

Environmental Information Sources

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WEB SITES

Commercial Entities

National Geographic Center for Sustainable Destinations

<http://www.nationalgeographic.com/travel/sustainable/>

Defining geotourism as "tourism that supports the geographical character of the place being visited, including its environment, culture, heritage, aesthetics, and the well-being of its citizens," this website is aimed at professionals in the tourism industry, travelers, and residents of the areas featured. World heritage sites are featured. A wealth of information is accessible from the site about sustainable tourism and travel stewardship, with source material compiled from local and national agencies around the world, including for profit and nonprofit entities, government offices, and institutions concerned with preservation. Links are provided to other National Geographic travel publications and sponsored trips and events as well as the option to sign up for online newsletters.

ScienceResearch.com

<http://www.scienceresearch.com>

This site is "a free, publicly available web portal allowing access to numerous scientific journals and public science databases." Search for materials in the topics of astronomy, biology, chemistry, computers, environmental sciences, engineering, health and medicine, materials science, mathematics, physics, and social sciences. Also includes links to related sites. From Librarians' Internet Index, LII, Copyright 2007.

Educational Institutions

Earth Day: Climate: Electronic Resources

<http://library.stanford.edu/depts/swain/hosted/earthday/2005/climate.html>

Started by the late Gaylord Nelson of Wisconsin, Earth Day has become a world wide event in its over thirty years of existence, and educators will find this site most helpful as they begin to develop lesson plans and exercises around this event. Created by the American Chemical Society to commemorate Earth Day in 2005, this site contains links to online resources that deal

with the climate, various climatic regions, and ongoing changes in climate (the site includes PDF files and requires the Macromedia flash player). The links are organized into three sections, and visitors can also read brief descriptions of the materials they can find on each site. There are some very fine links here, including one to NASA's Earth Observing System and the Global Climate Change site offered by The Exploratorium Museum in San Francisco. [KMG] Copyright Internet Scout Project, 1994-2007. The Internet Scout Project (<http://scout.wisc.edu/>)

The Future of Coal

<http://web.mit.edu/coal/>

Across both the developed and developing worlds, the continued use of coal as an energy source has been of some concern as an agent in the process of global warming. Recently, a group of scholars at MIT convened to create an ambitious and forward-looking report titled "The Future of Coal" (the full report is available as a PDF file). The report was made possible through financial support from the Alfred P. Sloan Foundation, the Pew Charitable Trusts, and a number of other organizations. Released in March 2007, the report emphatically states that carbon capture and sequestration (CCS) is the "critical enabling technology" which will help reduce CO₂ emissions. The report also suggests that a significant charge on carbon emissions is needed in the near term and that the U.S. government should provide assistance only to coal projects with CO₂ capture in order to demonstrate technical, economic and environmental performance. Visitors to this site can read the report in its entirety, along with a complete glossary and appendices. [KMG] Copyright Internet Scout Project, 1994-2007. The Internet Scout Project (<http://scout.wisc.edu/>)

Garden-Based Learning

<http://www.hort.cornell.edu/gbl/>

Compilation of gardening activities, projects, and other resources "for educators, volunteers, and parents working with children and youth". Some of the project themes include the food system, plants and textiles, produce marketing, and landscaping. Includes downloadable publications on topics such as city gardening, apples, peanuts, rice, and "the three sisters" (corn, beans, and squash). From the Cornell University Department of Horticulture. From Librarians' Internet Index, LII, Copyright 2007.

New Jersey Environmental Digital Library

<http://njedl.rutgers.edu/njdlib/index.cfm>

Websites that function as clearinghouses of information on a given topic (i.e. animal husbandry, ecology, and so on) have become much more common in recent years, and they can be fine resources for finding specific documents quickly. One such site is the New Jersey Environmental Digital Library (NJEDL). The site brings together materials on New Jersey's environment, most of which is culled from state government agencies, non-profit organizations, research institutes, and academic departments. First-time visitors can just go ahead and type in words to the search engine, or they may want to look at the "News and Features" area for some of the latest additions. Also, the "Past Spotlights" area includes direct links to reports on mitigating floods on the Delaware River and "Trout in the Classroom: A Guide For Teachers". [KMG] Copyright Internet Scout Project, 1994-2007. The Internet Scout Project (<http://scout.wisc.edu/>)

International

Biodiversity Hotspots

<http://www.biodiversityhotspots.org>

Maintained by the Center for Applied Biodiversity Science at Conservation International and with sponsorship from the Intel Corporation, this website presents descriptions of thirty-four areas in the world that have threatened ecosystems. Each hotspot entry presents a map; table of vital signs with numbers of endemic, threatened, endangered, or extinct species (from World Conservation Union (IUCN) Red List; overview of the ecosystem; link to unique biodiversity; link to human impact; and link to conservation actions. Also includes related links and a bibliography of references. A glossary provides definitions of many geographic words, plant and animal names, and vocabulary relevant to ecosystems. Additional features are an interactive map and archive of "hotspot e-news," a free e-mail subscription service.

