

HAVE A HAPPY AND SAFE MEMORIAL HOLIDAY WEEKEND!

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1. 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.

2. TEACHER CONSERVATION WORKSHOPS

Each year the Alabama Forestry Foundation sponsors two workshops for teachers to help them learn ways to teach about forestry and the environment in their classrooms. These workshops use a combination of hands on activities,

field trips and lecture to help teachers understand the importance of managing our natural resources. For 2007 the workshops will be:

Central Alabama Conservation Workshop

June 12-14, 2007

Tuscaloosa, Alabama

Teachers Conservation Workshop

July 9-13, 2007

Auburn, Alabama

http://www.alaforestry.org/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=61&Itemid=98

3. "DISCOVERING OUR HERITAGE THROUGH THE OUTDOORS" WORKSHOP

This workshop will be held at AWF's headquarters at Lanark in Millbrook (just 10 miles north of Montgomery) where we just completed over 5 miles of new nature trails and boardwalks. This annual workshop will introduce you to the Discovering Our Heritage (DOH) program. DOH is a model educational program that incorporates environmental education as a means to integrate the teaching of history, geography, science, math and language arts on a day-to-day basis. The cost for the workshop is only \$35 (board & lodging included), and you will receive training in Project WILD, Project Aquatic WILD, Project Learning Tree, and more!

This workshop is coming up quickly...June 18! Sign Up Today! -

http://www.alabamawildlife.org/conservation_education/teacher_workshops.asp

4. "DISCOVERING ALABAMA'S LIVING STREAMS" SUMMER WORKSHOPS

These workshops will provide participants with the knowledge and resources needed to use Alabama's beautiful backyard streams and ponds for teaching aquatic science and water pollution principles. Six different workshops will be held at different locations across the state this summer.

Space is limited! Sign up today! -

http://www.alabamawildlife.org/conservation_education/teacher_workshops.asp

5. VISIT THE "ASK THE EXPERT" NATURE DATABASE

"Ask the Expert" is a nature database of Alabama animals, plants, insects, aquatic life, rocks, and minerals. Project Community members and Discovering Alabama have partnered together to provide this new high-tech extension to the outdoor classroom, which was created specially for the students of our state to aid them in identifying the natural wonders of Alabama. The website allows students to submit a photo of an animal, plant, rock or mineral to be identified by a group of experts. In addition, students can send the experts questions regarding the subject in their photos. There are already over 180 different flora and fauna species identified on the website.

To learn more, visit their website! -

<http://www.discoveringalabama.org/discovery/>

6. THREE-POSITION AIR RIFLE SUMMER CAMPS

2007 Civilian Marksmanship Program Three-Position Air Rifle Summer Camps!

The new camp season starts

in two weeks and there are still a few openings, especially in the 11-15

June Reno, NV camp and 2-6 July Millersville, PA camp. We are still

accepting applications for these exciting new locations, but not for long,

so don't let this opportunity pass you by! For more information on the

Summer Camp program please visit the CMP website at,

<http://www.odcmp.com/Programs/camp.htm>. For ques-tions please contact

Sommer Wood at swood@odcmp.com or by phone at 419-341-5248.

7. THREE-POSITION PRECISION & SPORTER AIR RIFLE CHAMPIONSHIPS

The Daisy/USJCC Junior Three-Position Precision & Sporter Air Rifle

Championships will take place 1-3 July at Western Kentucky University's

Diddle Arena Auxiliary Gym in Bowling Green, KY. Individuals may register on-line at <http://clubs.odcmp.com/cgi-bin/matchInfo.cgi?matchID=2291>. For more information, contact Denise Johnson at (800) 643-3458 ext 4317, djohnso@daisy.com or Dwight Watt at (478) 494-3095, Dwight-Watt@worldnet.att.net.

8. SMALLBORE/AIR RIFLE SUMMER CAMP

The United States Army Marksmanship

Unit will once again host a Junior Rifle Camp this summer. The dates are 13-17 August 2007 at Fort Benning, GA. This junior shooting camp is open at shooters ages 12-20 with a cost of \$35 per shooter. For further information and registration packet, please contact 2LT Lucas Leinberger at lucas.leinberger@usaac.army.mil or by telephone 706-545-2343.

9. POLLINATOR WEEK

June 24-30, 2007 has been designated National Pollinator Week by the U.S. Senate and the U.S. Department of Agriculture. Check out the Pollinator Week website , which includes information about pollinators and ideas for what you and your students can do to protect them:

http://www.pollinator.org/pollinator_week.htm

You can also download Nature's Partners, an inquiry learning-based curriculum for young people in grades 4 through 6 <http://www.nappc.org/curriculum/> and The Pollinator's Journey <http://www.nwf.org/schoolyard/newsletteractivity.cfm> .

