

REAP Conservation Education Program

2005 Grants



A total of seven conservation education grants were awarded for the May grant round, and nine in the November grant round, with awards totaling \$ 363,401. An approximate \$357,878 was leveraged through cash and in-kind matches.

REAP CEP Grants

Connecting Learning and Living: Reaching Students Through Teacher Education--\$23,894
Iowa 4-H Foundation (REAP CEP Project #06-10)
Contact Person: Janet Anderson and Judy Levings
Ames, IA 50011-3630; Phone: 515-294-1018 or 4764 E-mail: janeta@iastate.edu
Project funded: December 2005

[Click here to review the project's mid-term report.](#)

[Click here to view the project's final report.](#)

[Click here to view the project's evaluation.](#)

The Iowa 4-H Foundation will combine ISU Extension 4-H school enrichment curricula, Growing in the Garden, Where We Live, and Food, Land & People for this project. They will hold pre-service workshops with about 320 students, and conduct six trainings for 160 educators.

Facilitating Integration of Conservation Concepts in Formal Education Settings--\$40,100
Iowa Department of Natural Resources Aquatic Education Program
(REAP CEP Project #06-01)
Contact Person: Barbara Gigar; Guthrie Center, IA 50115-8518
Phone: 641-747-2200 E-mail: barb.gigar@dnr.state.ia.us
Project funded: June 2005

[Click here to review the project's mid-term report](#)

[Click here to view the project's course evaluation and results.](#)

[Click here to view the project's follow-up survey and results.](#)

[Click here](#) to review a summary of school projects where EE was more deeply integrated.

[Click here to review the project's final report.](#)

The DNR will:

1. Correlate Projects WILD and WILD Aquatic to national learning standards for social studies (K-12).
2. Provide suggested activities by grade level/subject area that addresses pertinent learning standards and natural resource topics/issues.
3. Deliver Projects WILD, WILD Aquatic and Learning Tree through on-line courses
4. Provide incentives for educators.

A Green Infrastructure Strategy Model: Preserving the Lifelines to Our Future--\$35,000
Growing Green Communities (REAP CEP Project #06-08)
Contact Person: Tina Mowry; Des Moines, IA 50309
Phone: 515-244-0021 E-mail: mowrystrategies@yahoo.com

Project funded: June 2005

[Click here to review the project's mid-term report](#)

[Click here to view the project's final report summary.](#)

[Click here to review the project's green communities conservation guide](#)

Growing Green Communities will:

1. Convene a series of educational design workshops in SE Polk County.
2. Host a major, statewide symposium at Drake University on how to identify and legally protect green infrastructure.
3. Create a Landowner Toolkit for the landowner/farm community. Toolkit workshops will aid landowners in financial and estate planning related to their land and options for conservation protection.

Lions in Iowa! --\$32,395

Friends of Hartman Reserve (REAP CEP Project #06-06)

Contact Person: Sandy Fulcher; Cedar Falls, IA 50613

Phone: 319-277-2187 E-mail: sandy_hrnc@yahoo.com

Project funded: June 2005

[Click here to review the project's mid-term report](#)

[Click here to view the project's final report.](#)

Hartman Reserve Nature Center will oversee the exhibit, Mountain Lions! In Iowa, nine-site itinerary and provide each nature center with training on how to use the exhibit and curriculum.

National Association for Interpretation Region V Workshop--\$21,600

Iowa Association of Naturalists (REAP CEP Project #06-04)

Contact Person: Amy Yoakum; Ames, IA 50010-9451

Phone: 515-232-2516 E-mail: ayoakum@storycounty.com

Project funded: June 2005

[Click here to review the project's mid-term report](#)

[Click here to view the project's final report.](#)

The Iowa Association of Naturalists, Iowa Conservation Education Council and National Association for Interpretation (NAI) would like to see many Iowa educators take part in the NAI Region V workshop to be held in Dubuque in April 2006, without worrying about the cost. This can be achieved by offering scholarships in the amount of \$200 to those who would otherwise be unable to attend.

