REAP Conservation Education Program
2009 Grants

A total of nine conservation education grants were awarded for the May 2009 grant round, with awards totaling $206,385. Eight grants were awarded in December, with awards totaling $145,495. Approximately $462,603 was leveraged through in cash and in-kind matches through these projects. Another $30,000 was awarded to the University of Northern Iowa to assist and monitor implementation of CEP grants. For the 2009-2010 fiscal year, a total of 16 projects were not funded, totaling $426,894.

**Perpetuate a Good Idea Grants**

**Park Packs--$1,842**

Dubuque County Conservation Board (REAP CEP #10-11)

Contact: Jenny Ammon
563-556-6745; decblawler@mwci.net

Project funded: Dec. 2009

Click here to review the project's midterm report.
Click here to review the project's final report.

The DCCB will provide hands-on activities, field studies and environmental literature to families, youth groups, scouting groups, community organizations, at-risk youth, and home-school groups. The park packs will provide an avenue the public to experience the outdoors without a staff person.

**Webster County Conservation Discovery Park Packs--$3,300**

Webster County Conservation (REAP CEP #10-02)

Contact: Erin Ford; Fort Dodge
515-576-4258; emeehan@webstercountyia.org

Project funded: May 2009

Click here to review the project's midterm report.
Click here to review the project's final report.
Click to review [photo 1](#) and [photo 2](#) from the project.

Grant funds will be used to develop “Park Packs,” which are nature activity packs that help families and others discover nature without a naturalist. Inside the nature-themed backpacks there will be activities, literature and equipment to promote hands-on learning.

**REAP CEP Grants**

**St. Paul’s Cathedral and Neighbors’ Rain Garden Project--$19,582**

The Cathedral Church of St. Paul, Des Moines (REAP CEP #10-18)

Contact: Rev. Cathleen Bascom
515-288-7297; dean@st-pauls-cathedral.com

Project funded: Dec. 2009

Click here to review the project's tri-term report.
Click here to review the project's second tri-term report.
Click here to view one of the sign's for the rain garden.
Click here to review the project's final report.

The Cathedral Church of St. Paul, the oldest house of worship in downtown Des Moines, is transforming its parking lot into an urban green space. Through this project, the congregation will provide educational
opportunities for children, teens and adults to learn about water, rain gardens, native plants and practices that reduce run-off and mitigate flooding.

**Environmental Education Programs for Special Audiences--$16,896**

**Iowa 4-H Foundation, Ames (REAP CEP #10-17)**

Contact: Linda Naeve  
515-294-8946; [lnaeve@iastate.edu](mailto:lnaeve@iastate.edu)  
Project funded: Dec. 2009  
[Click here to review the project's midterm report.](#)  
[Click here to review the project's final report.](#)  
[Click here to review a project summary.](#)

The Connecting Learning and Living (CLL) curricula will be used in six trainings for community volunteers such as Master Gardeners, Master Conservationists and garden club members. These educators will reach youth through such venues as camps, programs at youth residential facilities, home-school programs, child care centers and public and neighborhood gardens. The model project will begin in the area around Webster, Humboldt, Wright and Hamilton counties.

**Responding to Requests and Expanding Pre-service Teacher Training--$37,711**

**Iowa 4-H Foundation (REAP CEP #10-04)**

Contact: Janet Toering or Linda Naeve; Ames  
515-450-4973; [janeta@iastate.edu](mailto:janeta@iastate.edu)  
Project funded: May 2009  
[Click here to review the project's midterm report.](#)  
[Click here to review the project's final report.](#)

This Connecting Learning and Living (CLL) project will use CLL curricula (*Growing in the Garden, Where We Live, and Food Land and People*) to provide pre-service teachers at six Iowa colleges with the knowledge base and tools to teach environmental education to students in grades pre-K through middle school. The trainings will be conducted prior to student teaching assignments so that they can immediately use the lessons.

**Iowa Project WET Workshops--$25,121**

**Iowa Academy of Science (REAP CEP #10-03)**

Contact: Marcy Seavey; Cedar Falls  
319-273-7486; [seavey@uni.edu](mailto:seavey@uni.edu)  
Project funded: May 2009  
[Click here to review the project's midterm report.](#)  
[Click here to review the project's final report.](#)

The Iowa Academy of Science (IAS) proposes to provide environmental education (EE) workshops for 360 pre-service using Project WET (Water Education for Teachers) Curriculum and Activity Guide and 40-70 in-service educators with Ducks Unlimited Project Webfoot Kits and additional Project WET resources.

