



News and Resources for Educators & Schools

Oregon Green Schools Newsletter

December 2013



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Dear Jeanette,

"Season's Greenings!" We hope you're all staying warm and dry. **This is a great time for students to collect baseline data** and photos, for touting "before and after" successes in your school's display at the Green Schools Summit on **Friday April 11th in Corvallis**. [Visit our Summit Showcase pages for ideas.](#)

From all of us here at Oregon Green Schools, we wish you a safe and happy holiday season, and a Happy New Year!

Jeanette Hardison,
 Admin Assistant to the OGSA Board

PS. Our newsletters typically include images (photos, logos, etc.). If you cannot see any, please enable images in your email program for maximum enjoyment. Thanks!

Year-End Charitable Giving to Green Schools

Deciding who'll receive your donation dollars? The Oregon Green Schools Board of Directors would appreciate your consideration and support! Your tax-deductible donations will:

- Help us provide our annual Summit on April 11, 2014
- Finance and offer an expanded curriculum to member schools
- Increase our ability to recruit more schools into our program

It is our vision that every school in the state will become a certified Oregon Green School, actively educating students on environmental stewardship, reducing solid waste, and conserving water and energy. Every donation supports that vision!

Please mail your generous year-end gift to:

Oregon Green Schools, PO Box 323, Corvallis, OR 97339

OGS is a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization. Your contribution is tax-deductible to the extent allowed by law. Thank you!

Does your school have a garden?

If so, you're invited to attend the first annual **Oregon School Garden Summit** at the 4-H Conference Center in Salem, Mon, January 13th, 2014. This is an all-day event, 8:30am - 5:00 pm.

[Click HERE for more info.](#)



School Spotlight:

PREMIER GREEN SCHOOL: Deep Creek Elementary, Damascus

Deep Creek has successfully created a culture of environmental responsibility and stewardship since first becoming Green School Certified in 1997. They've been at Premier level since 2007. Staff and students are constantly looking for new ways to reduce, reuse and recycle as they strive to maintain and improve their resource conservation efforts.

Classrooms and staff rooms have collection bins for compostable snack waste. Along with lunch waste from the cafeteria, this organic matter is **composted onsite**, which is then used in their **school garden and habitat area**, and available for science experiments. The cafeteria also offers **reusable plates and flatware**. Deep Creek's head custodian leads the student recycling team, made up of 5th graders, who willingly use their recess time to help sort everything into proper categories.



The school has reduced its solid waste from four dumpsters a week to just one!

As for energy and water, cafeteria lights are only turned on when **natural daylight** coming through their large windows is not enough. At 3pm, when students have left, most lighting is reduced. Classrooms are dark when not occupied, and **occupancy sensors** have been installed in other areas. Students are encouraged to wash hands with the **water off while lathering up**, and taught to use dual-flush toilets properly. They are studying salmon hands-on, to learn the importance of Earth stewardship, preserving water quality, and the role of watersheds, with their Wildlife Stewards after-school group raising and releasing trout in the spring.

Deep Creek Elementary is proud to be a Premier Oregon Green School! Congrats on their ongoing certification as a Premier-level Green School.

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Oregon Green Schools Summit: April 11th, 2014, 8:30am-1:30pm

Please Save The Date for our **17th annual Oregon Green Schools Summit, in Corvallis**. Meet other Green Schools from across the state for a day of learning and networking. Get energized about resource conservation and waste reduction. **It's FREE! It's FUN!**

YOUR SCHOOL'S OREGON GREEN SCHOOLS CERTIFICATION MUST BE CURRENT on January 31st and on the day of the Summit to be qualified to attend! [Contact your local Oregon Green Schools Coordinator](#) for details.



Further Summit details and a registration reminder will be emailed to you later this fall. **Registration opens in January 2014**. Don't miss out: Be sure we have your correct email.

If you have questions about the 2014 Green Schools Summit, please contact Jeanette Hardison, OGS Administrative Assistant, at [jeanette \(at\) oregongreenschools.org](mailto:jeanette@oregongreenschools.org).

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School Resources

Watch Oregon Green School's recorded webinar, regarding the new requirement for schools to have Integrated Pest Management in place:

Josh Vincent from the **Northwest Coalition for Alternatives to Pesticides (NCAP)** presented a 45 min. webinar about a law that requires all Oregon schools to have an Integrated Pest Management (IPM) plan in place.

If you know school custodians or others that work in facilities, this is a great resource for them! The video will be available on our website and is also posted on YouTube:



[Integrated Pest Management Law Josh Vincent NCAP](#)

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Environmental Education (EE) GRANTS from the U.S. EPA

The purpose of the Environmental Education Model Grants Program is to provide money to support environmental education projects that increase the public's awareness about environmental issues and provide them with the skills to take responsible actions to protect the environment.

Since 1992, EPA has received between \$2 and \$3 million in grant funding per year and has awarded more than 3,500 grants.

