



## GREATER PORTLAND SUSTAINABILITY EDUCATION NETWORK

A Regional Centre of Expertise on Education for Sustainable Development

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### Mid-March 2016 Newsletter

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*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.*

*Educate ~ Empower ~ Engage*

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### GPSen News

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March is moving quickly, as are sustainability efforts! GPSen continues to be asked to share increasing numbers of events and resources with the broader community, so we are adding in a mid-month newsletter to offer you the most current news and updates on events and opportunities.

A core question continues to come up in sustainability conversations about how to scale up and increase our collective impact. Engaging in networks and expanding capacities through knowledge-sharing, workshops, community development, and relationship-building are definitely important. So are aligning with initiatives and leveraging resources. What do you need to be more effective?

We hope that the outreach and networking opportunities that GPSen provides are making a difference in your work and lives.

*Interested in having your event, news, or resources in our newsletter?  
Share them with the GPSen community via our [submission form](#) by the 28th.  
If you have questions, please contact [news.gpsen@gmail.com](mailto:news.gpsen@gmail.com).*

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## GPSEN Events

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### **Introduction to Environmental Sociology**

**Begins March 29, 2016**

T/Th 3:00 pm- 4:50 pm  
SOC 228 CRN 21299  
PCC Sylvania TCB 211  
12000 SW 49th Ave. Portland, OR 97219

This important course, taught by Dr. Kim Smith, examines the current relationship between society and the environment. The structure and culture of our society have significantly impacted the Earth's ability to meet the needs of humanity and other species. By looking at such topics as population, consumption, development, pollution, public policy, and environmental justice, we will explore the causes and consequences of this complex relationship. We will also study the UN's new global sustainable development goals and Agenda 2030. Join this course to increase your awareness of critical environmental, economic, and equity issues, evaluate social processes occurring in the world around us, and learn how to make a difference.

Get educated. Get empowered. The world depends on you.

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## Community Events

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### Captains of Prosperity

**Wednesday, March 16**

6:00 - 8:30 pm

EcoTrust, 721 NW 9th Ave

Free

Leading your life today is very different than it was a decade ago. 'Styling your Life' has become a highly individual concern. It is no coincidence that concepts like stewardship, citizenship, entrepreneurship and leadership are becoming ever more prevalent today. Taking individual responsibility and making smart choices in a limited, makeable world is becoming the primary concern of every citizen.

This is the first of a series of Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) activities empowered by [Conscio](#) | 'Leading by Learning.' Are you an aspiring citizen, talented student, passionate educator, inventive leader, inspired executive, effective manager, entrepreneur, skilled coach and/or successful consultant eager to develop yourself? This is a perfect opportunity to engage in this top-notch Interactional Learning Experience (ILE). Participation is limited to the maximum seating capacity of the Ecotrust venue. Doors will open at 5:45pm.

For more information [click here](#). To RSVP on Facebook [click here](#).

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### Community Information Sessions with EPA

**Thursday, March 17**

- Open house: 6:30 - 7:00 pm
- Information and discussion: 7:00 - 8:30 pm

- Held at: Gray's Landing (Community Room), 650 SW Lowell Street, Portland OR 97239 (Near the Old Spaghetti Factory – southwest waterfront)

### **Wednesday, March 23**

- Open house: 6:30 - 7:00 pm
- Information and discussion: 7:00 - 8:30 pm
- Held at: IRCO - Immigrant and Refugee Community Organization, 10301 NE Glisan Street, Portland OR 97220

### **Saturday, March 26**

- Open house: 11:30 am - 12:00 pm
- Information and discussion: 12:00 - 1:30 pm
- Held at: OMSI - Oregon Museum of Science & Industry, 1945 SE Water Ave, Portland OR 97214
- Featuring graphic facilitator Martha Bean (see example from the [July community cafe](#))

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## **Kids Night at Bark**

### **Friday, March 18**

5:30 PM - 8:00 PM

Bark, 351 NE 18th Ave

We want to set aside some time and space for kids to play, learn about the environment, and organize and work on issues that matter to them. This will be a monthly event, hosted by some of our youngest Barkers! There will be games and activities designed by kids and each month we will watch a kid's environmental movie. There are some very interesting opportunities for kid's to participate in environmental advocacy. While this is mostly just a fun night for now, we hope to develop into a productive environmental action group focused on the young voices. We hope parents will talk to kids about environmental activism on the way to Kid's Night. This is for kids of ALL AGES!

