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## GREATER PORTLAND SUSTAINABILITY EDUCATION NETWORK

A Regional Centre of Expertise on Education for Sustainable Development

### February 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.*

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## GPSEN News

Hello! We hope this finds you well. Lots of activities sure are kicking in this month, so there's something for everyone.

Don't miss out on meeting Dr. Charles Hopkins, UNESCO Chair on ESD and Adviser to the RCEs of the Americas. In addition to presentations and meetings, he will help host a Talking Circle on ethics for a sustainable future. See the details below.

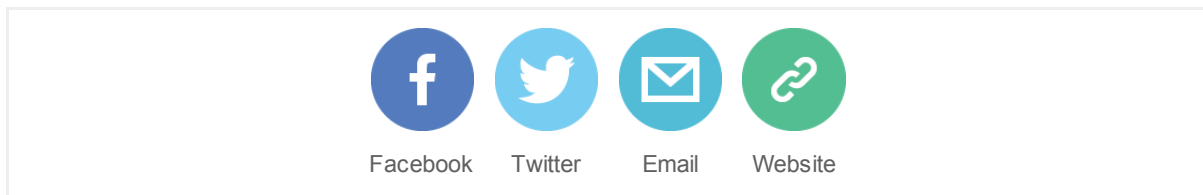
On the international front, the new RCEs were announced. There are now 135 RCEs in the world. In addition to our U.S. partners in Grand Rapids and Shenandoah Valley, our new colleagues include: Central Kenya, Mount Kenya, Central Semenanjung (Malaysia), Iskandar (Malaysia), Black Forest (Germany) and Greater Western Paris. It is a great opportunity to learn about best practices in formal and nonformal sustainability education around the world.

Many wonderful regional events and resources are detailed below. For additional education for sustainable development (ESD) resources, be sure to check out our [Facebook page](#). Cheers to creating a Greater Portland!

*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](mailto: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

### **Ethics for A Sustainable Future Talking Circle**

Thursday, February 5

3:00- 5:30 pm

Performing Arts Center Lobby

PCC Sylvania Campus

12000 SW 49th Ave, Portland, OR 97219

What ethics and actions are necessary to perpetuate life on Earth? Join Dr. Charles Hopkins, UNESCO Chair in ESD and Adviser to the RCEs of the Americas, and community leaders from the Ethical Future Institute, Earth & Spirit Council, Portland State University, Interfaith Council, Wisdom of the Elders, Lewis & Clark College, Portland Community College, the Northwest Earth Institute, and People of the Heart in a Talking Circle to explore how core ethics and principles can be best embodied and acted upon to create a sustainable future.

Sponsored by GPSEN, the Ethical Future Institute, Earth and Spirit Council, and Portland Community College, this modified fishbowl model will have concentric circles, with members of the audience in the outer circles invited to listen and then ask questions of members of the Talking Circle.

To learn more about GPSEN and partner events, [check out our website](#).

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## Community Events

### **PDX Green Drinks**

Tuesday, February 3

6:00 pm- 8:00 pm

Gather Food & Drink, DoubleTree Hotel

1000 NE Multnomah St., Portland, OR 97232

Join guest speaker, Brighton West, Friends of Trees, to discuss how to get involved in local communities with replanting and reforestation. He will expand on the non-profits' direction in creating more forest lands in metropolitan areas.

Gather Food & Drink sources its menu options from local, sustainable sources and is setting a standard for others to follow!

\$5 Suggested Attendance Donation. RSVP to: [rsvp@pdxgreendrinks.org](mailto:rsvp@pdxgreendrinks.org)

### **Economic Development in Portland: Issues and Concerns**

Tuesday, February 10

7:00 pm

Board Room, Multnomah County Building

501 SE Hawthorne Blvd.

Sponsored by the [League of Women Voters of Portland](#), the public is invited to a discussion by a panel of experts about the results of a study of Economic Development in Portland and the Portland Development Commission. A League Study Committee has just completed an unbiased and detailed 2-year re-study of the PDC and the city's economic development, focusing on changes in the past 30 years. The study is based on careful research and dozens of interviews with business leaders and public officials.

