



Minnesota Project Learning Tree Educator Update

Mid - February 2009

"There's just too dang much going on not to send a second newsletter." – Laura Duffey, Minnesota PLT coordinator

E-newsletter for educators who have attended a Project Learning Tree workshop

NEWS

Third Ed. Minnesota GreenPrint Released

The *GreenPrint* is Minnesota's state plan for environmental education.

The whole thing is on www.seek.state.mn.us/eemn_d.cfm

Did you know there is a state statute requiring that pupils and citizens learn to be environmentally responsible?
Tell your employers, parents, and neighbors!



Minnesota Statute 115A.073

- (a) Pupils and citizens should be able to apply informed decision-making processes to maintain a sustainable lifestyle order to do so, citizens should:
- (1) understand ecological systems;
 - (2) understand the cause and effect relationship between human attitudes and behavior and the environment;
 - (3) be able to evaluate alternative responses to environmental issues before deciding on alternative courses of action; and
 - (4) understand the effects of multiple uses of the environment.
- (b) Pupils and citizens shall have access to information and experiences needed to make informed decisions about actions to take on environmental issues.

TEACHER THRIFTIES: Free and cheap stuff

Free DNR Arbor Month Tree Seedlings

Orders due March 28

If you are planning a tree planting project for Arbor Day (April 24) or Arbor Month (May), the DNR has free tree seedlings for you! Just call your local forester

www.mndnr.gov/areas/forestry/index.html order what you want. Your forester may have suggestions for appropriate species, too. Seedlings cannot be used as "give-aways" during spring events.



Free Urban Bird Sounds CD

To get your free CD,

Simply send an email to rb13@cornell.edu and ask for it.



Free Minnesota Frog Calls in Your Classroom

Bring in the sounds of spring!

www.mndnr.gov/education/ee/examples.html#corner

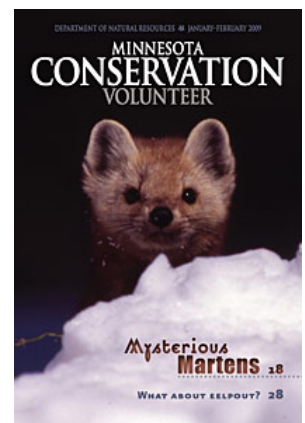
Free Minnesota Invasive Species Calendar

Print it out! www.mndnr.gov/education/index.html

Free Classroom Subscription

of the *Minnesota Conservation Volunteer* magazine (this is the DNR's magazine).

www.mndnr.gov/young_naturalists/index.html



SUMMER JOBS

Internships at Minnesota State Parks

Applications are due by Feb. 20

For college students or other adults looking for a career change. The Department of Natural Resources is hiring naturalist interns to present programs at 12 of our 72 state parks this summer. A naturalist intern mentors under the resident naturalist at a park to conduct campfire programs, hikes, and children's activities. We're looking for young adults who are enthusiastic and creative, enjoy working outdoors with groups of park visitors, and don't mind working weekends and holidays.

Apply on www.mnstateparks.info. Click on "State Park Naturalist Internships."

Summer Job: Gypsy Moth Trappers needed

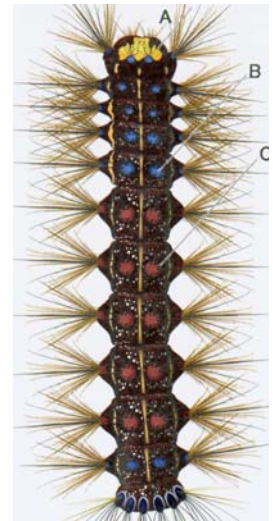
Applications due March 2

Need a summer job? Be a gypsy moth trapper!

No guns needed, just set cardboard pheromone traps in forests.

The Minnesota Dept. of Agriculture needs responsible adults to set gypsy moth pheromone traps in eastern Minnesota, and track them with GPS units (training provided). Gypsy moths are an invasive insect heading into Minnesota.

JOB OUTLINE ON NEXT PAGE



That's all, folks!

Employment Opportunities at the Minnesota Department of Agriculture
GYPHY MOTH DETECTION TRAPPING
SURVEY TRAPPER ANNOUNCEMENT (Also see LEAD WORKER ANNOUNCEMENT)
Deadline for Applications: March 2, 2009 Southern Minnesota
March 16, 2009 Northern Minnesota

Position description: The European gypsy moth causes extensive damage when the caterpillars defoliate North American forests. The gypsy moth survey program is used to detect this invasive species in Minnesota. Job duties include assembling, setting, monitoring and removing up to 700 cardboard detection traps within a designated route. Trappers collect data using a hand-held global positioning system (GPS) unit (training provided) and report to a lead worker. Trappers work from home and **MUST** live in the area in which they trap. A reliable vehicle is necessary for driving trap routes. Mileage is reimbursable.

