



**Sierra Watershed
Education Partnerships**

*Fostering a sense of place
through hands-on community
projects*

Projects and Events

Kings Beach Elementary BMP's *Students create "Schoolyard Habitats"*

Students, parents and volunteers have created habitat for birds and small animals in the schoolyard between Kings Beach Elementary School and the Boys and Girls Club next door. This educational project, has earned Kings Beach Elementary (KBE) approval as a Schoolyard Habitat site from the National Wildlife Federation.

Local Master Gardeners helped identify appropriate plants for a shade garden, a drought tolerant garden and a butterfly garden.

Native and adapted shrubs were chosen based on recommendations in *Home Landscaping Guide for Lake Tahoe and Vicinity*, (UNCE). Such plants require very little maintenance, they provide wildlife habitat (food and shelter) and their roots spread and hold the soil in place, preventing erosion.

Monika Bock's 5th graders had the exciting opportunity to show off what they learned about creating habitat, controlling erosion and installing BMP's by being featured

Youth Global Climate Change

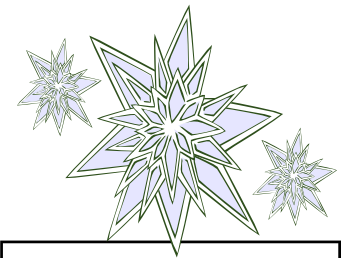
Symposium: May 5, 2006

Students, teachers and community partners are gearing up for the first ever Youth Global Climate Change Symposium scheduled for May 5, 2006. The event will feature presentations, a science fair project display and activities hosted by the youth of the TTUSD.

Teachers can gear up for the event by attending the workshop,

"Weather You Like It or Not" which will introduce teachers to standards based climate change curriculum, provide links to local resources and project possibilities. Most exciting is that green energy enthusiast and expert on local green energy efforts, Scott Terrell from the TDPUD will speak to us about what the community issues are surrounding these

Winter February 2006



Education is the instrument not just for the individual to succeed, but for us as a community to succeed.

Ana Sol Gutiérrez,
engineer

on the "Lake Tahoe Report" featured on KO-LOTV. The Lake Tahoe Report is an outreach effort made possible by Lake Tahoe Environmental Education Coalition and the UofN Cooperative Extension.

For more information contact Jan Ellis, jan@4swep.org or John Cobourn (775) 832-4150

CHECK IT OUT!!!

<http://4swep.org>

The SWEP website is up to date and packed with information! Find out about upcoming regional workshops, read past newsletters and find out what projects your colleagues are implementing!

Thanks go to Dan Allison!!

March For Service

2006

Workshops and Events (see dates and locations on back)

Community Leaders in Classrooms: Meet your classroom presentation expectations! CLC is for community partners wanting to learn creative and practical tips to make your time in the classroom a fun and effective experience.

TTREC partnership meeting: a meeting of teachers and community partners; Guest speaker; project planning and networking

"Weather You Like It or Not" Climate Change Curriculum and Projects

with Scott Terrell, Truckee Donner PUD

Create a learning module using Project Citizen and Project Learning Tree curriculum and activities. Receive k-12 climate change curriculum.

"Writing through the Watershed"

Meet language arts standards with the Earth in mind! Explore fun and creative ways to use the Earth as the unifying theme in your standards-based writing lessons; Earth Day events are a venue for your students' published work.

Contact:

Jan Ellis, jan@4swep.org

Christine McMorrow

Christine@4swep.org



Dates To Remember

February 13: 3:30-5:30 Site Advocates meeting, ACMS

February 28: 3:30-5:30 TTREC Meeting, TTLC

March 6: 1-3pm Community Leaders in Classrooms workshop, TTLC

March 6: 3:30-5:30pm, TTREC partnership meeting

March 9: 3:30-5:30pm "Weather You Like It or Not" climate change workshop, TTLC

March 14: 3:30-5:30pm, "Writing Through the Watershed", workshop, KBE

March 22-25: National Service Learning Conference, Philadelphia, PA

March 31: Cesar Chavez Day

Place-Based Service Learning

(PBSL) is a teaching method that focuses on the local community throughout the learning process. Students learn to value what is local; the unique watershed, history, environment, culture, economy, literature and art of their place through hands-on community projects.

Truckee Tahoe Regional Education Coalition

TTREC has a new home: Truckee Tahoe Learning Center

The former Sierra Mountain Middle School, located in the heart of Truckee, is now home to the Truckee Tahoe Learning Center (TTLC).

In November, the TTUSD Community Youth Development Team moved into the former Sierra Mountain Middle School on Donner Pass Road in Truckee: Laurie Martin, Director; Cindy Maciel, Sierra Teen Education and Parenting Program (STEPP); Ruth Hall, the Truckee School Readiness Coordinator; and the offices for Bobbe Holt, Truckee State Pre-school and Sasha Neumann and Sarah Dorland, Service Learning Coordinators.

This team is working together to bring this valuable community asset back to life and develop a vision for the future. Our Truckee Tahoe Regional Education Coalition (TTREC) is

meeting here monthly in the "conference center" (former cafeteria). In addition to District programs at the site, space is available for hourly, daily or monthly lease to community partners.

This spring it looks as though the TTLC will host the first Youth Global Climate Change Symposium. Students will come to share their research and projects that relate to various aspects of climate change. Other possibilities for this space include hosting the SWEP curriculum and k-12 literature library and creating a comfortable and inspiring professional development center.

We hope to see you there soon!

Call or e.mail Laurie Martin for more information -

582.2522, lmartin@ttusd.org.

Truckee Donner Public Utility District

Scott Terrell: Truckee-Tahoe Going Green

In order to protect the area's environment and economy many organizations and agencies are coming together to support an environmental and sustainable economy. Just to mention a few: the Town of Truckee now has a Green Building Committee to promote green building in the area. The North Lake Tahoe Resort Association has made a written commitment to take actions in the direction of sustainability for the Region. The Sierra Green Building Association is committing a lot of time and resources to promote, educate and train Sierra communities how to build greener buildings and lifestyles. The Truckee Donner Public Utility District is committing a lot of resources toward the whole Green Building and Sustainability effort.

Luckily, we have a community partner who is taking action on these issues by involving the k-12 audience! Scott Terrell is working with teachers at Alder Creek MS on green building education and he is working through TTREC to host with SWEP a workshop for teachers (weather you like it or not; see dates) on global climate change issues and what we might be able to do or know about this topic for our region.

Truckee Donner PUD has put considerable effort into helping local homeowners and businesses manage their energy and water use and costs for over a decade. TDPUD offers energy audits and rebate programs to promote energy and water saving measures and technologies.

For more information call Scott Terrell at (530) 582-3931.



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SWEP

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