Growing Futures--\$19,631

Trees Forever (REAP CEP Project #06-11)

Contact Person: Carole Teator

Marion, IA 50302; Phone: 319-373-0650 E-mail: cteator@treesforever.org

Project funded: December 2005

[Click here to review the project's mid-term report](#)

[Click here to see pictures.](#)

[Click here to view the project's final report.](#)

[Click here to view the project's exit survey.](#)

Trees Forever will collaborate with partners to plan, coordinate, monitor and evaluate activities for Growing Futures. Growing Futures will lead at-risk youth through a process of self-discovery, self-esteem building and understanding the importance of diversity of both the human and natural world. Growing Futures will also help the youth explore careers and jobs in natural resource fields.

IowaEE.org--\$7,810
Iowa 4-H Foundation (REAP CEP Project #06-12)
Contact Person: Judy Levings
Ames, IA 50011-3630; Phone: 515-294-4764 E-mail: jlevings@iastate.edu
Project funded: December 2005

[Click here to review the project's midterm report.](#)
[Click here to review the project's final report summary.](#)

The Iowa 4-H Foundation will evaluate the usefulness of the www.iowaee.org website to the environmental education community, and research the interest in and practicality of using a Content Management System for website updates. They will also make on-going content updates of the website, and communicate with new environmental audiences and the general public about the website's availability.

Iowa's Neotropical Migratory Birds--\$19,892
University of Northern Iowa Center for Energy and Environmental Education
(REAP CEP Project #06-13)
Contact Person: Dr. Carl W. Bollwinkel
Cedar Falls, IA 50614-0293; Phone: 319-273-2783 E-mail: bollwinkel@uni.edu
Project funded: December 2005

[Click here to review the project's mid-term report](#)
[Click here to review the project's final report](#)

UNI's Center for Energy and Environmental Education will offer a professional development program on Iowa's Neotropical Migratory Birds in Mason City, instructing about 24 teachers and undergraduate education majors in issues instruction.

Loess Hills Prairie Seminar--\$15,000
Western Hills Area Education Agency (REAP CEP Project #06-14)
Contact Person: Dianne Blankenship
Sioux City, IA 51106-1780; Phone: 712-274-6000, ext. 6080
E-mail: bennaid@hotmail.com or kistnerg@aea12.k12.ia.us
Project funded: December 2005

[Click here to review the project's final report](#)

Western Hills Area Education Agency will plan the agenda for, coordinate, and market the Loess Hills Seminar, and then conduct the seminar on June 2-4, 2006.

Measuring Environmental Literacy: Developing a New Survey Instrument for the Midwest--\$7,773
Iowa State University (REAP CEP Project #06-15)
Contact Person: Jim Pease; Ames, IA 50011-2207
Phone: 515-294-5225 E-mail: jpease@iastate.edu
Project funded: December 2005

[Click here to review the project's midterm report.](#)
[Click here to review the project's final report.](#)

[Click here](#) to review "Indications of environmental literacy: using a new survey instrument to measure awareness, knowledge, and attitudes of university-aged students," by Susan Roberta Mello O'Brien
Iowa State University will:

1. Develop agreement on a definition of environmental literacy and its important components in Midwestern culture, then develop a statistically valid instrument to measure the environmental literacy components identified-especially awareness, knowledge and attitude.

2. Test the instrument with ISU students across all disciplines, analyze results, provide perspectives on ISU's environmental literacy status, and then make suggestions to EE leaders regarding Midwest environmental education efforts.
3. Publish the instrument and make it available as a baseline evaluation tool to be used for follow up measurements of environmental literacy in future years.

Prescribed Fire Education for Loess Hills Landowners--\$33,000

Loess Hills Alliance (REAP CEP Project #06-03)

Contact Person: Bob Moritz; Onawa, IA 51040-9802

Phone: 712-433-2400 E-mail: gmagpaiowa@aol.com

Project funded: June 2005

[Click here to review the project's mid-term report](#)

[Click here to review the project's final report](#)

The Loess Hills Alliance will provide educational outreach to Loess Hills landowners to increase the understanding and application of prescribed fire in an effort to restore native plant communities and revive economic opportunities associated with livestock grazing.

