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GREATER PORTLAND SUSTAINABILITY EDUCATION NETWORK

A Regional Centre of Expertise on Education for Sustainable Development

July 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 July!

June was a busy month for GPSEN and our partners, with the launch of our Think Tank, the success of Lewis & Clark's Ecopsychology Symposium, and encouraging news from GPSEN's project management report. We will continue forward with these efforts this summer as we formalize our GPSEN partnership model and development projects and will keep everyone posted.

In other big news, as the weather heats up, it is encouraging that the City of Portland has approved its new [Climate Action Plan](#). We are also proud of Mayor Hales for being chosen to meet with Pope Francis, at the Vatican, regarding the new [encyclical on climate change](#). It was an honor to provide recommendations on our regional sustainability work and Global Action Programme efforts to prepare Mayor

Hales for his visit with the Pope.

Would you like to join in the fun? The annual [RCE Conference of the Americas](#) will be hosted in Grand Rapids, Michigan, this year, from August 9-12. All GPSEN (aka RCE Greater Portland) partners are invited to attend. See more details below.

Plus, don't miss the sustainability events and conferences coming up this summer. We hope that you will enjoy the efforts of so many dedicated individuals and organizations!

Share your news, events, and resources with the GPSEN community via our [submission form](#). Submissions should be made by the 28th of the month to be included in the newsletter. If you have questions, please contact news.gpsen@gmail.com.

For the most current news and resources, connect with GPSEN and the broader network via social media.



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GPSEN Events

2015 RCE Conference of the Americas

August 9-12 2015

Grand Rapids, Michigan

GPSEN is recognized as a Regional Centre of Expertise (RCE) on Education for Sustainable Development by the United Nations University and is part of a network of 136 RCEs around the world to help support a more sustainable future. Organized into continental groups, we are joining the RCEs of the North, Central, and South America this summer to share best practices and coordinate efforts. You are invited!

The conference will provide a global platform that elevates the conversation around education for sustainable development with a focus on the impact of water resources. We welcome leaders from countries throughout the Americas and also the world, who are influential thinkers, researchers, authors, academics, and educators. We hope you will join us.

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

Community Events

Center for Diversity and the Environment is Having a Party!

Thursday, July 9th

5:30 - 9:00 pm

June Key Delta Center

5940 North Albina Avenue, Portland

CDE is throwing a party for our founder and former Executive Director, Marcelo Bonta. Please join us to celebrate his visionary leadership, to thank him for his years of dedicated service to CDE, and to wish him well in his upcoming endeavors!

Celebrate CLF

Thursday, July 16

5:00 - 7:30 pm

NW Lucky Lab

1945 NW Quimby, Portland

After 21 years working across disciplines to create a more equitable and sustainable region, the Coalition for a Livable Future will be closing its doors. CLF made this decision in significant part to support the next phase of the Regional Equity Atlas's development. For the Equity Atlas to continue to grow and thrive as an essential tool for the region, it will be housed at an organization with greater research capacity. The research, outreach, and engagement that make the Equity Atlas a powerful tool to improve our communities will continue, though with a different structure. More details to come.

Please join the Coalition for a Livable Future (CLF) at our Farewell Party to honor the partnerships, accomplishments, and dear friends we've made in the movement toward a healthy, equitable, and sustainable region.

Workshops & Conferences

AASHE Conference & Expo

Early Bird pricing ends July 10

Oct 26 - 28

Minneapolis, Minnesota

The Association for the Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education's (AASHE) annual Conference & Expo brings together emerging and advanced sustainability professionals, senior leaders (e.g., presidents, chancellors, provosts, and deans), students, faculty, staff, businesses and media for a four-day conference that celebrates and inspires campus sustainability innovations. The conference will deliver workshops, case studies, panel discussions and keynote addresses to support the advancement of sustainability in higher education. Through this four day conference, you can expect to walk away empowered to lead the global sustainability movement

with new tools and tactics to take back to your institution. You'll be prepared to change the face of sustainability on your campus and surrounding community.

For more information [click here](#).

Camp Snowball: Education for Sustainability

July 13 – 17

Portland State University

What does "sustainability" mean to you? Share your ideas at Camp Snowball, a professional development opportunity for yourself and/or your team in tools and approaches that help you navigate the uncharted waters of change. Camp Snowball offers: great capacity-building disguised as interactive, fun, in-depth core modules; an opportunity to meet educators; a safe space for students and teachers to work together in creating schools that meet the current and future needs of all students; instructors with years of experience and a never-ending passion for improving student outcomes and education; a PSU graduate course to personalize your learning; a chance to share your own work with peers and thought partners; a team building experience for intact and newly formed teams; a learning community; and a practice field.

Bring a team and [register now](#).

