



*Welcome to the Albemarle-Pamlico National Estuary Program **E-Update** – a monthly summary of selected activities of the APNEP staff, committees and our partners...*

Reminder – All APNEP advisory committees will meet at EPA’s “green building” at Research Triangle Park in Durham on Nov. 20 beginning at 10 a.m. In addition to an annual report of program activities, APNEP will also commemorate its 20th anniversary. That’s right, on Nov. 14, 1987 the Albemarle and Pamlico sounds estuarine system became the first such system to be designated as “an estuary of national significance” at a designation ceremony held at Elizabeth City State University. APNEP’s predecessor, the Albemarle-Pamlico Estuarine Study (APES), was the first of the currently 28 National Estuary Programs (NEP) to be formed.

APNEP Submerged Aquatic Vegetation Project (SAV) -

Progress is being made toward acquiring aerial imagery this autumn (September-October). Through recent communication with the NOAA-Coastal Services Center and their contractor representatives details of the flight operation have been finalized. The prime contractor, [Dewberry](#), received formal authorization from NOAA to begin the operation. The subcontractor who is responsible for flight operations, [Aero-Metric](#), will transfer equipment (including plane) from their headquarters in Sheboygan, Wis., to a local airport once the next window of good weather is forecast for our region. Once Mother Nature cooperates, flight activity will generally occur within a 9 a.m.-11:30 a.m. morning window and a 2:30 p.m. to 5 p.m. afternoon window to take full advantage of the sun's position, with surface winds generally less than 10 mph. While the non-tidal and transitional areas are to take acquisition priority, flight crews will also attempt to fly the tidal areas as well. Additional time restrictions for tidal areas, however, are flying +/- two hours around the low tide minimum. Although it has been a long and bumpy ride in developing contracts, let's hope the actual flights are short and smooth!

Notable Reference - *The Unnatural History of the Sea* -

Callum Roberts' book, *The Unnatural History of the Sea*, relates a history of ocean life in words and pictures. Using accounts of sea adventures from explorers, fishermen, pirates, merchants and travelers, he explores hundreds of

years of exploration and exploitation of the sea. Check out previews of the book on the Web site and through Internet search engines.

<http://www.historyofthesea.org/>

What's in your Watershed? - Do you know your watershed address?

Everyone has one no matter where they live and everyone affects their watershed, positively and negatively, on a daily basis. In the Bridge DATA (Data Analysis Teaching Activity), *What's in your Watershed?*, students will learn what a watershed is and how it is affected by all its residents, no matter how distant they are from the primary waterway. Students explore Chesapeake Bay Program data to evaluate land use and riparian buffer statistics, along with water quality data from the Bay's various ocean observing systems. Start the school year off right by introducing students to their surroundings and how their actions have results downstream.

http://www.marine-ed.org/bridge/index_archive0203.html

American Indian Tribal Portal - The American Indian Environmental Office developed this tribal portal to help American Indian communities and supporters locate tribal related information within the Environmental Protection Agency and other government agencies. The Web site offers links to basic information, grants and funding, laws and regulations, programs and contacts. News, maps and training opportunities are also available.

<http://www.epa.gov/tribalportal/>

Art Contest for Children - The theme of the 12th annual art contest from the Institute for Global Environmental is *The Ocean: From Top to Bottom!* This contest, for grades 2-4, challenges students to explore the ocean from top to bottom and then draw a picture showing what they learned. The Web site includes background information along with lesson plans and activities. Lockheed Martin Corporation is funding the development and printing of a 2008 calendar featuring the top 12 entries in this art contest. Students (along with their teachers) whose artwork is featured in this calendar will each receive copies of the calendar. The deadline for entry is Oct. 26.

