

The Fellowship of the Stream

October 27, 2015

9:00 a.m.—1:00 pm—Peoria Marriott Pere Marquette
and OPTIONAL 1:00 - 5:00 - Peoria Riverfront Museum

Brought
to you
by:



WELCOME

Matthew Young, The National Great Rivers Research and Education Center

ILLINOIS RIVER ADVENTURES

Jessica Colbaugh, Wild River Academy

EDUCATIONAL LIGHTING ROUND

PROJECT WET

Natalie Marioni, The National Great Rivers Research and Education Center

OUR MISSISSIPPI: UPPER MISSISSIPPI RIVER CURRICULUM FOR GRADES 5-6

Allison Rhanor, The National Great Rivers Research and Education Center

ILLINOIS AMERICAN WATER BRINGS SOURCE WATER EDUCATION TO YOU!

Pam Ingersoll, Illinois American Water

FOCR BRINGS RIVER EDUCATION TO STUDENTS THROUGH THE CHICAGO RIVER SCHOOLS NETWORK

Mark Hauser, Friends of the Chicago River

EXPAND YOUR ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION CAPACITY WITH ILLINOIS- SPECIFIC RESOURCES

Joe Bauer, Illinois Department of Natural Resources

EEAI BRINGS EDUCATORS TOGETHER!

Natalie Marioni, The National Great Rivers Research and Education Center

RIVERWORKS DISCOVERY

Shaina Stewart, RiverWorks Discovery

BREAK

CITIZEN SCIENTIST LIGHTING ROUND

FROGWATCH USA: GETTING TRAINED, PROMOTING IT, AND PARTICIPATING!

Andrea M. Williams, Henson Robinson Zoo

ILLINOIS RIVERWATCH INVITES CITIZENS THROUGHOUT ILLINOIS TO MONITOR AND PROTECT OUR STREAMS

Matthew Young, The National Great Rivers Research and Education Center

MEETING MUNICIPAL EPA RESPONSIBILITIES WITH STUDENTS AND SOCIAL MEDIA

Gary Swick, Friends of the Fox River

BIOBLITZ AT THE DIXON WATERFOWL REFUGE AT HENNEPIN AND HOPPER LAKES

Gary Sullivan and Trevor Edmonson, The Wetlands Initiative

MASTER NATURALISTS HAVING IMPACT ON THE COMMUNITIES THEY SERVE

Jason Haupt, The University of Illinois Extension

BOOTH EXHIBITION SESSION

**PADDLE FORWARD 2014 ILLINOIS RIVER EXPEDITION SLIDESHOW
with LUNCH**

Jessica Colbaugh, Wild River Academy

PEORIA RIVERFRONT MUSEUM (optional ~ 1:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.)

RIVERWORKS DISCOVERY

Shaina Stewart, RiverWorks Discovery

PROJECT WET MINI-SAMPLER

Natalie Marioni

OUR MISSISSIPPI – JUST PASSING THROUGH

Allison Rhanor, The National Great Rivers Research and Education Center

PEORIA RIVERFRONT MUSEUM ACTIVITIES

Dave Grebner, Peoria Riverfront Museum

ILLINOIS RIVER EXHIBIT TOUR

Dave Grebner, Peoria Riverfront Museum

FREE TIME TO EXPLORE MUSEUM

Dave Grebner, Peoria Riverfront Museum

THE FELLOWSHIP OF THE STREAM AGENDA

October 27th, 2015

9:00 AM – 1:00 (5:00) PM

Peoria Marriott Pere Marquette Hotel

9:00 - 9:15 WELCOME

Matthew Young, RiverWatch Biologist, The National Great Rivers Research and Education Center

9:15 - 9:45 MORNING SPEAKER

Illinois River Adventures

Jessica Colbaugh, Wild River Academy

Adventure learning is linking the real world with classrooms through technology. Paddle Forward is an annual trip down a major river where adventurers share what they learn with students and teachers following online. Over 1000 thousand students followed the 2014 Illinois River trip from their classrooms, learning about the environment, policy, river maintenance, history, and even their own backyards.

