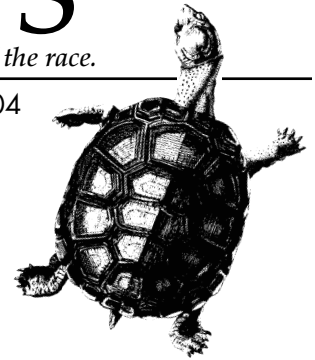


TURTLE TIMES

Choosing the slow lane, living close to the earth, heading for sustainability at the end of the race.

Volume 5, Number 6

Summer 2004



WHAT'S AHEAD

9th Annual NWEI Yard Sale

■ NWEI annual yard sale is coming up. *This is our signature fundraiser come join the fun! To donate or volunteer contact anne at nwei@velocitus.net All donations are tax deductible!*

NWEI COURSES & INFO

Who to contact

■ *The very best promotion of courses is word of mouth. If you would like to start a course in your workplace, neighborhood or place of worship or if you know someone who would like to be put on the e-mail list for notification of upcoming courses, please contact ann at nwei@velocitus.net*

Or Start Your Own Course

■ At work, in your neighborhood, or at your place of worship
Contact Anne Hausrath 345-9631
nwei@velocitus.net

Home Eco-Parties & Green Teams

We have materials available to start your own support group for "greening" your own home. Contact Anne at 345-9631.

A Big Thank You to Presenters & Mentors!

Jon Barrett, Andrea Bogle, Lyn McCollum, Mike and Sue Philley, Lane Schulz, Julie Stutts, Bob Vestal, Ryndy Williams, Veronica Daley-Zaleha

Evolving into *Idaho Earth Institute*

An exciting change ahead

This year the *Idaho Chapter of the Northwest Earth Institute* will become independent as the *Idaho Earth Institute*. Since 1996, our local group has operated as a chapter of NWEI, based in Portland. Over the past year our local organization has been looking towards it's future and trying to develop long range plans. One of the questions raised as a result of this process was, "*Do we remain a chapter or should we become an independent organization?*"

At a March meeting with Dick Roy (who started NWEI in Portland) we decided it's time for us to branch out on our own. The transition will require us to take over some administrative functions currently done by Portland and it will allow us more flexibility in tailoring projects to our specific needs in Idaho.

Our primary focus will continue to be offering the courses in communities throughout Idaho. Portland has been financially supporting our chapter. As we file to be an independent non-profit, we will be responsible for our entire budget of \$15,000.

This change brings an opportunity to revitalize the organization and to redefine it's mission to better reflect the desires of the NWEI community here in Idaho. It also frees Portland up to support another new chapter in another community somewhere in the Northwest.

Join Us as We Move Forward

Essentially, we've grown up and it's time for us to take care of and define ourselves. We look forward to joining the other 25 Sister Institutes in working closely with Portland as we join efforts to provide individuals with the opportunity to assess and change their personal choices and behavior in relationship to the earth.

If you're not currently a member we encourage you to join. If you have any interest in working as a volunteer for NWEI let us know by contacting Anne Hausrath at NWEI@velocitus.net or Deanna Smith at quanix@rmci.net. We hope you will join us anyway you can on this exciting new journey. ■



Plant Sale a Big Success!

Thanks to everyone who helped make this year's plant sale our most successful one yet. We raised a total of \$1,600, nearly twice what we've raised in past years.

We cannot possibly thank everyone who helped make this year's sale such a success. Special thanks goes to **Anne Debolt** and the **Idaho Native Plant Society** for continuing to work with us on this joint fundraiser. Anne has organized the plant sale for INSP since it's inception and brings so much expertise and experience to the sale which definitely contributes greatly to it's success. Thanks to the **MK Nature Center** and their staff, **Susan Ziebarth and Dave Cannamela** for all their help. The Center was a wonderful place to hold the sale and we hope to continue to have future sales at this location.

A BIG thank you to everyone who donated plants, unfortunately we only know who some of you are and cannot list everyone's name. The sale would not be possible without you! Also a thank you to: **Andrea Bogle, Claudia Clark, Anne Hausrath, Sharon Matthies, Kathleen Romito, LeAnne Struble, Dan Walters, & Kathy Woodbury** for helping with the sale. Thank you to **Abbie Thomson and Paula Taylor** for their garden art. It added a wonderful component to the sale.

Another wonderful addition this year was **Draggin' Wing Farm**. This new local nursery grows only xeric plants, if you missed our sale, they are at the Farmer's Market. I look forward to next year's sale! ■

Course Starts

We have had 21 courses started since July 1, '03. Sites include:

Boise Public Library (where books are loaned free thanks to donations from **Boise Co-op, Edwards Greenhouses Inc, Flying Pie Pizzeria & Zamzows**)

Boise City Public Works employees

Boise Unitarian Universalist Fellowship

Foothills School

Hewlett Packard

YMCA (downtown)

Community Education

St. Stephens Episcopal Church

Peoples' homes

Yard Sale

NWEI's annual yard sale is coming up. We are looking for enthusiastic volunteers to recruit rummage, haul it, store it, price it and put on the sale. If you would like to help with any of these tasks, contact anne at nwei@velocitus.net. Dan Walters has offered his garage so if you have items you'd like to donate we can store them now. We are looking for one other storage place so if you have extra room in your garage, contact anne. ■

Potluck Finale

This season's last NWEI potluck will be June 20, with a celebration of the summer solstice at Andrea's house. Potlucks will start up again in the autumn, (*third Sunday of each month*), in the evening.