The panel will discuss these complex and tangled—but vitally important—issues. The panel includes: Chris Harder, Economic Development Director for the Portland Development Commission; Lisa Abuaf, the Central City Manager for the Portland Development Commission; John Russell, the Founder of the Russell Development Company; and Rey España, the Deputy Director of the Native American Youth and Family Center.

### **Westside Green Drinks**

Thursday, February 12

6:00 pm-8:00 pm

Reedville Café

7575 SW Tualatin Valley Highway, Hillsboro, OR 97123

Guest Speaker, Suzanne Ballard, Dinihannian's Farm and Market, will discuss Community Supported Agriculture (CSAs), how you can become part of a crop share, and how you can become involved in crop sharing in the winter months. We will highlight local Farmers Markets and when they will open in February, March and April.

\$5 Suggested Attendance Donation. RSVP to: [rsvp@pdxgreendrinks.org](mailto:rsvp@pdxgreendrinks.org)

### **"In It Together" 2015 Community Summit**

Saturday, February 28

8:00 am - 5:00 pm

Ambridge Center

1333 MLK Jr. Blvd. Portland, OR 97232

The [City of Portland's Office of Neighborhood Involvement](#), in collaboration with community partners, announces the 2015 Community Summit. The Summit theme "In It Together" focuses on addressing real challenges and engaging our diverse city. Join neighbors, friends and activists, community and neighborhood groups to work together to impact public policy, strengthen relations and build capacity. Attend a variety of workshops and dialogues on issues impacting Portlanders all over the city. Find out how to engage on current issues, hear success stories and connect.

To register, [read more here](#).

### [Upcoming Nature Events](#)

Don't miss out on the many opportunities to explore natural areas in greater Portland area. We certainly are blessed with an abundance of beauty in our region.

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## Workshops & Conferences

### **Curriculum for the Bioregion: Fostering an Ethic of Place**

Saturday, February 7, 2015

9:00 am - 4:30 pm

University of Puget Sound

Tacoma, Washington

Sponsored by the Washington Center, "Fostering an Ethic of Place" will build on ten years of Curriculum for the Bioregion work situating sustainability studies in the places we actually inhabit. We will explore ways that community-based learning and research can lead to deeper community- and civic-engagement on the part of both students and campuses.

The conference is designed specifically for small higher education-teams (which can include faculty, staff, students, and community partners) who want to plan a new project or further develop an existing one. Campuses are invited to bring one or two teams (up to 8 people per campus) who want to create a new project or deepen an existing one; individuals are also welcome to attend. The registration fee for the day (including refreshments and lunch) is \$60/person. Registration forms and information are available at: <http://bioregion.evergreen.edu>.

## **Art of Participatory Leadership**

February 11-13th, 2015

Lewis and Clark College

This workshop is part of the international [Art of Hosting](#) movement that is working to move forward participatory leadership skills and practices. We're finding that many leaders are seeking tools and strategies that bring out the best in our communities and foster deeper collaboration. We'll focus on how to create effective meetings and practices for working better together amidst times of rapid change and complexity.

Early bird specials and group discounts are available. For more details and to register, check out [our website](#).

## **Call for Proposals for the AASHE 2015 Conference & Expo**

*Proposals due by Monday, February 23, 2015*

The 10th AASHE Conference will be held October 25-28, 2015, in Minneapolis, Minnesota. You are invited to [submit a proposal](#) for the [AASHE 2015 Conference & Expo](#).

This year's theme is "Transforming Sustainability Education" and will convene a diverse group of campus representatives, including faculty, students, sustainability officers, staff, administrators and presidents together with business, non-profit, government and community members for a sustainable celebration. Submit a proposal and play an integral role in furthering the higher education sustainability movement.

## **Agent of Change Sustainable Leadership Training**

Five Mondays - February 23, March 2, 9, 16, and April 13

6:00 to 7:45 p.m.

Downtown Portland

What is your vision for your community? What is your vision for change? Take the no-cost [Agent of Change Sustainable Leadership Training](#) and learn how to make your vision a reality. Create Earth-conscious change within your community and make a visible impact in the movement to forge a sustainable local culture.

Join the growing network of over 950 Portlanders who have completed the How to Be an Agent of Change training, which was developed by veteran change agents Jeanne and Dick Roy.\* This sustainable leadership training imparts a proven framework for advancing sustainability or ecological awareness in a chosen "circle of influence" (workplace, neighborhood, school, etc.).

