

## **Fall 4-H Wildlife Stewards Training** **WORKSHOP DESCRIPTIONS and SCHEDULE**

### **Creating and Designing School Wildlife Habitats**

DAY ONE: October 9th

Tualatin River National Wildlife Refuge Conference Center

- 8:15 am      **Registration and Check-In**
- 8:30 am      **Introduction to 4-H Wildlife Stewards**  
*Getting started as a Wildlife Steward Volunteer*
- Are you ready to become a Wildlife Steward? This class will guide you through the process of becoming a volunteer. Participants will learn more about the 4-H Wildlife Stewards program and what to expect. Learn how to start your program and plan for project sustainability.
- 9:15 pm      **Principles of Wildlife Management**  
*an introduction to the key principles of wildlife management*
- Participants will learn about the basic needs of wildlife, habitat management principles and how to evaluate a Habitat Education Site for specific wildlife species.
- 10: 30 am    **Break**
- 10:45 am    **Native Plants in Your School Habitat**  
*Create a beautiful garden to benefited wildlife using native plants*
- In this class participants will learn about some of the most common native plants found in Oregon and what make good plants for school gardens for enhancing wildlife. Learning about the functions of different native plants and how to select and care for the best plants for your school garden will be covered in this workshop.
- Noon         **Lunch**
- 12:45 pm    **Wildlife in School Habitat**  
*Common wildlife found in school wildlife habitats*
- Birds, bugs, mammals and herptiles are the focus for this series of classes. Participants will learn about common wildlife found in a school habitat, habitat requirements for specific species, and how to attract wildlife to your school habitat. Feeding stations and nest boxes will also be introduced.
- 2:45 pm     **Break**
- 3:00 pm     **Mapping and Inventorying Your Site**  
Learn strategies for working with your students to map and inventory your school Site

Mapping and inventorying your site before you break ground or expand your school site should include the participation of the students. Participants will use student wildlife habitat inventory worksheets and learn simple tools for teaching youth how to map and measure their site.

4:00 pm

### **Working with Your School District**

*Important strategies for working with your school district and understanding school district policies*

Without a clear understanding of school district guidelines for creating and maintaining a garden or wildlife habitat on school grounds, teachers and volunteers may experience roadblocks. Though school district guidelines may vary from district to district, there are several important guidelines that are followed by most school districts. Build success for your project by using the simple tips and guidelines for establishing a good working relationship with the school district.

## **School Gardens and Outdoor Learning Labs**

DAY TWO: October 10, 2008

Creative Science School

8:15 am

### **Registration and Check-In**

8:30 am

### **Welcome and Introductions**

8:45 am

### **Session One** (select one workshop from the following options)

#### **Science Inquiry Projects for the Garden**

*The 4-H Learning Model, "Do-Reflect-Apply" is also the model used in science inquiry models. There are unlimited numbers of science inquiry projects that can be applied to the school garden. Whether your students are first graders or 8th graders - or whether you are looking for a year-round inquiry project or a one week project - there are many ways to engage your students in science inquiry right outside your classroom door.*

#### **Native Plant Sales 101**

*Sustaining your school garden project is a challenge for every school. Learn how annual native plants sales with local nursery partners are a great way to raise funds for your garden and wildlife habitat project as well teach students valuable lessons in entrepreneurship. Save money on plants and more importantly, provide new learning opportunities for your students by growing plants from seeds. Growing plants from seeds can be a fun and rewarding experience for everyone. This workshop will lead participants through the basics of setting up a successful plant sale.*

#### **Garden Art**

*Incorporating garden art into your project is fun as well as rewarding for students and teachers alike. Learn about some great garden art projects that can be used for your site.*

10: 15 am **BREAK**

10:30 am **Session Two** (select one workshop from the following options)

### **Rain Gardens**

This 90 minute workshop that will provide practical advice for creating your rain garden. This workshop is perfect for new Wildlife Stewards schools or schools looking for a different project for your wildlife habitat.

### **Gardening Year Round (and Winter Too!)**

Learn about the cycle of a garden, from spring planting to fall harvesting and planting, and putting your garden to bed for the winter. Participants will learn specific activities for garden related activities year round.

### **Community Partners Roundtable**

Several Portland area and statewide agencies are already working with many of our 4-H Wildlife Stewards schools. Meet some of the community partners that provide a wealth of resources and support for school garden and habitat projects. Get ideas for who to turn to in your community to sustain your project for years to come.

Noon **LUNCH**

12:45 PM **Session Three** (select one workshop from the following options)

### **Investigating Change: Monitoring Your Habitat**

The school habitat is not complete once the last plant is put in the ground. Learning for students is only just beginning. Using these simple and low cost monitoring kits that can be made for under \$100, students monitor everything from rainfall to sun, to soil changes and wildlife signs.

