ASSOCIATION OF NATURAL RESOURCES PROFESSIONALS

AWARD RECIPIENTS 2013

The ANREP Awards Program fosters high standards within the membership, recognize significant achievement, and expand the use of high quality, innovative materials and programs by honoring the outstanding members and partners who developed them.

Outstanding Educational Materials Awards

These annual awards recognize outstanding Extension natural resources educational materials in six classes.

Long Publication

Gold Award

Water Scene Investigation Program

Kerry Schwartz, Candice Rupprecht, Mary Ann Stoll, Holly Thomas-Hilburn, Tasha Krecek-Lynch, Alex Prescott, Sushmita Ramaswamy
University of Arizona

The Water Scene Investigation (WSI) Program was developed by Arizona Project WET for use in or outside the classroom to inspire simple actions that result in real water savings. The WSI is a participatory method of learning where students learn effective ways to conserve water indoors, while developing specific STEM skills. Students utilize math skills by measuring water flow before and after the installation of new faucet aerators in their own homes; and then calculate annual water use in gallons per year using mathematical thinking skills. Aerators reduce the flow of water without reducing the pressure needed to function properly. They are a simple, yet effective technology for students to install. People of all ages can gain a better understanding of how a small investment in a simple technology can save precious water resources. To date, the WSI has reached 4,025 students and saved over 12 million gallons of water.

Contact

Kerry Schwartz
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Silver Award

Diversifying Forest Structure to Promote Wildlife Biodiversity in Western Washington Forests

Kevin Zobrist, *Washington State University* and Thomas Hinckley, *University of Washington*

To meet the ecological needs of a broad range of wildlife species in forest lands, structural diversity is needed, both in individual stands of trees and in the broader landscape, to provide a variety of habitat elements. This manual describes specific forest management strategies and techniques for non-commercial forest owners who wish to attract and support a variety of wildlife species. There is an extensive body of scientific literature around this subject that is synthesized in this manual as a summary of best management practices.

Contact

Kevin Zobrist
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Bronze Award

Basic Forest Inventory Techniques for Family Forest Owners

Kevin Zobrist and Don Hanley, *Washington State University*

Amy Grotta, *Oregon State University*

Chris Schnepf, *University of Idaho*

A forest inventory is a cornerstone of forest stewardship planning that helps landowners ensure their forest is healthy and productive can meet their ownership objectives for years to come. This manual teaches landowners how to identify individual forest stands on their property, develop a sampling procedure, establish sample plots, and measure individual trees. Both fixed and variable plot sampling procedures are covered. Measurements covered include diameter at breast height (dbh), total tree height, breast height age, and live crown ratio. This manual covers the tools needed and includes diagrams, photos, examples, and links to videos demonstrating the procedures described. This manual also covers basic statistics to assess the condition of the forest and plan appropriate management activities.

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Promotional Materials

Gold Award

2012 Tri-County Water School

Lynn Barber, BJ Jarvis, and Lara Miller
University of Florida

The Tri-County Water School involved three counties within the Tampa Bay area and thus presented a challenge in promoting the program to this large region. To accomplish the task of reaching our target audience of community leaders, natural resource managers, and decision makers, the team developed a flyer, blog, online advertisement and press release. Participants of the program were also provided with a USB pen which was pre-loaded with electronic resources which could be accessed following the class. Finally the School was highlighted in a video clip during an E-TownHall event focused on watersheds. All of these promotional materials proved successful as full registration was achieved and follow-up surveys revealed promising results.

Contact

Lara Miller
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Silver Award

Why Point the Finger at Nonpoint Source Pollution

Susan Haddock, Lynn Barber and Billie Lofland
University of Florida

This 13:44 minute video focuses on water quality and nonpoint source pollution associated with urbanized areas. The video is designed to educate horticultural professionals on sources of water pollutants and how to integrate Green Industry Best Management Practices and Florida Friendly Landscaping™ into landscapes in an effort to preserve our precious water resources.