Global Environmental Citizen Award

<http://chge.med.harvard.edu/events/gec10.html>

Details about this award "presented annually by the Harvard Medical School Center for Health and the Global Environment to the citizen who does outstanding work towards protecting the global environment." Includes announcements for current and past winners (and acceptance speeches for some), including the Prince of Wales, Al Gore, Bill Moyers, Jane Goodall, Harrison Ford, and Edward O. Wilson. From Librarians' Internet Index, LII, Copyright 2007.

Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC)

<http://www.ipcc.ch>

This panel, established by the World Meteorological Organization (WMO) and the United Nations Environmental Programme (UNEP), assesses "the scientific, technical and socio-economic information relevant to understanding the scientific basis of risk of human-induced climate change, its potential impacts and options for adaptation and mitigation." The panel's website features reports (including the 2007 report declaring "warming of the climate system is unequivocal"), details about working groups, press releases, and related material. Some documents available in multiple languages. From Librarians' Internet Index, LII, Copyright 2007.

International Decade for Action: Water for Life, 2005-2015

<http://www.un.org/waterforlifedecade/>

"The United Nations General Assembly, in December 2003, proclaimed the years 2005 to 2015 as the International Decade for Action 'Water for Life.'" This website provides background and news about activities related to this proclamation (including World Water Day, occurring annually on March 22) and reference material on water-related issues such as scarcity, sanitation, and pollution. From Librarians' Internet Index, LII, Copyright 2007.

International Earth Day

<http://www.earthsite.org>

The international celebration of Earth Day falls on the spring equinox in March, whereas Earth Day is generally observed in April. The web site features background of the commemorative day that was initiated "on March 21, 1970. The first Proclamation of Earth Day was by San Francisco, the City of Saint Francis, patron saint of ecology." Includes an Earth Day charter and guide for earth trustees by Earth Day founder John McConnell, and related material. From Librarians' Internet Index, LII, Copyright 2007.

Reports from a Warming Planet

<http://americanradioworks.publicradio.org/features/earlysigns/index.html>

Never afraid to take on controversial topics, American RadioWorks has recently released this special report on the early signs of climate change. For this particular report, they brought together a team of eleven young reporters who were led by noted environmental journalist Sandy Tolan. Their assignment was to identify different places around the world where global warming was making changes to both "life and landscape." Visitors to the site can listen to the entire radio documentary (requires Real Player software), or they can also read about some of the individual locations profiled in this presentation. Some of these areas include the fabled snows of Kilimanjaro, the island of Tuvalu in the Pacific Ocean, and the town of Churchill in Upper Manitoba, which has been known as "The Polar Bear Capital of the World" for decades. [KMG] Copyright Internet Scout Project, 1994-2007. The Internet Scout Project (<http://scout.wisc.edu/>)

The United Nations and Chernobyl

<http://chernobyl.undp.org/english/>

This website from the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) "is part of an overall UNDP efforts to raise awareness about the many challenges facing the region affected" by the Chernobyl nuclear disaster in April 1986. Features "UN official documents on Chernobyl nuclear accident as well as the updates from UN Coordinator of international cooperation on Chernobyl," and links to related sites. Available in several languages. Adapted from Librarians' Internet Index, LII, copyright 2007.

The World Bank: An Online Atlas of the Millennium Development Goals

<http://devdata.worldbank.org/atlas-mdg/large.html>

The World Bank established a set of Millennium Development Goals as both a challenge to poor countries to demonstrate "good governance" and to wealthy nations to encourage them to support economic and social development. Recently, the World Bank created this visually engaging and sophisticated interactive atlas to track those eight goals, which include the promotion of gender equality, combating disease, and reducing child mortality (the site requires Macromedia flash player). Visitors can click on any of the goals to view maps of the world that document the progress that has been made in each nation. Clicking on each nation individually brings up clear and easy-to-read tables that chart additional changes within each separate goal. Visitors can export the data for their own use, and they can also resize the map to demonstrate the changes made over the past few years. [KMG] Copyright Internet Scout Project, 1994-2007. The Internet Scout Project (<http://scout.wisc.edu/>)

Organizations and Research Associations

Bioethics.net

<http://www.bioethics.net>

Website for the *American Journal of Bioethics* (AJOB) that offers free access to some full text from that journal and links to many other web sites and online publications on topics related to bioethics. Editorial responsibility for the site rests with the University of Pennsylvania's Bioethics Education Network and MIT Press. The site offers RSS feeds to bioethics news and a bioethics blog. The search engine enables readers to search the entire web site, the AJOB, or news, with the latter retrieving articles from sources such as *Reuters*, *Wired Magazine*, *BBC News*, *The Scientist*, *New York Times*, and *SciDev.net*.