Source: National Wildlife Federation

10. LEGACY'S SUMMER TEACHER INSTITUTE

The deadline for Legacy's Summer Teacher Institute has been extended. Get your application in ASAP. The workshop dates are Sunday, July 15 - Friday, July 20. Summer Institute combines exciting field trips (see list below) with content lectures by environmental specialist from around the state. Educational hands-on teaching strategies are led by the Summer Institute staff. Summer Institute is a comprehensive, hands-on training course for Alabama teachers interested in learning about environmental topics and issues. The teachers are trained to integrate topics, such as pollution prevention, ecology, waste management and natural resources into their classroom curriculum. The

Institute is designed to equip teachers with hands-on teaching strategies, field experiences and content material relevant to protecting our environment. Participants stay on campus during this week of educational opportunities. Some of the field trips are: visit McWane Science Center, Alabama Wildlife Center @ Oak Mountain, Alabama Power Water Course, Clanton, Canoeing Cahaba River, Nike Hike @ Ruffner Mountain, Turkey Creek, Birmingham Botanical Gardens and the Birmingham Zoo and more.

Legacy workshops are free, but a refundable deposit is required with the workshop application. The deposit will be refunded upon completion of the workshop. Teachers receive Professional Development hours or CEU's and a \$100 Gift Card Stipend for attendance. Any K-12 teachers currently teaching in Alabama, recent education graduates, graduate students and educators are eligible to attend any of Legacy's workshops. An application can be downloaded at Legacy's website www.legacyenvd.org <<http://www.legacyenvd.org/>> . If you need more information you may email Marijean Hadley marijean@legacyenvd.org or call her at 800-240-5115.

11. GARDENING FOR WILDLIFE

It's so easy! Gardening for wildlife means you'll get to see beautiful butterflies and birds, as well as have a vibrant yard filled with native plants. Start your own wildlife habitat today <http://www.nwf.org/gardenforwildlife/> .

12. CRITTER OF THE MONTH

You'll find lots of us in wetlands and agricultural areas all across North America. I may appear common at first, but take a closer look at my colorful shoulders contrasted by my otherwise black plumage and you'll agree I am striking! I am known for fiercely defending my territory during breeding season. I will even attack much larger animals, including horses and people.

What am I?

http://www.nwf.org/kidZone/kzPage.cfm?siteID=3&departmentId=107&articleId=185&cat=null&guideAction=species&species_id=2531

13. U.S. FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE CELEBRATES 100TH BIRTHDAY OF PIONEERING CONSERVATIONIST RACHEL CARSON

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service on May 27 will join the country in celebrating the centennial birthday of Rachel Carson, a one-time Service employee whose pioneering book *Silent Spring* is often credited with

sparking the modern environmental movement.

In honor of the centennial, the Service is hosting events around the country and has developed special environmental education programs and exhibits. For a complete list of programs and events, visit <http://www.fws.gov/rachelcarson> .

"Rachel Carson is one of our true conservation heroes," said Service Director H. Dale Hall. "The Service continues to embrace the principles She championed-the importance of sound science, respect for all living things, and the need to connect people, especially children, with nature. Perhaps the greatest gift she left us is the notion that one person, working With passion and a strong sense of purpose, can indeed make a difference."

Carson was born and grew up in a rural Pennsylvania community where she spent a great deal of time exploring the forests and streams near her family's farm. She was first published at age 10 in a children's magazine dedicated to the work of young writers.

In 1925, Carson entered Pennsylvania College for Women as an English Major but later switched to biology. Upon graduation from Pennsylvania College, she was awarded a scholarship to complete graduate work in biology At Johns Hopkins University in Maryland-a rare accomplishment for a woman in 1929.

Carson's dual skills in writing and biology led to a job with the U.S. Bureau of Fisheries (now the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service) in 1935. During her 15-year career with the Service, she wrote numerous pamphlets and bulletins on conservation, including the "Conservation in Action" series, which eloquently describes the National Wildlife Refuge System's role in protecting the environment and maintaining wildlife resources for future generations. Carson's first book, *Under the Sea-Wind* (1941), highlighted her unique ability to present complex scientific material in clear poetic language that captivated readers and sparked their interest in the natural world.

