



## LEAFlet Winter 2007

A Quarterly Publication of LEAF, the Wisconsin K-12 Forestry Education Program

Wisconsin Center for Environmental Education • College of Natural Resources • University of Wisconsin – Stevens Point  
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### “No Child Left Inside”: A MEEC Recap *from co-chairs Jeremy Solin, LEAF and Sterling Strathe, LEAF*

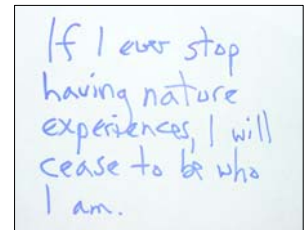
**Many kids today are the first generation ever to grow up with virtually little or no contact with nature.** A packed house of nearly 800 people listened as Richard Louv, author of *Last Child in the Woods: Saving Our Children from Nature Deficit Disorder*, eloquently explained this troubling phenomenon in his kickoff speech to the 2007 Midwest Environmental Education Conference (MEEC) in Stevens Point (October 18-20).



Louv related the societal trends that are competing for our childrens’ time – a plethora of organized activities, parents’ desires to offer their kids a competitive jump-start on you-name-it, fears about our childrens’ safety, and the mesmerizing pull of video games and computers. Louv pointed out that for most of the attendees, unstructured play in the outdoors played a key role in their childhood development. He offered numerous research findings that prove time and again - *free time in the outdoors significantly contributes to kids’ creativity, problem solving abilities, and mental health.* This time spent in the outdoors is one of the most critical experiences necessary for developing outdoor interests and a caring for the environment.

Following Louv’s keynote presentation, nearly 600 MEEC registrants participated in 3 days of engaging sessions and workshops jam-packed with ideas on how to get our children into the outdoors again. Participants attending from 14 states had wonderful networking opportunities and even shared some of their most fond memories of just being outside and playing. One participant wrote of childhood

memories: “In my youth... [I remember] hopping on bikes with pals, riding to nearby woods, playing for hours in backyards: No rules, no adults to “structure” our plans, just pure, free fun and discovery in the outdoors!”



Thank you to the numerous conference sponsors, including the Wisconsin River Academy and the Wisconsin Environmental Education Board. Here’s a [complete list of MEEC’s generous sponsors.](#)

*Also, thank s to the conference committee, volunteers, presenters, sponsors, and attendees for making the conference a huge success and a lot of fun!*

### We’ll Bring LEAF to You . . . no more hassle, no more \$\$

**Reaching more teachers at one time! Making it easier for you and your peers to learn about LEAF!**

We know it is hard for dedicated teachers with busy schedules and multiple commitments to find the time to learn about the wonderful materials developed by LEAF. Travel, funding, time away from home, even garnering administration’s support are often key obstacles (we know – we’ve heard about your struggles!).

Well, in response to this, LEAF has developed FREE, 2-4 hour non-credit in-services for your school or district. These highly engaging in-services introduce the LEAF program, materials, and related services to members of your school or district. A major emphasis of the in-service is to show you exactly how activities from the LEAF Lesson Guides easily fit into your existing curriculum (*they really do!*). All teachers attending an in-service receive **free** grade-specific copies of the LEAF Lesson Guide. And, those interested in receiving credit can continue on with LEAF’s [Build-a-Credit Program](#), applying the in-service time towards their credit.



Our in-services have been extremely well received. Recently, we provided an in-service to over 80 teachers in the Boscobel school district. Their response to the LEAF program and materials was overwhelming and supported our hunch to try this route. We hope to make it much easier for you to learn about LEAF and how our materials really do fit into your present curriculum – whether you are an elementary, middle school or high school teacher – it all fits in!

If you have been to a LEAF workshop and want to spread the word, if you have wanted to attend a LEAF workshop but haven’t had the time/money/support, or if you are just really intrigued with the potential of hosting an in-service in your area, please let us know! You can contact us at [leaf@uwsp.edu](mailto:leaf@uwsp.edu) or 715-346-4956. And, if you need help reaching the administrator in your school or district to garner support, we can help with that, too. We are standing by ready to take your call (or email).