Center for North American Herpetology (CNAH): the Academic Portal to North American Herpetology

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

Useful for those with professional or amateur interest in herpetology, this website offers the authoritative *Standard Common and Current Scientific Names List* of common and scientific names for all amphibian and reptile species in North America. Dedicated keepers of the site update the list regularly. Established in 1994, the CNAH offers the web portal as a "data bank for information about North American amphibians, turtles, reptiles, and crocodylians, and promotes the study and conservation of them by financial support of selected publications, photography, and any other appropriate medium, as well as the establishment of awards for excellence in research about these fascinating creatures." Unfortunately, the link for each species shows only a photograph and reference to the identifying herpetologist and date. The site provides access to a wealth of herpetology literature. A searchable database includes citations from 1586 to present (although some citations are incomplete), a PDF library provides links to full text articles from an array of journals, and the journal *Contemporary Herpetology* is available from the web site. Several current awareness features on the site include abstracts of current research, news items, announcements of herpetological conferences, notices about new species and publications, and links to job ads and opportunities for graduate study.

The Complete Works of Charles Darwin

<http://darwin-online.org.uk/>

This site provides access to all of Darwin's publications, including many handwritten manuscripts and supplementary works. Sponsored by the Centre for Research in the Arts, Social Sciences, and Humanities at Cambridge University, the site director is John van Wyhe. Main categories on the site are Publications, Manuscripts, Biography, and Acknowledgements. Darwin's published works are accessible, including books and pamphlets, published & unpublished manuscripts, letters, and articles. Most documents are presented with the option to view OCR images of the text along with transcribed text. Supplementary works include obituaries, descriptions of Darwin's specimens, and reviews of Darwin's works. One special feature is "Audio Darwin," in which visitors to the web site can hear the texts processed as MP3 files. The files were created with text-to-speech software, making them sound slightly unnatural.

EcoEarth.info Environmental Portal & Search Engine

<http://www.ecoearth.info/>

EcoEarth brings together reliable sources for news and background information on topics in environmental science and ecology. It serves as a gateway to other web sites, particularly those supported by EcoEarth's umbrella organization, the Ecological Internet; examples include Climate Ark, Forests.org, Water Conserve, Ocean Conserve, and Rainforest Portal. Content is categorized in areas of Earth News, Earth Alerts, Environment Search, Environment Links, Earth Blog, and Earth Donate. The Environment Search feature effectively filters the overwhelming volume of information on the Web to retrieve relevant, reviewed results. Earth Alerts are updated frequently, and Earth News, daily.

Encyclopedia of Earth

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

A "new electronic reference about the Earth, its natural environments, and their interaction with society," the new Encyclopedia has launched with more than 3,000 articles written by experts in their fields. Built with open source wiki software, authorized authors' work is reviewed by members of an international editorial board. Partners in developing content include the University of California Museum of Paleontology, TeacherServe*, the International Arctic Science Committee, the World Wildlife Fund, Conservation International, the Biodiversity Institute of Ontario, and the United Nations Environment Programme. Articles are written in non-technical language so as to be accessible to students, educators, scholars, professionals, and the general public. Types of articles range from standard topical entries, to biographies, to place-based items, to country profiles and environmental classics. EoE also includes a growing collection of e-books.

Endangered Species Day, May 18, 2007

http://www.stopextinction.org/site/c.epIQKXOBJSg/b.1539473/k.4A37/Endangered_Species_Day.htm

The second annual national Endangered Species Day will celebrate America's commitment to protecting and recovering our nation's endangered species. Last year, thousands of people

throughout the country participated in various programs at schools, zoos, community centers, and other forums. This is an ideal opportunity for classroom discussion, research, and related activities.

Ethical Traveler

<http://www.ethicaltraveler.org>

This site's "focus is on the positive impact travelers can have by being open, informed, and willing to immerse themselves in other cultures," and "is dedicated to educating travelers about the social and environmental impact of their decisions." The site features "Thirteen Tips for the Accidental Ambassador," country information, details about advocacy actions, and links to related sites. A project of Earth Island Institute, an organization founded by environmentalist David Brower. From Librarians' Internet Index, LII, Copyright 2007.

