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1. CHEVRON CONSERVATION AWARDS PROGRAM

Deadline: May 31, 2006

The Chevron Conservation Awards Program recognizes outstanding contributions by individuals and organizations to the conservation of natural resources around the world. Six winners will receive a cash award of \$15,000 to assist in their conservation work.

<http://www.chevron.com/>

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2. CVS COMMUNITY GRANTS PROGRAM

Deadline: October 31, 2006

CVS/pharmacy Community Grants program is accepting proposals for programs targeting children under the age of 18 with disabilities that address any of the following: health and rehabilitation services; public schools promoting a greater level of inclusion in student activities and extracurricular programs; and creating opportunities or facilities that give greater access to physical movement and play.

[http://www.cvs.com/corpInfo/community/community\\_grants.html](http://www.cvs.com/corpInfo/community/community_grants.html)

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3. EDITH STEVENS GROUNDWATER EDUCATOR AWARD

Deadline: July 14, 2006

Award to recognize educators who understand the importance of groundwater, motivate others to protect groundwater, and lead by personal example. Anyone actively involved with the implementation and delivery of groundwater education programs is eligible.

<http://www.groundwater.org/aw/edithabout.html>

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4. "RED, WHITE, AND GREEN CLIMATE CHANGE" GRANT!

Youth Service America and the Civil Society Institute are excited to announce the Red, White, and Green Climate Change Grant. This opportunity offers \$500 to youth between the ages of 15-25 or to organizations that serve youth ages 15-25.

Successful applicants will design a service-learning project that promotes awareness about climate change and possible solutions. Projects should be youth-led, and the service must take place between October 1 and November 30, 2006. Deadline is Thursday, September 1, 2006. Email questions to [redwhiteandgreen@ysa.org](mailto:redwhiteandgreen@ysa.org). To download an application, flyer, and guidelines, please visit:

<http://ga1.org/ct/Bd2C-aK1GuPD/Awards>.

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5. ESTUARYLIVE ~ ONLINE

September 29, 2006 ~ Online

Take your students on an EstuaryLive telecast! EstuaryLive kicks off National Estuaries Day celebrations on Friday, September 29, 2006 by

bringing free, live Internet field trips in four different estuaries around the country, right to your classroom. These online field trips are the next best thing to an actual trip to an estuary, providing students with an exciting and new way to learn about unique estuarine ecosystems.

<http://www.estuaries.gov/elive.html>

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#### 6. WORLD OCEAN DAY ~ JUNE 8TH

World Ocean Day is an opportunity to celebrate our world oceans by participating in events and activities with aquariums, zoos, and museums. Check out the Ocean Project site for activities suggestions and sign the petition to the United Nations to officially designate World Ocean Day on June 8th each year.

<http://www.theoceanproject.org/news/oceanday.html>

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#### 7. NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC CLASSROOM ACTIVITIES

National Geographic classroom activities about "Reasons for Seasons" with embedded links for illustrating Earth's seasonal positions around the Sun. Learn the long and short of the changing of the seasons, then self-test using the cosmic map.

<http://www.nationalgeographic.com/xpeditions/activities/07/season.html>

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#### 8. COMING SOON: THE GREAT WARMING

Filmed in eight countries on four continents, "The Great Warming" is a three-hour television series about climate change and the affects on people in a variety of places around the world. The Web site includes a trailer, links to books, and background information.

<http://www.thegreatwarming.com/>

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#### 9. EDENS LOST & FOUND

Premiers May 18, 2006

Edens Lost & Found issues a wake-up call for greener, more sustainable cities with first two programs of new PBS series premiering May 18th at 10 pm and new book from Chelsea Green Publishing. The four-hour PBS series showcases extraordinary stories of environmental rebirth in very different American cities and the visionary leaders transforming the urban landscape. Each one-hour program examines the environmental, economic, and social issues that confront one of the country's great cities and the innovative solutions developed to help solve problems that all America's cities face. <http://www.edenslostandfound.org>

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#### 10. NEW MOVIE: HOOT

The National Wildlife Federation, Walden Media, and New Line Cinema film "Hoot" is based on the Newbery Honor-winning book by Carl Hiaasen. In this funny, fast-paced new movie, three Florida middle school students fight to save a group of endangered burrowing owls nesting on the property where a brand new Mother Paula's All-American Pancake House is about to be built. Web site offers teaching tools, materials, and discussion forum.

