



Branching Out

March 19, 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. www.vanaturally.com/tree

TREE meetings:

April 13, 11 to 1 at Deltaville Maritime Museum.

www.deltavilleva.com/museumpark/default.aspx

Local Events:

Gardening in the Northern Neck Symposium, March 27

Time: 8:30 AM – 3:30 PM

Location: Church of the Nazarene
57 Whisk Drive
White Stone, VA

Registration forms and course schedule available at www.nnmg.org February 22, 2010
or call (804) 580-5694 Registration deadline is March 19!

Spring Break Programming at Belle Isle State Park

Belle Isle State Park will offer a variety of workshops, hikes, canoe trip, and other programs from March 30 through April 11. Highlights include a free nature photography workshop, Geocaching, a nighttime frog hike, and an Easter Egg Hunt. Details at www.virginiastateparks.gov Click on the Park Events tab and use the drop-down menu to find Belle Isle.

MWEE Capacity Building Workshop, April 17th, 9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m., Virginia Institute of Marine Science, Gloucester Point, VA

Secondary teachers will participate in a one-day professional development and capacity building workshop to learn how to conduct their own Meaningful Watershed Education Experiences (MWEE's) for students at their schools. Activities will include how to plan a MWEE, site selection, pre- and post-trip activities, safety and organization, appropriate equipment, introduction to Chesapeake Bay flora and fauna, and environmentally responsible field trip practices. Come learn more about how to implement your own MWEE at your school. Registration is limited to 15.

For more information, contact Sarah McGuire at mcguire@vims.edu or 804-684-7878.

Other Events:

Writing for Websites

March 23rd, 9am-Noon, Volunteer Hampton Roads

Writing for websites takes a different approach than writing for print. Do you know what it takes to attract internet surfers through search engine optimization? Learn how to write headlines and content for your website that utilize keywords to grab the attention of your internet audience. To register, contact Vanessa Evans at (757) 624-2400 or vevans@volunteerhr.org.

Introduction to Biomimicry

April 20, Noon-1pm, Clark Nexsen, Norfolk 6160 Kempsville Circle, Norfolk, VA 23502

"Introduction to Biomimicry" is a course designed to bring about basic understanding of this emerging science. It helps us to understand our innate tendency to connect with nature, and introduces us to a fresh "new" way to approach design. Starting from scratch, we'll explore the beginnings of Biomimicry, and uncover the principles under which nature not only operates, but operates sustainably. HRGBC Learning Series events are free for HRGBC members and \$5 for non-members. Please visit the events calendar at www.hrgbc.org for more details.

"The Compelling Case for Natural Gas Vehicles (NGV)"

May 26th, Arlington

Crystal City Hilton @ Reagan National Airport

A Comprehensive One-Day Workshop for Public and Private Fleet Operators and Clean-Air/Clean-Transportation Policymakers

What you'll learn...

- * Environmental, energy security and economic market drivers
- * NGVs 101 basics review
- * Best NGV applications and why
- * Light-, medium- and heavy-duty vehicles available from OEMs and retrofit companies
- * Fuel station design, development and ownership/operations options
- * Federal and state tax credits, grants and other incentives
- * NGV fleet operator experiences and tips
- * Calculating fuel cost, simple payback and life-cycle savings
- * Next steps in implementing a successful NGV program

Please visit <http://www.cleanvehicle.org/workshop/Arlington.shtml> to register. Fee covers course materials, continental breakfast, lunch, and refreshment break.

Free Tools and other Cool Stuff

Update: 2010 Virginia General Assembly Water Legislation -- A February 23 update of water-related legislation in the 2010 Virginia General Assembly is available at

<http://www.vwrrc.vt.edu/legislation.html>. Information obtained from the Virginia Legislative Information System (LIS) Web site at <http://leg1.state.va.us> and provided by the Virginia Water Resources Research Center. Please contact the *Water Central* editor, Alan Raflo at (540-231-5463, or araflo@vt.edu) if you have questions about this service or suggestions for how it might work better for you.

Status of Environmental Education in Virginia -- Compiled by the Virginia Office of Environmental Education for the NAAEE 38th Annual Conference, October 8-10, 2009 Portland OR. See: http://www.deq.state.va.us/export/sites/default/education/pdf/ee_in_va.pdf.

VRUEC Environmental Education Award

The VRUEC Environmental Education Award recognizes an outstanding Virginian who has made major contributions to promoting public knowledge and understanding of natural resources in the Commonwealth. This award is given to a person who has demonstrated state and/or regional leadership in fostering working relationships and programs that benefit the educators and students of Virginia. Recipient may not receive the award more than once. Nominee must be a resident of Virginia.

The Virginia Resource-Use Education Council (VRUEC) is comprised of representatives from Virginia's state and federal natural resources agencies, the Dept. of Education, institutes of higher education and private organizations dedicated to environmental education.

Nominations will be evaluated by a panel of judges representing a cross section of environmental agencies and groups. Selection of winner will be based on demonstrated commitment to Environmental Education throughout their career and documented accomplishments in the field of environmental education.