Fair Trade Certified

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

The Fair Trade Certification agency for the U.S. is a "non-profit organization that tracks and audits fair trade products in the nation" and provides information for members of the press. A definition of fair trade is "a market-based model of international trade" whose principles include fair prices, fair labor conditions, direct trade, democratic and transparent organizations, community development, and environmental sustainability. The web site provides a thorough set of frequently asked questions, a world fair trade map, an overview of the issue, collection of facts and figures, and extensive fact sheets. The collection of fact sheets and research tools is an especially rich source for background and fast facts on fair trade of products such as coffee, cocoa, bananas, tea, and sugar (<http://www.transfairusa.org/content/about/factsheets.php>). Adapted from Librarians' Internet Index, LII, copyright 2007.

Great Outdoors Month 2007

<http://www.greatoutdoorsmonth.org>

June 2007 is Great Outdoors Month. The web site highlights benefits of spending time in activities outdoors and shows how recreation and volunteerism are valuable for education. Great Outdoors Month is coordinated by the American Recreation Coalition (ARC) and features events hosted by more than a dozen federal agencies and national organizations.

Intute: Health & Life Sciences

<http://www.intute.ac.uk/healthandlifesciences/>

Formerly known as BIOME, the Intute web site is maintained by a consortium of institutions in the United Kingdom with content provided by a network of subject specialists. Intute's goal is to serve as a finding tool and gateway to the best web sources for education and research in these subjects: medicine; nursing, midwifery, and allied health; agriculture, food, and forestry; veterinary medicine; bioresearch; and natural history. Sources include articles and journals, software, newsletters, documents and reports, and web sites. Users may browse the site's content, where they will discover that links are arranged using controlled vocabularies such as Library of Congress subject headings, the CAB Thesaurus, and MeSH from the National Library of Medicine. The advanced search enables readers to limit searches by type of source material, such as case studies, journals, e-books, professional organization, sequence database, and several other categories. RSS feeds are available to receive alerts when new items are added to the web site.

Reduce.org

<http://www.reduce.org>

This site provides suggestions for reducing personal production of waste materials. "When you avoid making garbage in the first place, you don't have to worry about disposing of waste or recycling it later. Changing your habits is the key." Topics include office paper, composting, purchasing decisions, junk mail, transportation, holiday activities, and more. From the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency. Copyright Librarians' Internet Index, LII 2007.

U.S. Green Building Council

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

Building "green" buildings is more than just a guideline for the U.S. Green Buildings Council; it's their primary goal and passion. With over 7500 member organizations, their number includes representatives from all sectors of the building industry, who are dedicated to promoting buildings that are "environmentally responsible, profitable and healthy places to live and work." While some of their online materials are only for members, visitors will find plenty of freely accessible, valuable materials on the Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) Rating system, which is recognized as the benchmark for the design, construction, and operation of high performance green buildings. Visitors to the LEED section of the site can learn more about the system and view presentations on the subject. Finally, the homepage contains news updates about their work and outreach efforts. [KMG] Copyright Internet Scout Project, 1994-2007. The Internet Scout Project (<http://scout.wisc.edu/>)

Water Stewards Resource

<http://www.nccecojustice.org/network/forms/downlogin.php>

Water Stewards: A Toolkit for Congregational Care of Local Watersheds can be downloaded after registering with the National Council of Churches Eco-Justice Network. The toolkit contains an interactive adult education curriculum with ideas for worship and action to promote good water stewardship. See other topics and educational tools on the Eco-Justice Program's web site.

U.S.Federal Government Agencies

ECOTOX Database

<http://cfpub.epa.gov/ecotox/>

Online collection of data on adverse effects of single chemical exposures on fresh and saltwater aquatic and terrestrial plants and animals. Staff at the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's Mid-Continent Ecology Division of the National Health and Environmental Effects Research

Laboratory compile the database, which brings together data from other EPA databases, specifically AQUIRE (aquatic), TERRATOX (terrestrial), and PHYTOTOX (plant). Date coverage ranges from the early 1970s to the present with about a six month delay. Searchers may use a quick database query for chemical or taxonomic names, specific effects, or publication date. An advanced query offers more options. Search results present laboratory data references linked to bibliographic citations, often leading to other web pages within the EPA web site or to documents in PDF.