PARTY--\$30,080

Polk County Conservation (REAP CEP Project #06-09)

Contact Person: Patrice Petersen-Keys; Granger, IA 50109

Phone: 515-323-5300 E-mail: ppeters@co.polk.ia.us

Project funded: June 2005

[Click here to review the project's mid-term report.](#)

[Click here to view the project's final report.](#)

[Click here to review an article about the project.](#)

[Click here to view the project's Canoeing lesson plan.](#)

[Click here to view the project's Global Positioning System lesson plan.](#)

[Click here to view the project's Fishing lesson plan.](#)

[Click here to view the project's Snowshoeing lesson plan.](#)

[Click here to view the project's Winter Survival lesson plan.](#)

PARTY (Playful, Active, Recreation Targeted for YOU) is a pilot program to get teens active in the outdoors through after-school programs. PARTY will develop a curriculum for five different outdoor skills, integrated with natural resource concepts. They will be piloted to teens in the Des Moines metro area by a Polk County Conservation naturalist.

Pre-Service, Beginning and Advanced Waste Reduction Education Program--\$21,945

Center for Energy and Environmental Education,

University of Northern Iowa

(REAP CEP Project #06-02)

Contact Person: Susan Salterberg; Cedar Falls, IA 50614-0293

Phone: 319-273-2573 E-mail: Salterberg@uni.edu

Project funded: June 2005

[Click here to review the project's mid-term report](#)

[Click here to review the project's final report](#)

The Center for Energy and Environmental Education (CEEE) will:

1. Conduct the Waste Reduction: Addressing the Overlooked "R" course in three underserved areas of Iowa (Creston, Clear Lake and Maquoketa).
2. Offer, for the first-time ever, an Advanced WR: Addressing the Overlooked "R" workshop for teachers.

3. Continue pre-service waste reduction mini-workshops.

**Project A.W.A.R.E. (A Watershed Awareness River Expedition)--\$18,000
Iowa Department of Natural Resources (REAP CEP Project #06-16)**

**Contact Person: Brandon Harland
Des Moines, IA 50319; Phone: 515-281-5918
E-mail: Brandon.harland@dnr.state.ia.us**

Project funded: December 2005

[Click here to view the project's midterm report.](#)

[Click here to view the Land Ownership Guide for Watershed Cleanups.](#)

[Click here to view the 16-page Guide to River Clean-up Events.](#)

[Click here to view the project's final report.](#)

Iowa DNR will engage citizen volunteers in service-learning projects related to beautifying Iowa's aquatic resources. Project A.W.A.R.E. event lasts for one week, and is organized by Iowa DNR's IOWATER and Keepers of the Land volunteer programs. In addition, they will disperse money through 15, \$1,000 mini-grants to local groups to help them recycle river trash and educate the public about water quality, and contribute to the body of knowledge concerning effective stream stewardship at the local level and learn and incorporate the roles of technology into river cleanup.

**Reading Iowa's Landscape-Connecting Literature with EE--\$19,255
Iowa Conservation Education Council (REAP CEP Project #06-07)**

**Contact Person: Craig A. Meyers; Johnston, IA 50131-1603
Phone: 515-270-9030 E-mail: cmeyers@aea11.k12.ia.us**

Project funded: June 2005

[Click here to review the project's mid-term report](#)

[Click here to review the project's final report.](#)

The Iowa Conservation Education Council will conduct the Winter Solstice workshop in Indianola to give educators activities and resources to take back to the classroom and strengthen environmental education.

**Restore, Reclaim, Renew-Midwest Wildlife Rehabilitators Conference--\$3,100
Iowa Wildlife Rehabilitators Association (REAP CEP Project #06-05)**

**Contact Person: Kay Neumann; Dedham, IA 51440
Phone: 712-683-5555 E-mail: dfarms@pionet.net**

Project funded: June 2005

[Click here to review the project's final report](#)

The Iowa Wildlife Rehabilitators Association will host the Midwest Wildlife Rehabilitators Conference and grant funds will be used for guest speaker fees, thereby reducing registrants' costs. The IWRA will host the Midwest Wildlife Rehabilitators Conference with the theme, Restore, Reclaim, Renew at the Boone, YMCA Camp in the fall of 2005. Wildlife rehabilitators, educators, students, and wildlife professionals from Iowa, Minnesota, Wisconsin, Illinois, Nebraska, and North and South Dakota are invited to attend this three-day conference.