Her second book, *The Sea Around Us* (1951), remained on The New York Times' best-seller list for 81 weeks. Its success prompted Carson to resign her position with the Service in 1952 to write full time. She eventually returned to the germ of an idea, about the role of pesticides in the environment, 10 years after she left government service. The final result was *Silent Spring* (1962), a groundbreaking work that urged the nation to consider the effects of chemicals on the environment. *Silent Spring* was informed by nearly two decades of field and laboratory research carried

out by Service biologists to study the effects of pesticides on wildlife, primarily birds and their eggs. The book eventually prompted the federal government to order a complete review of pesticide policy, and Carson was asked to testify before a Congressional committee. As a direct result of that review, the use of DDT was banned in the United States in 1972. The action has widely been cited as one of the primary reasons bald eagle populations in the lower 48 states have climbed from an all-time low of 417 nesting pairs in 1963 to an estimated high of 9,789 breeding pairs today.

Five years after Carson's death in 1964, the Fish and Wildlife Service named one of its refuges near her summer home on the coast of Maine as the Rachel Carson National Wildlife Refuge to honor her memory. Today her legacy continues through the work of the Service's Environmental Contaminants program and an increasingly knowledgeable American public concerned about the health of their local environment.

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service is the principal federal agency responsible for conserving, protecting and enhancing fish, wildlife and plants and their habitats for the continuing benefit of the American people. The Service manages the 97-million-acre National Wildlife Refuge System, which encompasses 547 national wildlife refuges, thousands of Small wetlands and other special management areas. It also operates 70 National fish hatcheries, 64 fishery resources offices and 81 ecological services field stations. The agency enforces federal wildlife laws, administers the Endangered Species Act, manages migratory bird populations, restores nationally significant fisheries, conserves and restores wildlife habitat such as wetlands, and helps foreign and Native American tribal governments with their conservation efforts. It also oversees the Federal Assistance program, which distributes hundreds of millions of dollars in excise taxes on fishing and hunting equipment to state fish and wildlife agencies.

Source: David Eisenhauer 202-208-5631 and Valerie Fellows 202-208-3008, U.S. fish & Wildlife Service

14. BOATING, FISHING AND AQUATIC RESOURCES STEWARDSHIP

The *Best Practices for Boating, Fishing and Aquatic Resources Stewardship Education* tool kit is available to view and download for FREE at <http://www.rbff.org/page.cfm?pageID=20>. Providing clubs and organizations, government agencies and educators with tools and insights about how to deliver better programming, the tool kit is not content or curricula, but a systematic way

of making sure that your organization has addressed the many factors that are needed to achieve success. Materials include: a Best Practices notebook, trainer's guide, information sheets, PowerPoint presentation and evaluation tool.

Source: Recreational Boating & Fishing Foundation

15. SAFE BOATING TECHNIQUES

When you're preparing for a day on the water, always cover the basics:

- Arm yourself with swimming and boating skills: enroll in a swim course and boating course in your area.
- Buckle up with a comfortable and properly fitted life jacket.
- Install and maintain a CO detector in accommodation areas. Remember that you can be exposed to dangerous levels of carbon monoxide both inside and outside the boat.
- Watch the weather to prepare for local conditions and electrical storms. Because water conducts electricity, it is time to stop boating if you can see or hear a storm.
- Communicate your trip details in case of emergency. Tell your plan to a friend on the mainland: who is on the boat, where you will be, and how long you will be gone.
- Never operate a boat while or after drinking alcohol.
- Remember to keep all boat maintenance chemicals in their original containers. Keep these, as well as medications, lighter fluid, bug killers, lamp oil and alcohol out of sight and reach of children.
- Post the Poison Control Center number, 1-800-222-1222, on the boat and call its 24-hour hotline for any suspected problems or questions concerning carbon monoxide or other poison emergencies.
- List CPR instructions and a local emergency number on the boat. Keep up-to-date on CPR procedures.
- Maintain constant supervision of children, regardless of their swimming abilities or use of life jackets.
- Do not swim or wade near a boat's exhaust pipe, sit on the swim platform when the engine is running, or hold onto the deck while the boat is moving.
- Keep your boat a minimum of 20 feet from the nearest running generator or engine. Never, ever enter the enclosed exhaust vent area under a swim platform! Exhaust from boat engines can be deadly sources of carbon monoxide poisoning.
- Do not overload a boat with too many passengers or too much equipment.

- Use navigation lights at night.
- Use an outboard motor that is the right size for the boat.