*“Thank you so much for the in-service! The teachers are so excited!!!” Ruth Bauer, in-service participant and Boscobel elementary teacher*



## URBAN is Here!!

**We promised it would happen and surely it has!** LEAF's newest guide, **The Wisconsin K-12 Urban Forest Lesson Guide**, will soon be found in mailboxes around the state. If you've been through LEAF's training and already have our Wisconsin K-12 Forestry Lesson Guide watch your mailbox. If you do not receive a copy and would like us to send one your way, please contact us at [leaf@uwsp.edu](mailto:leaf@uwsp.edu). Let us know who you are and where to send it and we'll mail it off. Or, if you've moved in the last year, please let us know your new address so the guide can find you. (LEAF's Urban Forest Lesson Guide is free.)

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## NEWS to ponder . . .

### [Trees giving bizarre clues to climate change](#)

By *Sandi Doughton* | The Seattle Times December 6, 2007 edition

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## Watch for those WORMS!

Did you know that all earthworms aren't native to the Great Lakes region? Research is emerging on how they are slowly changing the face of our forests, but at this point very little is known about the distributions of earthworms across the region. In partnership with Wisconsin NatureMapping and Great Lakes Worm Watch, LEAF has developed the **Wisconsin Worm Watch Project** to encourage teachers, students, and the general public to survey school forests for the impacts of exotic earth worms. Trainings will soon be offered to help you get involved with the project. (Stay tuned!)

Meanwhile, to see where Wisconsin project participants have already surveyed for earthworms, visit <http://wnm.mapping-online.com/wisnatmap/map.do>. Under "special projects" choose "Worm Watch Data" and then click "update". Funding to initiate this project was provided by the [Wisconsin Citizen-Based Monitoring Partnership Program](#).

For more information about earthworms and monitoring efforts (including methods), visit the [Great Lakes Worm Watch website](#).

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## Are you a K-12 educator interested in ecology education?

At its 93rd Annual Meeting, the Ecological Society of America (ESA) plans to organize a special day of events and sessions with K-12 educators in mind. Tentatively, the event will be held either on Monday Aug 4 or Wed Aug 6, in Milwaukee, WI. The theme for this special day for educators is **Enhancing Ecological Thought by Linking Research and Education**. ESA may offer [limited free registrations](#) to attend this event.



The day's events will include special speakers, hands-on workshops, ecological field trips and presentations showcasing effective ecology education for K-12 audiences that meet science education content standards taking place in schools, research field stations, and nature centers. Teachers of both classroom and non-formal settings are welcome to interact with eminent ecologists and thinkers in ecology education. This is a golden opportunity to meet more than 3,000 scientists and learn about the latest findings in the ecological sciences. ESA is seeking support for the event as well as to provide each participating teacher with resources for teaching ecology.

ESA's [website](#) provides some general information. The event is in planning stages and the website does not offer registration yet, but more detailed information about the Annual Meeting is forthcoming. For more information, please contact [education@esa.org](mailto:education@esa.org).

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## School Yard Research – University of Illinois Landscape and Human Health Laboratory

"The Landscape and Human Health Lab currently has a new project in progress: The **Capacity to Learn** study will examine the effects of schoolyard nature on children's learning and academic achievement as reflected in standardized test scores. With this study, they hope to convincingly document whether children learn more in green school settings." Check out the laboratory's website for more information research and findings on greening our communities – including schoolyards: <http://www.lhhl.uiuc.edu>

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## Interesting Opportunities for You

### [Arbor Day Poster Contest](#)

### [4<sup>th</sup> Grade Forest Appreciation Writing Contest](#)

### [2008 Southeast Wisconsin Woodland Owner Conference](#)

February 9, 2008 at Country Springs Hotel and Conference Center, Waukesha, WI  
Contact DNR Forestry Randy Cooper at 262-884-2390

### **WebQuest: Urban Forest Issues Investigation**

What's a WebQuest? A WebQuest is an educational activity in which learners research information, mostly using sources on the internet. A WebQuest has a specific set of components, including goals for learning, and is not just a list of links to other websites.

A WebQuest has been designed to be used as part of the 9-12 Unit of the LEAF Urban Forest Supplement. It uses suggested websites and internet searches to help students investigate current urban forest issues. Using this on-line tool, LEAF can keep students up-to-date with what is happening in the quickly changing challenges in urban forests. Take a look at a [draft lesson and the Webquest](#)

### [Trees for Tomorrow](#) Needs Volunteers:

Trees for Tomorrow is holding an event August 2, 2008 called "Forest Fest." (Perhaps some of you already know this.) They are looking for volunteers to help organize the event. They are having a planning meeting on Saturday, February 2nd at 10:30am. If you are interested in helping, call Mike and Wendy Trost at 715.254.1083 or email [trost@charter.net](mailto:trost@charter.net).

