registration includes the conference, 5 meals and lodging or camping. This year's theme is 'A Climate of Change' with training strands focused on Administration/Professional Development, Diversity, Interdisciplinary, Interpretation, Natural History & Science, Sustainability and Teaching Techniques. Visit: <http://aeoe.org/events/conferences/aeoe-spring-statewide-conference-2013>

### **April 14-20, 2013**

### **National Environmental Education Week**

EE Week is the nation's largest celebration of environmental education held each year the week before Earth Day and inspires environmental learning and stewardship among K-12 students. The 2013 theme '*Greening STEM: Taking Technology Outdoors*' will explore how technology can enhance environmental learning both inside and outside the classroom. Learn more by visiting our website at: [www.eeweek.org](http://www.eeweek.org).

**May 15, 2013**

**State Scientists Day**

All Third, Fourth, Fifth and Sixth grade students are invited to the state capitol grounds to explore over 40 exciting and free hands-on exhibits including: Fun with Chemistry, Fishing in the City, Oil Spill Clean-Up, Reduce Recycle Reuse, Emergency Response, Understanding Earthquakes, Wildlife Tracking, Fish Tagging and much more! Please make your reservations for this free event at 916-441-2629 or [ssd@capsscientists.org](mailto:ssd@capsscientists.org). For more information, check out our website <http://www.capsscientists.org>

## **GRANTS, SCHOLARSHIPS & OTHER OPPORTUNITIES**

### **U.S. Geological Survey Summer Internship Program**

The U.S. Geological Survey Summer Internship Program offers students hands-on experience working with scientists in a professional environment. The goal of the program is to enhance awareness and appreciation of science and encourage students to consider the sciences as a career path. The full-time, two-month position is open to Sacramento and San Diego area high school sophomores and juniors ages 16 and above. *For more details, please visit: [http://ca.water.usgs.gov/about/summer\\_internship.html](http://ca.water.usgs.gov/about/summer_internship.html)*

### **PAEMST 2013**

**Nomination Deadline: April 1,**

The Presidential Awards for Excellence in Mathematics and Science Teaching (PAEMST) are the highest recognition that a K-12 mathematics or science teacher may receive for outstanding teaching in the United States. If you know great teachers, nominate them to join this prestigious network of professionals. *More information can be found at: <http://www.paemst.org/controllers/home.cfc?method=view>*

### **Get to Know Contest**

**Begins: April 8, 2013**

The contest is all about celebrating every single participant for getting outdoors and connecting with nature in their own way, whether that be hiking, canoeing, or just spending time in their own backyard! Youth are asked to get outdoors and then share their outdoor experiences by creating original works of art, writing, photography, video or music! The goal of the contest is to use the power of art as a connector in helping youth feel more connected with nature. The Get to Know Contest runs until November 1st, 2013. *More information about the contest and these webinars will be posted online at [www.get-to-know.org](http://www.get-to-know.org).*

### **Gloria Barron Prize For Young Heroes**

**Nomination Deadline: April 30, 2013**

New for 2013! We now have an online application! The Gloria Barron Prize for Young Heroes honors outstanding young leaders who have made a significant positive difference to people and our planet. Each year, the Barron Prize honors twenty-five winners nationwide. Half of the winners have focused on helping their communities and fellow beings; half have focused on protecting the health and sustainability of the environment. The goal of the Barron Prize is to celebrate such heroic young people—and to inspire others to do their part. *For more information, visit <http://www.barronprize.org/>*

### **ING Unsung Heroes Awards Program**

**Deadline: Apr. 30, 2013**

Are you an educator with a class project that is short on funding but long on potential? Do you know a teacher looking for grant dollars? ING Unsung Heroes® could help you turn great ideas into reality for students. ING financial services organization is offering 100 awards of \$2,000 each to K-12 educators in the United States to help further their projects within their school or school system. Each year, three top winners are selected from the 100 finalists to receive additional awards of \$25,000, \$10,000, and \$5,000. *For more information, visit <http://ing.us/about-ing/citizenship/childrens-education/ing-unsung-heroes>*

### **Captain Planet Foundation**

**Deadline: September 30, 2013**

Grants are made for activities that promote and support high-quality educational programs, enable children and youth to understand and appreciate our world through learning experiences and engage them in active, hands-on projects to improve the environment in their schools and communities. CPF grants are limited to \$2,500 and preferential consideration is given to applicants who have secured at least 50% matching or in-kind funding for their program. *<http://www.captainplanetfdn.org>*

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