

# LAND USE

## Annotated Bibliography of K-12 Educational Resources

Wisconsin Center for Environmental Education (3/19)

*The following list consists of selected resources on the general topics of land use. This includes areas such as city planning and “sprawl”. Resources on related topics, such as sustainability, agriculture, forestry, etc. may not be directly included here but are available. Materials are also available for purchase from a variety of book stores and websites. Please call or visit the WCEE for assistance or visit the UWSP Library web site at <https://www.uwsp.edu/library/Pages/default.aspx> for additional information on borrowing resources.*

### Teaching Activity Guides

**Exploring the Environment Through Children’s Literature** by Carol and John Butzow.

Teacher Ideas Press, Englewood, CO. (1999).

*This resource dedicates each of its 15 chapters to activities associated with a children’s book about a particular aspect of the environment. The first 5 chapters all deal with land issues. Each chapter includes a book summary, science and content related concepts, content related words, activities, and related books and references.*

Grade levels: K-4 Length: 163 pages

Available for purchase from: Amazon.com (\$27.00)

Borrowing: Check your local library or the UWSP Library (call number: GE70 .B88 1999)

**Viewfinders** by the Dunn Foundation. The Dunn Foundation, Warwick, RI. (1996).

*An activity guide that aims to help develop the student’s perception and appreciation of the visual environment around them. An interesting approach to developing important learning skills, it also inherently deals with many land use-related topics on an appropriate level.*

Grade levels: K-4 Length: 8 activities, 60 pages

Borrowing: Check your local library or online

**Learning from the Land: Wisconsin Land Use** by Bobbi Malone, et. al. The State Historical Society of Wisconsin, Madison, WI. (1998).

*A usable activity guide focusing on the history of land use in Wisconsin. Includes explorations of the fur trade, forestry practices, treaties and more. Developed as a supplemental guide to the student text of the same name (AC LU 9 supply.), though many activities could also stand alone.*

Grade levels: 4-9 Length: 100 pages

Available for purchase from: Amazon.com (\$11.95)

Borrowing: Check your local library or the UWSP Library (call number: F581.3 .M34 1998)

**This Land is Your Land: Lesson Plans for Land Use** by Michigan State University Extension. (2004).

*An activity guide designed to inform and involve students with issues of land use. Has a wide range of hands-on activities, including observation sheets, games, and even a mock public hearing. Covers topics such as zoning, city planning, and habitats.*

Grade levels: 4-9 Length: 150 pages

Borrowing: Check your local library or the UWSP Library (call number: HD110 .T45 2004)

**Mapping Our World: GIS Lessons for Educators** by Malone, Lyn, A.M. Palmer, & C.L. Voigt. ESRI Press, Redlands, CA. (2002).

*Complete resource for teachers seeking to bring geographic information system (GIS) into the middle or high school classroom. Contains 19 complete GIS lesson plans, plus a one-year license of Arc-View software and a teacher resource CD.*

*Grade levels: 5-12, adult/university Length: 535 pages*

Borrowing: Check your local library or the UWSP Library (call number: G70.212 .M2835 2002)

**Self & Community - Land Use Planning and the Visual Environment** by Joan Chadde, et. al. West Upper Peninsula Center for Science, Mathematics & Environmental Education, Houghton, MI. (1999).

*Designed for all 14 lessons to be used together as a unit, though clear and logical lesson setup facilitates individual lesson adaptation. Relies on a variety of learning techniques, including worksheets, student readings, games, etc.*

*Grade levels: 5-9 Length: 14 lessons, unpagged*

Borrowing: Check your local library or online

**Exploring Environmental Issues: Places We Live** by Project Learning Tree. American Forests Foundation / Washington, DC. (2006).

