



# Riffles & Pools



December 2011/January 2012



GREEN River Monitoring Event with GM Marion  
McCulloch Middle School 8th Grade students  
(Photo taken by Matt Arbuckle)

## Riverwatch News & Updates

Seasons Greetings Riverwatchers, I hope this edition of Riffles & Pools finds you all in good health. I've just returned from a two-day retreat with all the wonderful volunteers who help facilitate not only the Hoosier Riverwatch program, but also our Project WILD and Project WET programs. Many of these folks work in your communities and they play a big role in keeping Riverwatch active and relevant. I could not do my job without the support of these folks. I would like to give a special shout out to Joe Exl with the Northwestern Indiana Regional Planning Commission. Joe received the 2011 Hoosier Riverwatch Instructor of the Year for his efforts to help folks monitor our waterbodies. Thank you Joe.

With that said, we are in the initial stages of planning a new facilitator training to be held in Spring of 2012 in the Indianapolis area. We will start to accept applications in January and announce the

Hoosier Riverwatch is a program in the Indiana Department of Natural Resources, Division of Fish and Wildlife. We are housed at the Natural Resources Education Center located at Fort Benjamin Harrison State Park.

Fort Harrison State Park - NREC  
5785 Glenn Road  
Indianapolis, IN 46216  
317.541.0617 (phone)  
317.562.0790 (fax)

Visit Hoosier Riverwatch at:

[www.IN.gov/dnr/nrec](http://www.IN.gov/dnr/nrec)

- 4** Funding Opportunities
- 5** Funding Opportunities
- 6** LARE Updates
- 7** Workshop Calendar

## Updates Cont.

candidates by mid February. This is a competitive process, so if you are interested watch your inbox for information regarding the job description, minimum requirements, and how to apply.

I would also like to encourage you during this “down” time (insert laugh here) to take a close look at your data. If you have a site without a latitude and longitude, use our site locator to determine the lat and long and send that information my way. Further, if you notice any errors in your data, send the corrections my way. You can e-mail these to me at [riverwatch@dnr.in.gov](mailto:riverwatch@dnr.in.gov) and I can correct or fill in information through the administrative site.

As we embark on 2012, I want to thank all of you for a wonderful year. Thank your for your patience as we got the new database up and running. Thank you for your involvement in organizations dedicated to improving our water quality. And thank you for your commitment to the Hoosier Riverwatch program.



*“The breeze, the trees, the  
honey bees - all volunteers.”  
-Juliet Carinreap*

# Green Teacher Webinars

Please note: All webinars are archived, and can be freely viewed for a month afterward.

Beyond that, they are only available to Green Teacher subscribers. Visit, [www.greenteacher.com/webinars](http://www.greenteacher.com/webinars) for more information or to register.

## "Sustainable Happiness, Hope & Resiliency"

Monday, December 5, 2011, 7:30p.m. - 8:30 p.m. Eastern Standard Time

Presenters: Catherine O'Brien and Elin Kelsey

Join Catherine O'Brien and Elin Kelsey for an inspiring conversation about sustainable happiness, hope and resiliency. In the Summer 2011 issue of Green Teacher, Catherine and Elin introduced the concepts of sustainable happiness, hope and resiliency and why it's so important to move beyond "gloom and doom." In this webinar, they invite you to join them in a lively conversation about how these ideas are catching hold and causing ripples of optimism across the disciplines of environmental and sustainability education, health and well-being and conservation biology, and around the world. After short presentations, they will share some of the ways they are seeing this work moving out in the world so that participants can start to think of implications for their personal and professional life. Suitability: All formal and non-formal youth educators.

## "Outdoor Teaching Mistakes"

Wednesday, December 7, 2011, 7:30p.m. - 8:30 p.m. Eastern Standard Time

Presenter: Dr. Brad Daniel

This webinar will help participants become better outdoor educators by presenting and discussing a variety of mistakes made by those who teach in the outdoors. After a short video illustrating many of these mistakes, a comprehensive list will be compiled and solutions to each one will be presented and discussed. Suitability: All formal and non-formal youth educators.

