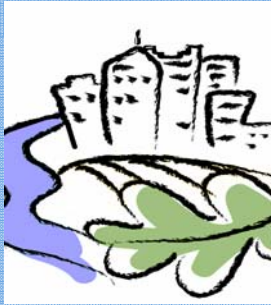




Summer

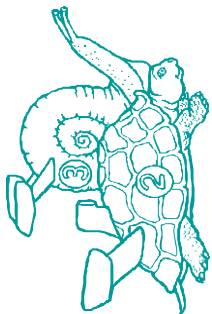
2009



FRANKLIN SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT

SWIFT

Soil and Water Information for Teachers



## Spotlight on Resources:

### New Centers for Environmental Education

#### The Heart of the City

Downtown Columbus will soon be the home of the only urban ecology center in the state — and the first in the country located so close to a major city. Located in Whittier Peninsula, a designated Important Bird Area critical habitat, the Grange Insurance Audubon Center will transform a blighted and underused area of the city into an urban bird oasis and conservation center. With more than 100 schools and over 30,000 students located within a five-mile radius of the site, the center will empower urban youth to enjoy and protect nature right in their own backyard. Approximately 50,000 people are expected to flock to the center within the first three years of its opening in summer 2009.



The Grange Insurance Audubon Center initiative is led by private sector corporations such as Grange Insurance and Audubon Ohio, and public sector organizations, such as the City of Columbus and Franklin County Metro Parks. Visit the Grange Insurance Audubon Center website at [www.GrangeInsuranceAudubonCenter.org](http://www.GrangeInsuranceAudubonCenter.org)

#### A Unique Treasure

Cedar Bog is home to many unique and endangered species. It is also home to a new education center. This past April marked the opening of the Cedar Bog Education Center.



For the first time, visitors can enjoy this beautiful nature preserve with the help of a newly built education center featuring an interpretive exhibit about Cedar Bog. The education center is designed with careful consideration to both visitor convenience and the preservation of the site's ecology. Bathrooms are always accessible during operating hours. The building employs "green" operations that both safeguard the environment and reduce operating costs. The center also contains the office of the site manager as well as a classroom, exhibit area and gift shop. Cedar Bog offers a variety of resources for educators. Supplement a class visit to Cedar Bog or explore information about the site without ever making a visit with our Cedar Bog Loan Kit. Located in Champaign County, just 4 miles south of Urbana on U.S. Rte 68, then west on Woodburn Rd one mile to the signed entrance and parking lot. The preserve is managed by the Ohio Historical Society in conjunction with the Cedar Bog Association. Hours may vary seasonally. To learn more, call 1 (800) 860-0147, (937) 484-3744 or visit the websites [www.cedarbog.org](http://www.cedarbog.org) or [www.cedarbog@ctcn.net](http://www.cedarbog@ctcn.net).

#### Inside this issue:

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Looking for something fun to do outside this summer? The Leave No Child Inside, Central Ohio Collaborative has plenty of ideas for both locations and activities to keep you and your children busy this summer at [www.kidsandnature.org](http://www.kidsandnature.org).



## Fun Stuff

### Congratulations Envirothon Teams



Seventy-two teams from central and southern Ohio competed at the Area 5 Envirothon Competition on Tuesday, April 28th. This competition, sponsored by the Ohio Federation of Soil and Water Conservation Districts, challenges students in the areas of aquatic ecology, current environmental

issues, forestry, soils and wildlife. Franklin County was well represented at the contest this year with 7 teams Bexley returned with 2 teams this year. Also, new this year were 2 teams from Reynoldsburg, 2 from Centennial HS and 1 from Groveport Madison. Bexley High School placed second at this contest and will represent Franklin County at the State Competition in June. We congratulate all the teams on their accomplishments and wish Bexley the best at the next level! If you are interested in learning more about this high school competition, visit [www.envirothon.org](http://www.envirothon.org) or contact Linda Pettit at Franklin Soil and Water, (614) 486-9613.

### Future City Competition National Engineers Week

Ohio Region ([www.futurecityohio.org](http://www.futurecityohio.org)) asks 7th and 8th grade students to design and create — first on the computer and then in a three-dimensional model — their visions of a sustainable city of tomorrow. The deadline to register is October 15. The registration form is available at [www.futurecityohio.org](http://www.futurecityohio.org). For more information beyond the website, feel free to email Lisa Huelskamp at [huelskamp1@msn.com](mailto:huelskamp1@msn.com).



Get your students outside and exploring nature this summer with **Riverfest On Tour!** Presented by Outdoor Source, a service of Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission. Catch up on time outdoors boating, fishing and more

throughout the entire month of June. For a full listing of activities and locations visit: [www.riverfestcolumbus.org](http://www.riverfestcolumbus.org)

### Canoe Creations River Experiences



These mobile camping programs teach kids (and adults) about our amazing world of rivers, while living on them. This summer we have 4 and 5 day Summer Camps, including: Bird-watching by Boat, close to home Family Vacations, and Outdoor Field Classes.