*This activity guide makes students aware of the forces influencing the growth and development of the communities. The activities put students in charge as they decide how best to use land, how to plan for the future, and how their actions affect the local environment.*

*Grade levels: 9-12 Length: 181 pages*

Available only through Project Learning Tree workshops: <http://www.plt.org/>

Borrowing: Check your local library or the UWSP Library (call number: GE77 .E975 2006)

**Going Places, Making Choices** by The National 4-H Council. National 4-H Council, Chevy Chase, MD. (1999).

*A series of 5 booklets (essentially mini-activity guides) focusing on transportation and mobility issues. The fourth booklet deals specifically with land use, but the other booklets are also quite relevant. Usable formats.*

*Grade levels: 9-12 Length: 17-22 pages each*

Available for purchase from: [http://www.fourhcouncil.edu/enviro\\_gpmc.aspx](http://www.fourhcouncil.edu/enviro_gpmc.aspx) (\$9.95)

Borrowing: Check your local library or the UWSP Library (call number: TJ163.5.T7 G64 1999)

## Videos/DVDs

**Journey to Planet Earth: The Urban Explosion** by Screenscope, Inc. (2009).

*A well-produced (and well-funded) PBS documentary that, through case studies of four major cities, looks at the challenges of sheltering and sustaining the growing human population without destroying the delicate balances in the environment. Many land use issues are directly discussed.*

*Grade levels: 5-12, Adult Length: 57 minutes*

Borrowing: Check your local library or the UWSP Library (call number: GE140 .J68)

**Community of Choices** by Mauire-Reeder, Ltd. Dunn Foundation, Waruick, RI. (2002).

*This DVD takes examples of communities in the United States that are making efforts of preserving cultural heritage and open space while still partaking in economic development. They promote sustainable development and smart community planning.*

*Grade levels: 9-12, Adult/University Length: 30 minutes*

Available for purchase from: <http://www.dunnfoundation.org/index.php> (\$25.00)

Borrowing: Check your local library or the UWSP Library (call number: HT392 .C65 2002)

**Houses in the Fields** by The Video Project, Ben Lomond, CA. (1995).

*An agriculturally-focused exploration of land use issues. Includes a discussion guide for facilitating classroom use.*

*Grade levels: 9-12, Adult Length: 26 minutes*

Borrowing: Check your local library or online

**A Convenient Truth** by Giovanni Vaz Del Bello, Maria Terezinha Vaz and Del Bello Pictures. (2007).

*This documentary includes interviews from many influential people in Curitiba, including both mayors, and many social benefits that transformed this city into one of the world's most livable.*

*Grade levels: 9-12, Adult/University Length: 47 minutes*

Borrowing: Check your local library or online

**Understanding Urban Sprawl** by Films for the Humanities & Sciences, Princetown, NJ. (1999).

*From "The Nature of Things," hosted by David Suzuki. A comprehensive look at land use concerns, including the needs and desires of a growing population, societal ideals, problems, successes, and more.*

*Grade levels: 9-12, Adult Length: 47 minutes*

Borrowing: Check your local library or online

**Ways We Live: Community by Design** by Bullfrog Films, Oley, PA. (1997).

*Through case studies, looks at the role design plays in communities with different goals. Good also in classroom activities that look at building or discussing "sense of place".*

*Grade levels: 9-12, Adult Length: 26 minutes*

Borrowing: Check your local library or online

**Ways We Live: Maps with Teeth** by Bullfrog Films, Oley, PA. (1997).

*A focused exploration of cartography, but still very relevant to the land use curricula. A great supplement to other land use discussions, allowing for exploration of "sense of place" issues.*

*Grade levels: 9-12, Adult Length: 26 minutes*

Borrowing: Check your local library or online

## **Books for Youth**

**Adventures of Pelican Pete: First Discoveries** by Keiser, Frances et al. Sagaponack Book (2002).

*This book is a great series; nicely written and illustrated. It's sure to be a hit with young children; pleads for preserving history and the environment. This adventure educates children and their adults about the ancient city and its environments.*

*Grade levels: PK-4 Length: 27 pages*

Available for purchase from: Amazon.com (\$17.00)