### **2008 Natural History Workshops**

University of Wisconsin – Milwaukee Field Station: 3095 Blue Goose Rd, Saukville, WI 53080  
Contact: Cynthia Boettcher at 262-675-6844 / [cboettcher@uwm.edu](mailto:cboettcher@uwm.edu) / [www.uwm.edu/Dept/fieldstation](http://www.uwm.edu/Dept/fieldstation) (you might need to check their website for updates on these workshops)

#### **Field Herpetology: Identification of Wisconsin Amphibians and Reptiles**

Instructor: Dr. Josh Kapfer  
May 30 & 31 (Friday & Saturday)

#### **Vegetation of Wisconsin**

Instructors: Dr. James Reinartz and Marc White  
June 9-14 (Monday—Saturday)

#### **Sedges: Identification and Ecology**

Instructor: Dr. Anton Reznicek  
June 20 & 21 (Fri-Sat)

#### **Ecological Geology**

Instructor: Dr. Roger Kuhns  
July 7-11 (Monday—Friday)

#### **Fishes of Wisconsin: Identification and Ecology**

Instructor: Dr. Michael Pauers  
July 18 & 19 (Friday & Saturday)

#### **Common and Nuisance Algae**

Instructor: Dr. Craig Sandgren  
July 25 & 26 (Friday & Saturday)

#### **Wetland Delineation**

Instructor: Dr. Don Reed  
Sept. 12 & 13 (Friday & Saturday, dates tentative)

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## Environmental Education Online Courses offered through the University of Wisconsin – Stevens Point



### **Applied Environmental Education Program Evaluation**

Spring 2008 course dates: February 18 – May 9

This 12-week on-line course is designed to assist environmental educators and natural resource professionals in evaluating their education programs. Participants have the opportunity to develop and apply skills in designing evaluation tools such as surveys, observation forms, and interview and focus group guides. This course was developed as a cooperative effort between the Environmental Education and Training Partnership (EETAP) at the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) National Conservation Training Center. Participants may obtain three undergraduate or graduate credits from the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point. All participants, regardless of location, are eligible for the in-state tuition rate. The course is also offered as a non-credit workshop for those who are not seeking college credit.

"I loved the way the course content was laid out. The units and course content flowed together very well. The course also provided me with ways to test/assess our programs and show results, conclusions, and recommendations in a legitimate way." – Fall 2004 AEEPE course participant

To learn more, visit the course web site: <http://www.uwsp.edu/natres/rwilke/eetap/> or contact Angela Lemar ([Angela.Lemar@uwsp.edu](mailto:Angela.Lemar@uwsp.edu)) for a registration form. To learn more about EETAP visit the EETAP website at <http://www.eetap.org/>

### **Fundamentals of Environmental Education**

**Spring 2008 Dates:** February 4 – April 18

An 11-week online course about the fundamentals of environmental education is appropriate for both classroom teachers and for non-formal educators who work with students and/or teachers. Participants may obtain three undergraduate or graduate credits from the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point. All students, regardless of location, are eligible for the in-state tuition rate. The course is also offered at a reduced cost for those who are not interested in obtaining college credit.

The "Fundamentals of Environmental Education" online course was developed by the Environmental Education and Training Partnership (EETAP) in collaboration with national EE experts. It provides educators with the knowledge and skills necessary to incorporate quality environmental education into their instruction. Participants discuss the history, definition, and goals of environmental education; develop an understanding of the professional roles and instructional methods of environmental educators; and interact with other educators from across the country. Past course participants have given the course excellent reviews.

"This is a remarkable course. It is very well organized and in a way that I find models teaching organization we can all strive for. I enjoyed the opportunity to read about other people's experiences and to benefit from their knowledge and experiences. I also enjoyed reading the helpful comments the instructor gave me and others on the discussion board. What a wonderful opportunity!" – Spring 2005 FEE course participant

To learn more, visit the course web site: <http://www.uwsp.edu/natres/rwilke/eetap/> or contact Angela Lemar ([Angela.Lemar@uwsp.edu](mailto:Angela.Lemar@uwsp.edu)) for a registration form.