The video defines nonpoint source water pollution, identifies sources of pollutants and discusses the impact of pollutants on water bodies. An environmental scientist guest discusses these impacts and protecting the water front. The nine principles of Florida Friendly Landscaping™ and other methods to reduce nonpoint source water pollution are presented.

Contact

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Bronze Award

Connecting Community with Marine Science

Libby Carnahan
University of Florida

The UF/IFAS Florida Sea Grant Extension Agent in Pinellas County developed two marine education series. The "Going Coastal" program is a family-friendly series that utilizes hands-on activities to educate participants about the habitats, organisms, and ecology of coastal and marine environments. The "Salty Topics" evening seminar series brings cutting-edge marine research to a public forum. The agent developed a comprehensive marketing plan for the programs complete with online promotion and registration, a tabletop display, brochures, and a promotional video. Programs are promoted online through UF IFAS Pinellas Sea Grant twitter and Facebook accounts and website. Online registration pages were created on http://eventbrite.com. The agent designed branding for the programs that she used to build a tabletop display and collate a brochure for each series. Brochures were posted throughout the county and distributed electronically. Promotional videos include a video posted on YouTube and interviews with NBC and ABC.

Contact

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Newsletters, Series of Articles

Gold Award

From Shore to Shore Newsletter

Karen Terry, John Bilotta, Doug Malchow, Shane Missaghi, Mary Blickenderfer, and Eleanor Burkett
University of Minnesota

The From Shore to Shore newsletter, a quarterly publication of the University of Minnesota's Water Resources Team, is dedicated to educating Minnesota citizens about managing shorelands, urban areas, and agricultural lands to protect and improve water quality, habitat, and aesthetics of our lakes and rivers. Topics covered include providing how-to information, highlighting innovative projects, and focusing on natural history features.

Started in the early 1990s, this newsletter has evolved from a simple black and white format mailed as hard-copy to a handful of subscribers to a full-color, professionally edited and laid-out publication with a subscriber list of over 1500. A readership survey conducted in early 2013 shows that 64% of readers learn something useful always or most of the time, and that 88% apply what they learn from the newsletter when making decisions. The survey results also indicate that, on average, subscribers share the newsletter with 31 other individuals.

Contact

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Silver Award

In the Field Article Series

Susan Haddock
University of Florida

This series of articles is published bi-monthly (six times per year) in a local Hillsborough County agriculture magazine. The magazine is circulated throughout Hillsborough County, but is marketed heavily in agricultural and rural areas. The publication is available through local Hillsborough County businesses, restaurants, and local venues. It is distributed by mail to all Greenbelt property owners, members of the Farm Bureau and the Strawberry Growers' Association.

The articles address a variety of horticulture topics including landscape maintenance practices, pest alerts, reducing pest pressures and updates on best management practices. The goal is to provide horticulture related information to an audience that may not ordinarily seek it out, even though they face the same landscape issues as those residing in urban areas.

Publication Information: In The Field Magazine, P.O. Box 5377, Plant City, Florida 33563

Contact

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Bronze Award

Extension Connections Marine & Natural Resources Column

Brooke Saari
University of Florida

The Crestview News Bulletin is a local city newspaper run under the umbrella of the larger regional newspaper, the Northwest Florida Daily News. Our local extension office has a weekly column called Extension Connections that the agents take turns on article submissions. The natural resources articles are written by Brooke Saari, the Marine Science Extension Agent on a six week rotation. The average readership for the paper is 20,000, which is significantly increased when articles are posted online.

