

The Ecocruiser

Mike Pollastro <mikep@uidaho.edu>

Head of Reference Services, University of Idaho Library, Moscow, ID 83844-2360 USA. TEL: 208-885-2504.

It is my intent in this column to briefly highlight electronic resources on environmental topics. While the focus will be on Internet resources, there will be an occasional look at non-net resources. Many of the resources mentioned here are worthy of more significant review; if you are interested in doing them please contact [Maria Jankowska](#).

Earth Day

Even though we were unable to publish this issue of the *Electronic Green Journal* on Earth Day, that is no reason to skip visiting the various Earth Day web sites and gophers that are available.

Unfortunately, we have missed much of the excitement generated on [Earth Day Online](#), sponsored by Earth Day New York, where, every evening for the two weeks up to and including April 22, 1995, the Giant Earth Projections (images projected onto the Empire State Building) were uploaded live to the Internet. There are just a few images still lingering at the site, left over from these displays and from the Parade for the Planet, another event sponsored by this group, but better are the images of the entries in the International Poster Show, from which posters are available for purchase through the Ecostore.

Maybe a better place to start your Earth Day explorations is on the web page for [EcoNet's Earth Day Resources](#), or via gopher at [EcoNet's Earth Day Gopher](#). While both connections offer access to Earth Day events, the web site also offers EcoNet's Guide to Earth Day On-Line Locales, the Earth Day Forum '95: April 16 - 22, and information about the Earth Day Network. There is much more of interest for us all on Econet, and I will try to cover it more fully in the next column.

A site with more comprehensive coverage about Earth Day is [Earth Day '95](#). In addition to lists of events, there is an Earth Day Organizer's Guide with press releases and the history and general background for Earth Day, a list of international contacts, a section about food choices, "Putting Earth Day on Your Menu," biographies and interviews of Earth Day notables, information about the Building the Sustainable Economy Conference, which was held 4/27-30 in New York City, Earth Day Northwest news releases, and a section of Christian religious-oriented materials, including sample Earth Day sermons and services.

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency also sponsored a page devoted to [Earth Day 95](#). Here you'll find the document, "The Earth is in Your Hands-How You Can Help," a list of National Earth Day Activities, and "Earth Day 1995--The 25th Anniversary." These are also available via [gopher](#).

Still a librarian

OK, I might be the associate editor of the *Electronic Green Journal* and I'm active on several listservs around the net, but I guess I can still be spotted for what I am. Recently, I received email that was obviously

directed to me because of my association with the EGJ from a Lemoyne College student, who wanted to know how to get information over the Internet about the British Trust for Conservation Volunteers (BTCV), including, at the very least, an email address. Well, being curious and having a special interest in helping someone from an institution I nearly attended (Lemoyne is in my hometown of Syracuse, New York) I started up Netscape, clicked on over to my favorite web searcher, the [WebCrawler](#), and entered the search "British conservation volunteers."

None of the results, except [British Trees](#), looked very promising. So, I clicked on British Trees and found a site whose main purpose, is to present monographs, images and bibliographies of trees indigenous to the British Isles. Also included and somewhat more helpful in my search are two useful information resources, directories of commercial and non-commercial organizations involved with either tree conservation or forestry. The non-commercial list contains an entry for the BTCV with the mailing address and phone number, but no email or other Internet address was included.

Back on the home page, though, links are provided to other sites of interest to arboriculturists. There, I employed the link to the [Conservation Volunteers of Northern Ireland](#), and struck gold. Though only a region of the BTCV, this group has assembled a very lively-looking web site. Most pertinent to our inquiry were several links to information on conservation volunteers, including the "BTCV Vision Statement" and "E-mail addresses for CVNI."

One link on this page leads to a new and more modest web site for the [Northwest England region of the BTCV](#). Satisfied that my possibilities were ended, the information gleaned from and about these sources was transmitted to the grateful student.

Day trips

A visit to [Yahoo](#), a very popular subject listing of Internet resources, led me to the home page of the [Ecology Action Centre](#), a highly active local group in Nova Scotia, Canada. Sections on education, advocacy and local issues emphasize the action orientation of this site. The current issue of the magazine of the EAC, [Between the Issues](#), is available and includes, besides articles of local interest, such articles of international scope as "Against Chlorine" about dioxins in the Great Lakes and a report on "Organic Agriculture in the Czech Republic". A column in the magazine, "The Green's Internet", has (gasp) similar coverage to this column and is recommended to you for the excellent research and commentary by the columnist, Doug Merrett.

Another voyage brought me to [The Wilderness Society](#), with a set of 21 fact sheets issued by this U.S. conservation group, which is devoted to protection and management of public lands. Many of the sheets cover specific sites such as the Adirondacks and the Everglades with brief descriptions of the areas and their natural features, followed by sections on problems and prescriptions for solutions and a list of contacts for further information. Useful statistics are presented in the more general factsheets like "America's Public Lands," "Grazing on Public Lands," and "Wetlands." All the sheets give good brief backgrounds on areas of controversy, though several could use updating.

That is all I have time for this go-around, but there is plenty more out there to explore and bring to your attention. I would be grateful to see your comments and suggestions about this column and its contents, so send me email at mikep@uidaho.edu