Borrowing: Check your local library or online

**Window** (1991) and **Home** (2004) by Jeannie Baker. Greenwillow Books, New York, NY.  
*Fiction. Stunningly visual, wordless books focusing on development issues. Collages depict the view from a boy and girl's window from birth through marriage—a place that outside looks strikingly similar to the original view before development.*

*Grade levels: PK-4 Length: 28 pages each*

Available for purchase from: Amazon.com (\$5.73 and \$14.44)

Borrowing: Check your local library or the UWSP Library (call number: PZ7.B1742 Wi 1991 and PZ7.B1742 HI 2004)

**Common Ground: The Water, Earth, and Air We Share** by Molly Bang. Blue Sky Press, New York, NY. (1997).

*Fiction. A story that brings the principles and concepts of Garrett Hardin's famous paper "The Tragedy of the Commons" to a younger audience. Connects overpopulation to problems with land (and other resource) use. A great resource for initiating class discussions. Wonderful illustrations.*

*Grade levels: K-9 Length: 34 pages*

Available for purchase from: Amazon.com (\$12.47)

Borrowing: Check your local library or the UWSP Library (call number: GE195.5 .B36 1997)

**The Empty Lot** by Dale Fife. Sierra Club Books, San Francisco, CA. (1992).

*Fiction. A story about a man who discovers that the empty lot he owns within a city is actually quite occupied by a wide range of creatures.*

*Grade levels: K-4 Length: 28 pages*

Available for purchase from: Amazon.com (\$7.95)

Borrowing: Check your local library or the UWSP Library (call number: PS3558.U375 E48 1992)

**Where Once There Was a Wood** by Denise Fleming. Henry Holt and Co., New York, NY. (1996).

*Fiction. A book that, in rhyming prose, looks at all the animal and plant life replaced by urban development. Includes resources about "welcoming wildlife to your backyard habitat". Great pictures.*

*Grade levels: K-6 Length: 32 pages*

Available for purchase from: Amazon.com (\$7.95)

Borrowing: Check your local library or the UWSP Library (call number: QL59 .F58 1996)

## Reference/Background Books

**GIS in the Classroom** by Marsha Alibrandi. Enslow Publishers, Heineman/Portsmouth, NH. (2003).  
*Written by a teacher, for teachers, this book gives many examples teachers can use to integrate GIS into the science or social studies classroom.*

*Grade levels: 5-9, 9-12 Length: 175 pages*

Available for purchase from: Amazon.com (\$26.56)

Borrowing: Check your local library or online

**Land Use A-Z** by David Newton. Enslow Publishers, Hillside, NJ. (1991).

*A quick and relatively easy-to-use reference guide covering terminology, legislation, and agencies related to land use.*

*Grade levels: 9-12, adult Length: 126 pages*

Available for purchase from: Amazon.com (\$5.78)

Borrowing: Check your local library or the UWSP Library (call number: HD107.7 .N48 1991)

**Breaking Gridlock** by Jim Motavalli. Sierra Club Books, San Francisco, CA. (2001).

*Motavalli explores a broad range of potentially valuable transportation improvements in this book, using examples of transportation problems and visions from all over the country and the world, well researched.*

*Grade levels: Adult Length: 268 pages*

Available for purchase from: Amazon.com (\$17.94)

Borrowing: Check your local library or the UWSP Library (call number: HE206.2 .M67 2001)

**Design Guidelines to Enhance Community Appearance and Protect Natural Resources** by Chadde, Joann, L. Rulison, R.A. Smith, J. Dunston. Michigan Technological University, Houghton, MI. (2005).

