



# National Environmental Education Week

A National Environmental Education Foundation Program

March 2009

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



## Greetings!

EE Week is right around the corner! Join us this April for the nation's largest environmental education event. Register your school or organization today for National EE Week, **April 12-18, 2009**, by visiting [www.eeweek.org/register](http://www.eeweek.org/register). Certificates are provided to recognize registered educators and students. In addition, our generous partners at **Acorn Naturalists**, providers of science and nature resources for the trail and classroom, are providing EE Week registrants \$10 off of a purchase! Register today!

March 22 is [World Water Day](#). Celebrate with your students by incorporating one of the many water-themed activities and lesson plans offered by EE Week in support of the 2009 theme: [Be Water Wise!](#) and continue reading below for many more water-related resources.

Sincerely,

Jessica Culverhouse  
National Environmental Education Week Coordinator

## EE Week Partner Spotlight

**Eleanor Roosevelt Intermediate School - IS 143 (M) New York, NY**

In celebration of National Environmental Education Week, IS 143 students will participate in the YOUTH-CAN event at the American Museum of Natural History by presenting their research on topics including urban rain gardens and the water quality impact of common cleaning products. After tracking the cycle of New York City water from source to sewage, students will be reaching out and engaging their communities in water conservation education. At the end of April, students will have the opportunity to sail on the Hudson River, testing water quality and identifying aquatic species. Visit [EE Week's Water Quality Testing Resources](#) page to engage your students in similar water

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### Our Program

National Environmental Education (EE) Week, made possible by [Canon USA](#), Inc., is the largest organized environmental education event in the United States. EE Week promotes understanding and protection of the natural

quality studies.

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## Announcing EE Week's Ask an Expert Feature

### Submit your students' water-related questions by March 15, 2009.

National Environmental Education Week connects your students to experts who can answer their questions. In support of EE Week's 2009 *Be Water Wise!* theme, we invite you to submit your students' questions about water to be answered by our panel of experts. Answers will be posted to EEWeek.org during EE Week (April 12-18, 2009.)

Our panel of experts is a diverse group of water professionals who can answer questions on a variety of topics. Selected questions will be answered by our panel of water experts and posted on EEWeek.org. While EE Week cannot guarantee that all questions will be answered, we will post answers to as many questions as possible.

Send an email to [eeweek@neefusa.org](mailto:eeweek@neefusa.org) with:

- "Ask an Expert" in the subject line,
- A water-related question for our experts, and
- Your name, grade/subject taught and the name of your school or organization\*.

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## EE Programs and Resources

### World Water Monitoring Day - Monitoring window opens March 22, 2009

World Water Monitoring Day™ is an international education and outreach program that builds public awareness and involvement in protecting water resources around the world by engaging citizens to conduct basic monitoring of their local water bodies. World Water Monitoring Day is Sept. 18, 2009 and the window for water testing is from March 22 through December 3. Visit the website to learn more, register your test site, and get resources to host your own monitoring event. [Learn more](#)

### Announcing Planet Connect

Planet Connect, a component of Classroom Earth, is an online social network where high school students can learn about current environmental issues, funding opportunities, green colleges and environmental careers. Students can also share and exchange ideas about how they are playing a critical role in solving today's environmental issues. [Visit Planet Connect](#)

### EstuaryLive

*EstuaryLive* is an annual, free, live and interactive field trip through our nation's estuaries. Participants have an opportunity to submit questions directly to field trip leaders during the broadcast, many of which are answered live. This year's program will feature six 30-minute segments broadcasting live from three of NOAA's National Estuarine Research Reserves, including a discussion of the impacts of global climate change on our coastal ecosystems. [Learn more](#)

### Be Water Wise in School: Science that Impacts Your Campus

Presented by The Groundwater Foundation, this newly developed guide brings education and action together. Written as a complete guide ready for implementation in the classroom, it contains background information for teachers, lesson plan instructions, pre and post-tests, vocabulary lists, website links for further student research and service-learning project ideas. Taking part in the project will help students develop a strong environmental ethic and increase their sense of personal worth and competence. *Be Water Wise in School* is 100 percent hands on and has been correlated

world by creating a full week of environmentally-themed lessons and activities in K-12 classrooms, nature centers, zoos, museums, and aquariums.

### Contact Us

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to National Science Education Standards. [Learn more](#)

### **Every Drop Counts**

Facing the Future presents *Every Drop Counts*, a series of water-related lessons beginning with a water trivia game and a short demonstration of how much of Earth's water is available for human and other species' needs. The series includes a "water walk" and a personal water-use audit. It is designed for use in middle and high school classrooms and is available as a free download from [Facing the Future](#).

### **Sally Ride Science Festivals**

Sally Ride Science Festivals bring together hundreds of upper elementary and middle school girls, along with their parents and teachers, for a day of science and socializing. Each festival features an inspiring talk by a prominent scientist, discovery workshops for girls with local scientists, workshops for parents and teachers, and a street fair with hands-on science activities, food and music. Spring 2009 festivals will take place across the country. [Learn more](#)

### **Holding on to the Green Zone**

The Bureau of Land Management, in collaboration with the University of Wisconsin-Extension and the USDA Cooperative State Research, Education and Extension Service, presents *Holding on to the Green Zone: A Youth Program for the Study and Stewardship of Community Riparian Areas*. The program engages students in activities to explore and understand the role and importance of riparian areas. A Student Action Guide and a Leader Guide are available for download, and the program is correlated to national education standards. [Learn more](#)

For more classroom resources, be sure to visit the [General EE Resources](#) page and the [Curricula Library](#) on our website.

