



# Branching Out

January 22, 2010

The mission of Three Rivers Environmental Educators is to promote collaboration of resources and provide networking opportunities for environmental educators in the Northern Neck and Middle Peninsula areas of Virginia.

## **TREE meetings:**

**Next meeting April 13 at Deltaville Maritime Museum and Holly Point Park. Details coming soon.**

## **Local Events:**

On February 16, the Garden Club of the Northern Neck will present its 10<sup>th</sup> annual **Conservation Symposium**. This year, in seeking to reach a wider audience, we will partner with the Garden Club of the Middle Peninsula and host a presentation on **'The Economics of Energy Conservation'** at Stratford Hall. The speaker will be Jerry Walker, County Energy Manager and Senior Engineer for Henrico County.

As we enter the second decade of our century, conservation issues draw ever-increasing attention at both the national and the domestic level. While our political leaders debate the energy policies that will shape our future, homeowners contemplate ways to become more energy efficient, saving both money and the environment. Although the debate may be fierce, the facts are far from transparent, and the discussion is all too often mired in partisan rhetoric. This year's symposium seeks to offer a clear view of the options facing policy makers and homeowners alike, and review our current successes and failures in working towards a sustainable future.

Jerry Walker brings a wealth of experience to this debate. Having worked for over seventeen years in the energy and energy management business, he has first-hand knowledge of power production and distribution. In recent years, his interests have increasingly focused on conservation and energy efficiency and in 2006 he qualified as a LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) Accredited Professional. He is currently pursuing a Masters degree in Green Building Technology and is Director of the Virginia Sustainable Building Network.

We would like to invite members of TREE to join us for this event, when Mr. Walker will share with us his professional insights and perceptions and analyze some of the practical steps we can all take on the road to an energy-efficient future. Please convey this invitation to your membership, and help us publicize the event. The program will be held in the Council House and will begin at 10:30 a.m., preceded by refreshments at 10 a.m. At the conclusion of the program, lunch will be available in the Dining Room, advanced reservations required, cost \$20. Checks, made out to GCMP, should be mailed to Randy Brown, GCMP (Stratford Hall Lunch), P.O.Box 2764, Tappahannock, VA 22560 by February 5. For more information on the program, please contact me at (804) 580-4137 or by email at [kingdon@kaballero.com](mailto:kingdon@kaballero.com).

## **Free Tools and other Cool Stuff**

### **Affordable Green Housing Gets Boost from Billion-Dollar Funds**

Two nonprofit organizations recently launched billion-dollar programs to boost affordable green housing. Enterprise Community Partners, Inc., a national nonprofit focusing on community development and affordable housing, announced on October 8 a \$4 billion commitment to the next generation of its Green Communities initiative. Enterprise said its efforts will result directly in the creation, preservation, or retrofit of 75,000 green homes and community and commercial buildings over the next five years.

<http://www.chicagotribune.com/news/local/northnorthwest/chi-evanston-greening-02dec02,0,847667.story>

### **16 Social Media Guidelines Used by Major Companies**

<http://econsultancy.com/blog/5049-16-social-media-guidelines-used-by-real-companies>

### **Free Online Redwood Education Kit**

Educators and Parents -- Save the Redwoods League is proud to announce a new suite of online resources to support you in your redwood education efforts. This site has both online activities and ideas for students to get out into nature and explore their environment.

