

# Are You Wild About... Project WILD?

## Advanced Conservation Education Series



The NJ DEP Division of Fish & Wildlife is hosting an **Advanced Project WILD Training Series** for 4-12 grade educators to be held at the **Hackettstown Natural Resource Education Center**.

***The goal of this training series is to promote conservation education in New Jersey while helping to prepare classroom teachers to dig deeper into using the environment as a context for learning.***

The 4-hour Advanced Training sessions will include topics like: endangered and threatened species in NJ, soil form and function, macroinvertebrate sampling tools and techniques, and exploring wildlife management issues and challenges. After the training, educators are expected to lead their classroom's outdoor experience and provide written feedback.

**Educators that participate in at least one training AND lead their students' sessions at HNREC or their school are invited to the free professional development overnight experience at Sedge Island Natural Resource Education Center June 22-23, 2007 on a first come, first serve basis. (see [www.njfishandwildlife.com/sedgtr00.htm](http://www.njfishandwildlife.com/sedgtr00.htm))**

**REGISTRATION IS LIMITED.** Each session fee is \$20. There is a \$5 discount for attending two or more sessions and for ANJEE members. Please bring your membership card.



**8: 30 am & 1:00 pm - May 19**

**Stuff of Life** - a 'short-course' on the distinctive qualities that make water the amazing 'life-support' substance that it is. This session will include some hands-on lessons from Aquatic Project WILD that can be replicated in either the classroom or an outdoor setting. It will also include some macro-invertebrate sampling techniques (involving real 'critters' from the Hackettstown Hatchery site) and some revealing water runoff/discharge activities from Project WILD's Secondary Curriculum Guide, Science and Civics.

**8: 30 am & 1:00 pm - May 19**

**Soil 101: Not Just Another 4-Letter Word** - Learn about the often overlooked but essential part of our environment- soils. This under appreciated natural resource provides us clothing, food, shelter and structural support, yet is not given much thought until something is "wrong." A soils unit may be used on its own or as enrichment to language arts, mathematics, science, social studies and visual arts. The interdisciplinary activities provide a balance of in-class and outdoor learning experiences. This workshop will provide an overview concerning the fundamental concepts of soil science, learning what soil is, who uses it and what lives in it.

**8: 30 am & 1:00 pm - June 2**

**Soil 201: Managing and Conserving the Soils** - Basic soil science concepts from Soils 101 are applied by investigating how human activity tends to degrade or reduce the quality of soils. This session will provide an overview concerning the social and economic impact of soil importance by learning how it's used and where it's going. Participants will investigate the proper use of soil as a valuable natural resource and will match several facts about soil degradation to related environmental problems.

**8: 30 am & 1:00 pm - June 2**

**Endangered & Threatened Species** - When most people think about endangered species their minds soar to exotic places and images of pandas, tigers, and elephants come to mind. But right here in New Jersey, there are bobcats, bald eagles, Pine Barrens tree frogs, and other wildlife species on the edge of extinction. In fact, NJ is home to more than 70 endangered or threatened wildlife species and are great tools to teach concepts such as biodiversity, habitats, food webs, and environmental pollution. Join us to learn about how to use NJ's rare wildlife and their habitats to connect students to their local environment.

**8: 30 am & 1:00 pm - June 9**

**All About Herps** - Learn how to document the diversity of New Jersey's snakes, lizards, turtles, toads, frogs, and salamanders. These animals capture the interest of children and are relatively easy to find in the field. Concepts covered include habitats such as ponds, rivers, and vernal pools, food webs, and proper survey techniques for students.

**8: 30 am & 1:00 pm - June 9**

**Cultural Carrying Capacity** - This session explores wildlife population dynamics, factors related to conservation and challenges facing natural resource managers. Using transient natural resources like black bears as a context, this session delves into limiting factors and the ethical dilemmas of conserving wildlife species. Participants will simulate wildlife technicians surveying free-ranging species and stakeholders addressing local wildlife concerns.

**For further information or to register, contact Liz at (908) 637-4125 or send email to [ejackson@dep.state.nj.us](mailto:ejackson@dep.state.nj.us).**

**HACKETTSTOWN NATURAL RESOURCE EDUCATION CENTER  
Project WILD is Sponsored by NJ DEP DIVISION OF FISH & WILDLIFE**