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1. NATIONAL WILDLIFE WEEK BEGINS APRIL 21

National Wildlife Week(tm) starts on Saturday--April 21! During the coming week, you can help connect people with nature in your own neighborhood. Here's how:

Get a group of young people or families together and make a difference for your community. Choose from environmental service projects to help create healthy habitats, connect people with nature, and reduce the amount of greenhouse gases leading to global warming--or design your own project. Over 100 groups have already committed to participating in National Wildlife Week. AND

Invite some friends to join in the National Wildlife Watch. Download a Watch list of wildlife in your state, take a walk around your neighborhood or favorite outdoor spot, and see how many animals you can find. Wildlife Watch lists will be available online starting Wednesday, April 18. Come back to post your findings at National Wildlife Federation's NatureQuest(tm) site. Upload your wildlife photos too!

Visit the National Wildlife Week website to download service projects and National Wildlife Watch information:

<http://online.nwf.org/site/R?i=W13P5bvZR10ETXQTmVb9mA>.

For questions, e-mail us at nationalwildlifeweek@nwf.org .

2. GREEN HOUR SITE

National Wildlife Federation has launched the Green Hour(tm) program to help parents and caregivers get their kids off the couch and out in nature. Check out www.greenhour.org today!

<http://online.nwf.org/site/R?i=hZ-C3wcaz403K-hMcGEfIw>.

3. SCORE HIGHER WITH YOUR ATHLETES

One of my favorite coaches once told me, "Anyone can learn the Xs and Os, but one of the most challenging aspects of coaching is getting into the heads of the athletes." Why do athletes sometimes show high intensity and other times appear oblivious to what's going on around them? Why do some kids participate in a sport for many years while others drop out only after a few? The answers to these questions revolve around athletes' motivation which is influenced by both personal and situational factors.

To create an environment that enhances rather than detracts from athletes' motivation, try to find out as much as you can about what motivates each athlete on your team.

- Observe. What do your athletes respond well to? What seems to bore or frustrate them?
- Communicate. Ask your athletes what they like and dislike. Solicit feedback as this will not only help you to learn more about your athletes, but also make them feel important.
- Write it down. Ask your athletes to list their reasons for participating in the sport along with season goals. You'll be in a better position to help athletes meet their goals if you know what they are. Plus, when athletes can see they've met their goals at the end of the season, it encourages them to continue participating in the sport.

Once you have a sense of your athletes' goals and reasons for participating in the sport, you can decide what types of practice experiences to provide for them and what forms of instructional assistance will be most helpful. In some cases, you may need to encourage athletes to adjust their individual goals or think about how individual achievement will contribute to the team's overall success.

For a sample "Participation and Season Goals" form, go to our free download area (<http://rs6.net/tn.jsp?t=8bz6u5bab.0.sxawbsbab.715yjdbab.113908&ts=S0240&p=http://www.asep.com/administrators/samples.cfm>) on the ASEP website.

4. THE NOSE KNOWS

Just what is it that causes some hay fever sufferers so much grief? Every year's growing season brings sniffles and sneezes to some of us - and pollen is the cause.

Microscopic pollen grains are produced by the male part of a flower. They must then reach a female part for pollination (fertilization) to take place. Pollen is usually carried either by insects or wind from one plant to another. It's the wind-borne pollen that causes hay fever sufferers so much grief. Since wind pollination is hit-or-miss, plants

using this method must send out vast quantities of pollen to ensure that at least some grains reach their targets. Unfortunately, the human nose becomes an innocent bystander! <http://www.enaturalist.org/unit/245>

5. 2007 ALABAMA STATE PROGRESSIVE PISTOL JUNIOR OLYMPIC QUALIFIER
The Shelby County Shooting Sports Association (SCSSA) announces the 2007 Alabama State Progressive Pistol Junior Olympic Qualifier. The match will be held at the Lakeshore Foundation on Saturday, April 28, 2007. All shooters who have not reached their 21'st birthday are invited to participate regardless of their pistol shooting experience. Match participants will receive an invitation to the 2007 National Progressive Pistol match in Bowling Green, KY to be held in July.

For more information or to obtain the match program visit our website at [_www.shelbyshootingsports.org_](http://www.shelbyshootingsports.org) (<http://www.shelbyshootingsports.org>) and go to the events page. Also visit the USA Shooting website at [_www.usashooting.org_](http://www.usashooting.org) (<http://www.usashooting.org>) .

