Staffing Changes

I am among the new faces at OSU Extension. Tracy Martz recently accepted a job as the 4-H agent for Douglas County. Her duties here in Coos County have been split and I have taken the 4-H Program Assistant / School Enrichment position. My background is in Forestry and Natural Resources so this will be an exciting change for me. It will be difficult to fill Tracy’s shoes but I will do my best. I am excited to get the opportunity to work with many of you that I already know and I look forward to meeting those of you I don’t know. I am in the process of updating the Hands On booklet and will distribute those in time for the 2009/2010 school year. As new resources become available I will continue to add to the current curriculum. Feel free to offer suggestions as well.

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4-H School Enrichment
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Continuing Hands On Work

I am continuing to make several additions to the Hands On booklet and will have those available for the next school year. When your updated copy arrives, take a moment to review the topics. I think you will be excited about some of the additions. Below is a current list of all topics we can provide resources for.

- Health & Nutrition
- Marine Science
- Natural Resources
- Science
- Entomology
- Forestry
- Plant Science
- Agriculture
- Arts & Crafts
- Oregon History
- Leadership

Free School Curriculum
First Come, First Serve

OSU Extension has copies of Gardening and Horticulture curriculum available at no cost to those interested. These are 3 and 4 book sets providing learning and activities for your K-12 students. This is a great opportunity to introduce your students to the excitement of growing and caring for plants, learning plant parts, and how they function. Call or e-mail me if you’d like to reserve your own copy for your class.
Opportunities in environmental education await you and your 3rd-12th grade students! We want to collaborate with you to accomplish your science goals. We can conduct hands-on lessons in your classroom or lead field trips at New River. We have curriculum and experience providing instruction on a variety of subjects. All programs are FREE!

A few of the learning opportunities include:

- Wetlands
- Dynamic Landscapes
- Bird Migration
- The Water Cycle
- Dunes
- Succession
- Cooperative Mgt.
- Scientific Method
- Rivers
- Local History
- Habitat Restoration
- Population Fluctuation
- Coastal Forests/Lakes
- Geology
- Threatened Species (Snowy Plover)

Located 9 miles south of Bandon, just off Highway 101, is the New River ACEC (Area of Critical Environmental Concern.) Both rare and common species can be found in a variety of habitat types represented along 3 miles of trails. The Ellen Warring Learning Center can be reserved for indoor investigation and group activities.

For more information, contact:
Heather Lester, BLM Recreation Technician
(541) 751-4464 or heather_lester@blm.gov

Or log on to www.blm.gov and click on Oregon State, then click on Coos Bay and choose “Recreation.” From this page, click on “Recreation Sites” to scroll down and view New River or click on “Webcams” to scroll down and see a live image and current weather conditions.

Interested in being a Host Family?

It’s time to think about the 2009 Japanese Exchange Program. Would you like host a Japanese student for a month while gaining insight into other cultures? This is a great opportunity for expanding your child’s experiences and your own. Please call the OSU Extension office for more information.

Mother’s Day is May 10th

With Mother’s Day just around the corner, are you planning a fun craft activity for your students? We have some ideas for different age groups. We can come to your class and provide materials to make some inexpensive gifts for those special moms. It’s often difficult for young kids to show their mothers how much they are appreciated. Let us work with you and your class on some fun projects.
May is National Egg Month

This is the time of year schools are checking out incubators along with the Embryology and The Incredible Egg curriculum. This is a popular activity to do with many age groups and fun for the kids to watch eggs hatch! You can reserve an incubator and curriculum through the end of the school year. This is a 3-4 week process so call soon to be sure we can fit you in the check out schedule. We will provide the incubator, eggs, cage, bedding, and all other supplies needed to hatch your eggs and watch baby chicks grow. Curriculum is available for K-8th grade students.

While eggs are good to eat in a variety of ways, there are other uses for them. In honor of National Egg Month, here's a fun activity for your students to try at school or home.

~Egg Yolk Paint~

Materials needed: •1 lg. raw egg •1/2 tsp. water •food coloring

Crack the egg and separate yolk from the white. Put yolk in a bowl and add the water. Mix the yolk and water well and add some food coloring until desired color is reached. Make several bowls of mixture to create different colors. Use your egg yolk paint to paint pictures on heavy paper. You can also use this paint to design sugar cookies before baking them!

For More Information Contact:

Coquille: Carol Clayburn 396-2764 or 297-2127

Coos Bay/North Bend: Kim Davidson 260-4017
or
Connie Bradley 260-1942

Relay For Life

Would you like to participate in a ‘feel good’ event and raise money for the cause at the same time? Do you know someone currently battling cancer, have you lost a friend or family member to cancer, or would you just like to support those fighting the fight? The American Cancer Society Relay For Life is coming up soon. This is your chance to support your local communities during a two day event. The Coos Bay / North Bend event will be held June 27-28 and the Coquille event will be held July 10-11.

For More Information Contact:

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Beat That Summer Boredom!!

As the end of the school year nears, there are many activities kids can start thinking about to keep them busy through the summer months. Below is a list of events or activities to pass on to students of all ages.

► OSU 4-H Summer Conference, grades 7-12—June 24-27 in Corvallis, registration is from May 1 to June 1. Call OSU Extension for more info / to register.

► 4-H Camp — June 30—July 3, Camp Myrtlewood, Bridge, OR—for campers who have just completed grades 4-6, $125. Call OSU Extension for more info / to register.

► North Bend Jubilee, July 17-18, www.northbendcity.org

► Coos County Fair — July 28-Aug 1 — Volunteer for Work Experience or enter animals or artwork, pick up a free Exhibitors Handbook in May at the post office, library, OSU Extension office or Fair office. To exhibit in 4-H, call OSU Extension to enroll by May 15.