9:45 - 10:30 EDUCATION LIGHTING ROUND

Project WET (Water Education for Teachers)

Natalie Marioni, The National Great Rivers Research and Education Center

Project Water Education for Teachers (WET) is a national organization committed to providing children, parents, teachers, and community members with resources in water education. Through a network of state host institutions, Project WET trains communities to utilize its diverse curriculum to reach more people with hands-on, interdisciplinary activities, teaching about the importance of water. Divided into seven framework categories including, *physical and chemical properties of water* and *water resources exist within social constructs*, and aligned with national education standards, the WET curriculum is a ready-to-go tool in bringing a variety of water topics and concepts into the classroom and beyond.

Our Mississippi: Upper Mississippi River Curriculum for Grades 5-6

Allison Rhanor, The National Great Rivers Research and Education Center

Our *Mississippi* is a multidisciplinary curriculum about the Upper Mississippi River designed for grades 5-6, with additional activities and extension ideas for upper and lower grades as well. The main goal of *Our Mississippi* is to provide educators with a mix of classroom, self-directed, and collaborative lessons and activities about the Upper Mississippi River that meet a wide range of national learning standards. Activities focus on concepts that can be investigated or demonstrated and follow an interdisciplinary approach, weaving science, technology, and math with social science, language, and arts to address complex, real-life resource management issues and multiple river uses.

Illinois American Water Brings Source Water Education to you!

Pam Ingersoll, Illinois American Water

In a continued effort to emphasize Illinois American Water's (IAW) commitment to source water sustainability, we have implemented the use of a Mobile Education Center (MEC) for use throughout the state. The MEC allows IAW to take conservation programming to the students. The MEC provides an up close approach to water treatment and conservation. Our website has a learning center that has several resources for educators. Recently, our Water Quality group has undergone training in the Project WET (Watershed Education for Teachers) curriculum. Several of those employees will soon be completing facilitator training for the WET program, so as to be another resource for local educators.

Friends of the Chicago River Brings River Education to students through The Chicago River Schools Network

Mark Hauser, Friends of the Chicago River

Friends of the Chicago River's flagship education program, The Chicago River Schools Network, is a teacher-training and field assistance program that helps educators integrate the river into their classrooms. A major component of that are our three curricula. The Rivers Curriculum (for grades 7-12) engages participants in investigating the Chicago River. The river provides participants with a real world laboratory for their scientific investigations and an opportunity to become actively engaged in local issues through service learning. River Citizen (for grades 5-8) aims to teach students about the Chicago River through independent discovery. The program is designed to allow students to establish a personal connection with the river and to foster a desire to take individual action to help the river. Exploring Rivers (for grades K-4) aims to introduce students to what rivers are, what plants and animals depend on rivers, and why rivers are important. Students learn how rivers form and change over time, and build a personal connection to rivers through exploration and direct experience.

Expand Your Environmental Education Capacity with Illinois-Specific Resources

Valerie Keener, Illinois Department of Natural Resources

The Illinois Department of Natural Resources' Division of Education provides Illinois-specific, educational resources and training to formal and nonformal educators in the state. All programs and lessons are developed with learning standards as their foundation. Professional development, grants, items for loan, lessons, podcasts, publications, student stewardship activities through *Earth Day in the Parks* and Kids for Conservation® are some of the opportunities available.

Environmental Education Association of Illinois Brings Educators Together!

Natalie Marioni, The National Great Rivers Research and Education Center

The Environmental Education Association of Illinois (EEAI), founded in 1972, is a membership organization that brings together educators, both formal and nonformal, pre-service teachers, and other environmental professionals to advance environmental education and public engagement in EE, throughout the state. EEAI is committed to providing professional development opportunities, an annual conference, and regional resource fairs to members and the general public. EEAI specifically oversees training for Project Learning Tree and Growing Up WILD, national recognized curricula for educators. Additionally, EEAI provides mini-grants to members who wish to further environmental education and science literacy in their classroom, nature centers, or communities.

