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Environmental Education

For Tomorrow's Stewards

April 2018

Educational Hightlight **Project WET Facilitators**

Project WET has added 12 new Certified Facilitators to reach Tennessee's formal and non-formal educators. On March 21st, members of Tennessee State Parks and Cedar Crest Camp finished training preparing them to provide hands-on lessons and resources to teachers and students



around Tennessee. Project WET subjects include the physical and chemical characteristics of water, earth's systems, and water resource management.

After completing his facilitator training, Seasonal Interpretive Ranger, Jared Brandt, says "I now know more about water ecosystems and water quality testing. I like that I can not only teach children about water resources but also adults. That's really important."

Learn More About Project WET

Save the Frogs Day April 28

Did you know that frogs are disappearing?!



Save the Frogs Day is the world's largest day of amphibian education and conservation action. This month educate yourself and those around you about native Tennessee

frogs. Then plan a community or school event to celebrate frogs and spread awareness of their declining populations. Let's work together to protect Tennessee's frogs!

Educational Resources: Frog Lessons

2018 Earth Day! April 21

With events around the entire state of Tennessee, this month is the perfect time to highlight environmental education! Whether the topic is composting, recycling, or invasive species, there is an event for you. Read, learn, and share what you know about our earth. Then follow up with one of these Earth Day activites.



Educational Resources: Earth Day

National Environmental Education Week

April 23 - 29

Held each spring around the time of Earth Day, National Environmental Education Week (EE Week) promotes the understanding and protection of the natural world by actively engaging K-12 students and educators of all subjects in an inspired week of environmental learning and service.

Why is environmental education valuable? Get inspired by watching this video!



EE Resources and Toolkits

Professional Development

2018 Energy Education Camp June 26 - 28



These three-day educational sessions will provide educators with information and resources needed to teach about energy and energy conservation in the classroom and how to involve students in service learning projects that promote environmental stewardship.

Hosted by the Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation, Energy Camps and Workshops are offered free of charge on a first-come, first-served basis, and all activities address the new Tennessee science curriculum standards. Educators selected to participate will be provided with complementary lodging and meals at Paris Landing State Park, and will receive energy-related classroom materials valued at \$200!

Application Deadline: April 20th

Learn More and Apply

Girls in Science Camp June 11 - 16

The Great Smoky Mountain Institute at Tremont is **now** accepting applications for Girls in Science camp! Learn about the critters, plants and



forces that shape our natural world as you join scientists in conducting hands-on science in the park. Study salamanders, explore rushing streams and search for the hidden and unknown in your quest to get to know Great Smoky Mountains National Park.

Cost: \$100-680 depending on acceptance. Cost includes food, lodging and instruction. Participants will stay in our cabin-style tents in Tent Village on campus.

<u>Ages</u>: 12-15

"Forget princess, I want to be a scientist." -- summer camper

Learn More and Apply

New Grant **Opportunity**



Are you an educator with a class project that is short on funding but long on potential? Do you know a teacher looking for grant dollars?

Voya Unsung Heroes could help you turn great ideas into reality for students.Each year, 100 educators are selected to receive \$2,000 each to help fund their innovative class projects. Three of those will be chosen to receive an additional \$5,000, \$10,000 and \$25,000. All awards must be used to further projects within the school or school system.

Application Deadline: April 30th

Learn More and Apply

Interested in More Environmental **News from Tennessee?**

Check out TDEC's newsletter from The Office of Policy and Sustainable Practices!

Newsletter

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