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GREATER PORTLAND SUSTAINABILITY EDUCATION NETWORK

A Regional Centre of Expertise on Education for Sustainable Development

April 2015 Newsletter

GPSEN connects diverse organizations across the greater Portland region in a collaborative network that multiplies our collective capacity to educate for a more sustainable future.

GPSEN News

Happy April! With flowers and buds bursting all around, may you too be enjoying the abundance of life.

It's a big month ahead, as always, with Earth Day festivities and more. Many partners have expanded the celebration to include week and month-long activities. GPSEN partner, Portland Community College, has also put out a [Sustainability Video](#). Check out the details on events below!

Our E4 Sustainability TeamWorks team, through Hands on Greater Portland, begins next week. We will be exploring environmental, equity, economic, and educational issues in our region by serving a meal at Potluck in the Park, learning about Indigenous Rights and Wisdom from guest speaker Ilarion Mercurieff, beautifying Glenfair Elementary School, and building a garden with Growing Gardens. While the team is now full, we encourage you to check out the

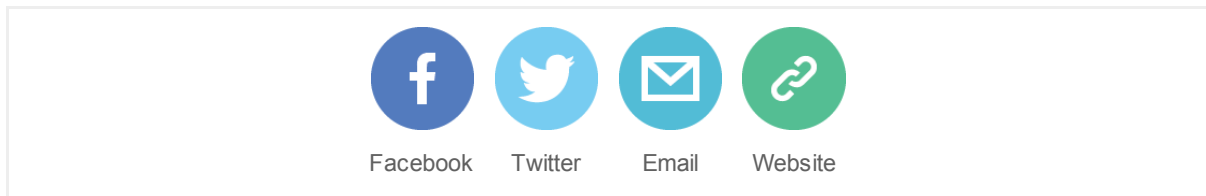
many volunteer opportunities at [Hands On Greater Portland](#). They have one-time projects, TeamWorks opportunities, and special events, including their annual Comcast Cares Day, on April 25.

We wish you the very best in your work and life this spring.

If you have events, workshops, conferences, and/or resources that you would like included in the GPSEN newsletter and calendar, submit your details via our [submission form](#) by the 25th of the month for the following month's newsletter.

If you have questions, please contact news.gpsen@gmail.com.

For the most current news and updates, be sure to like us on Facebook, follow us on Twitter, and/or check out our website.



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GPSEN Events

The UN's New Global Action Program and You

Wednesday, April 22

1:00-2:50pm

PCC Sylvania, SCB 202

12000 SW 49th Ave, Portland, OR 97219

Dr. Kim Smith, PCC Sociology Instructor and GPSEN Coordinator, will introduce the UN's new Global Action Program and help participants explore how they can engage in five priority action areas to help create a more sustainable future in our organizations, region and beyond. Co-sponsored by GPSEN and Portland Community College, this event builds on efforts to create college and community networks that support E4 solutions, focused on the environment, education, economy, and equity.

College Student Networking Event

Saturday, April 25

11:00 am - 3:00 pm

Normandale Park

5700 NE Halsey St, Portland, OR 97213

This networking event will bring college students from across the greater Portland region together to foster collaboration around sustainability issues. We know that students in our region are passionate about issues like climate change and environmental justice and are already doing a lot to learn about and engage in these challenges. But we feel we can achieve more if we work together. As part of the Greater Portland Sustainability Education Network (GPSEN), we hope this event will allow students, across campuses, to get to know each other better so we can

discuss our common interests, concerns, and ideas for the future.

Community Events

The Sharing Economy: Rethinking Markets, Cities, and Community

Wednesday, April 1

4:15- 5:45 pm

Buckley Center Auditorium

April Rinne is an expert on linkages and opportunities between the sharing economy and cities, travel and tourism, global expansion and emerging markets. Holding a J.D. from Harvard Law School and M.A. in International Finance from the Fletcher School at Tufts University, Rinne advises numerous companies, governments, and think tanks, serves on Sharing Economy Advisory Boards in Seoul and Amsterdam, and is a Young Global Leader at the World Economic Forum. Advising numerous social enterprises, ranging from Base of Pyramid marketplace creation to alternative currencies, across a range of developed and developing countries, come learn about the power of the sharing economy.

