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1. USAMU SERVICE RIFLE TEAM ANSWERS YOUR QUESTIONS

The USAMU Service Rifle Team is answering your questions pertaining to Service Rifle Shooting including topics such as Equipment and Ammunition, Shooting Positions and Shooting Techniques and Tactics. Go to

[http://www.odcmp.com/usamu/shooting\\_tips.htm](http://www.odcmp.com/usamu/shooting_tips.htm) to view the latest questions and answers. If you have a question you would like to ask, email

[USAMU@odcmp.com](mailto:USAMU@odcmp.com).

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2. RIFLE CLEANING TIPS

Occasionally, CMP customers email tips on how they clean their rifles. The most recent tip was from a customer who received a CMP rifle covered in a layer of pink wax. This article can be viewed at [http://www.odcmp.org/0606/Cleaning\\_Tips\\_Pink\\_Wax.pdf](http://www.odcmp.org/0606/Cleaning_Tips_Pink_Wax.pdf).

Source: Civilian Marksmanship Program

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3. EDITH STEVENS GROUNDWATER EDUCATOR AWARD

Nomination Deadline: July 14, 2006

The Groundwater Educator Award was established to recognize leadership in the field. Anyone actively involved with the implementation and delivery of these education programs is eligible to apply. <http://www.groundwater.org/aw/edithabout.html>

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4. SUMMER SAFETY ALERT FROM THE ALL-TERRAIN VEHICLE SAFETY INSTITUTE

Summer marks a time when children have more free time to enjoy many activities, including riding ATVs. Parental supervision is a key element to a child's safety and children under the age of 16 must be supervised at all times when operating an ATV. Parents literally hold the key to their children's safety. Every ATV has an ignition key, and when a parent or guardian controls the key, they control the use.

There are approximately seven million ATVs in use in the United States being operated by more than 15 million Americans. It is important that all riders understand the

importance of safe and responsible use of ATVs. Almost 90 percent of youth ATV-related injury incidents occur when a youth is operating an adult-sized ATV, meaning that the engine size is greater than 90 cubic centimeters. Every child under the age of 16 should be supervised and should never be permitted to ride an adult-sized ATV.

Consumer Product Safety Commission data show that over 90 percent of all ATV-related fatalities are the result of warned against behaviors. The ATV Safety Institute has eight Golden Rules of ATV safety that address these behaviors and apply to all riders:

1. Always wear a helmet and other protective gear.
2. Never ride on public roads - another vehicle could hit you.
3. Never rider under the influence of alcohol or other drugs.
4. Never carry a passenger on a single-rider vehicle.
5. Ride an ATV that's right for your age. The guidelines are:
  - Age 6 and older      Under 70cc
  - Age 12 and older    70cc to 90cc
  - Age 16 and older    Over 90cc(NOTE: 4-H advocates fitting the rider to the ATV--no matter what the age is).
6. Supervise riders younger than 16; ATVs are not toys.
7. Ride only on designated trails, and at a safe speed.
8. Take an ATV RiderCourse; Call Toll-Free at 800.887.2887, or go to

[www.atvsafety.org](http://www.atvsafety.org).

To reach out with important safety information to the vast number of current and potential all-terrain vehicle riders, the ATV Safety Institute has posted a web-friendly version of its 'Ride Safe, Ride Smart' video on the [www.atvsafety.org](http://www.atvsafety.org) home page for viewing or free download. A VHS copy is also available for a nominal fee.

This eight-minute video demonstrates the importance of getting a proper start in ATV riding, whether you ride ATVs for recreation or for business. Two families are profiled; both sets of parents lead by example, emphasizing riding an ATV that's right for your age, wearing proper protective gear, supervising young riders, and respecting the environment. They also recommend taking an ATV RiderCourse to get the most from your ATV.

The ATV Safety Institute encourages families to watch this fun, informative video together, so they may prepare for a safe, fun summer. For more information ATV safety or to enroll in the ATV RiderCourse nearest you, visit [www.atvsafety.org](http://www.atvsafety.org) or call 800.887.2887. \*\*\*\*\*

#### 5. MY ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION EVALUATION RESOURCE ASSISTANT

My Environmental Education Evaluation Resource Assistant (MEERA) provides evaluation resources for formal and non-formal environmental educators. Current offerings include professionally selected and reviewed how-to guides and other resources for evaluating environmental education programs as well as a discussion forum. Future offerings will include searchable examples of evaluations of environmental education programs. <http://meera.snre.umich.edu/>

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#### 6. ENVIROVET

Envirovet is an organization that brings veterinary medicine to wildlife health issues. Site offers webumentary video clips featuring interviews with Envirovet alumni offering expertise on a variety of wildlife issues.

<http://www.envirovet.org/>

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#### 7. MARINE FISHERIES SERIES ACTIVITIES GUIDE

Habitat Media offers this free online activity guide to help dive deeper into the topics covered in the Marine Fisheries documentary series. The guide includes six engaging, peer-reviewed activities, correlated to national science and social studies education standards - designed for middle and high schools as well as non-traditional educational venues.

<http://www.pbs.org/emptyoceans/educators/index.html>

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#### 8. NATURE STORIES PODCASTS

Each week, these Nature Stories podcasts such as Farming the Desert, Drought in Southern Utah and A Piece of Paradise bring unexpected tales of people's connections with the natural world. Podcasts are curated by Atlantic Public Media, sponsored by The Nature Conservancy and the Public Radio Exchange.