Since it is around dinner time, we encourage all parents to bring a dish to share or to have dinner before coming. We will have some basic snacks on hand. For more information contact Courtney at (503) 331-0374 or [click here](#). To see the Facebook invite [click here](#).

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## **CSA Share Fair - Find Your Farmer**

### **Saturday, March 19**

10:00 AM - 2:00 PM

831 SE Salmon St, Portland, OR 97214

Find Your Farmer at the 2nd annual CSA Share Fair. Meet and talk directly to local farmers who grow our food! This year's Share Fair will include over 40 local farmers, ranchers, and fishers. Be sure to catch some of the Share Fair's cooking demos, where an all-star lineup of local chefs demonstrate ways to use CSA produce, meat and fish. And bring the whole family! There will be fun activities for kids and our second annual Cookbook Swap Meet.

Community Supported Agriculture (CSA) is a growing movement that connects eaters and farmers. This is a win-win: You get healthy, fresh, farm-direct food every

week, and your farmer gets freedom and security. Other benefits of CSA shares include getting to know your farmer, eating more vegetables, supporting a local business, connecting with your food, and investing in low impact farming practices that protect our drinking water, soils, and wildlife habitat.

This event is free! No tickets or RSVP required. Food and beverage available for purchase. Participating CSA Share Fair farms accept cash, credit, debit, and SNAP. This year, through a new SNAP match program, Double Up Food Bucks, some CSA members can receive \$200 toward a CSA. For more information [click here](#).

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## Kid Wind Challenge

**Saturday, March 19**

9:00 am - 3:00 pm

While this is called a KidWind Challenge, we tend to think of it more like a celebration of wind power. The overall goal is to have fun building a device that converts moving wind into electricity. If along the way you learn some physics, engineering, environmental science and policy -- that is great!

There are three basic steps to participating in a KidWind Challenge: plan your team and your turbine, and do background research; build an innovative and functional turbine that will produce a lot of power; and test your turbine and calculate its power output to improve your design. The more time you spend doing each of these tasks, the better prepared your team will be and the more fun you will have at your KidWind Challenge. Some teams will spend months preparing, others just a few weeks. Like all things the more time you put in the better your end products will be!

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

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## What's Next for the TPP?

**Monday, March 21**

8:00 am - 9:30 am

World Affairs Council of Oregon

Madison Room (3rd Floor)

1200 Park Avenue, Portland, OR



Join us for a special morning program with Ambassador Joseph Y. Yun, U.S. Ambassador to Malaysia; Ambassador Craig Allen, U.S. Ambassador to Brunei; and William E. Craft, Deputy Assistant Secretary of State for Trade Policy and Programs—insiders and experts on international trade—who will share their insights on the big picture and the path ahead for the TPP.

The Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP) –a trade agreement among 12 Pacific Rim countries – has received a lot of praise and criticism in the past year leading up to the conclusion of negotiations in February 2016. The agreement has been praised for committing signatories to broad tariff reductions, harmonization of product and safety standards and addressing broader economic impacts affecting labor and the environment among a host of other issues. The agreement has also been criticized for the lack of transparency in the negotiations and contentious elements related to agriculture, intellectual property, food safety, labor rights and environmental issues, among others. As the agreement will be subject to legislative review by Congress and legislative bodies in each signatory, how do we parse the big picture for both business and everyday citizens?

\$10 WAC members (\$15 General)

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## Power Dialog: Thunderclap

**Wednesday, March 30**

Participate in our Thunderclap and help spread the word about the Power dialog. [Follow the link](#), and support our [Thunderclap!](#) This message will be broadcast one time on the social media of our supporters to help us create the most powerful dialog on US energy policy. On March 30th, our message will be:

"Students WILL have a say in their #energy #future, join #PowerDialog2016 and be a voice towards #studentemPOWERment"

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## Fixing Outdoor Education - Remembering Our Roots While Moving Forward

**Wednesday, March 30**

7:15 PM - 10:15 PM

Trackers Earth, 4617 SE Milwaukie Ave

For outdoor educators and advocates of the field. Founders and directors of Trackers Earth lead this free program and networking event. Current outdoor education presents some serious challenges:

- Why is it impossible for many outdoor educators to make a living wage?
- What are the dangers of focusing solely on funding?
- What are the limits of free play or inquiry based curriculum?
- Does modern outdoor education truly engage kids?
- Should every kid carry a knife? Are you prepared for risk?
- Will outdoor education always be "alternative?" Should it be the norm?