**Prairies—Past, Present and Future--$22,240**

**Iowa Association of Naturalists (REAP CEP #10-05)**

Contact: Ann Burns; Honey Creek  
563-652-3783; [amburns29@yahoo.com](mailto:amburns29@yahoo.com)  
Project funded: May 2009  
[Click here to review the project's first tri-term report.](#)  
[Click here to review the project's second tri-term report.](#)  
[Click here to review the project's final report.](#)

This project involves developing a display that would be available to IAN member sites for 8-week periods at their locations. Over three years, this project would finalize the display exhibit, fabricate components, and oversee the exhibit’s itinerary for two years of travel throughout the state. After the grant period has expired, the exhibit will remain available for on-going travel as long as interest remains.
Winter Solstice 2010: Integrating Iowa’s Environment with Education--$18,711
Iowa Conservation Education Coalition (REAP CEP #10-08)
Contact: Rebecca Kauten, Marion
319-610-7507; rkauten@cfu.net
Project funded: May 2009
Click here to review the project's midterm report.
Click here to review the project's final report.
Click here to review the project's evaluation.
Click here to review the project's call for presenter's form.
Click here to review the project's speaker score sheet ranking.
Click here to review the project's conference brochure.
Click here to review the project's scholarship application form.
Click here to review the project's pre-conference survey.

This project involves planning, conducting and evaluating an environmental education workshop, Winter Solstice. This workshop will feature keynote speaker David Sobel, author of Beyond Ecophobia and Place Based Education. The event will be held January 15-17, 2010 at Honey Creek Resort near Moravia. The REAP grant will be used to fund speakers and presenters, planning expenses, 25 workshop scholarships, evaluation costs, and marketing.

2010 Governor’s Conference on Environmental Education:
Environment as an Integrating Context™ for Iowa --$26,200
Iowa Conservation Education Coalition, Marion (REAP CEP #10-13)
Contact: Rebecca Kauten
319-610-7507; rkauten@cfu.net
Project funded: Dec. 2009
Click here to review the project's midterm report.
Click here to view the project's final report summary.
Click here to view the project's information on follow-up sessions.
Click here to view the project's evaluation.
Click here to view the Governor's Conference brochure.
Click here to view the Iowa Environmental Literacy Plan.

The 2010 Governor’s Conference will be integrated with a multi-school environmental education and professional development opportunity for 10 Iowa schools. ICEC will plan the June 28-July 1 event at Honey Creek Resort near Moravia, as well as follow-up support as teachers implement this program.

Increasing Awareness of Integrated Pest Management (IPM)
Among Conservation Specialists and Educators--$14,579
Iowa State University (REAP CEP #10-09)
Contact: Daren S. Mueller, Ames
515-460-8000; dsmueller@iastate.edu
Project funded: May 2009
Click here to review the project's midterm report.
Click here to review the project's final report.
Click here to view photos from the project.
Click here to review the project's educator survey results.
Click here to review the project's agribusiness survey results.

This project will disseminate field guides to agricultural educators and Iowa high schools and community colleges and conservation-based entities. The guides will be packaged with a pest-management curriculum guide and Power Point modules.
Green Arts Project--$20,000  
Metro Arts Alliance of Greater Des Moines (REAP CEP #10-07)  
Contact: Jana Anderson, Des Moines  
515-280-3222; jana@metroarts.org  
Project funded: May 2009

Click here to review the project's midterm report.  
Click here to review the project's final report.  

The Metro Arts Alliance of Greater Des Moines will work with local artists and environmentalists to develop arts-based conservation education programs for presentation at central Iowa schools, community agencies, senior centers, and other local venues. The project provides training and planning time for artists to develop programs and curricula with assistance from environmentalists and educators, and is expected to engage 50-70 artists, educators and conservationists. It is expected to provide over 100 community- and school-based conservation arts activities.

Conservation Videocasts/PSAs—$20,060  
Polk County Conservation (REAP CEP #10-10)  
Contact: Patrice Petersen-Keys, Granger  
515-323-5359; Patrice.Petersen-Keys@polkcountyiowa.gov  
Project funded: May 2009

Click here to review the project's midterm report.  
Click here to review the project's final report.  
Click here to review the project's evaluation.  
Click here to review photos from the project.  
Click here to review an article about PCC’s videocasts.