Free and open to the public. The series is sponsored by the Franz Center for Leadership, Entrepreneurship & Innovation. For more information, please contact Pete Rachor at (503) 943-7782 or rachor@up.edu

National Healthy Schools Day

Tuesday, April 7

Since 2002, parents, teachers, school nurses, custodians, advocates, and agencies have promoted [National Healthy Schools Day](#) activities nationwide. Whether you are at the beginning stages of investigating school environments or have an established Indoor Air/ Environmental Quality program, you are invited to host a local activity that educates others and celebrates your school's successes. National Healthy Schools Day is coordinated by Healthy Schools Network in partnership with many agencies and organizations. National Healthy Schools Day promotes the use of EPA's [IAQ Tools for Schools guidance](#) as well as other EPA environmental health guidelines and programs for schools and children's health.

Green Drinks: Meet Congressman Earl Blumenauer

Tuesday, April 7

6:00 - 8:00 pm
Portland Cider House
3638 SE Hawthorne Blvd
Portland, Oregon 97218

Celebrate the grand opening of Portland Cider House! Our friends, Jeff and Linda, make incredible hard cider and they've just opened what is sure to become a landmark for Portland cider lovers.

Congressman Earl Blumenauer will be our special guest. A champion of environmental issues, he's looking forward to speaking with and meeting you.

PDX and Westside Green Drinks are sponsored by [Canvas Host](#), Portland's sustainable domain registrar, web host, and website service. Please [register here](#).

2015 Portland EcoFilm Festival

April 9-12
Hollywood Theatre
4122 NE Sandy Boulevard, Portland

The [Portland EcoFilm Festival](#) is the Northwest's premier showcase of films about the environment, nature conservation, outdoor adventure, agriculture, and community wellness. Join us for amazing films, visiting filmmakers and special guests, thought-provoking discussions, and more!

Community Potluck and Wisdom Circle

Friday, April 17
6:30 - 8:30 pm
TaborSpace - Copeland Commons
5441 SE Belmont St, Portland 97215

Kick off a weekend of teachings and sharing on indigenous ways of learning and being, with Aleut Leader Ilarion Mercurieff and Libby Roderick. co-authors of the book Stop Talking. Bring a healthy contribution for the community potluck spread and share in this circle dedicated to connecting in a traditional way. Families are warmly encouraged to participate. Suggested Donation of \$10.

Learn more about Ilarion and the Earth and Spirit Council, at [our website](#). For more information, email us at earthandspiritcouncil@gmail.com or call Raquel Hugo at [503.936.2649](tel:503.936.2649)

Guinness World Record: Most People Planting Native Bulbs

Simultaneously

Saturday, April 18

9:00-11:00 am

The White Oak Savanna

2425 Tannler Drive, West Linn

Last year, Operation Peacebulb set a Guinness World Record with 850 simultaneous bulb-planters. Let's try to break the record with a massive bulb-planting event, with 1000 individuals simultaneously planting bulbs.

Please bring your kids, friends, neighbors, work buddies, church group, class, senior pals, sports team, etc. Bring a garden trowel or spade with you to help get the native bulbs in the ground. Bulbs supplied. [Contact Roberta Schwarz](#) if you would like to join this momentous planting event!

Indigenous Rights and Wisdom

Monday, April 20

1:00 pm - 2:50 pm

PCC Sylvania SCB 202

12000 SW 49th Ave, Portland, OR 97219

Ilarion Merculieff is a passionate advocate for indigenous rights and wisdom and the rebuilding of harmonious relationships with the Earth Mother. A Unangan Aleut, he was raised in a traditional way on St. Paul Island, in the middle of the Bering Sea. Throughout his life, Ilarion has focused on traditional knowledge, wisdom, and spirituality gained from culture bearers around the world, acting as a bridge from the past to those alive today. Don't miss this powerful presentation! Co-sponsored by Portland Community College and the Greater Portland Sustainability Education Network.

The Intertwine Alliance's Spring Summit

Tuesday, April 21

12-12:45 p.m. - Intertwine 101

1:00 - 5:00 p.m. - Summit

5-6:30 p.m. - Partner Reception

Oregon Zoo

4001 SW Canyon Road, Portland, OR 97221

Please join us for a celebratory gathering of all those who care about nature thriving in our urban and suburban worlds. The event will focus on Building Regional Impact. We'll carry on conversations begun at last spring's summit that have been percolating

throughout the year. Join more than 250 of your peers in breakout sessions to develop regional efforts around youth engagement, conservation and public engagement/communications.

