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## Science Notes - Environmental Issues Instruction Workshop

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## Environmental Issues Instruction Workshops

Iowa educators have the opportunity to study Environmental Issues Instruction this year thanks to a grant from the Resource Enhancement and Protection (REAP) act fund. The monies received will cover graduate tuition costs for educators enrolled in the program and part of the expenses of materials and room and board at instructional sites around the state.

The program includes two-credit-hour case study workshops on Tropical Rain Forest Issues and Global Climate Change, a support system for teachers as they begin teaching units and the beginning of a series of Leadership Training workshops for teachers. The first workshop dealt with Global Climate Change and was held October 12-14 at Forest Lake Camp near Bloomfield, Iowa. The Tropical Rain Forest program was offered November 16-18 at Starr's Cave Nature Center in Burlington and will be offered again February 1-3 at the Conservation Education Center at Springbrook State Park and February 22-24 at Twin Lakes Camp near Manson.

The purpose of the project is to train teachers so they may guide young citizens to make wise decisions relative to environmental-related societal issues and to develop the skills which will help them to act relative to issues. Participants experience an instructional model which prepares them to teach children what an environmental issue is, how to study an issue and how to take wise action on an issue. Teachers from elementary through high school in all disciplines are encouraged to apply.

Another part of the program is "Leadership Training" in which interested teachers are provided instruction in greater depth than that offered in the regular workshop sessions. In return, these educators serve as a support team for teachers who begin implementing the environmental issue curricula in their school systems. It is expected that most of the supporting educators will have taken one of the two-credit-hour case study workshops on Tropical Rain Forest or Global Climate Change, but other teachers, supervisors and administrators are encouraged to apply. Issue Analysis Leadership Training sessions are scheduled for February 15-17 (Conservation Education Center, Springbrook State Park), March 15-17 (Twin Lakes Camp near Manson), March 22-24 (Camp EWALU Stone Center near Strawberry Point) and April 5-7 (Forest Lake Camp near Bloomfield).

The instructional staff for the Environmental Issues Instruction program includes Carl W. Bollwinkel, director, of the University of Northern Iowa; Barbara A. Bonnett of North Hill School of Burlington, Iowa; and Rosalie J. Cochran of Fairfield Middle School, Fairfield, Iowa. The project is sponsored by the Iowa Conservation Education Council (ICEC), the Three Rivers Environmental Council (TREC) and AEA's 15 and 16, and is endorsed by the Iowa Science Teachers Section of the Iowa Academy of Science.

Further information may be obtained from UNI Continuing Education (ph. 1-800-772-1746) or Dr. Carl W. Bollwinkel (ph. 319-273-2414).