### **Edible Gardens and Raised Garden Beds**

Today many of our 4H Wildlife Stewards Schools have included edible beds and raised garden beds at their site. This workshop, led by 4-H Wildlife Steward Partner, Growing Gardens, will provide the tools for building a successful edible garden and different alternatives for raised garden beds.

### **Enhancing Your Site: Cob Building and Eco Roofs**

This hands-on workshop will lead participants through some of the considerations of incorporating cob structures and eco roofs on their school site including costs, materials, benefits and safety guidelines. Participants will be introduced to these sustainable building practices and will have the opportunity to build their own small cob structure.

2:15 pm **Break**

2:30 pm **Session Four** (select one workshop from the following options)

### **From Trash to Treasure: A Guide to Composting**

This is an introductory workshop to the basics of composting and worm bins. Composting is an integral part of any school garden project. Participants will leave with ideas on how to incorporate composting and reduce waste at schools.

### **Lessons for Outdoor Learning**

Learn new hands-on lessons that can be used in your school wildlife habitat or school garden. All lessons reinforce classroom curriculum and are tied to Oregon education standards. Participants will also receive information on how to construct low-cost learning kits for easy classroom use.

### **4-H Junior Wildlife Stewards After-School Clubs**

Junior 4-H Wildlife Stewards clubs are a great way to provide additional learning opportunities for those students with a strong interest in school garden projects. Cross-age mentoring, flexible curriculum and service learning opportunities are all possible through 4-H after-school programs. Learn about a variety of successful models for starting a 4-H club at your school.

## **Sustaining Your School Garden Project**

**DAY THREE: October 11th**

**Tualatin River National Wildlife Refuge Conference Center**

7:45 am **Check-in**

8:00 am **Wildlife Stewards Project Sustainability**

**Keeping & growing your site... safely & for years to come!**

The 4-H Wildlife Stewards School Certification program is a roadmap for success. This program helps participants understand some of the key steps that must be undertaken to ensure the project will continue to grow and thrive for years to come.

8:45 am **Keys to Success**

The 4-H Wildlife Stewards Program has a long history for helping schools across Oregon experience success and bring nature closer to children. This workshop includes information gathered from 13 years of experience in school garden programs and the input of many of our successful veteran 4-H Wildlife Stewards. The "Keys to Success" these 4-H Wildlife Stewards Volunteers have found may not be what you may expect.

9:05 am

### **Creating Your Habitat Team**

A Habitat Team is crucial to the success of any school garden or habitat project. No one person can organize a school garden project alone. This workshop is designed to help participants think about the important people to include in a habitat team, and how to organize and lead a successful habitat team.

10:00 am

### **Break**

10:15 am

### **Summer Maintenance**

School is out and summer has come. How do you maintain your site during the hot summer months when few people are around and newly planted plants are vulnerable to the changing weather? Here are some suggestions for maintaining your site during the summer months.

10:45 am

### **Vandalism Prevention**

Vandalism is unfortunate but often likely. Be prepared for vandalism to happen and take some important steps to minimize vandalism in your school habitat site.

11:05 am

### **Grant Writing**

Learn the ABC's of writing a successful grant. Several grant applications from organizations who have funded many of our 4-H Wildlife Stewards schools will be shared.

Noon

### **Lunch**

12:30 pm

### **Project Notebooks, Bulletin Boards and Signage**

Project notebooks, bulletin boards and signage are all methods for keeping the school community informed of the project and helps inspire others to get involved. This workshop will share some of the successful ways schools are keeping project notebooks with the history of the project, dynamic bulletin boards and signage in the habitat.

1:00 pm

### **Student Journals**

Student journals are a great way for students to document what they are learning and developing their writing schools. A variety of school journal models will be shared.

1:30 pm

### **Working with Youth**

This class will prepare volunteers for working with youth in the Wildlife Stewards program. Participants will learn about the ages & stages of child development, how to provide guidance & discipline for youth, and the significance of positive youth development in accordance with the 4-H

model of learning. In addition, participants will also learn about curriculum lessons for the wildlife habitat.

2:15 pm

### **Promoting Your Program to Others and Celebrating Success**

Learn the basics of sharing your success with others and how promoting your program provides rewards and inspiration for everyone.

2:45 pm

### **Next Steps**

In addition, we'll cover the next steps you'll need to take to ensure the success of your Wildlife Stewards program.

3:15 pm

### **Wrap Up and Evaluation**

3:30 pm

### **Conclusion of Course**