<http://education.savetheredwoods.org/kit>

A volunteer from the NOAA Phytoplankton Monitoring Network's Texas Master Naturalist group, in collaboration with National Centers for Coastal Ocean Science (NCCOS) scientists, developed an iPhone application to assist marine phytoplankton and harmful algae identification. This "app" includes images from an NCCOS gallery of common phytoplankton and recordings of a staff scientist's pronunciation of each species' name. The application also contains a flash card game to improve volunteers' identification skills. The app works on both the iPod Touch and iPhone. Check the website for a description of this application, with links to a video demo and iTunes download. <http://www.gano.name/shawn/phyto/>

### **How-To Guides**

The NOAA Coastal Services Center provides many publications and websites that relay information about how to best approach a variety of coastal management issues. Topics include marine boundaries, social sciences, remote sensing, hazards, and coastal issues. Check these out. <http://www.csc.noaa.gov/howtoguides.html>

### **Sustainable Tourism Best Practices**

The International Coral Reef Action Network (ICRAN) facilitated a stakeholder-led process of standards development for scuba diving, snorkeling, boat operations, and beach front activities. The partners developed comprehensive conservation and safety standards for marine recreation activities. The website hosts sustainable tourism guides and other materials, some also available in Spanish and French. <http://www.icran.org/mar-tourism.html>

### [Swimming Fishes Game](#)

COSEE-Networked Ocean World (COSEE-NOW) presents Swimming Fishes, a human-sized board game appropriate for ages 10 to adult that demonstrates how changes in water temperature may affect fisheries distribution. Check this one out.

<http://coseenow.net/2009/09/ocean-home-swimming-fishes/>

### [EPA Green Homes Website](#)

Home owners, buyers and renters have a new resource for going green indoors and outdoors. EPA's new Green Homes Website will help people make their homes greener with tips on reducing energy consumption, carbon footprints, waste generation and water usage, as well as improving indoor air quality. <http://www.epa.gov/greenhomes>

an introduction for secondary students to toxic chemicals and environmental health risks you might encounter in everyday life. <http://www.toxtown.nlm.nih.gov>

[Keep America Beautiful](#) has just released the results of the largest litter study ever conducted in the US at <http://www.kab.org/site/PageServer?pagename=LitterResearch2009>

### [Still Developing the Toolbox: Making EE Relevant for Culturally Diverse Groups](#)

Educators know that learners' cultural perspectives influence the way they learn and interpret information. This article, produced by the Environmental Education & Training Partnership, profiles programs and people connecting with culturally diverse communities through environmental education programs. [Download the PDF](#)

### [U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service Schoolyard Habitat Project Guide](#)

The Schoolyard Habitat program helps teachers and students create wildlife habitat on school grounds. This guide provides the basic steps needed to restore or create wildlife habitat. The process incorporates critical thinking and decision-making skills while challenging students in reading, writing, science, math and language arts. [Learn more](#)

### [Introduction to Green Service Projects](#)

KaBOOM! and The Home Depot Foundation have developed comprehensive guidelines to make service projects as eco-friendly as possible. Research was conducted using interviews with a range of volunteer organizations, workshops about eco-friendly practices, surveys of subject matter experts and an online working group, including KaBOOM! staff. The presentation is 40 minutes long and can be viewed online. [Learn more](#)

## **Jobs**

### [Elementary teacher](#)

Description: Patrick Henry School of Science and Arts ([www.patrickhenrycharter.org](http://www.patrickhenrycharter.org)) is conducting a search for experienced, dynamic, and innovative teachers for the 2010 – 2011 academic year.

The school's mission is to establish a kindergarten through fifth-grade public charter school based on meaningful parental, educator, and community involvement. The school will provide the children

of Richmond's diverse community with a rigorous science and arts based curriculum emphasizing environmental awareness and social responsibility.

Patrick Henry School of Science and Arts (PHSSA) will open its doors in July 2010. A progressive quarter school, PHSSA will offer its students a unique, multi-sensory project-based learning experience utilizing the adjacent park as an outdoor classroom. PHSSA teachers must embrace this opportunity to engage students' minds and bodies in the learning process through utilization of the park resource. PHSSA teachers will collaborate to create research-based, integrated instruction founded on Virginia's Science Standards of Learning (SOLs), utilize technology and alternative assessments in the classroom, be knowledgeable of current elementary education research, and demonstrate the ability to produce and maintain high academic achievement for all students in a healthy and nurturing environment.

