

DARBY-COBBS WATERSHED PARTNERSHIP

Thursday, April 1, 2010 | 3 – 5:00pm | Cobbs Creek Community Environmental Education Center (63rd & Catharine Streets)

Agenda

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| 3:00 – 3:05 | Greetings and Sign-In |
| 3:05 – 3:10 | Welcome and Introductions Khiet Luong, Partnership Convener, <i>Pennsylvania Environmental Council</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Welcome and review agenda • Round-the-room introductions • Icebreaker: How did you Earth Day/weekend? |
| 3:10– 3:35 | Small Group Discussions Opportunities for Collaboration <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Round-the-room introductions |
| 3:40 – 4:10 | Cobbs Creek Restoration Presentation Gerald Bright, <i>Philadelphia Water Department</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Presentation and discussion |
| 4:10 – 4:25 | Discussion about Opportunities for Collaboration |
| 4:25 – 4:30 | Review & Summary <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Summarize Next Steps • Closing & Announcements • Set future mtg date |

Announcements:

- April 26, 7:00 p.m. - Philadelphia Parks & Recreation Safety Mtg (6300 Cobbs Creek Parkway)
- April 27, 10:00am-12:00pm - The Delaware Valley Earth Force 2010 Youth Summit (grades K-7)
Respond to Evelyn Christian: 215-884-9888 or echristian@earthforce.org.
- May is American Wetlands Month!
- May 4, 10:00am-12:00pm The Delaware Valley Earth Force 2010 Youth Summit (grades 8-12).
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- May 15th; 9:45 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. The Philadelphia Green Tour
- June 14 – Nature of Learning grant due
- June 30, 2010 – 7th annual National Natural Landmarks Photo Contest entries due
- May 8th, 9am-12noon - LOVE Your Park

National Wildlife Refuge Friends Group Grant Program

www.fws.gov/refuges

The National Fish and Wildlife Foundation, along with its partners, recognizes the important role refuge Friends organizations play in building critical community support for the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's National Wildlife Refuge System. As such, we are requesting proposals for projects that assist organizations to be effective co-stewards of our Nation's important natural resources within the National Wildlife Refuge System. This program provides competitive seed grants (\$1,500 - \$5,000) to creative and innovative proposals that seek to increase the number and effectiveness of organizations interested in assisting the Refuge System nationwide.

Staff Representative: Teal Edelen, Acting Program Director, National Wildlife Refuge Programs,
teal.edelen@nfwf.org

The Nature of Learning Grant Program (Due Monday, June 14)

www.nfwf.org/Content/ContentFolders/NationalFishandWildlifeFoundation/Programs/NatureofLearning/NOL_RFP.pdf

2010 Theme - Climate Change and Citizen Science. This year, grants of up to \$10,000 will be awarded on a competitive basis to support education projects focused on the causes and effects of climate change on refuges and build citizen science partnership programs. The Nature of Learning is the FWS National Wildlife Refuge System's community-based environmental education initiative that seeks to:

1. Use national wildlife refuges as outdoor classrooms to promote a greater understanding of local conservation issues;
2. Encourage an interdisciplinary approach to learning that seeks to enhance student academic achievement;
3. Utilize field experiences and student-led stewardship projects to connect classroom lessons to real world issues; and
4. Involve a partnership among local schools, community groups, natural resource professionals and local businesses.

The Nature of Learning framework includes:

1. **Partnerships:** Central to each The Nature of Learning site is a partnership among learning institutions, i.e., neighborhood schools, nature clubs, youth groups, and natural resource professionals and community members. These partners use The Nature of Learning methodology to create site-specific goals and an action plan for achievement.
2. **Integrated Learning:** The Nature of Learning outlines a process by which a community-based curriculum is developed utilizing formal and non-formal education expertise at the site.
3. **Standards-based:** Using the standards-based curriculum from collaborating schools, teams of teachers and resource specialists blend the resources from the classroom with existing activities and programs used on public lands. The framework guides educators in a standards-based instructional process that encourages an interdisciplinary approach.
4. **Stewardship Projects:** Community projects are planned and implemented as a culminating activity of this initiative. After building an understanding of conservation issues, students are encouraged to identify tasks that put their awareness into action and enhance their community.
5. **Professional Development:** The Nature of Learning framework assists site teams to build local site workshops to meet professional development needs. Partnerships with local organizations that have similar missions are highly recommended.