<http://podcast.prx.org/nature/>

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#### 9. NEW LESSON BOOK ON GLOBAL SUSTAINABILITY

Facing the Future's new book for middle and high school teachers, Engaging Students through Global Issues: Activity-Based Lessons and Action Projects, includes inspiring, step-by-step lesson plans that are aligned with standards and designed to help students understand complex global issues and sustainable solutions.

<http://www.facingthefuture.org/#>

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#### 10. TEACHER'S LOUNGE: EXPEDITION SUSQUEHANNA

This Chesapeake Bay Foundation "Teacher's Lounge" Web site provides resources to help teachers use Expedition Susquehanna in the classroom, including lesson plans, curricular resources, and professional development.

[http://www.cbf.org/site/PageServer?pagename=back\\_pa\\_expsuskie\\_teachers](http://www.cbf.org/site/PageServer?pagename=back_pa_expsuskie_teachers)

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#### 11. WEBQUEST EXPEDITION

Virtually paddle alongside the Expedition Susquehanna crew on a journey 444 miles from the Susquehanna river's headwaters to the Chesapeake Bay to investigate water quality and land use.

[http://www.cbf.org/site/PageServer?pagename=edu\\_expsuskie\\_webquest](http://www.cbf.org/site/PageServer?pagename=edu_expsuskie_webquest)

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#### 12. BIRTH OF A HUMMINGBIRD

This is truly amazing. Be sure to click on NEXT PAGE at the bottom of each page; there are 5 pages in all.

A lady found a hummingbird nest and got pictures all the way from the egg to leaving the nest.

Took 24 days from birth to flight. Because you'll probably never in your lifetime see this again, enjoy; and please share.

The photography is wonderful. <http://community-2.webtv.net/Velpics/HUM/>

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### 13. HOW TO ATTRACT SPECIFIC WILDLIFE TO YOUR HABITAT

Wild about hummingbirds? Got a fancy for frogs? Looking to fill your yard with butterflies? The National Wildlife Federation's Backyard Wildlife Habitat program offers tips on how to attract specific types of wildlife to your own habitat. To access the links given in the following article, go to

<http://www.nwf.org/backyardwildlifehabitat/attractspecificwildlife.cfm> .

#### Attract Birds to Your Habitat

- \* Nesting boxes for birds - Attract nesting birds to your yard with a nesting box.
- \* Hummingbirds - Provide a steady diet of both flower nectar and insects for these tiny birds.
- \* Safe birdfeeding - Provide a healthy feeding environment by keeping your birdfeeders clean and safe from predators.
- \* Make a gourd house - Attract purple martins with this crafty project.
- \* Keep your cat indoors - Do one for the birds and keep your furry friend indoors.
- \* Discourage starlings - Stop these pesky birds from crowding out native species.

#### Additional Reading:

Ten Birds That Help Control Garden Pests - Learn which birds are best for bugs.

A room with a flue - For some swifts, nothing is more inviting than a good chimney

#### Attract Insects to Your Habitat

- \* Butterflies - Learn how to attract these winged insects to your yard.
- \* Dragonflies - Attract aerial acrobats to your yard.
- \* Bees - Pick the right plants for these pollinators.
- \* Tent Caterpillars - Ways to distinguish tent caterpillars from gypsy moths.
- \* Bee House - Build a bee house so bees may raise their young.
- \* Good Bugs Bad Bugs - Wondering if the bug on your plants is beneficial or harmful? Learn which bugs are good and which bugs are bad!

#### Additional reading:

Natural Gardening - When it Comes to Pestering Pests, Some Bugs Bug Other Bugs Best.

#### Attract Amphibians and Reptiles to Your Habitat

- \* Frog Facts - Learn more about frogs and toads.
- \* Lizards - Provide space for these insect eaters.
- \* Toad Abode - Learn how to make a simple water and cover feature for amphibians.

#### Attract Mammals to Your Habitat

- \* Bats - Step-by-step instructions on how to build a bat house.

#### Other Wildlife Tips

- \* Squirrels - How to live with the undisputed master of the yard.
- \* Snags - Maintain or create tree snags in your yard.
- \* Black Bear - Birds, Butterflies and ... Bears?
- \* Deer - Humane tools for co-existing with deer.

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#### 14. MAJOR USES OF LAND IN THE UNITED STATES, 2002

This publication presents the results of the latest (2002) inventory of U.S. major land uses, drawing on data from the Census, public land management and conservation agencies, and other sources. The data are synthesized by State to calculate the use of several broad classes and subclasses of agricultural and nonagricultural land over time. The United States has a total land area of nearly 2.3 billion acres. Major uses in 2002 were forest-use land, 651 million acres (28.8 percent); grassland pasture and range land, 587 million acres (25.9 percent); cropland, 442 million acres (19.5 percent); special uses (primarily parks and wildlife areas), 297 million acres (13.1 percent); miscellaneous other uses, 228 million acres (10.1 percent); and urban land, 60 million acres (2.6 percent). National and regional trends in land use are discussed in comparison with earlier major land-use estimates.

See <http://www.ers.usda.gov/Publications/EIB14/>

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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