A national representative from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service will attend to make a special announcement, one with significant regional impact. Don't miss it! [Register today!](#)

Pioneering Progress: A Celebration of Sustainability at Lewis & Clark

Wednesday, April 22

4 p.m. Campus Tours

5 p.m. Celebration - Agnes Flanagan Chapel

6 p.m. Reception - Stamm Dining Hall, Templeton Campus Center

0615 S.W. Palatine Hill Road, Portland Oregon 97219 USA

President Barry Glassner and the Lewis & Clark Sustainability Council invite you to attend their Earth Day celebration. Tour our award-winning campus, enjoy alumni band Renegade Stringband, savor hors d'oeuvres from Bon Appetit's sustainable catering, sip local beer and wine, and learn why Lewis & Clark is at the forefront of pioneering nationwide sustainability efforts.

Special guests include Oregon Governor Kate Brown J.D. '85, Portland Mayor Charlie Hales, and Executive Director of the Energy Trust of Oregon Margie Harris, with a video tribute by Congressman Earl Blumenauer B.A. '70, J.D. '76.

Please register by April 10 at go.lclark.edu/pioneering/progress. For more information, visit lclark.edu/earthday.

NWEI's Earth Day Event

Wednesday, April 22

5:00 - 9:00 pm

Migration Brewing Company

2828 NE Glisan St, Portland, Oregon 97232

Join the [NW Earth Institute](#) on Earth Day at Migration Brewing, and eat and drink for the planet. Migration Brewing will donate 10% of all purchases made between 5pm-9pm to the NW Earth Institute on April 22. NWEI staff and their families will be hanging out all evening, and we'd love to see you there. Invite your friends and family for happy hour or dinner, and eat and drink for a good cause this Earth Day!

The Yes Men!

Thursday, April 23

11:00 am - 12:00 pm

MAHB 104, PCC Cascade

705 N Killingsworth St, Portland, OR 97217

Armed with parody websites, press releases on fake letterhead, and thrift store business suits, Andy Bichlbaum and Mike Bonanno of [The Yes Men](#) rely on satire and unique activist methods to raise environmental and human rights awareness. Sponsored by PCC's Sustainability Office and Cascade ASPCC, join Portland Community College for this special free Earth Week presentation and lecture.

Earth Day in Music & Song Celebration

Friday, April 24

7:30 - 9:00 pm

First Unitarian Church

SW 12th & Salmon St. Portland

The Center for Earth Leadership, First Unitarian Church, Unity Church of Beaverton, and New Thought Center for Spiritual Living invite you to set aside this special time to celebrate our remarkable planet, with instrumental and vocal performances, meditative singing, poetry, and candle lighting. Featured Music by Missa Gaia PDX Chorus; directed by Susan Peck, with Lauri Jones and Mary Ellen Grace. Guest Artists include Sky in the Road and Madrona Viola Duo with Guest Pianist, Gary Skye. This year some non-human species will be in our midst too!

Refreshments and conversation following in the Buchan Room. Donations accepted. RSVPs appreciated at 503-244-0026 or Jeanne@earthleaders.org. More details at: <http://www.earthleaders.org/earth-day>

Earth Day Celebration

Saturday, April 25

10:00 am - 5:00 pm

Normandale Park

5700 NE Halsey St, Portland, OR 97213

The 2015 theme for Portland's Earth Day Celebration is "We are the Future". This year's celebration will feature: 90+ sustainable businesses and organizations; Live music & entertainment; Kids' Village & Procession of the Species parade; The

Soapbox Speakers' Stage; Health and Wellness Village, and a full effort to recycle all materials!

This event is free and open to the public. The register for a booth, [click here](#).

Dig into Spring Gardening!

Learn how to create a beautiful and functional landscape that conserves water, increases home value, reduces pollution and creates habitat for birds and pollinators. Perfect for all levels of do-it-yourselfers, these workshops help you create your own attractive, low-maintenance landscape. Space is limited and pre-registration is required.

See full schedule, descriptions and register [online](#). Space is limited and pre-registration is required. Information: [503-222-7645](tel:503-222-7645).

Workshops & Conferences

Webinar: Driving Sustainability Behavior Change in Large Organizations

Thursday April 2

11:00 am PST

Sustainable change can seem difficult to implement across large organizations. Join Grant Ricketts, of Tripos Software, and Dianne Shoaf and Jim French, of USPS, will share how the US Postal Service has orchestrated employee-led initiatives to realize over \$100 million in annual economic savings, even while facing tightening fiscal pressures. Learn how USPS programs are aligned with overarching sustainability goals and how the organization tracks, measures, rewards, and reports ongoing results. And, learn how this same change model can be implemented in other institutional structures.