During this night we discuss hard challenges, while looking at unique strategies to build a vision for the field. Taking us far beyond current models our outdoor learning. For more information [click here](#). To view the Facebook invite [click here](#).

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## Confronting Islamophobia

**Friday, April 1**

7:00 - 8:30 pm

Arlene Schnitzer Concert Hall

1037 SW Broadway, Portland, OR

[Reza Aslan](#), best-selling author and scholar of religions will join us as the second speaker of the 2016 International Speaker Series, with a talk entitled "Confronting Islamophobia". For more information about the 2016 International Speaker Series and to purchase season tickets, [click here](#).

Tickets are sold only as a series package (4 events). Single tickets will go on sale at 10 am the day of each event. Please call 503-946-7272 to purchase single tickets.

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## Classes, Workshops & Conferences

### Landscape for Healthy Watersheds

#### March & April Workshops

Spring is here, and your garden calls! Looking for a little inspiration before you dig in? Check out these FREE WORKSHOPS and learn about all kinds of ways you can make a positive impact on your watershed with your landscaping decisions. All workshops are FREE and open to anyone. To register [click here](#).

**Urban Weeds:** Learn how to identify common garden and landscape weeds, what their impacts on the watershed are, and how to control them without turning to synthetic herbicides.

- Tuesday, March 22 from 6:00 - 8:30pm (SE Portland)



**Rain Gardens 101:** Puddle problems? Rain gardens collect and treat runoff from driveways, rooftops, sidewalks, and parking lots. Learn step-by-step how to plan, design, and build your own rain garden!

- Saturday, March 19 from 9:00 am - 1:00 pm (NE Portland)
- Saturday, March 26 from 9:00 am - 1:00 pm (NE Portland)

**Naturescaping:** Learn the basics of creating a beautiful and diverse urban landscape that conserves water, builds soil, and creates habitat for birds and pollinators.

- Sunday, April 3 from 1:00 - 5:00 pm (Gresham)
- Saturday, April 23 from 9:00 am - 1:00 pm (NE Portland)

**Native Plants:** Learn the characteristics and desired growing conditions of many local favorite native groundcovers, shrubs and trees. You'll walk away with loads of information so you can decide which native plants will work well in your yard.

- Saturday, April 2 from 9:00 am - 1:00 pm (SE Portland)
- Sunday, April 10 from 1:00 - 3:30pm (NE Portland)

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## Convergence: Rethinking Permaculture - Everyday Strategies for Compassionate Living

**March 25 – March 27**

Kailash Ecovillage

4311 SE 37th Avenue, Portland

The SE Portland Permaculture Convergence will be hosted by the Kailash Ecovillage and Food Not Bombs this year. During this weekend convergence we will discover how to transform our lives to be more in line with our heart's compassionate and harmonious nature. Traditional permaculture has great insights into more sustainable ways to grow our own food – we aim to expand the vision of sustainability to include the practical changes we can make to our daily lives, right now, to create less harm to our world, and foster a more ecologically sensitive, and more joyfully vibrant, human culture. We will cover techniques to grow more of our own food, but also look at the daily consumer habits and lifestyle patterns that we take for granted, and explore how they might be transformed to free us from the unhealthy aspects of our society. Some of the topics will include:

- Veganic farming strategies
- Reducing dependence on the money system
- Fostering community sharing
- Meditation, movement, and sound practices to support a sustainable life

There is no charge for this event, although donations are welcome. All food will be provided for free – procured from the abundance around us using the strategies we will share! You are encouraged to spend the night on site, also for no charge (indoor or outdoor).

For more information and to RSVP [click here](#). To see the Facebook invite [click here](#).