Contact

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Short Publication

Gold Award

Land Managers' Feral Hog Management Practices Inventory in Florida

Kenneth Gioeli and Joanna Huffman
University of Florida

Early explorers and settlers brought hogs with them to Florida. Many of these animals escaped from captivity and established feral populations. Current estimates indicate that the population of feral hogs may exceed 500,000 in Florida. Unfortunately, feral hogs have proven to be difficult to manage. The UF/IFAS St. Lucie County Cooperative Extension conducted a feral hog management practices survey to determine what practices are being undertaken by public and private natural areas managers. Florida Master Naturalist Joanna Huffman worked in conjunction with Extension Agent Ken Gioeli on survey design and distribution, analysis of results and publication and presentation of results. Results showed that land managers continue to struggle with feral hog damage they deem to be moderate to severe. Hunting and trapping strategies have been used. Current control strategies have resulted in marginal success. One-fourth of the land managers surveyed indicated total failure to manage feral hogs.

Contact

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Silver Award

An Introduction to Green Infrastructure Practices

Amy Rowe and Michele Bakacs
Rutgers University

This fact sheet focuses on green infrastructure practices that can be installed at the local scale to effectively manage stormwater. Historically, municipalities have managed their stormwater utilizing "gray" infrastructure practices made up of gutters, basins, and pipes that transport stormwater quickly to local streams, rivers, and lakes. Both federal and state regulatory agencies now encourage more environmentally friendly practices for managing stormwater. At the local scale, green infrastructure is an approach to managing stormwater by infiltrating it in the ground where it is generated using vegetation or porous surfaces, or by capturing it for later reuse. The fact sheet highlights the many benefits as well as different applications where green infrastructure practices can be utilized. Examples of these practices include cisterns, rain gardens, vegetated swales, and permeable pavements. A summary is given of each technique and examples are given for the most appropriate use of the practice.

Contact

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Bronze Award

Florida Community Association Journal-Community Gardener

Lynn Barber
University of Florida

Materials nominated are short publications in the Florida Community Association Journal. The Journal's focus is homeowner and condominium owner's association members, property managers, landscape management/maintenance professionals, pesticide application professionals, builders and developers, construction trades, attorneys, horticulture professionals, etc. Agent has authored monthly/bi-monthly horticulture-related articles for the Community Gardener section since 2010 and utilizes UF/IFAS science based research. Positive responses to the Community Gardener columns indicate the need to continue utilizing this state-wide horticulture education distribution method. Extension Agents outside Hillsborough County have requested specific topic articles which have been published in the past. Developing relationships with state-wide media allows us to reach specific and larger audiences and provide current, timely and relevant information on environmental horticulture. This media relationship building can easily be adapted by other universities and institutions.

Contact

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Televised Conference - Video Conference - Webinar - Podcast - Radio

Gold Award

Florida-Friendly Landscaping™ Television Segments

Virginia Overstreet and Lynn Barber
University of Florida

Reaching larger audiences while utilizing fewer resources is a stark reality for educational institutions. By using television as a mass media tool, we are able to reach more residents while providing environmental horticulture information that is current, timely and relevant. The Florida-Friendly Landscaping™ (FFL) Television Segments are presented on Spotlight Tampa, a series that runs 12 times each week for several months on the City of Tampa Television (CTTV), Tampa. Segments are also placed on YouTube and Video on Demand at CTTV's website. We have seen increased attendance at our workshops and seminars, in the number of walk-in clients, telephone calls, emails and website hits from these viewers. Live or pre-recorded segments are more resource efficient than programming on an individual to individual basis. This mass media programming is easily transferrable to other universities by developing relationships with local television stations.

Contact

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Silver Award

Native Trees of Paulding County Television Program

Jody Martin, Rachel Dutton, Jeff Harkins, and Mary Carol Sheffield
University of Georgia

Improving soil and water conservation practices among homeowners is an important goal for Extension Educators in the metropolitan Atlanta area and its suburbs. Planting new trees and conserving urban and suburban forests is an excellent way to reduce stormwater runoff in these landscapes. “Native Trees of Paulding County” was produced in cooperation with the local County Media Outreach Coordinator for the Paulding County Local Access Channel.