To learn more about EETAP visit the EETAP website at <http://www.eetap.org/>



### **Tell Us a Story! Win Something Fun!**

We know kids are learning about Wisconsin's forests. And we know teachers are using LEAF to teach them. Well, we want to hear your stories and learn about the fun! Send us your stories, and pictures, if you have some (with student permissions), and you'll be entered in our drawing for a \$25 gift certificate to Acorn Naturalists (<http://www.acornnaturalists.com/>) which has resources for the trail and classroom.

### **Interesting Online Resources**

Wisconsin Family Forests [www.wisconsinfamilyforests.org](http://www.wisconsinfamilyforests.org)

Wisconsin Forests Posters [www.dnr.state.wi.us/org/caer/ce/eeek/nature/habitat/forest1.htm](http://www.dnr.state.wi.us/org/caer/ce/eeek/nature/habitat/forest1.htm)

Wisconsinforestry.org [www.wisconsinforestry.org](http://www.wisconsinforestry.org)

The Forest Where We Live: Growing a Legacy <http://dnr.wi.gov/forestry/publications/pdf/FR-317-2006.pdf>

Great Lakes Worm Watch [www.greatlakeswormwatch.org](http://www.greatlakeswormwatch.org)

### **Paying Attention??**

You could win, "WINTER BOTANY: An identification guide to native trees and shrubs" by William Trelease, published by Dover Publications, by correctly answering the following question by January 4th:

Q. Within the article, *Trees Giving Bizarre Clues to Climate Change*, the name and acronym for a potential nationwide network of ecological monitoring stations is mentioned. Let us know what it is at [leaf@uwsp.edu](mailto:leaf@uwsp.edu).

### **And the Winner is . . .**

**Congratulations to the winner of our Fall 2007 Quiz Contest – Todd Schucha, of Waunakee school district.**

The question was: "Throughout the article, *Chestnut Tree Poised for Comeback*, a clever term is used to describe the fully blight-resistant chestnut hybrid. What is the term?" The answer is: "Holy Grail".

Todd's name was chosen from a random drawing of all correct answers submitted. His prize was the book, Fall Color and Woodland Harvests. Thanks to all our quiz contestants. Check out this issue's quiz and you just might be our next winner!!

## Can You Find the Dead Link???

If you are the first to find a dead link on our website - [www.uwsp.edu/cnr/leaf](http://www.uwsp.edu/cnr/leaf) - you could win a nifty prize! Let us know at [leaf@uwsp.edu](mailto:leaf@uwsp.edu)!

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## SCHOOL FOREST NEWS

### Congratulations to our 2007 School Forest Champions!



Each year LEAF recognizes individuals and groups who have made exceptional contributions to their school forest programs. This year's champions are, left to right:

- Pat Hoffman - Teacher. Pat has worked as a naturalist at the Boston School Forest for 16 years. She has been a dedicated teacher to thousands of students each year. Pat was nominated by Karen Dostal.
- Karen Dostal - School Administrator. As director of the Boston School Forest, Karen brings a strong commitment to expanding and improving the program including revising curricula, developing a comprehensive forest management plan, and involving the local community. Karen was nominated by Sue Anderson.
- Liz Roy - Community Member. Liz is a retired teacher from the Oakfield School District. She has been a tireless supporter of the school forest program for over 20 years. Liz was nominated by Dr. Bruce McMurray.
- Tom Quilty - Resource Professional. Tom is a retired Department of Natural Resources forester who spent over 24 years in Juneau County. He taught countless students about forestry at the school forest and in the classroom. Tom was nominated by Darrell Hines.

For a more detailed description of the awardees' accomplishments, visit: [www.uwsp.edu/cnr/leaf/schoolforest/awards.shtml](http://www.uwsp.edu/cnr/leaf/schoolforest/awards.shtml)

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### School Forest Summit

Nearly 50 educators attended the 2007 Wisconsin School Forest Summit held October 27 at the Boston School Forest in Stevens Point in association with the Midwest Environmental Education Conference. Highlights of the gathering included Mike Dombeck's inspiring keynote address and "speed dating" with other school forest and outdoor educators.

Mike Dombeck is the former chief of the US Forest Service and is currently a UW System Fellow and Professor of Global Conservation at the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point. During his keynote address entitled "Leaving No Child Inside: A Solution to Our Environmental Challenges," Dombeck justified the importance of school forest programs and the work educators do in getting students outside to create the next generation of citizens who have the motivation and knowledge to deal with our pressing environmental issues.