<http://www.walden.com/web/teach/hoot>

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#### 11. ON-LINE NATURE DISCUSSION FORUM

Build a world-wide community of nature enthusiasts and educators by sharing knowledge, resources, ideas and inspirations. The NatureTalk site hosts discussion forums on nature-based mentoring, birding, mammal studies, edible and medicinal plants, animal tracking, primitive skills, nature awareness, and more.

<http://naturetalk.net/>

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#### 12. SIMON SAYS "STOP GLOBAL WARMING"

New Hippoworks.com program designed to teach kids about global warming with activities, lesson plans and printable materials for teachers, and a carbon calculator to help students figure their global footprint.

<http://www.hippoworks.com/animalsearth/>

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13. TEACHER'S ENVIRONMENTAL QUIZ - A HELPFUL ASSESSMENT TOOL FREE (Forest Resource Environmental Education) University of Minnesota environmental quiz for teachers was developed in 1991 and is still used today as a tool for generating discussion and investigation of

issues raised.

<http://www.freenetwork.umn.edu/teachers/envquiz.html>

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#### 14. WOW! WETLANDS EDUCATION IN SPANISH

Welcome WOW! Las Maravillas de Humedales - Environmental Concern's first Spanish extension to WOW! The Wonders of Wetlands curriculum guide.

The 355+ pg book includes extensive wetland ecology information complemented with over 50 hands-on, inquiry-based, cross-curricular activities, presented in lesson-plan format, and correlated to National Science Standards. The new module is a compilation of choice activities translated into Spanish and available through WOW! workshops.

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

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#### 15. NATIONAL SHOOTING MATCHES AND SMALL ARMS FIRING SCHOOLS

Entries for the 2006 National Trophy Rifle and Pistol Matches, the Pistol and Rifle Small Arms Firing Schools and the National Rimfire Sporter Match continue to come in at a fast pace. To date, over 1,500 individual shooters have entered the CMP high-power rifle events that include the John C. Garand, Springfield and Vintage Military Rifle matches, the President's and National Trophy Individual Rifle Matches and two new National Trophy Rifle Matches, the Hearst Doubles and M1 Carbine Matches. Pistol entries are now well over 200 while Rimfire Sporter entries are at 131. Entry in the Pistol Small Arms Firing School includes entry in a new M9 EIC Match. Entry in the Rifle Small Arms Firing School includes entry in the M16 Rifle EIC Match. Range capacities were increased this year and plenty of entry spaces are still available, but some rifle matches are still likely to fill up. To plan your 2006 trip to Camp Perry and make your entries, read or download the Official Match Programs that can be opened at

<http://www.odcmp.com/NationalMatches.htm> or register on-line at

<http://clubs.odcmp.com/matches>.

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#### 16. CMP NATIONAL YOUTH LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE DATES SET

Dates are now set for the 2006 National Youth Leadership Conference that will be hosted by the CMP (Civilian Marksmanship Program) at Camp Perry. The conference will open on Friday, 22 September and end on Sunday, 24 September. The CMP State Junior Directors Workshop will take place on Sunday afternoon, 24 September. CMP/NRA/USAS coach schools for rifle and pistol will be offered on 19-21 September preceding the conference. The National Youth Leadership Conference is designed to update junior leaders of all types about current program developments and to educate them on topics that will benefit their junior shooting leadership activities. Put these dates on the calendar. The official program will be released and posted on the CMP web site in a few days when on-line entries will also open. Go to <http://www.odcmp.com/>.

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#### 17. HOW IS RABIES TREATED?

Because rabies is a life-threatening disease, treatment is essential for any questionable exposure. Treatment of rabies no longer consists of painful injections administered by long needles into the stomach every day for 14 days. The new vaccine is more potent and causes fewer side effects. The new rabies treatment only requires a total of five injections that are given on days 0, 3, 7, 14 and 28. Vaccine shots are given in the arm to adults and in the thigh to small children.