Boaters also must follow the "Rules of the Road," which include knowing which boat has the right-of-way. The U.S. Navigation Rules include:

- Boats approaching each other must stay to the right at all times and pass each other port (left) side to port side.
- You can overtake another boat on either side, but you must use caution so that your boat's wake does not endanger the boat being passed.
- When boats approach at an angle, the boat on the starboard (right) side has the right of way and must hold its course and speed. The other boat must keep clear and pass behind the boat with the right of way.
- Sailboats have the right-of-way over powerboats.

Source: **Safe Boating Partnership Council** ,

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

16. FISHING SAFETY TIPS

Follow these tips to ensure a safe fishing experience:

1. If using a boat to fish, wear your life jacket and make sure that your passengers wear theirs, too.
2. Inspect waterfronts daily – the natural environment is subject to change without notice.
3. Don't fish in areas where it is not permitted. These areas have been declared "off limits" to fishing to protect wildlife, vegetation, or for your safety.
4. When choosing a site for fishing, always consider safety factors. Because fishing is practiced in a variety of environments, evaluate factors specific to safety in each environment.
5. Weather is always a factor. Set up a weather committee or rotate weather forecasting responsibilities.
6. Bring along extra safety items such as water, flashlights, maps, and a cellphone or radio.
7. Always wear footwear appropriate to the conditions.
8. Stay dry, warm, and protected from the elements. Wear a waterproof sunscreen with an SPF (sun protection factor) of at least 15. Wear thin layers of clothing, and progress outward to include water and wind protection as the final layer.

9. Use appropriate insect protection measures, including dressing properly and using repellents.
10. Keep fishing knives sharp and cover the blade when not in use.
11. Handle fish carefully.
12. Use safety glasses when casting.
13. Use caution when baiting and removing hooks.

Source: <http://www.takemefishing.org/>

17. EARTHWATER STORM DRAIN STENCILS

We hope you'll visit Earthwater's user friendly website at www.earthwater.org where you'll find our best selling stencil designs as well as the tools to design your own storm drain stencil! Earthwater would like to invite you to join other watershed organizations, educators, and business partners in a project that is affecting communities throughout the nation. Non-point source pollution from runoff in local storm-drains accounts for at least 60% of water quality problems. Stenciling storm-drains alerts citizens to this problem and promotes positive change through community awareness and involvement.

Start educating your local community today! We have a variety of stencils for your group or organization to choose from. Our high-quality Mylar stencils may include tailored information such as the name of your watershed, graphics depicting local fish and waterfowl species, and individualized messages available in a variety of languages.

When you purchase Earthwater stencils you receive a reusable product that involves community members in watershed restoration and protection, fulfills EPA Clean Water Act Phase II storm-water requirements, and is an effective service learning program. You also support leadership development in environmental education: 100% of stencil proceeds support Earthwater, a non profit organization whose programming has been affecting positive change in communities for the past 18 years.

Please visit www.earthwater.org for information regarding stencil options and pricing. For more information, contact Emiy Allan, Earthwater, P.O. Box 1850, Hayfork, CA 96041, 530-628-5334, eallan@earthwater.org ,www.earthwater.org

18. YOUR SKIN IN THE SUN

"Beauty's but skin deep," observed a poet of Elizabethan times--a depth, actually, of only a few millimeters. This thin, elastic covering gloves the body from scalp to sole, giving color and character to the human form. Of all the body's tissues, none is more exposed to disease and injury than the skin.

Here are a few tips and trivia about this wonderful (but often abused) organ:

- Skin cancer is the most common form of cancer. Ultraviolet light is its leading cause. People of northern European descent, having the least amounts of melanin, are most prone. Ireland, with a fair-skinned population, has one of the world's highest rates of skin cancer, even though it does not receive especially high amounts of ultraviolet light. Basically, the darker your skin is naturally, the less likely you are to get skin cancer.
- It is ironic that tanned skin is associated with a youthful, healthy look. Steady tanning can lead to premature wrinkles, sags and discoloration.
- Sun damage is cumulative and irreversible. Once the skin is so affected, no amount of facials or moisturizers can reverse the damage, which usually does not show up until later in life.
- You might be getting only half as much skin protection from your sunscreen lotion as you think. The thickness of the sunscreen layer on your skin is the key to getting the sun protection promised on the bottle. In a clinical study, 50 people applied a variety of brands of sunscreen the way they normally would. Scientists added fluorescent coloring to the sunscreens so the thickness could be measured. Most of the sunscreen-users rubbed on their lotion only half as thick as the recommended thicknesses.
- Scars have less pigment than the rest of your skin, so they're especially vulnerable to sunburn--and prolonged redness. You should make certain to cover all exposed scars with a sunscreen with an SPF of 25 or higher.
- A simple, moderately severe sunburn damages the blood vessels to such an extent that it takes four to fifteen months for them to return to their normal condition.
- The most effective sunscreens contain the chemical agent paraaminobenzoic acid, PABA, which duplicates the action of melanin by absorbing ultraviolet rays. Products such as baby oil and coconut butter do not protect the skin from burning at all.
- In the United States, more than 500,000 new cases of skin cancer are found each year. This is why one in seven Americans can expect to get skin cancer.
- Some diuretics, antibiotics, tranquilizers, birth control pills and diabetes medications can add more salt to your sun-burn wounds. They can make you sun-sensitive. So can some medicated soaps, perfumes and "wrinkle