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## **Funding Resources**

### **The Stockholm Junior Water Prize - Entry deadline: April 15, 2009**

The Stockholm Junior Water Prize is the world's most prestigious youth award for water-related science projects. High school students submit their research papers online. State winners and their science teachers win a trip to the U.S. competition in Alaska. U.S. winners participate in the international competition in Sweden. Other awards include scholarships, research publication and travel to water-related events. [Learn more](#)

### **Gloria Barron Prize for Young Heroes - Entry deadline: April 30, 2009**

The Gloria Barron Prize for Young Heroes honors outstanding young leaders who have made a significant positive difference to people and our planet. Nominees, who may range in age from eight to 18 years old, must have been the prime mover of a service activity and have demonstrated positive spirit and high moral purpose in accomplishing their goals. Nominees must be nominated by responsible adults who have solid knowledge of the young person's heroic activities, and who are not related to the nominee. Winners of the Barron Prize receive \$2,500 to be applied to their higher education or to their service project, a recognition plaque and other prizes and benefits. [Learn more](#)

### **Project Learning Tree Green Works! Grants - Application deadline: April 30, 2009**

*GreenWorks!* grants engage Project Learning Tree educators and their students with their local community in "learning-by-doing" environmental projects. Student leadership, service-learning and community participation are the cornerstones to *GreenWorks!* projects. These grassroots action projects enable schools and youth organizations across the country to make a positive impact on their communities. Grant amounts range from \$250 to \$5000. [Learn more](#)

### **Brower Youth Awards - Entry deadline: May 15, 2009**

Brower Youth Awards recognizes six young people in North America annually for their outstanding leadership on projects with positive environmental and social impact. The winners of the award receive a \$3,000 cash prize, a trip to California for the award ceremony and wilderness camping trip, and ongoing access to resources and opportunities to further their work at Earth Island Institute. Young activist leaders ages 13-22 living in North America are eligible to apply. [Learn more](#)

### **Edward C. Roy, Jr. Award for Excellence in K-8 Earth Science Teaching - Entry deadline: May 31, 2009**

This award is designed to recognize one teacher of grades K-8 each year for his or her leadership and innovation in Earth science education. The award consists of a \$2,500 prize for the winning teacher and a grant of up to \$1,000 to cover registration, travel and lodging expenses associated with attendance of the Geological Society of America 2009 Joint Meeting at the close of Earth Science Week 2009 to accept the award. The teacher and his or her school will receive a plaque of recognition. To be eligible, an applicant must be a full-time U.S. classroom teacher who currently provides instruction in Earth science at the K-8 level. [Learn more](#)

### **RBC Water Stewardship Projects**

The RBC Blue Water Project™ was established to help foster a culture of water stewardship around the world. This year the project will provide \$100,000 for water stewardship projects in U.S. schools. To apply for RBC Blue Water Project Funding, set up an account online at [www.DonorsChoose.org](http://www.DonorsChoose.org) and submit project requests for tools and materials that will help your students learn about clean water and watersheds.

**For more grants and awards, be sure to visit the [Funding Resources](#) page on our website!**

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## **Professional Development**

### **The NEED Project 2009 National Energy Conference for Educators - July 19-23, 2009**

The National Energy Education Development National Energy Conference for Educators trains teachers on how to incorporate energy programs into their classroom and extracurricular activities. This five-day program covers all aspects of energy education and includes a one-day field experience. Attendees may be eligible to receive three graduate credits offered through Virginia Commonwealth University. [Learn more](#)

### **Chesapeake Classrooms**

Chesapeake Bay Foundation's Chesapeake Classrooms focuses on methods to incorporate environmental education into the core subject areas of reading, math, science and social studies. Educators can earn graduate or recertification credits by participating in five-day immersion courses held throughout the summer. Additional application skills and recertification credits can be earned by attending our workshop series during the school year. Summer 2009 courses include Islands in the Bay and Explorations of Captain John Smith. Chesapeake Classrooms is supported by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), the National Geographic Society, and the Chesapeake Bay Trust. [Learn more](#)

### **GLOBE Teacher Workshops**

GLOBE (Global Learning and Observations to Benefit the Environment) is a worldwide, hands-on, primary and secondary school-based science and education program. GLOBE aims to promote a worldwide community of students, teachers, scientists, and citizens working together to better understand, sustain, and improve Earth's environment at local, regional, and global scales. GLOBE works in close partnership with NASA and NSF Earth System Science Projects in the study and research of the dynamics of Earth's environment. For a school to participate in GLOBE, at least one

teacher must be trained in the GLOBE science measurement protocols and education activities by attending a GLOBE Teacher Workshop. [Learn more](#)

### NSTA Web Seminars

NSTA Web Seminars are 90-minute, live professional development experiences that use online learning technologies to allow participants to interact with nationally acclaimed experts, NSTA Press authors, scientists, engineers, and education specialists. Educators use online tools that allow them to mark-up and annotate presenter's slides, share desktop applications, chat with other users and answer quizzes and poll questions. Upcoming topics include *Earth Then, Earth Now: Our Changing Climate* and *The Heat is On! Climate Change*. [Learn more](#)

**For more professional development opportunities, be sure to visit the [Professional Development](#) page on our website!**

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The National Environmental Education Foundation (NEEF) provides knowledge to trusted professionals who, with their credibility, amplify messages to national audiences to solve everyday environmental problems. Together, we generate lasting positive change.

NEEF partners with professionals in health, education, media, business and public land management to promote daily actions for helping people protect and enjoy the environment. Through our primary programs - Classroom Earth, National Public Lands Day, National Environmental Education Week, Business and Environment, Earth Gauge<sup>(r)</sup> and Health & Environment - we offer Americans knowledge to live by. To learn more, call (202) 833-2933 or visit <http://www.neefusa.org/>.

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