Award will be presented at the VRUEC annual meeting or the Virginia Naturally conference of partners. The award will be presented at the fall meeting.

Nomination Requirements:

1. One-page biography of the nominee, and supporting material as needed.
2. A one page abstract giving as overview of contributions and accomplishments.
3. Detailed description of local, regional and statewide educational projects/activities and their impact on the educators and students in Virginia. Include objectives and results of activities. No more than three pages.
4. Describe nominee's ability to inspire and encourage environmental awareness.

Deadline:

Nominations must be submitted to the VRUEC Awards Committee by July 1 of the current year. Nominations postmarked later than July 1st will not be considered. Individuals may nominate themselves.

Send nominations to:

VRUEC Award Committee
c/o Suzie Gilley - Chair
P.O. Box 11104
Richmond, VA 23230-1104

Using Appreciative Inquiry

This four-part series, written by Alexandra Peters, will take you through the three basic phases of Appreciative Inquiry. Appreciative Inquiry is an approach that will help your organization define its strengths, articulate its vision, and implement positive change. The series offers guidelines on how to integrate this approach into your grantseeking process. Click on the link provided above to read Part Three: The "Dreaming" Phase of Appreciative Inquiry.

Grants, Volunteers, and Funding:

National Volunteer Week is April 18-24. A service of the Points of Light and Hands On Network, the event offers opportunities to thank some of America's most valuable assets -- volunteers. Be sure to recognize your volunteers during this special week. Go online to get a [Volunteer Week Toolkit](#).

Funding Opportunity: Chesapeake Bay Small Watershed Grants Program – **Applications due: May 17, 2010** -- The National Fish and Wildlife Foundation (NFWF) will award grants in partnership with the Chesapeake Bay Program, Environmental Protection Agency, US Forest Service, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, and the D.C. Department of the Environment, with additional corporate funding support from Altria, FedEx and Perdue Farms. Grants of between \$20,000 to \$200,000 will be awarded to organizations and local governments working on a local level to protect and improve watersheds in the Chesapeake Bay basin, while building citizen-based resource stewardship.

The RFP for the 2010 Small Watershed Grants Program is available at www.nfwf.org/smallwatershed and includes information about the program and how to apply. Register for a **webinar** on Friday, **April 16, 2010** that will provide guidance on how to prepare competitive applications for the CBSWG Program, as well as information about NFWF's Easygrants online application system. For more information about how to apply via Easygrants, please go to www.nfwf.org/applicantinfo for guidance, and to start your application go to www.nfwf.org/easygrants (the funding opportunity will be accessible in Easygrants after the webinar). If you have questions, contact: **Lacy Reimer Alison**, Assistant Director, Five Star and Chesapeake Programs, **National Fish and Wildlife Foundation**, 1133 15th Street NW, Suite 1100, Washington, D.C. 20005, O (202) 595-2445 | F (202) 857-0162, Lacy.Alison@nfwf.org

American Canoe Association (ACA) has grants for paddling clubs to foster stewardship projects along their local waterways. For more information, visit: http://www.americancanoe.org/site/c.lvZIkNZJuE/b.5779289/k.32EF/ClubFostered_Stewardship_Grants.htm

Jobs

Director of Water Resources -- Location: Washington, DC -- Job ID: 12458 -- RTI International is looking for a Director of Water Resources to design and build a modern water resources program. RTI International is executing a strategy to substantially expand its water resources research and technical services portfolio. Seeking a highly qualified and nationally recognized individual to play a prominent role in the execution of this strategic effort. The successful candidate will have an established and visible track record in water resources management generally, with specialized technical or business development expertise in one of the following areas: Integrated Watershed Management, Adaptive Water Quality Management, Conservation Services and Technology, and Sustainability and Supply Assurance. Other qualifications include: Advanced degree in natural resources, civil engineering, environmental sciences or other relevant discipline; 10+ years of experience in water resource management field; Knowledge of Clean Water Act (CWA) programs. To view a detailed job description and to apply, visit: www.rti.org/job12458. Contact: Ellen Benzine, 919-571-2716

New Ventures Director (Senior Associate)

Description: The World Resources Institute (WRI) is seeking an ambitious and dynamic Director to lead New Ventures, its global sustainable enterprise initiative within its Markets and Enterprise Program. WRI has been a pioneer in the field of social enterprise, supporting small and medium enterprises (SMEs) that drive sustainable development through environmentally-friendly (green) products and services and inclusive business models in six of the world's most dynamic emerging economies: Brazil, China, Colombia, India, Indonesia and Mexico. To see details and to apply go to <http://www.wri.org/jobs>

Deadline: 5-31-2010

Organization: [World Resources Institute](http://www.wri.org)

Location: Washington, DC

Contact Person: Tonia Garnett

Phone: 202-729-7600

E-Mail: tgarnett@wri.org

Mailing Address: 10 G Street NE
Washington, DC 20002

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

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