After a bite from a wild animal, call your physician. Rabies is not the only danger: If the wound is deep or large, stitches may be needed. Infection prevention and wound care is essential as well. A tetanus shot may be needed if the bite victim hasn't had a tetanus shot in the past 10 years.

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#### 18. HOW ALABAMA RIDERS HELPED MAKE MINOOKA OHV PARK A REALITY

This is the inside story on the creation of this exciting new multi-use ride area which is set to open in June:

For years the locals knew the area as a trash-infested hangout for hoodlums and ne'er-do-wells that was best left alone. There was an old lake in the middle of all the bramble that was pretty much filled up and had become an impassable swamp. No one really paid too much attention to this BLM-owned land 30 minutes south of Birmingham (the oversight of which was ceded to Chilton County). That is until a group of Alabama OHV enthusiasts teamed up with Chilton County Commissioners and proposed a brilliant idea for this apparently sorry piece of property.

When Glenn Myers and a handful of off-road riders first formed the Cheaha Trail riders in 1988 to explore ways to protect and expand riding opportunities in northern Alabama, they couldn't possibly have foreseen the nationwide implications of their efforts. Yet they have become a shining example of a grassroots riding club that is responsible for the growing number of OHV riding opportunities available to enthusiasts across America.

"We saw the future of off-road recreation being threatened," said Myers, the club's president. "National forests were being closed to motorized recreation, so we set out to do something about it."

The Cheaha Trail Riders initially galvanized their efforts around the creation of a local riding area that eventually became the centerpiece for an OHV trail system called the Kentuck ORV (off-road vehicle) Area in the Talladega National Forest in northeastern Alabama. The undertaking required thousands of hours of volunteer time from the club and it also received funding assistance from a new federal trails funding program, which had just begun in the early '90s which is now known as the Recreational Trails Program (RTP).

Recognizing that grassroots volunteers such as the Cheaha Trail Riders would accomplish even more success by working together, Honda stepped forward in 1990 to underwrite the start of a national network of OHV clubs. In 1991, with dedicated startup and operating funds from Honda, the National Off-Highway Vehicle Conservation Council (NOHVCC) was formed.

The efforts of the Cheaha Trail Riders multiplied immediately. "Without Honda's assistance in those first years, our job would have been much harder and taken more time and effort," says Myers. "We were some of the first e-mail users in the country and we swapped success stories and challenges with other riding clubs. We tapped into resources and knowledge in a big way." Eventually, with the help of the NOHVCC, American Motorcyclist Association (AMA) and the Blue Ribbon Coalition, Alabama's various OHV groups formed under one state organization, The Alabama State Off-Highway Vehicle Association (ALOHVA), and became even more politically potent.

"We've got more than 300,000 ATVs and dirt bikes in the state," said Myers. "When we learned that Chilton County was interested in developing 159 acres for an OHV park, with the help of the NOHVCC we made a presentation to show them that a recreational park was possible for both motorized and non-motorized users, and that it would be viable both environmentally and economically."

With the backing of the Cheaha Trail Riders, Chilton County wrote a grant proposal for RTP funds and received \$874,000 in 2003, with the county and the club providing an additional \$218,500 in funds, supplies and volunteer man-hours. Now, three years later the Minooka OHV Park project is nearly complete with dozens of multi-use ATV, single-track and equestrian trails meandering through lush forest surrounding the revitalized lake. Trails will also be built for hikers, and disabled-access trails will surround the lake, which has already been stocked with fish. A beginning-rider training area is included, along with camping, electrical hookups and restrooms. One of the more exciting concepts in the park's future will be an environmental learning center, modeled after American Honda's OHV Environmental Learning Centers in Colton, CA and Alpharetta, GA.

"We're utilizing all the resources available in the OHV community," said Myers. "We've had great support from the AMA, ATVA, and NOHVCC. Trails Unlimited, a Forest Service partner, is clearing the trails. TREAD Lightly! is providing resources to teach responsible trail use and Honda is lending the expertise in rider training and environmental stewardship."

But it is the local volunteers from the Cheaha Trail Riders and ALOHVA who are carrying the water. They have worked feverishly over the past several years, sacrificing their riding time to clear brush and debris, measure and flag trail, and educate the local community about the project. "It's going to be a model OHV park when all is said and done," said Myers.

