



National Environmental Education Week

A National Environmental Education Foundation Program

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Happy EE Week!

This week, thousands of educators and millions of students across the United States have participated in [National Environmental Education Week](#) activities to increase environmental learning and stewardship. Thank you for being a part of this national network dedicated to increasing the environmental literacy of K-12 students!

The 40th anniversary of Earth Day will be celebrated around the world next Thursday, April 22. Our friends at [Earth Day Network](#) can help you find Earth Day events and activities around the globe. You can also log your commitment to environmental service through their [Billion Acts of Green](#) initiative. Continue reading below to learn about a special curriculum developed for the 40th anniversary.

Next weekend -- April 23-25 -- marks [Global Youth Service Day](#), an annual celebration of the millions of youth who improve their communities through service and service-learning.

These global events provide an ideal opportunity for students to use what they have learned during EE Week to make a difference in their schools and communities.

In This Issue

[EE Week Photo Blog Contest](#)

[Be Water & Energy Wise Tip](#)

[Teacher Spotlight](#)

[Featured Resource](#)

The Water-Energy Connection

In the United States, generating power consumes 3 percent of our nation's water annually and 13 percent of the energy produced in this country each year is used to treat, transport and heat our water. Conserving water saves energy, and vice versa. Access EE Week's resources and teaching tools on the [Water-Energy Connection](#).

EE Week's Annual Photo Blog Contest

Enter your photos and stories for a chance to win great prizes

Do you have an inspiring story of how you and your organization are bringing environmental education to students? National Environmental Education Week would like to hear about it! Simply upload your photos and stories to the [EE Week Photo Blog](#). Your story can be about activities either inside or outside the classroom, before, during or after EE Week.



East Branch Explorer, submitted by the Perkiomen Watershed Conservancy to the 2009 EE Week Photo Blog Contest

The EE Week Photo Blog Contest -- which runs from April 1 through May 31 -- is open to individuals affiliated with a school or organization providing K-12 educational programs. Photo Blog Contest applicants must be 18 years of age or older, have a valid email address and be residents of the United States. [Read the complete rules](#).

Each photo blog entry must include a photograph and accompanying blog text no longer than 1,500 characters that clearly describes the environmental education activity showcased in the photo. [Release forms](#) are required for each identifiable person in a photo. Entries will be judged on the quality of the photograph and blog, visual appeal, the level of success and creativity that was achieved in bringing environmental education to the students and the photo's inspirational value.

First, second and third place prizes include Ultra Flip Video Camcorders, a magazine subscription to National Geographic *Explorer!* Magazine and a gift certificate to Acorn Naturalists. And just for entering, we'll send you an environmental education poetry magnet. [Learn more](#)

Be Water and Energy Wise! Tip

Plant a rain garden or plants that are native to your region in your yard and on your school grounds. By reducing the watering the landscape needs, you'll also save energy.

Source: [River Network](#)

[More tips](#)

2010 EE Week Photo Blog Contest

Do you have an inspiring photo showing how your students are participating in EE Week? Submit your photos and stories to EE Week's annual Photo Blog Contest for a chance to win great prizes! [Learn more](#)

Our Program

National Environmental Education (EE) Week is the largest organized environmental education event in the United States.

EE Week connects educators with environmental resources to promote K-12 students' understanding of the environment.

Quick Links

[Register for EE Week 2010](#)

[FAQs](#)

[Success Stories](#)

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Teacher Spotlight: Barbara Murphy

Westlawn Middle School,
Huntsville, Ala.

Through a partnership with the [Alabama Wildlife Federation's Ponds for Kids](#) program, Barbara Murphy's students will build a backyard waterfall, stream and pond on the campus of Westlawn Middle School to celebrate EE Week. Students will work alongside school faculty, parents and community volunteers to create a small aquatic habitat at their school.



Westlawn Middle School students prepare the area where they will build an aquatic habitat during EE Week.

Before deciding on a project, Murphy's students surveyed the school community asking students how they would like to see their courtyard beautified and what kind of outdoor activities interest them. Based on the results, the students decided on the aquatic habitat. The students will also be installing three vegetable gardens, one each for the 6th, 7th and 8th grades. Murphy says the gardens and pond will provide an outdoor living laboratory to be studied, developed and enjoyed by the students and their families.

For more information on schoolyard habitats, visit [National Wildlife Federation's Schoolyard Habitats](#) program online.

Learn more about educators engaging their students in interesting and exciting activities to promote understanding of the environment by reading our [Environmental Education Success Stories](#).

Featured Resource

Earth Day 40th Anniversary Curriculum Unit

In celebration of the 40th anniversary of Earth Day this year, Earth Day Network has developed a free online curriculum unit. These activities and lesson plans introduce a broad history of the environmental movement through a comprehensive online resource. The unit is supported by educational resources including vocabulary, popular works of the time period, videos, graphs, photographs, illustrations and more. Additional learning activities and multimedia resources have been developed to further enhance instruction. Several of the materials are also available in French and Spanish. [Access the Earth Day 40th Anniversary Curriculum](#)



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(r) and Health & Environment - we offer Americans knowledge to live by. To learn more, call (202) 833-2933 or visit <http://www.neefusa.org>.