6. INSTRUCTORS FOR JAKES EVENT NEEDED

Date: June 9

Location: Ft. Toulouse (Elmore Co.)

The National Wild Turkey Federation is sponsoring a JAKES event for youth on Saturday, June 9, 8:00 a.m. until 1:00 p.m., at Ft. Toulouse in Wetumpka. They need instructors in archery, air rifle shotgun & muzzleloading. Lunch will be provided for instructors. There will be two stations for each discipline. The Department of Conservation & Natural Resources is providing the equipment. If you can help at this event, please contact Chet Mathews at 334-799-8885 or carolmattsmk@bellsouth.net .

7. CRITTER OF THE MONTH

You'll find me in almost every American habitat from timberline meadows to lowland deserts, though I am most abundant in deciduous forest areas. I am about 4 to 5 inches in length with shiny brown fur. My wings, ears, feet and face are dark brown to black. I spend the daylight hours sleeping in dark secluded areas such as hollow trees and beneath loose tree bark. At night I enjoy preying on small beetles but can also consume impressive quantities of a wide variety of night-flying insects, many of which are crop and forest pests. What am I?

<http://online.nwf.org/site/R?i=Rx0qxBHKW4MnJ93KnK0Q3Q..>

8. ENDANGERED SPECIES DAY

On May 18, 2007, America will celebrate endangered species success stories, including the American bald eagle, peregrine falcon, gray wolf, grizzly bear, humpback whale and many others. Celebrate Endangered Species Day by

learning about endangered species in your area, providing habitat for wildlife in your yard or school, signing the Endangered Species Act pledge or visiting a local zoo/aquarium. Click here for more info:

http://online.nwf.org/site/R?i=gIxdFwT7hn-ERKuGfyEt_w.

9. COPING WITH THE AFTERMATH (VA. TECH)

- National Child Traumatic Stress Network -- Philip Little, Director of Communications, 919-812-9598 (mobile)
- Help with the Healing -- <http://www.connectforkids.org/node/392>
- Talking to Kids about School Violence -- <http://aboutourkids.org/>
- How Safe are College Campuses? -- <http://www.csmonitor.com/2007/0418/p01s04-ussc.html>
- Children & the Aftermath of Katrina: From Fear to Hope (message also applies to Va. Tech -- http://www.yoursocialworker.com/p-articles/fear_to_hope.htm)
- Chuck Hill adapted the following articles after Hurricane Katrina. Contact him at hillcar@auburn.edu :
 - Childhood Stress—what parents can do
 - During Times of Stress: Strategies for Parents and Teachers
 - Disaster Recovery

Flying Wild Educator Training

Thursday, June 7, 2007

Auburn University's Donald E. Davis Arboretum

9:00 am until 2:00 pm

Space is limited to the first 25 registrants!

Lunch hosted by Hayley Redd Development Company

Interested in learning more about birds and earning Continuing Education Units at the same time? Join us for the *Flying WILD* workshop at Auburn University. *Flying WILD* program was developed by the Council for Environmental Education with a grant from National Fish & Wildlife Foundation and ConocoPhillips. The purpose of the *Flying WILD* program is to engage students in bird education efforts with the intent of encouraging increased environmental stewardship among youth.

Attendees will receive a 4-hour workshop that is fun-filled and interactive, with hands-on experiences in conducting activities and implementing the *Flying WILD* program. The training is ideal for teachers, environmental educators, school administrators, after-school program staff, and youth group/service organization leaders.

Training participants receive:

- ***Flying WILD: An Educator's Guide to Celebrating Birds;***
- a detailed orientation on how to use the guide and options for implementing Flying WILD;
- background information on migratory birds;
- practice conducting Flying WILD activities;
- an overview of how Flying WILD activities connect to subject areas across the curriculum;
- contact information and networking opportunities for working with local bird experts and conservation organizations;
- suggestions for organizations and businesses to involve from the local community;
- and strategies for assessing student learning and evaluating the program's success.
- Lunch hosted by Hayley Redd Development Company, Auburn, Alabama
- Course instructor is Doyle Keasal, Extension Specialist, Environmental Educator, Discovering Our Heritage Coordinator

The workshop is free to all educators, but registration is required. Space is limited to 25 attendees. Deadline for registration is **May 25, 2007**. Please complete the form below and fax or mail to Kay Stone, AUEI, 101 Comer Hall, Auburn, AL 36849 or 334/844-4462.

Name _____

Address _____

School/ Organization _____

Phone _____ E-mail _____

Special dietary needs _____



Sponsored by:
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