RiverWorks Discovery

Shaina Stewart, RiverWorks Discovery

The mission of RiverWorks Discovery® is to educate children and their families about the commerce, culture and conservation of the great rivers of America and their watersheds.

RiverWorks Discovery® is an outreach program of the National Mississippi River Museum & Aquarium and the National Rivers Hall of Fame. Our activities can be presented indoors or outdoors to encourage children to reconnect with nature while they learn about the fascinating world of rivers. We provide educational materials and resources for both formal and informal educators.

RiverWorks Discovery® provides educational opportunities to encourage children and their families to learn about the rivers that flow through their lives. Curriculum is designed to engage the learner and encourage further exploration of the commerce, culture and conservation of our rivers. This multi-disciplinary program focuses on math, history, geography and mapping. Curriculum tools are designed to present river-based learning activities that ask important questions:

- What is in the river?
- Where does it go?

- What is carried on the river barges?
- How do people work on rivers and what do they do?
- Why are rivers important?

RiverWorks Discovery® is designed to correlate to state standards while encouraging children to get outside and explore the water that flows through their lives.

Questions

10:30 - 10:40 BREAK

10:40 - 11:15 CITIZEN SCIENTIST LIGHTNING ROUND

FrogWatch USA: Getting Trained, Promoting it, and Participating!

Andrea M. Williams, Henson Robinson Zoo

Presently, there are twenty-three species of frogs and toads that are native to Illinois and three of them are identified by the Illinois Endangered Species Protection Board as threatened. Illinois frogs and toads can be found living in close proximity to humans. With such a variety of frogs and toads living near humans in Illinois, monitoring frogs for FrogWatch USA is a task that is easy for citizen scientists to accomplish. This presentation will show where to go to get trained, how to best promote FrogWatch USA, and how to engage your citizen scientists in participating.

Illinois RiverWatch Invites Citizens throughout Illinois to Monitor and Protect our Streams

Matthew Young, Then National Great Rivers Research and Education Center

Established in 1995, The Illinois RiverWatch Program trains volunteers to become citizen scientists by monitoring water quality in local rivers and streams. Data is submitted to the statewide RiverWatch database and used by resource managers to track trends in water quality. *Stream Discovery*, the student-arm of the RiverWatch program, trains educators in grades 5-12 to monitor stream using methods specifically designed for ease of use by students. *Stream Discovery* water quality data is entered into the statewide *FieldScope* database for educators to compare and analyze water quality trends for educational purposes. Whether you train to become a RiverWatch Citizen Scientist, or a *Stream Discovery* educator, stream monitoring offers valuable, hands-on opportunities for citizens and students to participate in the sustainability of Illinois streams.

Meeting Municipal EPA Responsibilities with Students and Social Media

Gary Swick, Friends of the Fox River

The Friends of the Fox River (FOFR) Water Quality Monitoring Network has a long history of watershed education and data collection. Since the establishment of an Outreach Educator service in 2009, they have lead nearly 28,000 students into their local streams. There is a need to expand this service in their watershed. These activities are important for watershed health, the experience is effective for fostering a stewardship ethic, and it can help satisfy MS4 requirements. Let's explore how we can protect water quality through education, ecopsychology, and social media.

BioBlitz at the Dixon Waterfowl Refuge at Hennepin and Hopper Lakes

Gary Sullivan, Trevor Edmonson, The Wetlands Initiative

The Dixon Refuge at Hennepin & Hopper Lakes' first BioBlitz was conducted June 13-14, with over 30 scientists and conservation professionals surveying the 3,000-acre mosaic of lakes, marsh, wet meadow, wet to dry prairie, sand prairie, oak savanna, and floodplain- and oak-hickory forest. Our goal was to better understand the ecology and biological diversity of this unique and rare Illinois River valley landscape. Citizen scientists, who've been critical in monitoring the site over its 14-year history, have been invaluable in identifying native species and cataloging biological diversity with their eyes and ears on the ground and in the air.