To learn more and to register, [click here](#). For more ISSP webinars and courses, check out: <http://www.sustainabilityprofessionals.org/>

Professional Sustainability Certification Development Workshop

Friday, April 3

9 am–3 pm
Portland State University
Market Center Building, room 115

The International Society of Sustainability Professionals (ISSP) is developing a professional certification for people working as sustainability practitioners, in response to demand from members, employers, and educators. Over the last five years, ISSP has conducted research and engaged hundreds of professionals in defining the competencies required of a sustainability practitioner. With a clear job task analysis now in hand, we seek to create a certification that will allow professionals to demonstrate their competencies and distinguish themselves in the market.

As part of this certification process, ISSP is creating an online exam that measures the knowledge portion of these competencies. We are soliciting the help of academics and practitioners with experience in any one or more of our competency areas to help us craft test items for this exam. We are particularly eager to include professionals with expertise in: Stakeholder engagement; Quality and management systems; Project management; Leadership; Organizational change and organizational development; Systems thinking; Team facilitation ;and General concepts related to sustainability.

Can't join us for the full day? Join us for just the morning session from 9 to noon or in the afternoon from 12:30 to 3.

The event is free. Lunch is on your own. [Register here](#)

Webinar: NWEI Course Organizer Training

Thursday, April 9

1:00 pm PST

We had so much interest in our first-ever [course organizer training webinar](#) that we've decided to make it a regular offering!

NW Earth Institute discussion courses give people a framework to talk about their relationship with the planet and to share in discovering new ways to live, work, create and consume. You don't have to be a 'sustainability expert.' Course Organizers are simply people who are motivated to help others learn about and commit to action through the discussion course experience.

The webinar will provide you with background information on our course and best practices for organizing a course, strategies for success and a question and answer period with NWEI staff. We'll also provide you with access to helpful tools, including

a detailed Course Organizer's guide.

Please join us and invite others who might be interested. To learn more and to register, [click here](#).

Introduction to Tracking

Thursday, April 9, 6 - 8 pm at Cascadia Wild

and Sunday, April 12, 9 - noon at Oxbow Regional Park

Wild creatures are all around us, but their natural wisdom makes them difficult to observe. Tracking skills help us unravel their mystery, discern their presence and learn about their lives. In this class you will learn to recognize the common mammals of the Portland area, using clues from their tracks and trail patterns. You will also begin learning to interpret an animal's behavior based on its gait.

Co-sponsored by NatureConnect and Cascadia Wild, the class consists of a 2-hour classroom session, followed by a 3-hour field tracking session at Oxbow Regional Park. Cost is \$50.00 payable to Cascadia Wild. To Register contact tinfo@cascadiawild.org

2015 Northwest Environmental Health Conference

Friday, April 17

8:00 am to 4:30 pm

Doubletree Hotel

1000 NE Multnomah St., Portland, OR 97232

Sponsored by the [Oregon Environmental Council \(OEC\)](#), the 7th annual conference brings health care professionals, researchers, students, citizens and advocates together to share the latest environmental health knowledge. Example of topics include: Climate & health research in the Northwest; Preparing for the health effects of climate change; Health and nature: Research into action; Neurotoxicants and development; and Connecting clinical care to the community through environmental health. The keynote address will be "Finding the Sweet Spot: Where Health Meets Sustainability", by Dr. John M. Balbus M.D., M.P.H, Senior Advisor for Public Health to the Director of the National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences

General Registration is \$70. For more information on the conference schedule and to register, click [here](#).

Indigenous Ways of Learning and Being

Saturday & Sunday, April 18-19

10:30-3:30

Tualatin River National Wildlife Refuge Center
19255 SW Pacific Highway, Sherwood OR 97140

Join us for an interactive and intimate two-day Natural Way workshop with Ilarion Mercurieff and Libby Roderick, co-authors of *Stop Talking, Indigenous Ways of Teaching and Learning*, and *Difficult Dialogues in Higher Education*. We will dive deeply into considering how we relate to one another, and what we can learn from indigenous cultures in terms of guiding teaching and learning experiences within our communities and classrooms.

Part of our time will be outdoors, so please come prepared for all types of weather. Bring your sack lunch and water bottle. Families are encouraged to participate

Join us for 1 or both days; participation fee is the same. Cost: \$65 advanced purchase / \$75 at the door. Click here for [Registration](#). Learn more on our website at earthandspirit.org

The Love Summit - Compassion Meets Business

Early Bird price until April 15th

Saturday, June 13, 2015

9:00 -

Wieden+Kennedy

224 NW 13th Ave Portland, OR 97209

The world is changing rapidly and so must business. The old story that businesses are not credible if they come from love has resulted in serious crises. We invite you to help create a new dream.