There is no charge for the class, but advance registration is required. For information or to reserve your space, contact Erica DeJong at [503-227-2315](tel:503-227-2315) or [erica@earthleaders.org](mailto:erica@earthleaders.org). Learn more about the Center: [www.earthleaders.org](http://www.earthleaders.org).

### **The Economics of Happiness Conference**

February 27 - March 1

The Eliot Center

1011 SW 12th Avenue, Portland

Be part of a world-changing conversation. Join leading thinkers and activists from around the world to explore strategies for effective action. The world needs a linked-up global-to local movement. Through our international network we are able to bring voices and perspectives from the global south to counter the pervasive myths about development and economic growth. In promoting the 'Economics of Happiness' – describing the deep psychological benefits of strengthening local communities – we also link the 'inner', or spiritual with the 'outer', or political.

Our holistic approach helps to bring together people concerned with a whole range of issues - from climate and unemployment to gas fracking and depression. Spelling out the big picture can help create a broad coalition for fundamental change.

To learn more and register, check out the [conference site](#).

### **Hands On TeamWorks Leader Info Session**

Thursday, March 5th, 2015

6:00pm - 8:00pm

Hands On Greater Portland Office

Are you passionate about a certain community issue or neighborhood in and around Portland? Do you enjoy getting to know new, community-minded people? Engaging in lively discussion? Bringing people together around a common cause? If you've been looking for a way to deepen your leadership experience while engaging with others in a team-based atmosphere, TeamWorks leadership might be your answer!

Hands On's 2015 TeamWorks Season starts up in March with a Sustainability-focused team in partnership with GPSEN and PCC. Beyond that, we are still developing our team schedule and have nine team slots open for excited leaders to explore new (or returning) TeamWorks topics during the April - November timeframe.

If you're interested in learning more about leading a team yourself, save the date for

our upcoming TeamWorks Leader Info session. Space is limited. Please [Sign Up](#) to let us know you're coming!

## **2015 Oregon Environmental Education Conference**

March 18-21, 2015

YMCA Camp Collins

Gresham, Oregon

Presented by the Environmental Education Association of Oregon, workshop tracks include: Building a Career in EE: Entry-level staff learn the skills to stay in EE; E-STEM: Discover the latest about engaging in the STEM movement; Advocacy: Learn to tell your story to get decision-makers to choose your program; and Inclusion: How to ensure all your audiences are included & engaged.

For more information and to register, [click here](#).

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## **Resources**

### **Choice Neighborhood Implementation Grant**

Applications are due February 9, 2015

The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) has posted a Notice of Funding Availability (NOFA) for Choice Neighborhoods Implementation Grants at [www.grants.gov](http://www.grants.gov). Public housing authorities, local governments, nonprofits, tribal entities, and for-profit developers are eligible to apply. Applications must present a plan to revitalize a severely distressed public and/or HUD-assisted multifamily housing project located in a distressed neighborhood into a viable, mixed-income community.

Find the full application package at [www.grants.gov](http://www.grants.gov). Click on Search Grants. The CFDA number is 14.889. For [additional information](#).

### **Confluence Americorps 5th Annual Request for Proposal**

March 19 Proposals due

February 5 and February 12- Info Sessions 1

2:30 - 4:30pm

TaborSpace Library

5441 SE Belmont St., Portland, OR 97215



Do you have a compelling environmental project idea? Does your project embrace equity and social justice? Would an eleven-month AmeriCorps Member help you advance your project? If yes, mark your calendar! For more information, contact [Lara Jones](#) or visit [www.confluencecenter.org](http://www.confluencecenter.org), under "AmeriCorps Program".

## **Sustainable Development Goals: All You Need to Know**

The sustainable development goals (SDGs) are a new, universal set of goals, targets and indicators that UN member states will be expected to use to frame their agendas and political policies over the next 15 years. GPSEN is watching the SDGs carefully, as they can help shape our regional goals and programs. Learn more about the [17 proposed goals here](#).

## **Environmental Education Association of Oregon**

More jobs, internships, grants, and resources are available at [EEAO's website](#).

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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](mailto: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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