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## Webinar: Key Steps to Find Sustainability in Funding

**April 5, 19 & May 3**

10:00 - 11:30 am

[ATE \(Advanced Education Technology\) Central](#) is pleased to announce their [spring sustainability webinar series](#) to help leaders of ATE projects and centers embrace the value they are creating and find ways to leverage that value for future funding and other forms of financial and non-financial support.

While ATE Projects and Centers devote a great deal of attention to measuring impact and evaluation, the toughest question to answer is, “Who cares?” If your project or center were to lose funding tomorrow who would run to its defense? The focus of this webinar will be to provide an overview of important steps any project or center leader can take today to start identifying the deep value they have created and to think about ways that value can be leveraged into forms of ongoing support. This webinar serves as an overview; the webinars that follow will each delve into specific topics in greater depth.

- **April 5:** Funding Beyond the Grant: Finding the Best-Fit Funding Model for Your Project or Center
- **April 19:** Know your Audience, the Rest Will Follow: A Deeper Dive into Audience Assessment
- **May 3:** The Funding Environment: From Funder Mandates to Industry Partnerships

To register [click here](#). For more information [click here](#). You can also check out our [sustainability videos](#), featuring a group of sustainability experts including NSF's ATE Lead Program Director, Celeste Carter.

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## E-Course: Strategy Tools for Sustainability Transformation

**Mondays, April 4 - 25**

12:00 - 1:30 pm

This course will guide practitioners through the jungle of sustainability techniques and change processes, and help you learn when and how to apply them successfully. Using the VISIS Method (Vision | Indicators | Systems | Innovation | Strategy) as a guiding structure and sequence, you will deepen your understanding of these general methodological categories, as well as specific sustainability tools, with AtKisson's Accelerator tools in focus.

Participants will begin to apply both the VISIS Method and a variety of tools (selected from the Accelerator suite) to develop a sustainability project or initiative, and will work to produce a detailed strategic action plan. Participants will dig into case studies, examine the inner workings of selected tools, and consider the ethical

dimension of strategy development. On completion of the course, participants will have received a thorough orientation to the art of Sustainability Change Agency and be eligible to apply for recognition as a Certified Practitioner of the VISIS Method and Accelerator tools.

Course: \$450. To register, or for more information, [click here](#). For more information about ISSP's other on-line courses [click here](#).

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## **Active Hope: An interactive workshop in Joanna Macy's Work That Reconnects**

**Saturday, April 23**

10:00 am - 4:00 pm

Jean's Urban Forest Farm

3707 SE Johnson Creek Blvd

The times in which we live are marked by realities of unprecedented ecological destruction, social injustice, and spiritual impoverishment, alongside a growing awareness of the implicit interconnections that define the web of life. Many are moved by a deep and abiding love for the world, and by compassionate responses of sorrow and despair for the losses and suffering that we face.

How do we cultivate active hope: the motivation, courage, and resilience necessary to respond to the challenges and opportunities of our time? This is a participatory workshop based in the pioneering, open-source work of Joanna Macy. Through experiential practices that include dialogue, imagination, movement, and reflection, participants will connect with deep sources of strength and inspiration to take part in the transition to a more just and sustainable future.

Suggested donation \$25 - 50. No one will be turned away for lack of funds. All proceeds will go toward ongoing development of [Root Down Rise Up](#), an intensive year-long self-discovery, community leadership, and rites of passage program for adolescent girls. Pre-registration is required. For more information or to register [click here](#).

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## **Conference: Next Generation STEM, Standards and Sustainability**

**Saturday, April 23**

8:30 am - 4:30 pm

Eugene: University of Oregon, Baker Downtown Center

975 High Street, Eugene, OR

Portland: University of Oregon, White Stag Block  
70 NW Couch Street, Portland, OR

Please join the University of Oregon and [Partners for Sustainable Schools](#) at their Second Annual Conference. Join keynote speakers, presentations, and project-based learning activities to align with [Next Generation Science Standards](#).

Participants have the option to register and pay an additional \$75 for 1 graduate academic credit. All enrolled participants who have not registered for credit will receive a secure PDF certificate indicating the number of PDUs earned at the conference.

Conference Fee: \$50 for the first 50 registrations; \$125 for each subsequent registration. For more information or to register [click here](#).