USGS: WaterWatch

<http://water.usgs.gov/waterwatch/>

The United States Geological Survey pays keen attention to a number of physical processes around the country, and they are no less vigilant in their efforts to study water resources. Visitors to this site will first notice the map of real-time streamflow activity right in the middle of the homepage. The data is organized into seven percentile classes that draw on historical data to illustrate how the current streamflow activity compares to activity in the past. Using a series of drop-down menus on the top allows users to look for current flood and drought watches and also access historical maps and graphs that offer some perspective on monthly streamflow. Finally, the site also contains a thorough explanation of streamflow data and how such data is compiled and analyzed. [KMG] Copyright Internet Scout Project, 1994-2007. The Internet Scout Project (<http://scout.wisc.edu/>)

Conferences, Professional Development Opportunities, and Awards

Brower Youth Awards - Deadline May 15, 2007

<http://www.broweryouthawards.org/article.php?list=type&type=12>

A program of the Earth Island Institute, the Brower Youth Award recognizes six young people annually (ages of 13-22) for their outstanding activism and achievements in the fields of environmental and social justice advocacy. Each of six recipients will be awarded a \$3000 cash

prize, a trip to California for the award ceremony and camping trip, and ongoing access to resources and opportunities to further their work at Earth Island.

EcoRes Forum E-Conference, July 14-27, 2007 (Online)

http://www.eco-res.org/press/EnvJust_EConf.html

This EcoRes Forum e-conference will focus on the central role that environmental justice issues must occupy, arguing that the principles of self-determination and participation in decision-making are vital to these discussions, and that failure to actively address these perspectives is in itself indicative of a choice made, for which our times will be judged by future generations. Registration begins May 1, 2007.

Applied Environmental Education Program Evaluation, Fall 2007 Courses Online

<http://www.uwsp.edu/natres/rwilke/eetap/>

Fall courses are offered as part of a cooperative effort between the Environmental Education and Training Partnership (EETAP) at the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) National Conservation Training Center. Participants may obtain three undergraduate or graduate credits from the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point. Courses offered are Fundamentals of Environmental Education, Applied Environmental Education Program Evaluation, and Leadership Development in Natural Resources: Strategic Planning and Implementation. See the web site for dates and instructions for registration.

Developing Teacher Training

September 10-14th, 2007, Shepherdstown, West Virginia

Registration Deadline: July 16, 2007

<http://doilearn.doi.gov/training/classscheduler/index.cfm?Fuseaction=Home.CourseDetails&intCSCourseID=612&AddPopularity=1>

This course presents the essential components of working with schools and school systems, specifically on conducting teacher training. The course culminates with participants applying their skills at an actual teacher workshop. Upon return to their sites, participants are also expected to plan and conduct a workshop for teachers within a year. Participants are eligible for two semester-hours college credit.

Study Tour: Sustainability in the Himalayan Foothills

November 30 - December 4, 2007

<http://www.naaee.org/programs-and-initiatives/professional-development-tours/post-tbilisi-30-tour/>

India's Himalayan region is world-renowned for its spectacular natural beauty and vibrant inhabitants. Threats to the area's natural resources and colorful way of life are many: population, land abuse, and impacts of global warming. This study tour will engage inquisitive environmental educators in exploring sustainability issues from a village-up perspective. The tour is offered by the North American Association for Environmental Education (NAAEE) in connection with the Tbilisi+30 conference "Environmental Education Towards a Sustainable Future" in Ahmedabad, India on November 26-28.

Green Schools Symposium, December 4 - 5, 2007

Phoenix, Arizona

<http://educationreporting.com/GreenSchoolSymposium.aspx>

This Education Reporting, Inc. Symposium will provide an opportunity for participants to discuss appropriate goals and initiatives to support integration of green education into class curriculum and enable eco-friendly best practices on school campuses.

Acknowledgements:

Items from the Scout Report are copyright Internet Scout Project, 1994-2007. The Internet Scout Project (<http://scout.wisc.edu/>), located in the Computer Sciences Department of the University of Wisconsin-Madison, provides information about the Internet to the U.S. research and education community under a grant from the National Science Foundation, number NCR-9712163. The Government has certain rights in this material. Permission is granted to make and distribute verbatim copies of the entire Scout Report provided this paragraph, including the copyright notice, are preserved on all copies.

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Many notes about conferences and professional development opportunities come from the EE-News listserv from the North American Association for Environmental Education, 2007. Read newsletters on line and subscribe to EE-News at <http://newsletters.naaee.org/>

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Acknowledgement: Thanks to Lia Inoa, Library Peer Mentor at Utah State University, Merrill-Cazier Library, for help formatting these book listings.

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