Contact

Mary Carol Sheffield
County Extension Coordinator
University of Georgia

Bronze Award

Okaloosa Today Marine Science Program

Brooke Saari
University of Florida

Okaloosa Today is a monthly program aired on our local cable network for Cox Broadcasting subscribers in Northwest Florida. The idea is to highlight the latest programs, projects and issues occurring in our local area. In June 2012, the Marine Agent with University of Florida IFAS Extension & Florida Sea Grant was asked to appear and create the script for a section of that month's program. The agent worked with the public information officer for Okaloosa County to create the script topics for the Interview. Script details were prepared by the agent for the program and the agent interview was given by the public information officer. The 19:56 interview is available online and appeared on the local Cox Broadcasting Channels for one month. This interview led to many clientele inquiries and helped raise awareness for UF/IFAS Extension.

Contact

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Web sites - Social Media - Online Courses

Gold Award

Conserving Biodiversity in Subdivision Development

Mark Hostetler and Hal Knowles, *University of Florida*
Colin Meurk, Landcare Research, *New Zealand*

Many urban developments are in unique ecosystems that sustain native plant and animal communities, but as cities grow, how can they be designed and managed to conserve local biodiversity and minimize impacts on surrounding landscapes? Design, construction, and post-construction phases are often not addressed holistically when land is subdivided for housing. I created a continuing education course, titled *Conserving Biodiversity in Subdivision Development*, that introduces participants to the key principles and practices required to create conservation developments. As part of this course, I developed a 126-page resource manual and four, 45 minute PowerPoint presentations. The intended audiences of the Conserving Biodiversity in Subdivision Development resource manual are government officials, county and city planners, landscape architects, architects, civil engineers, environmental consultants, developers, private landowners, and interested citizens.

Contact

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Gold Award

Thinking Green

Lara Miller, Mary Campbell, Nan Jensen, Ramona Madhosingh-Hector, Libby Carnahan and Jean Rogalsky
University of Florida

Thinking Green, a Google blog site, was established in 2008. In 2012, a total of 54 blogs were posted among six agents and one staff member, receiving a total of 6,257 views. Contributors to the blog work within the Sustainable Living program area. Blog posts in this program area include: sustainability, coastal and marine ecosystems, upland natural resources, 4-H youth development, food and nutrition, and money management. Each blog provides approximately 250 words of informational content related to these topics. In certain cases, blogs are also utilized as a way to inform clientele about upcoming educational programs. The online format of the blog is not only sustainable, but also makes posting and viewing easy.

Contact

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Bronze Award

General Forestry Correspondence Course

Bob Tjaden and Nancy Stewart
University of Maryland

Maryland, the fifth most densely populated state in the nation, is undergoing rapid changes in population growth and migration, land cover, community character, ecosystem stability, and economic diversity. Maryland's population is estimated to increase by as much as 1.5 million by 2030. This population increase has the potential to dramatically impact Maryland's forestland which, in turn, can impact the Chesapeake Bay and other natural resources. The General Forestry Course educates forest landowners and others interested in forest and forest management to the benefits of forestland. Forest landowners are provided with the tools they need to properly manage their forest and to design a forest management framework for the landowner's forest. Although this non-credit course focuses on Maryland, the concepts have a far-reaching application. While originally in a paper format, the online version meets the needs of the more technologically-savvy individual. Students have enrolled from across North America and Japan.

Contact

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Achievement Awards

Achievement Awards recognize exceptional ANREP members who exhibit outstanding leadership and program excellence individually and in teams.

Innovative Program

Gold Award

Pinellas Energy Efficiency Project

Ramona Madhosingh-Hector
University of Florida

PEEP is Pinellas Energy Efficiency Project, a community education and outreach program that targets Pinellas County homeowners. The PEEP program provides research based information from the University of Florida to encourage residents to engage in sustainable energy efficient behaviors. The program provides citizens with energy conservation education, promotes and incentivizes energy conservation in the home, and tracks knowledge gain and behavior change of its participants.