- removers". So if you use any of these medications or products, doctors advise you to take extra precautions when exposing your skin to the sun.
- In only one square inch of human skin there are 19 million cells, 625 sweat glands, 90 oil glands, 65 hairs, 19 feet of blood vessels, 19,000 sensory cells, and over 20 million microscopic animals.

Source: Richard Hawk, Safety Stuff no. 346 March 28, 2007
<http://www.makesafetyfun.com/>

19. 'ECOTERRORISM' CASE STIRS DEBATE IN US

Environmental radicals, who pleaded guilty to arson, may face harsher sentences under anti-terror laws. When law-enforcement agencies arrested 10 animal rights activists and environmental radicals 18 months ago, it was a major breakthrough in the fight against what officials call "ecoterrorism."

Among the crimes solved were a string of arsons and other attacks across five Western states totaling more than \$40 million in damage. Targets of the group calling itself The Family had been timber companies, meatpacking plants, an SUV dealership, a Colorado ski resort, and the University of Washington Horticultural Center.

Now, with all defendants having pleaded guilty because of the weight of the evidence against them, including an informant who wore a recording device, prosecutors are seeking "terrorism enhancements" to their sentences.

"This is the first time in the history of the US that the federal government is seeking this enhancement for property crimes that did not result in injury or death to humans," said Lauren Regan of the Civil Liberties Defense Center in Eugene, Ore.

In their 148-page sentencing memorandum filed last week in federal court in Eugene, prosecutors argued that "although the government was not a direct victim, it was nonetheless a federal crime of terrorism because of the offenders' motivation." Intimidation, coercion, and retaliation aimed at the conduct of government, prosecutors said, deserves "enhanced" punishment under federal antiterrorism laws.

The eco-saboteurs' goal, according to prosecutors, was to retaliate for certain federal policies related to natural resources and animals, and they were attempting to coerce government agencies into changing those policies. Federal

sentencing guidelines in such cases can add up to 20 years to a sentence, and this can also mean being sent to a maximum security prison.

The defendants and their attorneys point out that those charged made special efforts to avoid harming people.

Prosecutors say this makes no difference, especially when it comes to arson attacks.

"This was a classic case of terrorism, despite their protests of lofty humane goals," Assistant US Attorney Stephen Peifer told US District Judge Ann Aiken in court Tuesday. "It was pure luck no one was killed or injured by their actions."

In recent years, the USA Patriot Act and other legislation have broadened the application of antiterrorism laws and punishments to include radical environmental and animal-welfare activists. After years of unsolved crimes acknowledged to be the work of the Animal Liberation Front and the Earth Liberation Front, the use of informants has broken up several cells, including The Family.

Still, "direct actions" claimed by these shadowy groups with no apparent central leadership continue, experts say.

"Vandalism occurs on a regular basis," says Oren Segal, who tracks extremist groups for the Anti-Defamation League in New York. "The harassment of employees of companies that either animal test or work with companies that animal test also occurs on a daily basis. New groups have formed, and new leaders have emerged."

"Moreover, the movement's violent rhetoric increasingly justifies targeting humans to save the lives of animals," says Mr. Segal. "It was not surprising when ALF took credit for leaving an incendiary device at the home of a UCLA primate researcher in the summer of 2006. Although the device failed to ignite, arson investigators said it would have made escape difficult or impossible had it functioned properly."

Mainstream environmentalists and animal-welfare advocates decry such violence. But they're concerned that branding it as "terrorism" threatens legitimate activism as well.

"When everyone is a terrorist, no one is," says Ms. Regan. "The further we broaden the language of what a true terrorist is, the less security we really have."

If a monkeywrencher is the same as Osama bin Laden, where is the distinction drawn?"

Source: Brad Knickerbocker, *Staff writer of The Christian Science Monitor*