We are trying to link the dinners to a speaker etc. This spring we had Jenny Rylee talk about recycling and in May we toured Ken Baker's energy efficient home. To volunteer, host, suggest a topic idea, or be added to the e-mail list please send an e-mail to kromito@primary.health. ■



Join NWEI

- \$30 Simplicity Level/Member
- \$50 Voluntary Simplicity Level Contributor
- \$100 Deep Ecology Level Earth Steward
- \$500 Sustainability Patron
- Yes, I'd like to volunteer

Send tax deductible checks payable to "NWEI" and mail to:
NWEI 1810 W. State St. PMB #209
Boise, ID 83702

Sustainability Conference Planned for 2005

Sustainability in the Inland Northwest: Connections, Innovations, and Opportunities is a two day conference being planned for the first week in March 2005.

Nationally known speakers will kick off the conference which also will include concurrent sessions on sustainability in business, energy, buildings, and natural resources.

The conference goal is to bring together people in the inland northwest to create a strong network for implementing sustainable practices. To become a sponsor or volunteer, contact Katie Sewell at 344-9638. ■

Earth Institute Retreat Proposed

A small group of volunteers has been exploring the feasibility of a two day, restorative, residential retreat, focused on Deep Ecology and Ecopsychology

We'd like to get a better idea of the number of folks who might be interested in attending. And we invite other Earth Institute volunteers to join in the planning of this proposed event.

The general concept for the retreat is that twenty or more Earth Institute folks would gather away from the hustle and bustle of daily life in a beautiful location to spend time together, relaxing and bonding, and to explore Deep Ecology and Ecopsychology topics.

The proposed event would be scheduled in late Spring 2005 or Fall 2005, during a time when it is nice to be outside, to soak up the place and conduct some experiential exercises.

If think you might be interested in attending and/or helping to plan the retreat, please contact any of the following folks:

Dan Walters wk: 342-3244, dwalters@forsgren.com

M'Tae hm/wk: 383-9616; mtae@cmnthrd.com

Mike Philley hm: 378-1714; mphilley@cableone.net

Deep Ecology and Ecopsychology are two areas of thought that explore the full breadth of our connection to, and interdependence with, Nature. They overlap to some extent and are complementary to a very large extent. Their proponents see them as fundamental to healing the Earth and to healing ourselves. Many maintain that one cannot happen without the other. Short hand definitions of such broad areas of thought are tough and misleading. But here are two "tastes" that may be useful if you are not familiar with the two terms.

Joanna Macy provides the following description of deep ecology on her website:

The term was coined by Norwegian philosopher Arne Naess to contrast with environmentalism for purely human interests ["shallow ecology"]. Deep ecology is both a school of thought (Naess's ecosophy and Henryk Skolimowski's ecophilosophy) and a movement (the deep, long range ecology movement, described early on by Bill Devall and George Sessions). It has also inspired an array of experiential practices: deep ecology work, developed by John Seed, myself, and others. This form of

group work helps to decondition us from centuries from culturally induced anthropocentrism, and to heal our broken relationship with the natural world.

Lester Brown provides the following perspective on ecopsychology in his introduction to the book *Ecopsychology: Restoring the Earth, Healing our Minds* :

At its most ambitious, ecopsychology seeks to redefine sanity within an environmental context. It contends that seeking to heal the soul without reference to the ecological system of which we are an integral part is a form of self-destructive blindness. Ecopsychologists are drawing upon the ecological sciences to reexamine the human psyche as an integral part of the web of nature.

Or as James Hillman put it, in his foreword to that same book, ecopsychology entertains "*a psyche the size of the earth*".

You can find further information on Deep Ecology and Ecopsychology in the following references:

Websites:

www.nwei.org NWEI's website describes the Exploring Deep Ecology course.

www.joannamacy.net Joanna Macy's website includes a Deep Ecology webpage and the eight point Deep Ecology Platform developed by Arne Naess and George Sessions.

Books:

Ecopsychology, Restoring the Earth, Healing the Mind, edited by Theodore Rozsak, et. al (1995)

Deep Ecology: Living As if Nature Mattered, George Sessions with Bill Devall (1986)

Deep Ecology for the Twenty First Century, edited by George Sessions (1995)

Earth as Lover, Earth as Self, Joanna Macy (1991)

Communing with Nature: A Guidebook for Enhancing Your Relationship with the Living Earth, John Swanson (2001)

NATIVE PLANTS, EDIBLE GARDENING, DRIP IRRIGATION, XERIC LANDSCAPING

Please join us for our first

Outdoor Seminars on **Sustainable Gardening**

June 5, 9 am - 1 pm *starts at MK Nature Center*

Tour local gardens and learn about native plants, edible gardening, drip irrigation, xeric landscaping and organic gardening. *(Includes seminars at MK Nature Center and Peaceful Belly Farms.)*

For tickets send \$20 (after May 29, tickets will be \$25) to: NWEI Garden Seminars,
1208 E Jefferson St., Boise ID 83712

For more details, call Kathleen at 363-0165.

WATER EFFICIENT LANDSCAPING, ORGANIC GARDENING, INCLUDES WORKSHOP

Turtle Times provides semi regular updates of nwei activities. If you DO NOT wish to continue receiving Turtle Times please contact anne 345-9631 nwei@velocitus.net If you prefer to receive this newsletter via email please send us your address, we will keep it private.



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