## "Using Nature Journals to Teach Students How to Think, Communicate and Act like Scientists"

Wednesday, January 25, 2012, 7:30p.m. - 8:30 p.m. Eastern Standard Time

Presenter: Mark Baldwin

Successful science teaching and learning depends on knowing how to make accurate observations, ask the kind of questions that lead to productive scientific inquiry, and plainly communicate what has been learned. One of the best methods for cultivating these skills is to keep a nature journal. In this webinar we will introduce the necessary tools and a basic set of exercises to make nature journaling a part of how you teach science, and discuss practical applications in the classroom and in the field. Suitability: All formal and non-formal youth educators.

## Funding Opportunities

### **EPA Urban Waters Small Grants**

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) expects to award between \$1.8 to \$3.8 million in funding for projects across the country to help restore urban waters by improving water quality and supporting community revitalization. The funding is part of EPA's Urban Waters program, which supports communities in their efforts to access, improve, and benefit from their urban waters and the surrounding land. Healthy and accessible urban waters can help grow local businesses and enhance educational, recreational and employment opportunities in nearby communities. The goal of the Urban Waters Small Grants program is to fund research, studies, training, and demonstration projects that will advance the restoration of urban waters by improving water quality through activities that also support community revitalization and other local priorities such as public health, social and economic opportunities, general livability and environmental justice for residents. **The deadline for submitting proposals is January 23, 2012.** Visit, <http://www.epa.gov/urbanwaters/funding/> for more information.

### **Boating and Fishing Educational Grant**

The Recreational Boating & Fishing Foundation (RBFF) announces the availability of boating and fishing education grants for 2012. Youth-focused organizations are encouraged to apply for the RBFF's National Youth Fishing & Boating Initiative, which expands on the organization's boating and fishing education outreach efforts. **The deadline for submitting proposals is December 30, 2011.** Visit the RBFF Boating and Fishing Web site, and for complete grant guidelines, <http://rbff.mediaroom.com/2012educationgrants/>.

**Eligible Applicants:** Youth-focused boating, fishing, and conservation organizations.

**Areas of Interest:** The Recreational Boating & Fishing Foundation is a nonprofit organization whose mission is to increase participation in recreational angling and boating.

### **2011 Presidential Innovation Award for Environmental Educators Program**

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) recently announced the 2011 Presidential Innovation Award for Environmental Educators Program. The program, which will be implemented through a partnership between the White House Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) and EPA, recognizes outstanding K-12 teachers who employ innovative approaches to environmental education and use the environment as a context for learning for their students.

Two teachers from each EPA region will be selected to receive the award. Recipients will receive a commemorative plaque and an award of \$2000, to be used to further their professional development in environmental education. Additionally, the local education agency employing each teacher will receive an award of \$2000 to further the recipient's environmental educational activities and programs. EPA and CEQ will announce the inaugural award winners in the spring

# Funding Opportunities

of 2012.

**The application deadline is December 30, 2011.** For more information on eligibility requirements and selection criteria or to submit an online application, visit the website

: <http://www.epa.gov/education/teacheraward/>

## **Captain Planet Foundation**

The Captain Planet Foundation funds projects that meet specific requirements. Generally, the range of grants awarded by the foundation is \$250 - \$2,500. **The deadline for submitting proposals is December 31, 2011.** For complete grant guidelines, visit [http://](http://captainplanetfoundation.org/default.aspx?pid=3)

[captainplanetfoundation.org/default.aspx?pid=3](http://captainplanetfoundation.org/default.aspx?pid=3)

**Eligible Applicants:** Applicants must be exempt from federal taxation under the IRS Code Section 501, in order to be eligible for funding (this includes most schools and non-profit organizations).