Under this program EPA seeks grant proposals from eligible applicants to support environmental education projects that promote environmental stewardship and help develop knowledgeable and responsible students, teachers, and citizens. This grant program provides financial support for projects that design, demonstrate, and/or disseminate environmental education practices, methods, or techniques, and that will serve as models that can be replicated in a variety of settings. DEADLINE: Feb 4, 2014. [Apply here.](#)

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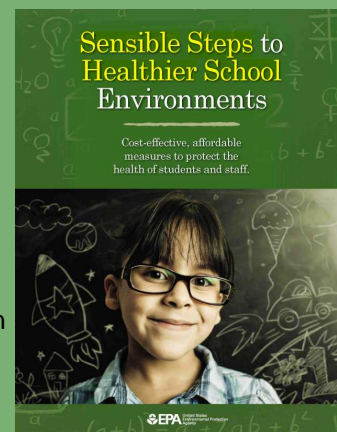
U.S. EPA Sensible Steps to Healthier School Environments [WEBINAR SERIES](#)

This webinar series will outline sensible, low- or no-cost steps that school communities can take to create healthier environments in their buildings. Each webinar will feature school district personnel from across the country presenting their real-life examples and solutions. Previously-recorded webinars are available at the link above.

NEXT WEBINAR: January 29, 2014, 4:30-6:00pm (PST)

Professional Development Programs for Climate Change Education (USFS)

In this webinar, ClimateChangeLIVE partners highlight professional development programs to empower you as a climate change educator! Each program offers training to increase your understanding of essential climate concepts and provide you with tools and resources to implement a science-based climate change curriculum in your classroom and connect with networks of other educators teaching about climate change. Most of these programs offer grants to schools to help them implement climate change solution-related action projects, and include on-site and online training opportunities.



[REGISTER HERE for the Jan. 29th EPA Webinar](#)

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Educator Resources

[Online Advanced Permaculture Design Practicum:](#)

For those who have taken a Permaculture Design course and wish to deepen their design skills in a structured and guided online format. Explore permaculture theory beyond the basics of the Oregon State [Permaculture Design Certificate](#). This project-based course is practical, engaging and collaborative, and allows you to enhance your knowledge in sustainable design. Receive personalized guidance and counsel from the instructor in a guided and supportive online learning environment (runs Jan. 6 to March 21).

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Additional Online Environmental Classes from OSU's ECampus

Oregon State University has a HUGE variety of environmental classes that are available online, geared toward adults. Here are just a few of the offerings, below.



- [Master Gardener](#) (next course runs Jan. 13 to April 14, 2014)
- [Oregon Master Naturalist](#) (next course runs Jan. 20 to April 13, 2014)
- [Landscaping with Native Plants](#) (available anytime, online, self-paced)
- [Recycling 101](#) (available anytime, online, self-paced)
- [Master Interpretive Guide Professional Certificate](#) (begins May 1, 2014, online)
- [Free-Choice Learning Professional Certificates](#) (various dates, all online)
- Click [HERE](#) for a complete listing of classes

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Meet the OGS Regional Coordinators

This month, we are tickled to finally feature Nancy Bond, one of the founding members of the Oregon Green Schools Association. Nancy has been passionately working at greening Oregon schools for a long time. Here is her bio:

As a native Oregonian, it is in my blood to appreciate, protect and elevate the natural beauty and bounty of this state and our one planet. Working in public K-12 education helping students understand their impact on the earth gives me joy.



What do I love about my job? As the Resource Conservation Specialist for Portland Public Schools:

I love facilitating deep organizational change in this large public K-12 institution.

I love working with AmeriCorps members. This next generation of leaders brings fresh eyes, deep commitment and heart-felt enthusiasm to helping change the world one student at a time.

I love working with professionals and volunteers around the region, the state and the country who share a vision of a more sustainable world and are willing to dig in together to make it so. I love working with principals, parent volunteers and students to build school gardens so kids have the opportunity to learn where real food comes from, what it tastes like, and how interconnected natural systems work.

I love working with schools across the district helping them identify conservation practices they want to adopt, setting goals for themselves and recognizing them as Oregon Green Schools.

I love impactful successes over the last 14 years like switching from Styrofoam trays to washable trays, installing solar and wind power at schools, using compressed natural gas in garbage and recycling trucks servicing our district, collecting tons of food at breaks and donating it to local charities to feed hungry people in our community, and building the first public K-12 building to achieve LEED Platinum certification.

I love learning, connecting dots, connecting people, connecting visions!

And I love going home to my organic garden managed by 4 chickens and 4 cats.

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The Oregon Green Schools Association is a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization formed in 1997. We are dedicated to helping Oregon schools set up and maintain effective, permanent waste reduction and resource efficiency programs that improve school environments and communities, and to recognizing schools for their efforts and achievements.

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