Myers and the other leaders of Alabama's OHV community have engaged land managers, politicians, civic leaders, and succeeded in changing their impressions about the OHV community. To what does he credit their success? "We've done it by being forthright and broad-minded," he said. "We want to share public resources with other user groups. We want to be good stewards of the land. We want to be good neighbors. And we're willing to lead the effort because OHV people are doers. In the end, we are all going to benefit."

Minooka OHV Park is slated to open to the public in June with a grand opening featuring the Governor for the ribbon cutting. And the best news is that two more big parcels of land bordering the trails have been purchased by Minooka OHV Park, giving the park a total of 366 acres to work with now. For more information on Minooka OHV Park see the Cheaha Trail Riders website at [www.cheahatrailriders.com](http://www.cheahatrailriders.com).

Source: NOHVCC News 4, #5, 5/9/06.

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#### 10. NEW POLARIS GRANT PROGRAM AWARDS FUNDS TO NORTH ALABAMA TRAIL RIDERS ASSOCIATION AND CHEAHA TRAIL RIDERS

The first of its kind in the ATV industry, the 'T.R.A.I.L.S.' grant program was launched in January for ATV clubs, associations and grassroots groups. ATV riders and the trails they use are the lifeblood of the sport and Polaris aimed to create a program to help. The T.R.A.I.L.S. program makes funds available to national, state and local organizations in the United States to ensure the future of ATV riding.

T.R.A.I.L.S. stands for:

- . T = Trail Development
- . R = Responsible Riding

- . A = Access
- . I = Initiatives
- . L = Lobbying
- . S = Safety

The grant program encompasses two main objectives - promoting safe and responsible riding, and preserving access. Funds can be used by organizations for trail development and maintenance projects, safety and education initiatives, lobbying and other projects to increase and maintain land access. "Trail access is our number one challenge in the industry," said Bennett Morgan, president and chief operating officer of Polaris. "As a manufacturer, we're taking the lead and responsibility by doing something about it."

The grants ranged from \$2,000 to the maximum \$10,000 and will be applied toward projects including safety and education, trail mapping and marking, OHV park and forest service enhancement and trail development, youth safety events and lobbying efforts.

We're really pleased with the response from ATV clubs and organizations in this first round," said Morgan. "We received an application from an ATV club in virtually every state. That's phenomenal because together we grow the sport we love."

For more information on the 'T.R.A.I.L.S.' grant program and an application form, visit the Polaris Web site at [www.polarisindustries.com](http://www.polarisindustries.com) and click on "Riders," "Polaris Riders", then select "Right to Ride."

**Grant applications are reviewed three times per year -- in April, August and November, with corresponding submission deadlines of March 1, July 1 and October 1.** Organizations may apply for a maximum of two grants per year and all organizations must have 501c3, 501c7 or non-profit organization status. Project funding from other sources is an important criteria in order to be considered for a T.R.A.I.L.S. grant.

T.R.A.I.L.S. Grant Application Form:  
<http://www.pi54.com/ATV/PDFs/TRAILSGrantAppForm.pdf>

Source: NOHVCC News 4, #5, 5/9/06.  
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#### 20. ALABAMA'S NEW STATE MAMMAL

Thanks to Escambia students, Alabama has a new state mammal. On April 12th, Governor Bob Riley, joined by students from Escambia County Middle School, signed Senate Bill 76 into law, making the black bear Alabama's official state mammal.

For the Escambia County students, their teacher Shiren McGlothren, and the Director at Turtle Point Science Center, Shirley West, it was the end of a long and productive class project. To read more, go to <http://www.alabamawildlife.org/newslinks/statemammal.asp>.

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#### 21. WEBCAST: INTEGRATING WETLANDS INTO WATERSHED PROTECTION EFFORTS

EPA is pleased to invite you to participate in a free, on-line training seminar on May 17th entitled "Integrating Wetlands into Watershed Protection Efforts" featuring Tom Schueler with the Center for Watershed Protection. Time: 12:00 pm - 2:00 pm CST. On-line registration is now open at <http://www.clu-in.org/conf/tio/owinwetpro/>.

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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