Dombeck stated that "outdoor experiences for children at school forests are essential for our society's ability to tackle issues like climate change, water shortages, and hunger. As a society, we haven't yet truly recognized how important school forests are."

Speed dating allowed attendees to meet and gather ideas from other educators about how outdoor programs are run, where funding is found, how to engage the community, and practical tips for developing school forest programs. One educator said, "The speed dating and networking were great!" Another added, "It was incredibly useful to make connections with other districts that are doing the same thing we are." Ideas for the next Summit (to be held in 2009) include visiting another, "younger" school forest, more speed dating, and sharing of lesson and activity ideas.

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### Education and Management Plan Completions

Nineteen school districts have completed approved school forest education and forest management plans. Additionally, eight school districts have completed their education plans and are awaiting completion of a forest management plan. Over twenty school districts are currently working on their education plans. Here's a [list of districts with approved management and education plans](#). If you believe there's an error in this listing, please contact Jeremy at [jsolin@uwsp.edu](mailto:jsolin@uwsp.edu) or 715-346-4907.

Districts that have completed the management and education plans are fulfilling the guidelines set by the Wisconsin Environmental Education Board, DNR – Division of Forestry, and LEAF to ensure that their substantial investments into school forest program is leading to effective utilization of these incredible educational resources. Districts meeting the guidelines are eligible for large WEEB grants (up to \$20,000), free seedlings for planting at the school forest from the state nursery program, and additional resources from the LEAF school forest program.

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## Well Done! Updates from around the state:

### Gillett School Forest Dedication Ceremony and Celebration Held October 21

More than eighty individuals were on hand on Sunday, October 21<sup>st</sup> for the Michael Anderson Environmental Education Ceremony. Those present included community members, staff members from the secondary and elementary school, school board members and members of the administration. Thanks to the hard work of many individuals, the day was a huge success. Here's the [complete review of the ceremony](#).

### Missy Goers, Gillette Agriculture Education Teacher, Named Agriscience Teacher of the Year

The National FFA Organization has chosen Melissa Goers, of Gillett Secondary School, as the 2007 Agriscience Teacher of the Year. The award honors an agricultural education instructor who brings excellence of curriculum and presentation to the agriscience classroom and FFA activities. Through hands-on experiences Goers helps her students understand the science connection. Every student in the agriscience program at Gillett Secondary School experiences various science activities and experiences. Read the [complete press release](#) on Missy's award. Missy is very active in establishing the Gillett School Forest as a highly utilized and valued education resource.

### Friess Lake FLEE Festival

Rocks and leaves, bugs and creatures were the big draw at the first FLEE (Friess Lake Environmental Education) Festival, hosted by Friess Lake School Saturday. Exploring the school's prairie and forest and making T-shirts and visors was fun, and along the way, visitors and students learned a few things about the natural world. Tessa Nicpon, a second grader at Friess Lake, said the "funnest" activity was making a leaf print on T-shirts. "You paint the leaves and press them down on the T-shirt. I used red and orange and yellow - they are fall colors," said Nicpon. Here's the [full article](#) that ran in The West Bend Daily News.

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## School Forest Spotlight:

### Fallen Timbers Environmental Center



Fallen Timbers Environmental Center, 456 acres of lowland deciduous woods and meadows near Black Creek with multiple indoor facilities, is the only *collaboratively operated* school forest in the state. The Center services over 20,000 students annually, using the National Science and Math Standards as their curriculum base for onsite, offsite, and distance education programs. It was established in 1975 as an outdoor, environmental education laboratory for six school districts (Ashwaubenon, De Pere, Little Chute, Seymour, West De Pere and Wrightstown) and two colleges (St. Norbert College and Fox Valley Technical College). Together, the school districts comprise the *Consortium of Schools for Environmental Education*. The consortium receives fiscal management services from

the Cooperative Educational Services Agency (CESA #6) in Oshkosh. As the only CESA-operated environmental science facility within Wisconsin, Fallen Timbers benefits from this association through financial management, technology and grant-writing services. If you'd like to learn more about Fallen Timbers and this consortium, we've provided the [full article \(pdf link\)](#). This winter, Fallen Timbers EC is offering some [winter programs](#) that may interest you.

