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1. PHOTOS FROM 4-H SPORTFISHING EVENTS

State Congress-

www.outdooralabama.com/outdoor-adventures/step-outside-pix/4h/congress/.

Blount County--

www.outdooralabama.com/outdoor-adventures/step-outside-pix/4h/4h.cfm

Pike County-

www.outdooralabama.com/outdoor-adventures/step-outside-pix/4h/pike/

Clarke County-

<http://www.aces.edu/fourh/NaturalResourcesPrograms/Sportfishing/Index.php>

2. YOUTH SHOOTING SPORTS LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE & COACH SCHOOLS

If you work with junior shooters and want to grow and improve your program, you belong at the 2006 National Youth Shooting Sports Leadership Conference and Training Week. Any one who serves as a leader, coach, instructor or active parent in a high school or junior shooting program can benefit from the training courses and conference presentations that will be available at Camp Perry, Ohio on 19-24 September.

<http://www.odcmp.org/0706/default.asp?page=YLC>

3. USA SHOOTING 4-H PASSPORT QUALIFICATION PROGRAM

Just a reminder that the USA Shooting 4-H Passport Qualification Program is still valid. I would encourage you to share this with your local 4-H instructors and youth. You can click on the link below to reach the information on the National 4-H Shooting Sports website.

http://www.4-hshootingsports.org/4H_Passport_Program.pdf

4. BUTTERFLY CONTEST

Deadline: August 15, 2006

Take A Walk® Books and The National Gardening Association (NGA) are teaming up this summer to celebrate butterflies and the kids who love them! Kids aged 8 through 10 are invited to submit drawings of butterflies for the chance to win nature-themed prizes. Download contest details and entry form.

<http://www.takeawalk.com/A5580D/TAWKids.nsf/KidsContests?OpenPage>

5. COCA-COLA REAL 4 H! COMMUNITY GRANTS

DEADLINE: Monday, August 28, 2006 at 12:00 pm EST

4 H and Coca-Cola have combined efforts to support 4 H'ers leading community-based environmental stewardship projects across the United States and its territories. Promoted nationwide as REAL 4 H!, this partnership will Refresh the Environment with Action Leaders in local communities nationwide. This effort, a natural extension of the Coca-Cola Company's commitment to environmental responsibility, will help 4 H further its work in environmental education and earth sciences projects as a part of the Science, Engineering and Technology mission mandate.

This project meets an emerging need identified by the Environmental Protection Agency where "the public presently lacks sufficient knowledge, skills, and motivation to understand and implement the kinds of solutions needed to address today's environmental challenges." Solutions to these problems take various approaches, and to clearly understand the issues, make informed decisions, and develop habits that conserve natural resources involves implementing environmental education at an early age. Successful youth environmental education programs help youth understand their interdependence with the environment, local ecosystems and other natural resources and provide them with opportunities to develop the skills needed to make decisions that protect or improve the environment.

These mini-grants will engage youth in hands-on, science-based, experiential learning that will develop and enhance the young people's ability to identify and understand environmental issues in their communities while enabling them to provide leadership toward solving the issues. Grants will be awarded to county-based 4-H Programs in one of three categories selected by the applicant: water (water quality, water conservation, and/or watershed protection), recycling, or community beautification (including litter abatement). Successful applications will be those that present innovative environmental science within the required categories, incorporates the essential elements of 4-H, reaches a large number of youth, partners with local organizations, actively promotes the partnership with Coca-Cola, and makes a difference in their communities. Contact Lynda Montgomery at 334-844-2232 or montgly@auburn.edu to receive the complete application packet.

6. NEW CMP NATIONAL MATCHES ART POSTER AVAILABLE

The Civilian Marksmanship Program has just received a new, original painting produced by Jerry Antolik, a nationally known and awarded artist from Wyoming. The new painting depicts a familiar scene to most Camp Perry shooters and volunteers. It shows a

National Matches range engineering staff member driving a tractor and trailer with 1000 yard targets, in the midst of Camp Perry's ubiquitous sea gulls, in front of one of Camp Perry's most recognizable landmarks, its main water tower.

The original painting now hangs in the CMP's Camp Perry Headquarters building. This painting was used to print a new poster in the series of posters the CMP produced to celebrate the National Matches through art. The new posters can be purchased at the CMP Store at Camp Perry, Ohio, the CMP Store at Anniston, Alabama, or through the CMP E-Store, <http://estore.odcmp.com/Store/catalog/catalog.aspx>. They are \$12.95 each, plus shipping if ordered through the E-Store (ask for NLU #706NM06).

Source: Gary Anderson, Civilian Marksmanship Program

7. ON-LINE ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION COURSES

**Fundamentals of Environmental Education--September 11 - November 17

This course was developed in collaboration with national EE experts. It provides educators with the knowledge and skills necessary to incorporate quality environmental education into their instruction.

**Applied EE Program Evaluation--September 18 - December 1, 2006

The course is designed to assist environmental educators and natural resource professionals in evaluating their education programs. Participants have the opportunity to develop and apply skills in designing evaluation tools such as surveys, observation forms, and interview and focus group guides. Graduate, undergraduate, or non-credit enrollment options.

Contact: Angela Lemar at Angela.Lemar@uwsp.edu .

8. DOCUMENTARY: WHO KILLED THE ELECTRIC CAR?

Sony Presents Who Killed the Electric Car?