Student Alliance Project Summer Leadership Camp

July 13 - August 14

Monday & Wednesday (10am - 4pm); Friday (10am - 2pm)

Portland State University's Native American Student and Community Center

FREE

Our mission is to inspire youth to realize their power individually and collectively and to mentor future social justice leaders. This 5-Week camp is for young people ages 14 - 23. Each week has a theme: Express Yourself! Achieve Your Dreams! What You Didn't Learn in School! Making and Managing Money! Learn the Game!

Participants must attend an orientation meeting on either July 6th or July 7th. Limited spots are available. Registration closes July 5th. Bus tickets and child care reimbursement will be provided upon request.

For more information [click here](#). To register [click here](#).

Education for Systems Thinking Workshops

August 3 & 4

Grant High School Library
2245 NE 36th Ave, Portland

Level A (Aug 3)

Participants will become more deeply acquainted with the tools and concepts introduced in Level A, and how these connect to the Oregon Environmental Literacy learning strands. They will expand their systems thinking toolbox with additional archetypes, feedback loops and an intro to dynamic computer modeling. They will report out about their progress using the tools introduced in Level A, and will have opportunity for collaborative planning.

Level B (Aug 4)

Participants will develop an awareness of systems thinking concepts and tools (such as Habits of a Systems Thinker, Behavior Over Time Graphs, connection circles, "Fixes that Backfire" archetype, iceberg, feedback loops). They will begin to analyze systems with these tools, using exercises that can be repeated in the classroom. The Oregon Environmental Literacy Plan will be introduced and participants will consider how they can utilize the systems thinking tools to address the Plan's learning strands, and STEM.

These workshops will also be offered on Oct 16 & 17 in Corvallis, OR. For more information [click here](#).

Resources & Jobs

Multnomah County Drainage District Community Engagement Intern

Applications must be received by 5 p.m. on July 3, 2015

The Community Engagement intern will have the opportunity to work in a small yet dynamic public agency working at the intersection of public safety, environmental management, and the provision of public infrastructure. The intern will work directly with the Community Affairs Manager to collect contact information for district stakeholders, develop engagement materials, and conduct direct outreach to district landowners, residents, and businesses.

For more information [click here](#).

National Wildlife Federation Community Outreach Coordinator

Deadline: July 15th

Milwaukie, Oregon

In Partnership with the Confluence Environmental Center, National Wildlife Federation (NWF) and the Association of Northwest Steelheaders (ANWS), we are looking for an AmeriCorps Member to promote environmental justice by engaging communities, schools, and partners in opportunities that help develop community stewards, access to outdoor experiences, supports sustainable environmental education, and restores/protects wildlife habitat in neighborhoods with disparities. This position will focus on expanding the community partnerships, volunteers, and environmental and outdoor education initiatives of both NWF and ANWS (80%). The Member will also participate in Confluence led professional development activities: Professional Development Series, completing a Change Agent Project, team meetings, National Service events and other self-directed development opportunities (20%). September 9, 2015 - July 29, 2016

If you have questions email Courtney Sullivan at: sullivanc@nwf.org. For more information [click here](#).

Center for Earth Leadership Eco-School Network Coordinator

Applications will be accepted through 5:00 p.m. on Monday, July 20.

The Center for Earth Leadership trains, empowers, and supports individuals to be agents of change in building a sustainable local culture. To provide ongoing support for trained parents leading green initiatives at school, the Center formed the Portland Eco-School Network (ESN). During school year 2014-15, 35 parents were active in the Portland ESN, working as volunteers in 20 Portland elementary schools. Following the Portland model, the Center has also formed networks in Beaverton, Corvallis, Eugene, and Salem.

The Eco-School Network Coordinator, will work closely with Co-Founder Jeanne Roy to (1) recruit, train, and support Portland and Beaverton ESN parents and (2) provide limited support for the other networks.

For more information [click here](#).

Confluence Environmental Center, AmeriCorps - New Positions Now Posted

5441 SE Belmont Street - Suite 25, Portland

The Confluence AmeriCorps program advances environmental justice through innovative partnerships with local organizations in the Portland metropolitan area. These positions are life changing service opportunities where the Member engages in addressing critical, environmental needs in low-income communities and communities of color. Positions are a dynamic combination of serving with a Project Partner on a dedicated project (80%) and joining a team of other Confluence AmeriCorps Members for professional and leadership development opportunities (20%).

All of our AmeriCorps positions are full-time positions that start on September 9th and end in late July.

If you have any questions, email Lara Jones at: ljones@confluencecenter.org or Sherrie Jackson at: sjackson@confluencecenter.org. To see specific position descriptions [click here](#).

Environmental Education Association of Oregon

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

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

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