

An Invitation to Attend

You are invited to participate in an Earth Partnership for Schools RESTORE Leadership Institute, July 12 – July 22, 2010 at the UW-Madison Arboretum, Madison, WI. Learn how to use ecological restoration as a broad context for teaching and learning. Restoring a native ecosystem is an exciting, real-life project that weaves through the K-12 curriculum and includes science, math, social studies, language and the arts.

During the two-week institute, teachers from each school are trained in the ecological restoration process. Together, teams of teachers and resource and Arboretum staff begin to develop educational and action plans to create meaningful experiences for students through the process of restoring a school site.

School teams bring additional teachers and collaborate with team resource partners for a follow-up one-week institute held in their local region in 2011.

Credit/Cost

Participants will receive 3 college credits from UW-Madison. Tuition will be waived. Participants are responsible for a UW fee of \$112.76.

Participant Selection

Any K-12 team may apply. The primary requirement is a long-term commitment to the school restoration site as an educational project. Other criteria include leadership skills and the potential to bring together a strong team from your school.

Download an application at www.uwarboretum.org/eps/

For more information contact your local EPS Center or the National Office:

Earth Partnership for Schools
(608) 262-9925

Participant Comments:

"Sometimes our skills, talents, senses hibernate. This program has stimulated growth, development and skill, which we can pass on. I've taken many, many graduate courses – this institute excels beyond any that I have taken."

"...Thank you for an AMAZING experience, not only have each of you taught me an incredible amount about the restoration process, you have also been wonderful role models as teachers—enthusiastic, passionate, knowledgeable, joyful, friendly, etc... You have inspired me not only to teach about prairie but also ...to become a better teacher!"

"Kids need to feel important, to feel that they make a difference in this world. If you feel that you are not going to have a future, you are not likely to go out and do something. This program provides ways to give kids a sense of purpose and build competency..."

"...This method of instruction was most effective with the at-risk group of students who are among the most disengaged in the learning process. ...It would appear these students learn best with this more hands-on method of instruction, and schools would be wise to explore ever-increasing ways to provide such programs for at-risk students..."

"The next day found me filled with awe again as I listened to my classmates share their experiences both professionally and personally. So much new information and knowledge along with new ways of presenting it to students, and yet it didn't feel daunting and draining like most instructional workshops... As a result of this experience I have turned down pages in the curriculum guide with stars and notes as well as filled several pages with notes, ideas, and dreams for the coming year."

University of Wisconsin—Madison Arboretum



Restoration – Based Teacher Professional Development

July 12 – 22, 2010



No plot of ground is too small
to sow the seeds of change

"...not only did I learn about restoration, but I thought of how I relate to my students, and how students react, learn and respond to information presented."



Learn to educate through Ecological Restoration

Experience how to help students envision, plan and carry out a native plant restoration, native garden or rain garden at your school

Galvanize and work with an interdisciplinary team made up of teachers from your school and local community members.

Develop a custom-designed curriculum by choosing from more than 150 EPS restoration-based activities, ranging from science and math to language arts and social studies.

Infuse environmental education across the curriculum, and get students meaningfully involved in restoration and scientific processes.

Celebrate a personal relationship with the land.

The RESTORE Leadership Institute

The EPS Program selects teams of K-12 teachers and regional community educators/resource personal to participate in a two-week restoration education institute held at the UW-Madison Arboretum. The teams learn about ecological restoration and cultural and natural history as they do hands-on activities. Teachers focus on building teams and integrating EPS restoration-based activities into the school curriculum. Each school develops a broad-based, interdisciplinary educational plan that outlines how students will develop and use their restoration.

The following priorities guide the Earth Partnership Summer Institutes:

- Provide opportunities to learn the ecological, cultural, and historical knowledge associated with the restoration process, as well as resources and other support for future assistance with their school site restoration and school-wide use of that restoration as an outdoor laboratory.
- Model a variety of teaching methods to provide participants with a rich understanding of ecological restoration and project planning through interdisciplinary, hands-on, inquiry-based teaching.
- Provide participants with opportunities to gain skills and collaborative strategies to assist in strengthening school teams and gain additional community support for their school restoration efforts.

Student Benefits

Planning a restoration provides opportunities to learn ecological concepts and study the natural and cultural history of a site. Using hands-on exploration, students observe, seek information and learn through a process grounded in basic science and enhanced by emotional and creative experiences. Students ask questions—their outdoor laboratory helps them find answers.

Program History

The Earth Partnership Program started in 1991 as an outgrowth of the UW-Madison Arboretum's focus on ecological restoration as a way of establishing a positive relationship between people and the land. The Arboretum's world-famous pioneering restoration work, initiated by Aldo Leopold and his colleagues in the 1930s, provides living laboratories for restoration-related research and teaching.



" Thanks for coordinating an outstanding program that really does make a difference in teaching approaches, student knowledge, learning and values – and does something for the environment."