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## **Workshop: Strategies for Integrating Nature into Therapy**

### **Friday, April 29**

9:00 am - 4:30 pm

Lewis & Clark College, York 107

615 SW Palatine Hill Rd, Portland, OR

EcoWellness counseling is an approach for integrating the natural world into traditional and non-traditional counseling settings. The overarching purpose of this workshop is to help attendees consider how they might skillfully and ethically integrate EcoWellness into counseling. While this training will emphasize the application of EcoWellness to counseling settings, professionals and graduate students from diverse educational and professional contexts are welcome to attend. This workshop will be interactive and experiential, providing attendees with practical and effective strategies for integrating nature into counseling with persons of all ages and backgrounds. Workshop emphasis areas include clinician/nature worldview and self-awareness, the ethical parameters of working with clients in outdoors settings, theoretical integration and intervention, and EcoWellness cross-cultural applications.

Cost: \$125 by April 7, \$150 after; includes 6.5 CEUs or PDUs. \$50 students. Lewis & Clark Alumni save 20%.

For more information and to register, [click here](#). For information about other [Eco-Psychology](#) events at Lewis & Clark [click here](#).

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## **Transforming the Way We Lead**

### **May 4 - 6**

Portland State University - Native American Center

Transforming the Way We Lead and the Art of Hosting training is about how to create effective meetings and practices for working better together amidst times of rapid change and high complexity. Many people are awakening to different ways of being in leadership together, moving beyond the typical traps of adversarial agendas and into processes of co-learning and participatory leadership that lead to wise action and change.

Many practitioners and leaders are seeking processes, tools and engagement

strategies that bring out the best in our communities and foster deeper collaboration. The Art of Hosting is an international movement that is working to develop participatory leadership skills and practices.

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

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## Jobs, Internships & Volunteer Opportunities

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### Job: Environmental Education Specialist

**March 22 (application deadline)**

The Friends of Tualatin River National Wildlife Refuge in Sherwood, Oregon are recruiting for a full-time Environmental Education Specialist. This position will coordinate an innovative conservation education program that serves up to 5,000 students annually at one of the country's flagship urban refuges within the National Wildlife Refuge System. Ideal candidates will have experience working with youth and students, have a working knowledge of techniques in conducting professional environmental education, and have experience working in urban communities and/or with diverse audiences. For more information [click here](#).

To apply: please submit a cover letter, resume and three references to [Info@FriendsofTualatinRefuge.org](mailto:Info@FriendsofTualatinRefuge.org), attention Bonnie Anderson, subject line EE Specialist. Resumes will be accepted until end of business on Tuesday, March 22, 2016.

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### Job: PT Community Outreach Organizer

**April 15 (application deadline)**

The Community Outreach Program of the [ReBuilding Center](#) provides free tools and resources to individuals and organizations working to achieve equitable, more vibrant and resilient communities. We strive to strengthen the capacity of local, grassroots projects in their efforts to effect and sustain positive change in N/NE Portland. If you are searching for an opportunity to work in a collaborative, values-based work environment where the mission drives decision-making; where employees are committed to being the change they wish to see in the world; where building relationships matter; and can illustrate how your passion and qualifications are a great fit, we encourage you to apply today! This hourly position is 32 hours per week, Tuesday - Friday.

For more information [click here](#).

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### Job: NWF Oregon Education Coordinator

The [Northern Rockies, Prairies and Pacific Region of the National Wildlife Federation](#) is growing! To sustain our growth we are seeking an [Oregon Education Coordinator](#) who will be responsible for drawing upon the diversity of our educational resources to support and advance education program and expand public awareness about the [National Wildlife Federation's](#) programs in the State of Oregon. This position

identifies opportunities to collaborate with other departments and program staff on program initiatives, as well as working with NWF's state affiliate, the [Association of Northwest Steelheaders](#), to implement programs on the ground.

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

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## **Volunteer: Ridgefield Plankhouse Docent Training**

**Saturday, April 2**

10:00 am - 3:00 pm

1071 S Hillhurst Rd, Ridgefield, WA 98642

The Plankhouse at the [Ridgefield National Wildlife Refuge](#) provides the community a space to celebrate, learn about, and interact with local Native American culture. Volunteers lead that learning and discovery on the weekends with the public or during the week with school groups. Come to this introductory class and learn how you can be part of this amazing team. No experience necessary. Bring your interest in culture and nature and we provide all the training.