*The first half of the guide book discusses growth trends, challenges, and a vision for the future. The second half of the guide book provides design guidelines of the future developments that will enhance comm. Appearance- protect the unique cultural-natural resources of the area.*

*Grade levels: Adult/University Length: 63 pages*

Borrowing: Check your local library or the UWSP Library (call number: HT167.5.M5 C43 2005)

**From Conquest to Conservation** by Dombeck, Micheal et al. Island Press. (2003).

*This book presents good intentions and concerns for the land. It tells the American story of our relationship with public lands, and the growth of the conservation movement and the resource management field. It also contains focus essay, which will evoke any person to appreciate the public lands.*

*Grade levels: Adult/University Length: 186 pages*

Available for purchase from: Amazon.com (\$25.00)

Borrowing: Check your local library or the UWSP Library (call number: HD216 .D66 2003)

**Sustainable Cities** by EHM, Los Angeles, CA. (1992).

*A good reference especially for teachers looking to include design elements in their land use curricula. Also includes sections dealing with waste management, transportation, landscaping, etc.*

*Grade levels: Adult Length: 354 pages*

Borrowing: Check your local library or the UWSP Library (call number: NA9108 .S87 1992)

**Worldwatch Papers 147 and 156 (Series)** by Molly O'Meara Sheehan. Worldwatch Institute, Washington, DC. (2001 and 1999).

*These two papers, entitled “City Limits: Putting the Breaks on Sprawl” and “Reinventing Cities for People and the Planet” are published by the well-respected Worldwatch Institute and serve as helpful primers for many land use issues. Both include many tables and figures.*

*Grade levels: Adult Length: 85 and 94 pages*

Borrowing: Check your local library or the UWSP Library (call number: HT371 .O44 2001 and HT241 .O544 1999)

## Websites

**Learning Landscapes** by the Bureau of Land Management (2010).

Usable for kids, teachers, and learners of all ages, this site gives a wealth of information, ideas, games, and activities to do on the 253 million acres of public lands that BLM manages.

*Grade Levels: 5-12, adult/university*

*Web Link: <https://www.blm.gov/learn>*

**Green Map System** (2009).

*Site shows over 600 maps from over 55 countries that are striving for sustainable, green-living communities. Participation is encouraged to make your community a “green map”.*

*Grade Levels: 9-12, adult/university*

*Web Link: [www.greenmap.org/](http://www.greenmap.org/)*

**1,000 Friends of Wisconsin** (2010).

*Designed to keep citizens up-to-date on Wisconsin’s land use planning practices, this site is a good education tool for any educator needing background information on the topic.*

*Grade Levels: adult/university*

*Web Link: <https://www.1kfriends.org/>*

**Center for Land Use Education** (2009).

*CLUSTER: Creative Land Use Series for Teachers and Educator Resources was designed to help educators include land use topics and issues into existing curriculum. The site offer many educator resources, a conceptual guide with example lessons, and an on-line educator training course.*

*Grade levels: adult/university*

*Web link: <https://www.uwsp.edu/cnr-ap/clue/Pages/default.aspx>*

**Creating My Hometown: An Exercise in Land Use Decision Making** by Steve Kohlstedt (2003).

*This report summarizes an activity that has been used by Steve Kohlstedt for over twenty years to help foster awareness of complex land use issues and conflicts with diverse audiences.*

*Grade Levels: adult/university*

*Web Link: [https://cced.ces.uwex.edu/files/2012/08/MyHometown\\_final.pdf?preview=true](https://cced.ces.uwex.edu/files/2012/08/MyHometown_final.pdf?preview=true)*

**ESRI** (2010).

*Providing educators with information about GIS, its applications, and available resources. Also allows you to create and share your own maps.*

*Grade Levels: adult/university*

*Web Link: [www.esri.com](http://www.esri.com)*

**Leopold Education Project** (2010).

*LEP offers workshops to educators across the nation to help them learn ways to incorporate Aldo Leopold's land ethic philosophies into their teaching. Site provides educators with on-line connections to other LEP educators and upcoming conference/workshop details.*

*Grade Levels: adult/university*

*Web Link: [www.lep.org/](http://www.lep.org/)*

**Sustainable Communities Network** (2010).

*Includes a great deal of downloadable resources and information about creating sustainable communities. Offers ways for you and your students to get involved in your own community.*

*Grade Levels: adult/university*

*Web Link: <http://sustainable.org>*