See [www.canoecreation.org](http://www.canoecreation.org) or call 740-674-4403 for information.



### Congratulations Conservation Poster Contest Winners !

This spring Franklin Soil and Water teamed up with Oakland Nurseries to sponsor a Conservation Poster Contest. The theme of the contest this year was “Dig It, Secrets of the Soil,” focusing on ways we can work to keep our soil healthy and in place. 18 Franklin County schools participated, involving approximately 1500 students in grades K-12. The students created their posters on the back of previously used paper. The winners will be recognized at an awards ceremony held at Oakland Nurseries’ Celebration of the Rose, Saturday, June 13 at 10:00 am. Great job to all those who participated and thank you to Oakland Nurseries and the teachers who made this year’s contest a success.



### Central Ohio River Pride



The Columbus Department of Public Utilities and partnering groups will kick off the ninth annual Central Ohio River Pride beginning June 1. This month-long event is designed to promote awareness and appreciation of our natural waterways through environmental stewardship and recreation. Activities will include stream-bank litter clean-ups, invasive plant removal, rain garden workshops and more through the “Riverfest On Tour!” celebration, sponsored by the Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission. Other ways to participate in Central Ohio River Pride include planting a tree along a creek, or by participating in the city’s storm drain marking community service project. For a complete listing of Central Ohio River Pride events, visit [www.utilities.columbus.gov](http://www.utilities.columbus.gov) or call 645-STREAM (7873).



The Dawes Arboretum

### Little Buckeyes Imagination Sessions





Attention kids! We'll be exercising our imagination muscles at The Dawes Arboretum every Wednesday afternoon in June, July and August at 2pm. Toddlers to teens (everyone enjoys getting nose to nose with nature) meet at The Dawes Arboretum Visitors Center for these free programs. We'll find out about nature, trees, history and YOU through books, crafts, games, music and the world around us! There's no telling what we'll discover or learn! Every week is something different, so be sure to show up weekly to get in on the fun. All you need to bring is your guardian and your brawny imagination!

# Upcoming Events for Educators



## Metro Parks Summer Courses for Educators

Metro Parks will offer 4, 2-day teacher training workshops in June and July. Workshops target academic content standards and process skills for several age groups. Workshops are conducted by various state and local agencies and school district representatives, and are presented at a Metro Park or other Central Ohio agency site. Teachers work mostly in an outdoor setting to find ways to develop meaningful field trips and classroom and hands-on activities with little or no classroom funding. Workshops and Dates:

-  **Ohio Farming: The Land, Work and Culture**, June 18 & 19—\$50
-  **Getting the Dirt on Rocks, Minerals and Soil**, June 24 & 25— \$50
-  **Physical Education in an Outdoor Setting**, July 14 & 15—\$50
-  **Nature's Weird and Wonderful**, July 21 & 22 \$50

You may register for these workshops online at [www.metroparks.net](http://www.metroparks.net). One semester hour of credit will be offered through Ashland University for each 2-day workshop completed. Registration for credit is separate and can be done at the workshop. For fliers, information or to register for any of the workshops, contact Susan Boggs at (614) 895-6211 or [sboggs@metroparks.net](mailto:sboggs@metroparks.net)

## COSI Summer Teacher Workshops

Improve your science content knowledge by participating in COSI's inquiry-based workshops and walk away with lessons your students will love. Topics include crime scene forensics, ancient Egypt, climate change, energy, slip and slide science and much more. Two-day, one-credit summer workshops are \$113. Five-day, two-credit summer workshop are \$226. Fee includes all workshop materials, plus a CD-ROM of all lessons presented during the workshop. Graduate credit is available through Ashland University for an additional fee of \$166 per credit (collected on the first day of class).

COSI Teacher Workshops are supported by The Boeing Company. Details online at <http://www.cosi.org/educators/professional-development/workshops-k-12/>.



## The Ohio Farm Bureau Federation 2009 Summer Programs

**Agriculture Feeds Our Needs: Feeding and Fueling the World** is the topic of a one day workshop held on June 15 at the Nationwide and Ohio Farm Bureau 4-H Center on the OSU campus. Call (614) 246-8243 for more information. Registration fee is \$25 for Farm Bureau members, \$35 for non-members. Registration is due by June 8. To register, visit [OurOhio.org](http://OurOhio.org) and download a registration form. Also available on that site is information for a four day tour in two sessions (July 22 and 23, August 6 and 7) **Agriculture: Your link to Life**, workshop for educators.