RSVP to Sarah Hill at 360-887-4106 or [Sarah\\_Hill@fws.gov](mailto:Sarah_Hill@fws.gov)

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## **Volunteer: Ridgefield Naturalist Training**

**Fridays, April 8, 15, 22, & 29**

10:00 am - 3:00 pm

Thousands of adults and school children visit our local refuges annually and volunteers are often the only people they get to share their stories and questions with. Share your interest and passion with others by exploring with school children, leading guided walks with the public, or simply greeting people on our trails and in the contact station. This training will introduce both [Ridgefield](#) and [Steigerwald Lake](#) Refuges and how to interact and communicate with many fun and interesting people.

RSVP to Josie Finley at 360-887-4106 or [Josie\\_Finley@fws.gov](mailto:Josie_Finley@fws.gov)

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## **Volunteer: Tualatin River Naturalist**

**Tualatin River National Wildlife Refuge**

19255 SW Pacific Hwy, Sherwood

Learn about the amazing wildlife who call the refuge home. Volunteer Naturalists welcome visitors, lead school and community field trips, facilitate opportunistic learning, and serve as a refuge resource. During the spring training volunteers will gain skills in environmental education, group management, and nature awareness while exploring the [Tualatin River National Wildlife Refuge](#).

Once trained, volunteers commit to providing support to the Conservation Education program as field trip leaders, group guides, and classroom based informal educators. Opportunities exist throughout the year, not just during the school year. Additional opportunities to work with varying age groups (including adults) and at different venues are available.

## GPSEN Internships and Volunteering

There are many ways to [get involved](#) in GPSEN, either as an intern, volunteer, or committee or workshop member. Credit and non-credit opportunities are available.

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## Grants & Resources

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### EPA Environmental Education Grants Requests for Proposals

**Due April 8, 11:59 p.m. (Eastern)**

Under the [Environmental Education Grants Program](#), EPA seeks grant proposals from eligible applicants to support environmental education projects that promote environmental awareness and stewardship and help provide people with the skills to take responsible actions to protect the environment. This grant program provides financial support for projects that design, demonstrate, and/or disseminate environmental education practices, methods, or techniques. Since 1992, EPA has distributed between \$2 and \$3.5 million in grant funding per year, supporting more than 3,600 grants.

[Requests for Proposals](#) are now being accepted for the 2016 EE Grants Program. Applications are due by April 8, 2016, 11:59 p.m. Eastern Time.

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### Free Earth Day Program

"Remember the Rainforest" is an Eco education resource based on the explorers' expeditions of the 1800s. It can be used year-round for reports and projects with its extensive index, 700 pages of text and 1000s of downloadable images including Earth Day posters. [Check out the lessons.](#)

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### Clearing Magazine

[Clearing Magazine](#) is a communications and teaching tool for environmental literacy in the Pacific Northwest. Please check out this valuable resource and consider subscribing to the newsletter.

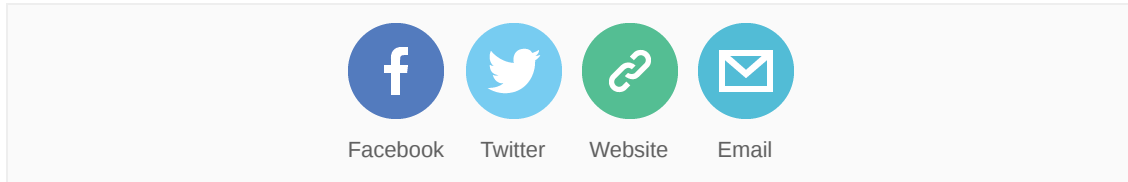
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Share your news with the GPSEN community via our [submission form](#),  
by the 28th of the month for the following month's newsletter.  
If you have questions, please contact [news.gpsen@gmail.com](mailto:news.gpsen@gmail.com).

Check out our [website](#) to become a partner, get involved,  
or find out more information about GPSEN.

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For the most current news and resources, connect with GPSEN via the social media links below.



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