

Resource Conservation

OBJECTIVE:
Educate members and communities about the importance of preserving natural resources and stimulate citizen action to address these concerns

ACTION PLAN

CLIMATE CHANGE

- o Investigate the concept of climate change. Consider holding a club discussion after watching the documentary “An Inconvenient Truth,” available from rental sources or visiting the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency’s website at www.EPA.gov/ClimateChange.
- o Encourage members to investigate their carbon footprint. Distribute the online calculator found at www.CarbonFootprint.com/USA/Calculator.html at a club meeting and discuss ways to minimize carbon emissions.
- o Visit www.Standby.LBL.gov/Data.html for information on power used by appliances that cannot be switched off completely without being unplugged.

GENERAL EDUCATION, AWARENESS, AND PRACTICE

- o Conduct educational programs regarding the importance of water and soil conservation.
- o Invite experts, such as forest or park rangers, environmental scientists, educators, naturalists, and community planners to speak at meetings; encourage participation of community members.
- o Provide environmental education opportunities for children by participating in the Humane Society: Youth program (formerly known as the National Association for Humane and Environmental Education/NAHEE). (See Awards)
- o Investigate and support local public policies that protect and conserve natural resources.
- o Initiate a community assessment of environmental concerns and needs in your community. Create community involvement and awareness in areas that need support.
- o Implement energy conservation practices in your home, office, community, and during travel.
- o Visit the HUD/EPA/DOE Energy Star website www.EnergyStar.gov for energy-saving information.
- o Call 800/Star-Yes to order two free Energy Star brochures: *A Guide to Energy-Efficient Cooling and Heating and Home Sealing*.
- o Request the USDA Backyard Conservation booklet and encourage community members to begin a resource conservation program in their own yards.
- o Create a bird-friendly backyard. Contact the National Audubon Society for the *Audubon at Home* brochure.
- o Conduct a community forum concerning urban sprawl and its causes. Contact American Forests for information.
- o Create cooperative environmental programs with schools, stores, utility companies, citizen groups, industry, and government offices.



SHARE THE NEWS, *GFWC members support a newspaper called Kind News, which is created by Humane Society: Youth. The paper is donated to schools, one of which wrote in a note of thanks, “Your gift warms our hearts and educates our minds. Thank you for your thoughtfulness and your wisdom in choosing such a learning experience.”*





Resource Conservation Program

- o Visit www.NRCS.USDA.gov/Feature/Volunteers/ for information regarding volunteering for the USDA Earth Team in your state.
- o Use media outlets to educate participants and promote activism.
- o Educate members and the community about participating in the completion of a recycling loop, which describes the relationship between manufacturing, purchasing, and disposing of recycled products.
- o Research plants native to your state. For fact sheets and plant guides, visit <http://Plants.USDA.gov/Java/Factsheet>.
- o Encourage public officials and public employees to provide facilities and further processing for recycled materials.
- o Celebrate America Recycles Day on November 15. Visit www.nrc-recycle.org/americarecycles.aspx.

RESOURCES

AMERICAN FORESTS

PO BOX 2000 | Washington, DC 20013

P: 202/737-1944 | F: 202/737-2457 | W: www.AmericanForests.org

Contact: Margo Dawley, Global Relief Coordinator | mdawley@amfor.org

AMERICAN RIVERS

1101 14th ST NW, 14th FL | Washington, DC 20005

P: 202/347-7550 ext. 3021 | F: 202/347-9240 | W: www.AmRivers.org

Contact: Rob Perks | rperks@americanrivers.org

HUMANE SOCIETY: YOUTH (FORMERLY NAHEE)

67 Norwich Essex Turnpike | East Haddam, CT 06423-0362

P: 860/434-8666 ext. 24 | F: 860/434-9579 | W: www.NAHEE.org or www.KINDNEWS.org

Contact: Stephanie Clark

NATIONAL AUDUBON SOCIETY

1150 Connecticut AVE NW, STE 600 | Washington, DC 20036

P: 202/861-2242 | F: 202/861-4290 | W: www.Audubon.org

Contact: Connie Mahan | cmahan@audubon.org

NATIONAL WILDLIFE FEDERATION

11100 Wildlife Center DR | Reston, VA 20190

P: 800/822-9919 | W: www.NWF.org | E: info@nwf.org

SAVE OUR STREAMS

Izaak Walton League of America 707 Conservation LN | Gaithersburg, MD 20878-2983

P: 301/548-0150 | P: 800/BUG-IWLA | F: 301/548-0146 | E: sos@iwla.org | W: www.IWLA.org/SOS/





Resource Conservation Program

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Forest Service

1400 Independence AVE SW, Mail Stop 1111 | Washington, DC 20250-0003

P: 202/205-1470 | W: www.FS.FED.us

U.S DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Natural Resources Conservation Service

7515 NE Ankeny RD | Ankeny, IA 50021-9764

P: 888/LANDCARE | W: www.NRCS.gov

U.S DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy Information Center

1000 Independence AVE SW | Washington, DC 20585

P: 202/586-5000 | P: 877/337-3463 | W: www.EERE.Energy.gov

U.S. FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

4401 N. Fairfax DR, RM 670 | Arlington, VA 22203

P: 703/358-1744 | F: 703/358-1826 | W: www.Volunteers.FWS.gov

THE WILDERNESS SOCIETY

1615 M ST NW | Washington, DC 20036

P: 202/833-2300 | P: 800/THE-WILD | W: www.Wilderness.org

AWARDS

CLUB

A \$50 award is given annually to one club in the nation to recognize creativity in implementing an effective Resource Conservation Program. The award is based on narrative reports. State chairmen should forward the winning state entry to the national GFWC Resource Conservation Program Chairman by March 15 of each year.

STATE

GFWC certificates are awarded to one state federation in each membership category to recognize outstanding achievement in the Resource Conservation Program. Award presentations are made annually in honor of junior and general membership participation.

HUMANE SOCIETY: YOUTH (FORMERLY NAHEE)

Clubs that demonstrate an exceptional commitment to community-wide humane and environmental education are eligible for the GFWC Kids and Kindness Achievement Award. For more information, contact Stephanie Clark at SClark@HumaneSocietyYouth.org or visit www.HumaneSociety.org/Youth and click on Kids and Kindness Awards. Each GFWC club that participates in the Kids and Kindness program will receive a certificate.

