



Environmental Education Association of New Mexico - EEANM
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For immediate release

Please post to related listservs and distribute at summer workshops for teachers!

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K-12 Teachers to Get Hands-On Environmental Experiences at the 34th Annual NAAEE Conference

Classroom teachers and others who work directly with students are a special focus of the annual conference of the North American Association for Environmental Education (NAAEE) in Albuquerque, New Mexico, in October.

Sessions featuring fun and exciting hands-on activities specially designed for those who work with children are among the more than 230 presentations offered on the agenda from October 25-29. Also featured are thought-provoking discussions on successful efforts to use the environment in curriculum planning. Teachers who attend an NAAEE conference often are able to use the environment as an integrating context for learning to help improve student test scores and attendance rates.

While eagerly welcomed to attend any conference events, teachers will be feted in a gala reception in the Exhibit Hall at 4 p.m. on Friday, October 28. Then, a full day of workshops has been arranged on Saturday, October 29, just for teachers to network and exchange ideas. Three Saturday workshops run from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., with a box lunch provided.

Among the choices is an opportunity to share learning models and activities with Joseph Cornell, renowned educator and author of *Sharing Nature with Children*. Teachers should register early to guarantee their place in any of these workshops, which are expected to sell out quickly.

Ten preconference workshops are offered beginning the evening of Tuesday, October 25, and continuing all day on Wednesday, October 26. Teachers might be most interested in these:

- Engaging Communities and Schools in Environmental Monitoring Projects – A Smithsonian representative takes participants to a park to learn how Smithsonian scientists study diverse ecosystems!
- Aldo Leopold's Land Ethic and Ecological Literacy – Based on the famous *Sand County Almanac* by a man some call "the father of the modern conservation movement," this hands-on workshop allows teachers to become certified Leopold Project Facilitators who can serve as project leaders in their schools and communities.

Teachers who register for the one-day workshop session on Saturday receive a 6-month trial membership in NAAEE as part of their registration fee. For those who select a three-day conference registration, a full year's membership is included.

To register for the conference, or obtain additional information, please visit the NAAEE Website www.naaee.org.

CONFERENCE FIELD TRIP HIGHLIGHT

Los Alamos National Laboratory

Tuesday, October 25

8:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.

Cost: \$60.00 (box lunch provided)

Tour the facilities of the U.S. Department of Energy's premier research laboratory, a beautiful two-hour drive from Albuquerque. Visit LANL and see demonstrations of environmental monitoring and cultural resource protection.

Albuquerque is a city of about 600,000 people and is centrally located in New Mexico along the banks of the Rio Grande. A gateway to the rich and diverse cultures of the American Southwest, it is home to numerous historical, cultural, and ecological places of importance. At an altitude of over 5,000 ft and at the junction of Interstates 25 and 40, Albuquerque is uniquely situated to host visitors wishing to explore the dynamic cultural and natural treasures of New Mexico.