Join John Perkins, Dream Change Founder and New York Times Best Selling Author, and foremost businesses and thought leaders to explore the missing link in business and sustainability education: love – the most likely candidate for stabilizing the economy, decelerating climate change, protecting the environment and creating positive social change for future generations. The summit will include compelling interactive presentations by top CEOs and thought leaders discussing the root issues around systemic social and environmental problems, and the practical application of love in the workplace for advancing business and creating greater economic security for all.

\$395 Early Bird Until April 15th. \$495 after April 15th. Limited seats - buy tickets for you and your associates today! For information and to register, go to: www.dreamchange.org

Resources

National Environmental Education Week

April 19-25th, 2015

This year, [National Environmental Education Week](#) (EE Week) looks at how science can help us better understand the natural world with the theme Surrounded by Science. EE Week works to celebrate the educators who are making a difference in the world of environmental education and provide them with the tools they need to continue inspiring the next generation of lifelong environmental learners. [Register for EE Week 2015](#) to receive updates and to take advantage of access to professional development opportunities, advance notice of Greening STEM toolkits and resources, partner deals, and contest eligibility.

Nature in Neighborhoods Restoration and Community Grants

Pre-application deadline is April 21, 2015

Grant workshop- Wednesday, April 1

5:30 – 7:00 p.m.

Metro Regional Center, 600 NE Grand Ave., Portland

Want to restore and care for nature in your community? In 2014, Metro awarded \$800,000 to 14 organizations for restoration projects. Read more about the projects [HERE](#). If you have a vision for getting rid of weeds, improving water quality, creating fish and wildlife habitat or restoring nature in the Portland metropolitan area, a Metro Nature in Neighborhoods restoration grant can help get your idea off the ground.

Fill out a simple application [HERE](#) by April 21, 2015 for small habitat restoration grants up to \$25,000 and large restoration grants up to \$100,000. If you have additional questions, please visit www.oregonmetro.gov/grants or contact Crista Gardner at Crista.Gardner@oregonmetro.gov or Heather Nelson Kent at HeatherNelson.Kent@oregonmetro.gov.

Powering the Future We Want Grant

Application deadline is April 30, 2015

The United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs is offering \$1 million to fund future capacity development activities in energy for sustainable development is now accepting applications. The Powering the Future We Want- Recognizing Leadership and Innovative Practices in Energy for Sustainable Development Grant is awarded to an individual, institution or partnership based on past and current achievements.

More information about the grant program can be found at: poweringthefuture.un.org

New Interactive Education Module on Climate Change Effects

The [Climate Change Resource Center](#) (CCRC) has released a new interactive online education module on climate change effects on forests and grasslands. The module, "[Climate Change Effects on Forests and Grasslands: What You Need to Know](#)", gives a brief overview of climate change effects on water resources, vegetation growth, wildlife, and disturbances. The CCRC's first education module, "[Climate Change Science and Modeling](#)", provides a basic climate change foundation, and this new module builds on that foundation, examining climate change effects around the country. Interactive features allow users to control their learning experience, with opportunities to explore outside links, learn relevant facts, and explore examples of effects on different ecosystems. The main material is followed by an activity specific to the eastern or western United States, and completing the activity will generate a personalized certificate. The module was designed to be approachable and flexible for busy professionals and others, like the general public, who wish to understand observed and projected climate change effects. Both modules help the Forest Service continue to make progress on the Climate Change Scorecard by giving all employees access to new education options. The climate change modules are available at: <http://www.fs.usda.gov/ccrc/climate-basics/education>.

Agents of Change Campaign to Reduce School Supplies Waste

Each year, Portland parents receive a long, costly, and resource-intensive list of supplies they must purchase before their children start school. Agents of Change (and [Portland Eco-School Network](#) parents) Celeste, Lori, Nicole, Kendall, and Liz are challenging this norm and tackling the issue of school supplies in Portland Public

Schools. Their goal is to reduce purchasing, foster the responsible use of new supplies, right-size supply lists, and encourage reuse. To get started, they are conducting a [survey](#) to better understand the existing system and potential barriers.

If you are a Portland parent or teacher, please help this waste-reduction campaign by [taking a very short survey](#) (one to three minutes). Also, please forward it on to others!

Share your news with the GPSEN community via our [submission form](#)
by the 25th of the month for the following month's newsletter.
If you have questions, please contact news.gpsen@gmail.com.

Check out our [website](#) to become a member, make the RCE Engagement Pledge,
or find out more information about GPSEN.

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