



# Connecting~

*Educators with Oregon's Forests, Wildlife, Water and Land*

**Welcome to "Connecting~"** The new Oregon Natural Resources Education Program newsletter. This newsletter is just one of the ways we will be sharing program highlights and information. In this two page monthly newsletter you will find highlights about ONRE Program's projects, workshop summaries, upcoming opportunities, information and ideas to help you continue to deliver high quality professional development opportunities for educators. You may also find interesting ideas you can use in workshops or to further your professional development, and other miscellaneous information from the office or advisory board. If you have an idea to share please submit it to LeeAnn.

ONREP reserves the right to decide and edit the content that is featured in our newsletter.

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*Oregon Project Learning Tree (PLT)*  
*Oregon Project WILD*

*"This workshop gave great information about how to use lessons across curriculum."*

~Portland Teacher  
2009

## FACILITATOR HIGHLIGHT: LORI LAMARCHE



Lori LaMarche was awarded the Mary Rellegert Forestry Education in 2009. She has been an Oregon Natural Resources Education Program facilitator for over 10 years and a science teacher at Stayton High School for 17 years. During her time at Stayton High School she has focused student learning on forest resources, ecology, biology and wildfire. Recently, Lori led the development of a partnership program to create a 36-week high school course-called Introduction to Forest Resources-that integrates classroom instruction, guest speakers and field labs. She has also created an articulation agreement with Chemeketa Community College that allows students to earn five college credits upon course completion. Lori has initiated and coordinated the Science Club and the Association of Oregon Forestry Club at Stayton High.

## STEWARDSHIP SCHOOLS THROUGHOUT OREGON

ONRE Program's Stewardship Schools program focuses on working with an entire school to design and implement a systematic integration of natural resources education both inside and outside the classroom. Core to the program is working in partnership with teachers, administrators, and community partners to identify goals and create a plan of action. ONRE Program provides

professional development trainings to assist them in meeting their natural resource education goals.

Four schools are presently participating and each has a unique approach in using natural resources as a context for learning.

Evans Valley Elementary School includes a monthly water quality monitoring plan; and an upcoming forest management plan that will help create a safe and healthy outdoor learning laboratory.

Elkton Charter School is adopting a riparian area along a nearby creek to use for restoration and long-term study as well as comparison studies with their existing land lab.

The work, integration and passion of these teachers are truly inspiring.



Advisory Board

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NAAEE- National Project for Excellence in EE

**Sue Smith**

Retired Teacher & Science Specialist

**Rick Zenn**

World Forestry Center

\*Chair

# Upcoming Opportunities

**Conferences this Fall:**

OSTA- 10/9/09 McKay High School, Salem

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

NAAEE- 10/7-10/09 Portland

<http://www.eeao.org/naaee2009.aspx>



**September-October ONRE Programs and Workshops:**

- Habitats in Your Place, Rainier 10/14/09
- Elkton Stewardship Schools, Elkton 10/16/09
- Umpqua Basin Technology & Trekking , Riddle 10/16/09
- Stop the Invasion, Burns 10/16 & 17/09
- Fossil Stewardship Schools, Fossil 10/30/09
- Learning Outside the Classroom, Portland 10/31/09

Are there opportunities you think your facilitator colleagues should know about?  
 Ideas, tips or tools you want to share?  
 Resources for workshops or articles of interest?  
 Photo's from your workshops?  
 Quotes from teachers?

## Did You Know?

Notable Notes are one page "snapshots" that highlight innovative research in science and engineering at the College of Forestry, Oregon State University. They are engaging and many can link your favorite PLT/WILD activities with the latest research.

Go to the following link to see a complete list.

[www.cof.orst.edu/cof/extended/K-12/notablenotes/index.php](http://www.cof.orst.edu/cof/extended/K-12/notablenotes/index.php)

What is "The longest science project ever" according to Notable Notes?

(Answer in the October *Connecting*~)



## MISC.



*Growing Up WILD*, the new early childhood education guide is now available for purchase at [www.projectwild.org](http://www.projectwild.org). This is a great resource designed to build on children's sense of wonder about nature and invites them to explore wildlife and the world around them. ONREP will not be providing workshops specifically for the Pre-K audience this year and there is no funding available to provide the guide. We will pursue a slightly different delivery strategy for Pre-K and will keep you posted as this develops.

**Alien Invasion: Plants on the Move** ONRE Program is working in partnership with the Alien Invasion advisory board, and partnering agencies such as BLM to deliver workshops on Invasive plants. This curriculum, developed by BLM, included extensive content contributions and reviews, as well as being reviewed and field tested by educators. This is an important issue impacting our native forests, fields, and water ecosystems. The curriculum is a great companion piece to Project Learning Tree. To learn more come to a workshop, and review the curriculum at: [http://www.weedinvasion.org/weed\\_home.php](http://www.weedinvasion.org/weed_home.php)

**EEAO** is proud to co-host the *Power of Partnerships* auction and awards gala on October 9, 2009 in Portland, at the Oregon Museum of Science and Industry. Susan Sahnaw has been nominated for the EEAO's "Excellence in Environmental Education" Awards in the INDIVIDUAL category. If you are already going to be at the NAAEE conference, feel free to join. Tickets available [www.eeao.org/auction.aspx](http://www.eeao.org/auction.aspx)



*"The well-educated instructors were the greatest value of this workshop. We could ask questions and get great answers."*  
 ~Coos Bay Teacher 2009