Master Naturalists Having Impact on the Communities they Serve

Jason Haupt, The University of Illinois Extension

The goal of the Master Naturalist program across the state is to help other connect with nature. The local Master Naturalist program does that is a number of way and through a number of projects throughout the local area. Master Naturalists logged 3,700 hours of volunteer hours and have a significant impact on the local communities and in many cases are vital to the continued operation of the natural locations within Fulton, Mason, Peoria, and Tazewell Counties.

Questions

11:15 - 12:00 BOOTH EXHIBITION SESSION

12:00 - 1:00 LUNCH/AFTERNOON SPEAKER

Paddle Forward 2014 Illinois River Expedition Slideshow

Jessica Colbaugh, Wild River Academy

1:00 - 5:00 PEORIA RIVERFRONT MUSEUM ACTIVITIES (OPTIONAL)

What's Your Favorite Animal?

Shaina Stewart, RiverWorks Discovery

There are more than 220 zoos and aquariums in the United States whose quality and care meet the standards and earn the designation of member, of the Association of Zoos and Aquariums. Visiting these 220-plus institutions a year are 180 million citizens searching for knowledge and entertainment; AZA member institutions attract more visitors annually than all professional sporting events in the country. Of these 180 million visitors the National Mississippi River Museum and Aquarium welcomes 45,000 school age children, many of which have one very important question to ask; what's your favorite animal? At the National Mississippi River Museum and Aquarium, our favorite animals are people. People have the greatest power of all extant animals on earth to do great harm, to do great good, and to enact positive change. So How does RiverWorks Discovery, the national outreach program of the National Mississippi River Museum and Aquarium engage our favorite animals; the public, in the future of Americas rivers? Join us during this special session and discover how River Works Discovery engages the public in the future of rivers.

Project WET (Water Education for Teachers) Mini-Sampler

Natalie Marioni

This mini-sampler session will introduce participants to the Project WET Activity and Curriculum Guide by using an activity from the guide to demonstrate how the guide is structured and used, how activities can be adapted to multiple age groups and students with special needs, and show how to access a network additional Project WET resources. Participants will come away with an understanding of the topics covered in the more than 60 activities included in guide, how to attend an educator workshop to receive a guide, and how easy it is to determine which activities adhere to different national standard correlations.

Our Mississippi—Just Passing Through

Allison Rhanor, The National Great Rivers Research and Education Center

Come explore the ecosystems of the Mississippi River and how humans affect them in this mock migration activity aimed at better understanding the Mississippi Flyway and its importance to migrating birds. In this mini-workshop, we will discuss why birds migrate, how they find their way, and obstacles they face during their journey. Then, we will try the journey for ourselves!

3:00 - 3:30—ILLINOIS RIVER EXHIBIT TOUR AND ACTIVITIES

Dave Grebner, River Science Lab Coordinator, Peoria Riverfront Museum

Enjoy an in-depth tour of the Illinois River Experience Gallery, which presents the human and natural history of the river, and the River Science Lab, which offers the opportunity to manipulate water flow in our Stream Table.

3:30 - 4:00—PEORIA RIVERFRONT MUSEUM ACTIVITIES

Dave Grebner, River Science Lab Coordinator, Peoria Riverfront Museum

We'll continue in our Stream Table and explore other water-quality related activities.

4:00 - 5:00—EXPLORE MUSEUM

Dave Grebner, River Science Lab Coordinator, Peoria Riverfront Museum

Opened in 2012, the Peoria Riverfront Museum has a Dome planetarium, Giant Screen Theater, and a number of galleries: International Feature, Collections, The Street (history), IHSA Peak Performance, Discovery Worlds, and Illinois River Experience. A brief tour will highlight current exhibits and mention future ones. Use your remaining free time to return to some of galleries, or maybe take in a Giant Screen Theater or planetarium show.

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