Applications will be reviewed beginning January 30, 2010. The position will remain open until filled. For more details, minimum requirements, and application instructions see position description at [www.patrickhenrycharter.org](http://www.patrickhenrycharter.org)

**Job Type:** Full Time permanent

**Salary Detail:** competitive

**Deadline:** 3-1-2010

**Organization:** [Patrick Henry School of Science and Arts](#)

**Location:** Richmond, VA

**Contact Person:** Deb Butterworth

**Phone:** 804-543-2080

**E-Mail:** [careers@patrickhenrycharter.org](mailto:careers@patrickhenrycharter.org)

**Mailing Address:** PHSSA

P.O. Box 2459

Richmond, VA 23218

### **Environmental Educator**

Description: Primary responsibility for educating the public about wildlife and conservation issues with the goal of reducing human impacts on wildlife and the environment. Present environmental education programs for schools groups [principally elementary and middle-school students] as well as community organizations and other groups. Excellent public speaking skills and the ability to interact well with the public are a must for this position. Must be able to meet the physical demands

of the position and be able to accommodate an often irregular work schedule. For a complete job description and qualifications, please see our website at [www.wildlifecenter.org](http://www.wildlifecenter.org).

The position will begin in April 2010.

**Job Type:** Full Time permanent

**Salary Detail:** Commensurate with experience, within approved range

**Deadline:** 2-15-2010

**Organization:** [Wildlife Center of Virginia](http://www.wildlifecenter.org)

**Location:** Waynesboro VA

**Contact Person:** Gretchen Achenbach, Director of Environmental Education

**Phone:** 540-942-9453

**E-Mail:** [gachenbach@wildlifecenter.org](mailto:gachenbach@wildlifecenter.org)

**Mailing Address:** P.O. Box 1557

Waynesboro VA 22980

### **Freelance e-Publications Production Editor**

Description: ESRI Press seeks freelance Production Editors to edit, test and prepare a series of modular, university-level GIS laboratory activities: SpatialLabs. The SpatialLabs products will apply geospatial concepts to a broad range of social and earth sciences. Freelance production editors will be hired on a per project basis to transform authors' raw manuscripts into high-quality commercial products on time and within budget.

- Use GIS and other software to test content in relation to project objectives
- Collaborate with others to create and manage production schedules and reviews
- Perform copyediting, proofreading, and layout
- Review and edit all content to ensure it conforms to publication standards provided by ESRI Press
- Review product deliverables for completeness and ensure they are ready for publication

#### REQUIRES

- Bachelor's degree in one of the social sciences
- Ability to work independently, and take instruction
- Ability to work on multiple projects simultaneously
- Strong editorial skills
- Two years of related editorial or production experience (may include internships or college)

publishing experience)

- Proficiency in Microsoft Word
- Knowledge of, and expertise using, GIS, particularly ESRI software
- Comfortable with online technologies

**RECOMMENDED**

- Understanding of instructional design
- Experience with audio/video applications
- Experience writing or editing instructional material for use in a university lab setting

Send resume along with service rates to: [mlivingston@esri.com](mailto:mlivingston@esri.com).

For career opportunities, see [careers.esri.com](http://careers.esri.com).

**Job Type:** Part Time temporary

**Salary Detail:** TBD

**Deadline:** 3-29-2010

**Organization:** [ESRI](http://esri.com)

**Location:** ca

**Contact Person:** Mike Livingston

**Phone:**

**E-Mail:** [mlivingston@esri.com](mailto:mlivingston@esri.com)

**Mailing Address:** 380 New York Street  
Redlands, Ca 92373

Got news, job postings, events, or other information to share? Want to brag about awards? Hear about something that would be of interest to members? Send them to [charlene.talcott@dcr.virginia.gov](mailto:charlene.talcott@dcr.virginia.gov)

Please forward this to anyone that might be interested. Want to be included on the TREE mailings? Contact [faye.andrashko@va.nacdnet.net](mailto:faye.andrashko@va.nacdnet.net)