Documentary chronicles the GM EV1, its cultural and economic ripple effects. Web site provides an in-depth look into the timeline and background of this important issue. Check the site for release cities and dates.

<http://www.sonyclassics.com/whokilledtheelectriccar/electric.html>

9. BAT PHOTOS

Bat Conservation International has the largest collection of bat photographs in the world - about 75,000 professional-quality images of bat species from every continent but Antarctica. And now many of the best of those photos are available at the BCI website: www.batcon.org.

The BCI Photo Gallery has just "gone live" with more than 1,000 images that may be browsed, searched and purchased. The Gallery will keep growing day by day as more images are added.

BCI photos have been published in the National Geographic, Smithsonian, Audubon and Time magazines and countless other magazines, newspapers, books, videos and websites.

Most images in the collection were taken by BCI Founder Merlin D. Tuttle, a biologist and award-winning nature photographer.

BCI has photos of every North American bat species and of species from Europe, Asia, Africa, Australia, South America and the Pacific Islands. These images include portraits and bats in a broad range of natural settings: roosting, flying, hunting, feeding, drinking, courting and just about anything else that bats do. The collection also includes many bat-conservation photos of working scientists, bat houses, mine gates and much more.

The photos displayed in the online Photo Gallery are low-resolution, Web-quality images. BCI will deliver print-quality digital images that are professionally color-corrected and cropped to fit your needs. <http://www.batcon.org/vrcnew/intro.asp>

10. WHY SAVING THE ENVIRONMENT IS SUDDENLY HOT

The July 17, 2006, issue of Newsweek magazine cover story The New Greening of America: From Politics to Lifestyle, why saving the environment is suddenly hot is a 10-page review of everything from green energy to green building, agriculture to shopping, the issue features some of the ways our lives are changing to incorporate sustainable practices. The story reports data that EE providers will find effective in their teaching, as well as stories about what motivated people and companies to adopt environmentally friendly practices.

For the complete article, go to <http://www.msnbc.msn.com/id/13768213/site/newsweek/>.

11. SOYBEAN SCRAPS: NATURE'S POLLUTION SOLUTION?

The answer to tomorrow's water pollution problems could come from soybeans, according to Agricultural Research Service (ARS) scientists. Not from the tender legumes themselves, but from the overly abundant hulls that typically end up as a livestock feed.

ARS chemists Wayne Marshall and Lynda Wartelle have discovered that these undervalued hulls--as well as leftover stalks and stems from already-plucked corn and sugarcane plants--make the ideal foundation for a potent filtering agent that can adsorb harmful levels of lead, chromium, copper and cadmium from contaminated waters.

Marshall and Wartelle--who work at the ARS Southern Regional Research Center (SRRC) in New Orleans, La.--have found that it takes just two simple steps to convert these cheap and abundant crop residues into a powerful magnet capable of snagging both positively- and negatively-charged particles of heavy metals in water.

The material that they've succeeded in creating is known as a dual-functioning ion exchange resin. These resins--which are commonly used for treating industrial and municipal waste waters and for recycling heavy metals from solutions--are typically effective in

capturing only one kind of particle with either a positive or negative charge.

But the SRRC researchers' resins can grab both. And Marshall has found that they're more cost-effective than two synthetically-made resins currently in use.

Ion exchange resins work by swapping, or exchanging, the undesirable ions in a water supply with benign ones. In a classic example of this interplay, water softeners work by drawing out and replacing unwanted "hard water" particles, like calcium and magnesium, with ions from sodium.

Marshall and Wartelle give their plant residues a negative charge by adding citric acid, a common food industry additive. The positive charge comes from choline chloride, which the researchers bind to plant fibers by adding DMDHEU (or dimethyloldihydroxyethylene urea)--a chemical that's already known for making molecules stick. In the textile industry, it's the compound that helps dye cling to cotton and wool fibers.

ARS is the U.S. Department of Agriculture's chief scientific research agency. --View this report online, plus any included photos or other images, at www.ars.usda.gov/is/pr

12. RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN AGRICULTURE & NATURAL RESOURCES

The Volume 4, Special Issue, July 2006 issue of Amber Waves, the magazine of the USDA's Economic Research Service (ERS), provides a closer look at the relationship between agriculture and the Nation's land, air, water, and biological resources. The issue contains reprints and updates of articles and statistics highlighting: conservation policy and program design, impact of conservation programs on farmers and the environment, cost-effectiveness of conservation programs, and emerging issues, such as environmental credits.

See <http://www.ers.usda.gov/AmberWaves/July06SpecialIssue/>

13. CONSUMERS GUIDE TO AFTER SCHOOL SCIENCE RESOURCES

This guide, developed by a panel of after-school and science content experts, provides a searchable database of semester- and year-long science curricula for after-school programs, including activity kits, instructor guides, and content appropriate Web sites.

<http://www.sedl.org/afterschool/guide/science/>.

14. "GO GREEN" INITIATIVE REPORTS REMARKABLE RESULTS

Since the "Go Green Initiative" inception in 2002, four State PTA Boards, 13 states, and 235 schools have implemented the initiative and are reporting remarkable results in waste

diversion. The cumulative results can be interpreted in terms of real environmental impact. http://www.gogreeninitiative.org/National_Release_-_2005-06_results.pdf

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"Teaching a child not to step on a caterpillar is as valuable to the child, as it is to the caterpillar."

--Bradley Miller