Polk County Conservation (PCC) will self produce 18 conservation education videocasts. (Videocast is a term used for delivery of video media via the internet.) The completed videocasts will be posted and accessible on websites such as PCC’s homepage, mycountyparks.com, and Youtube.com. These videocasts will also be broadcasted as public service announcements (PSAs) on a variety of local and statewide television stations.

Guide by Cell—Utilizing Technology in the Parks-- $19,586  
Polk County Conservation, Granger (REAP CEP #10-16)  
Contact: Patrice Petersen-Keys  
515-323-5359; Patrice.Petersen-Keys@polkcountyiowa.gov  
Project funded: Dec. 2009

Click here to review the project's midterm.  
Click to view a poster and a card about the project.  
Click here to review an article about the project.  
Click here to review the project's final report.  
Click here to review a powerpoint of the project.  
Click here to review evaluation data for the project.

Guide by Cell uses technology to inform and educate park visitors about natural resources, unique park features, and current events. Park guests call, using their cell phone, to listen to expert commentary about the flora and fauna or an informational message regarding that location via a pre-recorded message. This method cuts down on signage costs and allows the interpreter the freedom to change the message seasonally or as needed.
Trees Forever GreenForce--$9,070
Trees Forever, Marion (REAP CEP #10-15)
Contact: Karen Brook
319-373-0650, ext. 14; kbrook@treesforever.org
Click here to view the project's midterm report.
Click here to review the project's final report.
Trees Forever will plan for planting projects for youth ages 12-25 to work with volunteer groups. Youth are currently underrepresented and the program will help develop the next generation of environmental stewards and will provide needed energy and creativity to the groups.

Iowa’s Roadside Native Communities: Wet Prairies--$44,633
University of Northern Iowa Center for Energy & Environmental Education (REAP CEP #10-06)
Contact: Carl Bollwinkel, Cedar Falls
319-273-3217; bollwinkel@uni.edu
Project funded: May 2009
Click here to review the project's midterm report.
Click here to review the project's final report.
This project will use educational materials created by Iowa DOT/LRTF to educate teachers and naturalists about wet prairies during two weekend workshops and reflective evaluative update weekends. UNI’s eii plans to reach approximately 48 teachers representing multi-disciplines K-14.

Defining Grazing as a Management Tool--$14,270
Whiterock Conservancy, Coon Rapids (REAP CEP # 10-14)
Contact: Tolif Hunt
712-684-2697; tolif@whiterockconservancy.org, elizabeth@whiterockconservancy.org
Project funded: December 2009
Click here to review the project's midterm report.
Click here to review the project's final report.
This project is designed to address a growing set of concerns involving the use of managed grazing on restored landscapes in Iowa. While interest in using prescribed grazing as a management tool is growing, there are significant obstacles. WRC seeks to identify, discuss, and arrive at a consensus regarding managed grazing as a tool by working with natural resource managers and cattle producers.

Fit Environment Hits the Trail--$38,049
Winneshiek County Conservation Board, Fort Atkinson (REAP CEP #10-12)
Contact: Marissa Nordschow
563-534-7145; d4os@acegroup.cc
Project funded: December 2009
Click here to view the project's midterm report.
Click here to review the project's final report.
Fit Environment Hits the Trail is an expansion of a previously funded project (Fit Environment). Fit Environment will be promoted statewide through educator/leader workshops and presentations. During four two-part training workshops, methods and concepts will be shared with a wide variety of educators with an emphasis on reaching physical education, alternative education, and after-school youth leaders.
Assist and Monitor the Implementation of REAP CEP Grants—$30,000
University of Northern Iowa Center for Energy & Environmental Education (REAP CEP #10-01)
Contact: Edward Ebert
319-273-3025; susan.salterberg@uni.edu
Project funded: May 2009

UNI CEEE will assist and monitor the implementation of CEP grants* with a goal to assure they are completed as approved by the CEP Board. The CEEE will also assist grantees in determination and reporting of grant outputs and outcomes, and facilitate the marketing of CEP grant results to other educators who could benefit from them and to other audiences who should know about the work of the CEP Board. *The exception will be grant(s) awarded to the to the UNI staff member who fills this role; the DNR will monitor those grant(s).