Contact

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Silver Award

Dive Deeper - Youth Water Educators Summit

Jennifer Fetter and Sanford Smith
Pennsylvania State University

The Dive Deeper Summit was a one-day, multi-state environmental education summit spotlighting innovative teaching about water. It was geared towards anyone who teaches youth about water, formally or informally. There were three main objectives offered to participants of Dive Deeper. They included learning about the critical state of our local water resources and the importance of quality youth water education, gaining insight on scientific inquiry adaptations for educational programs that will help to inspire a new generation of water scientists, and taking home innovative approaches and ideas that enhance water education and STEM programming. Eighty-three water educators from Pennsylvania, Maryland, Delaware, New York, and Washington D.C. attended the Dive Deeper Summit. Participants demonstrated significant impacts across the program objectives and indicated a high level of interest in the Dive Deeper Summit becoming a recurring event in the Mid-Atlantic Region.

Contact

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Silver Award

Assisting Private Water Supply Owners Interpret Water Test Reports Related to Pre-gas Well Drilling

James Clark and Bryan Swistock
Pennsylvania State University

Penn State Extension partnered with several organizations to implement a Colcum Foundation Grant to provide pre-gas well drilling chain of custody water tests to 689 homeowners over an eight county area of North Central Pennsylvania. Five hundred and forty-seven drilled wells and 141 springs were tested for 21 parameters. Eight extension workshops were held to help these participants read and understand their water test reports. 346 (96%) of the 548 workshop participants stated they could now identify and understand the information on their water test report. A five month follow up survey showed that 155 (75%) of the 206 respondents stated they had taken some action related to improving or protecting their private drinking water supply and 21 (10%) had installed water treatment equipment.

Contact

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Outstanding Team

Gold Award

University of Nebraska-Lincoln Stormwater Workgroup

David Shelton, Kelly Feehan, Thomas Franti, Steven Rodie, Kathryn Pekarek, and Bobbi Holm
University of Nebraska-Lincoln

The University of Nebraska-Lincoln Stormwater Work Group has successfully implemented a multi-faceted range of creative educational programs and materials to address municipal stormwater management across Nebraska. A 2009 USDA-NIFA (National Institute of Food and Agriculture) grant significantly enhanced educational programming associated with green infrastructure, low impact development, and related best management practices. Through 2012, grant objectives were generally achieved or surpassed, and a wide variety of program-driven accomplishments and impacts were documented. Work Group success has been built upon team member diversity and the synergistic blending of university teaching and research components with a dominant focus towards extension (50% extension, 30% classroom education, and 20% research). Additionally, strong on-going connections have been forged with municipalities and agencies throughout Nebraska that will continue to empower communities and individuals to more effectively manage stormwater quality and quantity while expanding a readily-accessible knowledge-base to support future initiatives and programs.

Contact

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SILVER AWARD

ARIZONA PROJECT WET

Kerry Schwartz, Holly Thomas-Hilburn, Tina Sleeper, Mary Ann Stoll, Pam Justice, Alex Prescott, Sushmita Ramaswamy, and Tara Oakes
University of Arizona

Today, we as a nation need to prepare new generations to thrive in a high-tech world and to drive a sustainable economy. The Arizona Project WET (APW) team has worked diligently over the past three years to meet the current need for STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics) education. Housed in three different extension offices across the state, the team met weekly via online sharing to implement our strategic plan. The APW team revamped teacher professional development programs according to the latest research to evolve teachers' instructional practice and content mastery through STEM integration, interdisciplinary standards inclusion, project based learning, real-world and relevant application, and collaborative work with teachers. The APW team also developed STEM programs that offer direct student outreach, which effectively delivers and extends in-classroom instruction. The Arizona Project WET team has made this extension program a viable part of the STEM education solution.