<http://www.strategies.org/ArtContest>

Greenworks! Grants - This grant opportunity from GreenWorks! for Project Learning Tree trained educators supports community action and service-learning projects. Projects should address an environmental issue and involve students from pre-school to high school in hands-on community action. The deadline for application is Oct. 31.

http://www.plt.org/cms/pages/21_22_18.html

American Maritime History to 1870 – Online - The History Channel and the State University of New York-Maritime College will offer a specialized online course for credit featuring the series, *Great Ships*. In the course, *American Maritime History to 1870*, students will explore the major developments in American maritime history from pre-Columbian times through the Civil War. The course will focus on the growth of America's maritime heritage as the foundation of our culture.

<http://www.broadcastnewsroom.com/articles/viewarticle.jsp?id=173805>

Learning Ocean Science through Ocean Exploration – Virginia - NOAA's Ocean Exploration Program will provide a professional development workshop for science teachers of grades 6-12 in conjunction with the NAAEE's (North American Association for Environmental Education) annual conference on Nov. 14 in Virginia Beach, Va. Registration is required and space is limited. Take-home materials and more will be provided for each participant. To register, complete the conference registration form with workshop #11. The deadline for registration is Nov. 1.

<http://www.naaee.org/conference/registration>

EstuaryLive! - Celebrate National Estuaries Day and begin an estuarine journey with the *NOAA in the Carolinas EstuaryLive*, to be broadcast through the Internet Sept. 26-27 from the Ashepoo, Combahee and Edisto (ACE) Basin Reserve at Fort Johnson near Charleston, S.C., hosted by the ACE Basin, North Inlet-Winyah Bay, and North Carolina Reserves. This live, interactive field trip will feature segments on local fish, birds, reptiles, salt marshes, and habitat restoration, along with other topics. As you and your class watch the live program, you can submit questions, with many of these questions answered by naturalists during the program. Registration is now open.

<http://www.estuaries.gov/elive.html>

WHAT A WAY TO GO: LIFE AT THE END OF EMPIRE

(2007) - FREE! - Bennett journeys from complacency to consciousness in his feature-length documentary, *What a Way To Go: Life at the End of Empire*. He reviews his Midwestern roots, ruthlessly examines the stories he was raised with, and then details the grim realities humans now face: escalating climate change, resource shortages, degraded ecosystems, an exploding population and teetering global economies.

Powerful interviews with well-known authors including Daniel Quinn, Derrick Jensen and Richard Heinberg, and noted scientists William Schlesinger and Stuart Pimm, fill in some important pieces. Scathing and humorous use of archival footage is balanced with very human snapshot comments from family

and friends. Bennett ends with an invitation to join him with courage and consciousness on the unexplored shores of a future not yet written. N.C. State University campus location map and directions are included on the Web site, <http://www.ncsu.edu/cinema/>, for the 7 p.m. Sept. 19 show.

Maryland Congressman Introduces "No Child Left Inside"

Bill - U.S. Representative John P. Sarbanes (D-MD) has introduced legislation that will provide increased federal support for state and local environmental education programs. HR 3036, the "No Child Left Inside Act of 2007," seeks to increase environmental literacy in order to augment the federal No Child Left Behind Act. Many in the formal and non-formal education and environmental education fields feel that NCLB has reduced environmental education and outdoor opportunities for students. In his open letter on the No Child Left Inside Web site, Sarbanes notes that "while No Child Left Behind was landmark legislation that brought much-needed accountability to our schools, it has also had unintended consequences. The law's emphasis on high-stakes testing for math and reading has taken classroom time away from other subjects, including the environment. We have heard from many environmental educators frustrated that they have had to curtail or eliminate lessons in the environment. Schools have had to scale back or cancel field trips and outdoor explorations."

Provisions of this bill would:

- Require states seeking environmental education funding under No Child Left Behind to develop and submit a K-12 plan to ensure that high school graduates are environmentally literate. States receiving such funds would submit status reports on how those plans are being implemented.
- Provide new funding for states to develop, improve and advance environmental education standards.
- Provide new funding to train qualified teachers to teach environmental education courses and programs.

The legislation is supported by a coalition of groups, including the Sierra Club, the National Wildlife Federation, Audubon and the Chesapeake Bay Foundation. Updates and more information can be found on the [No Child Left Inside Coalition](#) Web site.

Until next time...

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