**Areas of Interest:** In order to be considered for funding, a proposal must:

- Promote understanding of environmental issues
- Focus on hands-on involvement
- Involve children and young adults 6-18 (elementary through high school)
- Promote interaction and cooperation within the group
- Help young people develop planning and problem solving skills
- Include adult supervision
- Commit to follow-up communication with the Foundation

## *Loaner Trunks*

So you've attended a workshop and want to try your hand at monitoring, but you don't have the equipment? Have no fear, Riverwatch has Loaner Trunks located throughout the state. Loaner Trunks have all the equipment you need to monitor and may be borrowed for varying lengths of time.

Arrangements are made on an individual basis for each location.

To locate a Loaner Trunk in your area, email Lisa at [riverwatch@dnr.in.gov](mailto:riverwatch@dnr.in.gov) for a map and contact information.



## LARE Updates

The Lake and River Enhancement (LARE) program goals include operating a scientifically-effective program in a cost-efficient manner to protect and enhance aquatic habitat for fish and wildlife; and to insure the continued viability of Indiana's publicly accessible lakes and streams for multiple uses, including recreational opportunities. This is accomplished through grant projects that reduce non-point sediment and nutrient pollution of surface waters to a level that meets or surpasses state water quality standards.

Earlier this year, the Indiana General Assembly passed, and Governor Daniels signed HEA 1343 amending the types of issues that the Lake and River Enhancement (LARE) Program deals with. In addition to previous focus areas including invasive aquatic plant control and sediment removal, the new legislation added logjam removal in rivers as a focus for funding.

This necessitated updating LARE policies to help potential sponsors and contractors better understand eligibility for LARE-funded grant awards. These policies involve some complex tangential issues pertaining to current laws and promulgated rules regarding Indiana's natural, scenic, and recreational rivers as well as the salmonid streams so important to certain species of fish in Indiana.

**The deadline for all 2012 LARE applications is January 15, 2012**, so this set of interim policies was developed to provide guidance to potential project sponsors and contractors as soon as possible. Since the amount of available funds was not increased, the competition for limited funds will be greater than ever, but this set of interim policies should help everyone to move forward with planning for the upcoming year.

The interim application form for logjam removal projects is attached. All other application forms for LARE projects are available on the LARE program manual at this link: <http://www.in.gov/dnr/fishwild/3302.htm> in the section called "Applying to the LARE Program." All applications can be completed and submitted electronically.

Your input, comments, and suggestions can be provided via e-mail to: [lare@dnr.IN.gov](mailto:lare@dnr.IN.gov)

**Or mailed to :**

Lake and River Enhancement Program  
Division of Fish and Wildlife  
Indiana Department of Natural Resources  
402 W. Washington Street, W-273  
Indianapolis, IN 46204

# HRW Training Schedule

**Hoosier Riverwatch Volunteer Water Quality Monitoring Training** introduces citizens and educators to water quality monitoring utilizing hands-on habitat, chemical, and biological assessment methods. The sessions are held both inside and outdoors. Any interested adult is welcome to attend, and once certified, may teach students how to monitor.

Although Volunteer Stream Monitoring training workshops are free, you must contact the local host in advance to register. Most workshops are held from 8:30 am - 4:30 pm. Schedule is subject to change. For an updated schedule, visit <http://www.in.gov/dnr/nrec/3042.htm>.

---

## **Basic Training Workshops**

Our workshops have wrapped up for the year. We will start anew come Spring 2012.

## **Hoosier Riverwatch Contact Information**

Fort Harrison State Park - NREC  
5785 Glenn Road  
Indianapolis, IN 46216

317.541.0617 (phone)  
317.562.0790 (fax)  
Riverwatch@dnr.in.gov

If you need to borrow or pick up equipment, our office hours are Monday - Friday from 8:00 am - 4:00 pm. Please contact us prior to any visit so we can let the gate attendant know you will be coming.