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BRONZE AWARD

THE ELLMS PROJECT

Catherine Elliott, Heather Francis, Susan Jennings, Ryder Scott - *University of Maine*
Drew Dumsch, Maureen Duggan - *Ferry Beach Ecology School*
Lucy Hull, Anne Leslie, Katie Tremblay – *Chewonki*
Gail La Rosa Thompson, Ardrianna McLane - *SERC Institute*

Environmental Living and Learning for Maine Students: The ELLMS Project, a collaboration among UMaine 4-H Camps at Bryant Pond and Tanglewood, Chewonki, Ferry Beach Ecology School, and SERC Institute, is providing residential environmental education (EE) programs to Maine public school students. Believing in the critical importance of experiential, holistic EE and recognizing the economic challenges facing schools, ELLMS' long-term goal is to make residential EE accessible to Maine students from all socioeconomic backgrounds through scholarships. ELLMS' mission is to provide nature-based activities, lessons, and challenges that encourage students to develop a lifelong commitment to environmental sustainability and stewardship, outdoor activity, good nutrition, and community engagement. Living outdoors brings students together, enlivens learning, and fosters group unity and trust. Students gain greater understanding of nature and themselves, enthusiasm for learning, and an understanding of the "green economy." To date, ELLMS has allocated $545,000 to 5,789 students from 61 Maine public schools.

CONTACT

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Distinguished Career Leadership

Christopher Jones
University of Arizona

Since 1999, Chris has identified, developed, implemented and evaluated cutting edge Extension programs that have exemplified the Land Grant University mission of outreach. By 2005, his work had evolved to provide real community impact through the following innovative programs: Climate and Natural Resources, Wildfire Risk Reduction/Firewise, Watershed Managements/Master Watershed Stewards and Home Horticulture/Master Gardener.

Chris has been the recipient of several ANREP, university and community awards in his career, including ANREP Innovative Program, Community Service Award, Fulbright Scholarship Award, NACAA Achievement Award, National Firewise Leadership Award, WELD II, and University of Arizona's CALS Outstanding Team Award.

Chris is presently leading ANREP's Climate Science Initiative, including the National Extension Climate Science Initiative Conference which will be hosted this October 2013 in Minnesota.

Chris has served as an Extension leader and example for all of Extension to emulate. He is most deserving of the ANREP Distinguished Service Leadership Award.

Martha Monroe
University of Florida

Dr. Martha Monroe, Professor and Extension Specialist at the University of Florida has had a huge impact on the citizens of the state of Florida, the Southern Region, nationally, and even internationally. She has provided collaborative leadership on a number of far-reaching, multi-faceted programs that have been designed to address critical issues. Her work in three major areas is highlighted by programs that address urban-rural interface, woody biomass, and climate change. Through her leadership, the products and activities that the teams develop are seamlessly integrated into programs that can be replicated and adapted across the country. These include workbooks, fact sheets, videos, training and education exercises, narrated presentations, and evaluation tools. She uses components of logic models to assess needs and quantify outputs, outcomes and impacts. She is an ideal role model for new Extension professionals looking to conduct successful programs.

Early Career Leadership

Ramona Madhosingh-Hector
University of Florida

In the three and a half years since the nominee began employment with UF/IFAS Extension, she has shown remarkable leadership qualities. Ramona is intimately aware of the organization's heightened emphasis with the development and delivery of Extension programs for urban audiences and to this end, she has designed and implemented programs at the community and local government level. The nominee has been a vanguard of sustainability education in the county and does an exceptional job promoting sustainability awareness and concepts. Her efforts were highlighted in the success of the Pinellas Energy Efficiency Program (PEEP), the Sustainable Floridians^{SM} program, and the management of the satellite Extension offices at Weedon Island Natural and Cultural History Center and Brooker Creek Preserve. The Pinellas Energy Efficiency Program exceeded initial expectations and received additional money to support ongoing program efforts. To date, the PEEP program has reached at least 20,000 residents.