## Family Camp Weekends

June 19-21, July 3-5, July 17-19,  
July 31-Aug 2, and Aug 14-16

Summer camp for the entire family! Adults, too, can now experience life at the Wilds' yurt education camp, muckin' in the marsh, fishing backcountry lakes, rappelling, canoeing, wildlife watching, safari tours, and all the fun learning opportunities of WildeCamp! Lodging in the Wilds' yurt Conservation Education Camp. (Your family will be housed together, co-ed, in the same yurt, and it is possible you may share a yurt with another family if camp registration is full.) Arrival is at 6 p.m. Friday; departure is 1 p.m. Sunday. Meals included are Friday evening snacks; Saturday breakfast, lunch, and dinner; Sunday breakfast. \$150 Adults \$125 Age 12 and under. Pre-registration and pre-payment required. (740) 638-5030 x2286 or [reservations@thewilds.org](mailto:reservations@thewilds.org). Registration Deadline is due two weeks prior to the first day of camp! (i.e. Registration Deadline for June 19-21 camp is Friday, June 5).



## Columbus Zoo and Aquarium Teacher Workshops

Animal Adaptations and Behavior

The Columbus Zoo and Ashland University are working together to create this unique professional development experience! This workshop will explore the ways plants and animals survive in a variety of habitats. Interdisciplinary classroom activities, guest speakers and zoo tours will provide content knowledge as well as hands-on ways to explore adaptations with your students. Participants must be prepared for the weather and are expected to walk short distances. Although the workshop is designed for elementary teachers, all are welcome to attend. A boxed lunch will be provided both days of the workshop. Dates are June 25 and 26, 2009. Time: 8:30 am – 4:00 pm. Location: Columbus Zoo and Aquarium. Cost: \$90.00 per person. Ashland University credit available for an additional \$166.00. For more information call (614) 724-3578 or email [teacher@columbuszoo.org](mailto:teacher@columbuszoo.org)

UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN

**June: American Rivers Month, National Rose Month**



- June 2: National Trails Day
- June 3-9: Clean Rivers Week
- June 8: Best Friends Day
- June 13: National Juggling Day



**July: National Picnic Month, National Ice Cream Month**

- July 11: Cheer Up the Lonely Day
- July 23: Perseid Meteor Showers begin



**August: Water Quality Month**

- August 3-8: National Smile Week
- August 9: American Family Day



District programs and services are offered on a non-discriminatory basis.

FRANKLIN SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT --- A Federal/State/Local partnership funded by: Franklin County Commissioners; State of Ohio; Columbus; Gahanna; Hilliard; Reynoldsburg; Upper Arlington; Westerville; Worthington; Villages of Canal Winchester, New Albany and Obetz; Blendon, Brown, Franklin, Hamilton, Jackson, Jefferson, Madison, Norwich, Plain, Pleasant and Prairie Townships; The Nature Conservancy; Columbus and Franklin County Metro Parks; Darby Creek Association; Franklin County Board of Health, Engineer, Sanitary Engineer and Development Dept.; Ohio Environmental Education Fund; Clean Ohio Fund; Nature Work; and resource assistance from the Natural Resources Conservation Service and the Ohio Department of Natural Resources.

**More Events for Educators**



**Healthy Water, Healthy People (HWHP) Facilitator Workshop**

**When:** Tuesday, June 16, 2009 9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. **Where:** Farnsworth Metropark, ROCHE de BOUT area 8505 S. River Road (first parking lot headed southwest on US 24) Waterville, Ohio 43566

Participants will receive a HWHP Educator Guide, HWHP Test Kit Manual, and training (\$30.00 value) – FREE!

We will be getting in the water to complete biological, physical and chemical monitoring. For more information and to register for this educational workshop contact: Dennis Clement, Ohio EPA/OEE at (614) 644-2048 or den-

nis.clement@epa.state.oh.us.

**Wetlands Across America in Ohio! Educator Workshops**

Wonders of Wetlands curriculum materials on June 23, WOW Facilitator Training on June 24 and Planning of Wetlands on June 25

**“Creating Compassionate School Communities”**

July 13-15, 2009 at Broad Street Presbyterian Church in Columbus

Sponsored by Compassionate Communication of Central Ohio

Open to educators of children of all ages, from all schools.

Learn how to cultivate a compassionate way for children and educators to be in relationship with each other and themselves.

Contact: Andy Workum at 614-558-1141 or ccco112@sbcglobal.net

Our web site: www.nvcoho.org \$265 (prior to July 1); \$255 group (3 or more together), including lunch

College credit available through Ashland University Contact us at (614) 558-1141 for details.



**Attention! Science, Vo-Ag, and Teachers of all Grades**

5th Annual TEACHER FIELD DAYS: WEEDS AND PESTS IN THE WOODS/PLT

Please join us for two days in the woods Tuesday, June 9, and Wednesday, June 10, 2009 (9 a.m. to 4 p.m.) at Tar Hollow State Forest. “Forestry on Ohio’s Public Lands” is being offered by the ODNR Division of Forestry to provide you with useful information for your classes. Please contact Greg Smith by e-mail, phone, or mail to **register by June 1**. Classes are limited to 30 participants. Registrants will be sent directions and lunch orders. Please include your e-mail (or fax number) for information distribution. More about invasives and PLT: www.ohiodnr.com/forestry; http://www.plt.org/