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## Helping Kids Become Smarter, Happier, and Healthier: Incorporating Unstructured Outdoor Play into School Forests



Do you believe children should be given opportunities that make them smarter, more cooperative, happier and healthier? Of course you do. We all do. The good news for those of you with school forests and other outdoor education sites is that you have the resource to make this happen. Studies continue to indicate that unstructured, outdoor play is critical to children's healthy development. Research also shows that these outdoor experiences have a major, life-long influence on individual's environmental literacy. So, the question is, in a school-world demanding structure, accountability, and supervision how do we provide these types of experiences? That's a really good question. Here are some ideas:

- 1) Try to incorporate play into your current programs. Can you add some free exploration into what you're doing? Can you use unstructured play to explore ecological concepts or environmental awareness? (How do animals make choices? Do animals follow rules? What are they? What did you observe?)
- 2) Unstructured play doesn't mean rule-free play. Establish the rules which you feel are needed to provide a safe experience for the students. Remember that the most important aspect is that students have freedom to choose how to spend their time. As long as they are given options and boundaries, they will play.
- 3) Try a "recess in the woods": add small amounts of unstructured play time (≈10 minutes) after your program or during lunch.

Do any of you provide these types of experiences? If so, we would love to know about them – what you do and how you make it happen.

Do you want more information? If you're looking for research on the value of outdoor play, visit the Children & Nature Network research summary at: <http://www.cnaturenet.org/research/Intro>. You can also learn what others throughout the US are doing to reconnect children and nature at <http://www.cnaturenet.org/movement/info>.

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## Your Input Really Does Matter! Annual School Forest Survey Soon Underway

In January 2008, Jeremy Solin, School Forest Specialist, will be distributing an on-line survey regarding school forest utilization. This annual school forest survey is meant to provide information about the status of school forest activities at a statewide level. It is also meant to be a tool to help your district collect the information it needs to determine and demonstrate the success of your school forest program. Each district that completes the survey will be provided an *Acorn Naturalists* gift certificate to purchase equipment for use at the school forest. Watch for the survey announcement in your email box!

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## School Forest Funding and Seedling Opportunities

### [Wisconsin Environmental Education Board Announces Environmental Education Grant Program](#)

The Wisconsin Environmental Education Board (WEEB), located at the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point, is seeking proposals for the 2008-2009 grant cycle. The Board anticipates awarding \$45,000 for general environmental education grants, \$190,000 for forestry grants, \$190,000 for school forest grants, and \$85,000 for energy education grants.



WEEB's funding priority for school forests is school forest education plans, which assist districts determine how the school forest will be utilized to meet the districts' curriculum and build students' environmental literacy. Up to \$5,000 is provided for staff to develop the education plan. A template for the school forest education plan grant is available at: [www.uwsp.edu/cnr/weeb/GrantProgram/HowToApply/SampleProposals.htm](http://www.uwsp.edu/cnr/weeb/GrantProgram/HowToApply/SampleProposals.htm). For more information on school forest education plans, visit [www.uwsp.edu/cnr/leaf/schoolforest/edplan.shtml](http://www.uwsp.edu/cnr/leaf/schoolforest/edplan.shtml)

School districts that have approved school forest education plans and resource management plans are eligible to apply for grants up to \$20,000 to implement their education plan.

Initiated in 1990, WEEB's mission is to "provide leadership in the development of learning opportunities that empower Wisconsin citizens with the knowledge and skills needed to make wise environmental decisions and take responsible actions in their personal lives, work places, and communities."

Proposals are due February 15, 2008. For an application packet or more information about the program see the Board's website at [www.uwsp.edu/cnr/weeb/GrantProgram/GrantProgram.htm](http://www.uwsp.edu/cnr/weeb/GrantProgram/GrantProgram.htm) or contact Ginny Carlton, Administrative Specialist, at 715/346-3805, email: [weeb@uwsp.edu](mailto:weeb@uwsp.edu)

### [Lowe's Build an Outdoor Classroom Grant](#)

This school year, the program will award grants up to \$2,000 to at least 100 schools. In some cases, grants for up to \$20,000 may be awarded to schools or school districts with major outdoor classroom projects. The grants can be used to build a new outdoor classroom or to enhance a current outdoor classroom at the school. The deadline for this cycle is February 15, 2008.

### [Seedling from the DNR Forest Nursery Program](#)

Registered school forests with completed management plan and an education plan for their school forest are eligible to receive free seedlings from the DNR nurseries. Here's an [online link to next spring's ordering information](#). *Please note: many species sell out so customers are urged to place their orders ASAP. Be sure to review the species inventory before you order.*