Salary range: \$12.44 - \$16.17 hourly

Commitment: Southern Minnesota: Mandatory training in Saint Paul, MN on May 27-28. Position runs through September 4. Hours: 8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. Monday - Friday. There are two to three weeks of scheduled unpaid leave during the season for approximately 11-12 weeks of employment.

Northern Minnesota: Mandatory training in Duluth, MN on June 3, 4 and 5. Position runs through October 15. Hours: 7:00 a.m. - 5:30 p.m. Monday - Thursday. There are three to four weeks of scheduled unpaid leave during the season for approximately 14-15 weeks of employment.

The unpaid leave in the middle is because under that job classification, admin only lets them work so many weeks per year and they have to have someone available to take the traps down after the moths stop flying. In south MN, that's late August. In north MN, that's late Sept into Oct. Hence the dates - it's all biology. I know they work with a lot of teachers. But someone has to know where those traps went and how to get back to them in order to take them down that fall. While they have done it, it doesn't work very well to have someone other than the person who set them in the first place, try to find them again at the end of the season.

Qualifications: Minimum qualifications are: 1) a high school diploma or GED, 2) must live in or near a trapping route, 3) must possess and maintain an active/valid driver's license with an acceptable motor vehicle record subject to review and must maintain liability insurance on your own vehicle if using it for work purposes.

To qualify for this position, candidates must be able to meet all of the following physical requirements: 1) the ability to drive/sit for prolonged periods of time, 2) the ability to drive on all kinds of roads, up to 250 miles per day, 3) the ability to get in and out of a vehicle up to 60 times per day, 4) the ability to walk and set up, monitor, and remove traps (25-60 per day) under various weather conditions and terrain. Some positions will require extensive hiking in rough, wooded terrain, particularly in the northeast, and 5) the ability to lift up to 20 pounds.

The ideal candidate has a background in biology or a related field, and has the ability to work well with minimum supervision and with others as a team. Must be able to set goals, and meet deadlines, be flexible and possess good interpersonal skills. Map-reading, navigation skills and attention to detail are critical to the performance of the job.

To apply: Apply on-line at www.careers.state.mn.us. You may copy and paste your existing resume or let the software create a resume for you. If you do not have access to the internet and cannot submit your resume on-line, submit your paper resume and application to the Minnesota Department of Agriculture, Attention: Rodie Kinney, 625 Robert St. N, Saint Paul, MN 55155 or by fax to (651) 201-6125. To be considered for this vacancy, indicate the job title and/or posting number in the Specific Opening area of the employment application. You must indicate a high school diploma or GED. To receive the paper application, please call (651) 201-6023.

Contact for more info: Terry Varing, Gypsy Moth Unit, (651) 201-6165. E-mail: terry.varing@state.mn.us or gypsy.moth@state.mn.us

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UPCOMING ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION WORKSHOPS

from the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources

Registration forms are on www.mndnr.gov/plt

Project WET Workshop

For grade K-9 educators

Feb. 24, 2009

9 am – 4 pm

Century Junior High, Forest Lake

Cost: \$30, which includes lunch, Project WET Activity Guide, 6 CEUs

PLT, WET, WILD, WILD Aquatic Workshop

For grade K-8 educators

March 4 – 5, 2009

9 am – 3:30 pm each day

Cedar Creek Ecosystem Science Reserve, Bethel

Cost: \$100, which includes lunch and breakfast (both days); activity guides for Project WET, PLT, Project WILD, and Project WILD Aquatic; and 12 CEUs.

Optional graduate credit and overnight lodging are available.

Project WET Workshop

For grade K-12 educators

March 21, 2009

6 hours

Academy for Science and Agriculture High School, Vadnais Heights

Cost: \$30, which includes lunch, Project WET Activity Guide, 6 CEUs

PLT, WILD, and WILD Aquatic Workshop

For Grade K-8 educators

June 16, 2009

8 am – 3:30 pm

Jeffers Pond Elem. School, Prior Lake

Cost: \$70, which includes activity guides for PLT, WILD, and WILD Aquatic; lunch; 7 CEUs.

Optional graduate credit available.

Summer Institute: PLT, WET, WILD, WILD Aquatic Workshop

For High School educators

July 14 – 17, 2009

Vermilion Community College, Ely

Cost: \$250, which includes 4 days lodging, dinner on 7/14; breakfasts and lunches; high school activity guides in PLT, WET, WILD, and WILD Aquatic; all field trips, and 25 CEUs. Two optional graduate credits are available.

