



Midwest EE Conference Evaluation  
**Appendix 6**  
**Outcomes – personal & professional**

This document is part of the full evaluation report from the 2005 Midwest Environmental Education Conference. The full document is available from [www.iowaee.org](http://www.iowaee.org) or the Iowa Conservation Education Council. The full report (73 pages) is available in three sections - the primary report (26 pages), the appendices (47 pages), and Appendix 6 Outcomes - Personal and Professional (7 pages).

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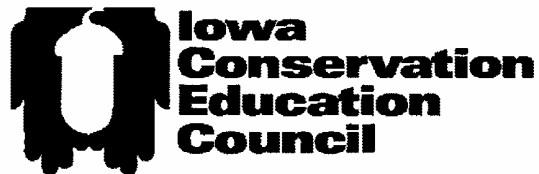
# Key Evaluation Contributors

## For the 2005 Midwest Environmental Education Conference

July 20-23, 2005, Mason City, Iowa



Iowa Department  
of Transportation



REAP Resource Enhancement and Protection Program (REAP): Invest in Iowa, our outdoors, our heritage, our people. REAP is supported by the state of Iowa, providing funding to public and private partners for natural and cultural resource projects, including water quality, wildlife habitat, soil conservation, parks, trails, historic preservation and more."

Note: Comments included in Appendix 6 were in response to 6-month post conference phone and e-mail survey questions as follows.

Tell me about anything you have incorporated in your educational efforts that you can attribute to the conference. Can you describe any stewardship activities you have included in your educational efforts that were enhanced by the conference.

Tell me about anything you have incorporated in your personal life that you can attribute to the conference. Can you describe any stewardship activities you do that you can attribute to the conference?

## **Appendix 6 Outcomes – Educational and Personal**

- Wild edibles incorporated into some programs
- River clean up
- Nothing that I wasn't already doing
  
- Haven't had a chance yet-looking to do the conservation club
- Buying organic more-nice job on food and programming, addressing that
- Not right now
  
- Using more sign language in my programs-inspired me to take a class and use it more;
- Go to the river and do one of their clean up days with Chad Pergrake
- Taken a Sign language class; simplifying my life (speaker had an impact); speaker gave a lot scary of information on plastics-impacted me personally
- Shared information with coworkers
  
- Networking-connecting with those who led sessions-sharing with them; using ideas that were shared
- set up a clean up in Dubuque which was cancelled due to the hurricane-went down there instead
- Personal knowledge in general
- Chad's clean up-participated in his clean up
  
- Inn Serendipity-shared with board and others, spouse used books for classes 1<sup>st</sup> grade teacher
- We do lots of things, nothing set in motion by this conference
- Bed and Breakfast, new bike trail that we will use that we wouldn't otherwise, learned new songs
  
- More monarch tagging at audiences that I hadn't before-care facility; Jim Pease's Iowa Wildlife concurrent-used info to work on our exhibits and signage-history of wildlife in Iowa
- Listening to the CD that I got;
- fieldtrip bicycling –planned a field trip for our nature club to go up there

- Bracelet activity-sharing the nations water supply-shared, was of extreme value; attended the mountain lions of Iowa; visiting with vendors-shared with teachers
- Helped reestablish a mind set that I have for an appreciation for the environment
- Poisonous Snakes of Iowa I have incorporated into reptile programs here.
- Would like to ask speaker to present here. I have attended a tourism conference that was inspired by the workshop.
- Trying to use more organic foods-meals very good.
- Carter and Connelly were brought to Winter Solstice.
- Connections made with people...very important...spurs me on to do more Networking and connections are number 1; being supported by others in this part of the country
- Mark Edwards...finding wildness in the self; ourselves as creatures
- In the works...participating in discussion-local regional food groups, strengthen our economy; bring people closer to the source of their food
- Center for sustainable arts-for kids, community based arts
- Discussion group started with sub groups from it-creating a car coop, eco-village, network of local farmers
- Homestead couple were inspiring-incorporating their personal mission with the tourist industry
- Wild edible workshop; keynote on chemicals in body, health impacts
- Wild edible workshop contacted educator
- Use less plastic if possible. More conscious of heating stuff up in the microwave.
- I have mentioned the Nalgene water bottle to other people. I have shared the information with my husband.
- Program pretty set-nothing
- Presented [water quality program] to others
- I don't drink out of Nalgene any more;
- Extreme clean-up we did this year
- My intent was to open up a regional dialog to talk about monitoring and citizen science.
- Struck by how many wind farms there are out there-I would love to have that incorporated into my place ...alternative energy sources.
- Personal renewal
- Some of what we talked about in Nature Deficit disorder small group
- brought students to Mason City to visit the architect (energy fieldtrip)
- Incorporated some energy efficient stuff into our home and lives-solar battery chargers, thermal heating as a result of energy field trip-into our home

- The Park Packs-given the information to different teachers; plant a tree somewhere in the community (camp participants)
- Personal land-we have talked to INHF since then; don't microwave my stuff in plastic containers; roadside management on personal land
- I told my husband, my mom, a friend who is a dietician about plastics; recommended the INHF to others who have land
  
- Opened up my job search, expansion of knowledge and resources
- More active in REAP-attended meetings; used some information in class presentation and papers; become a member of CCB
- Organized regional REAP meetings in our area-to be more active and hopefully get more resources for the county
  
- Monarchs and Park Packs-an excellent idea for camps
  
- Nursing home residents do monarchs with them
- Choose more organic stuff, looking at the labels more closely; Susan Fowler is very inspiration-reminds you why you were in this field to begin with
- Encourage my family to bring their own canvas bags to the store
  
- 2 wild edible public programs, good ideas about prairie programs, learned a lot at keynote about plastics phthalates
- Networking with Sam Cummings; using more glass products versus plastics; getting word out about park packs to a national audience
  
- Contact some of the folks who didn't bring everything –lesson plans etc; I did look through everything
- Nothing that I wasn't doing before
  
- Food topic conference-incorporated it into curriculum on food issue; fossil boxes; river clean-up trying to get him to speak to her class
- Try to do mini river clean up; hands on stuff on food-community garden
- Inspired me to volunteer a day or two a week
  
- Trying to be more green myself and teaching others to be green
- Park Pack-wrote a grant and put together her own park packs
- Green aspect-learning where my products are coming from; eating more healthy
- Planning a larger garden, planting more apple trees and raspberry bushes-more things at home
  
- Wild edibles was the biggest thing, history, methods of programming through Susan Fowler's methods
- Wild edibles, pet rabbit too

- Info on water quality; renewable energy sources
- Trip to lime creek for Environmental Science class; water quality testing in the river near school
- Joined Midwest Renewal Energy and attended conference; installed corn burner; attending the NEED conference; collected wild edibles
  
- Food was great!
- Good selection of speakers.
  
- Made some changes in the way I present...monarch
- When we did our fall prairie workshop-we looked more specifically at the service learning portion
- Purchased a CD that I listen to in my car
- Probably not, a lot more monarch larvae monitoring
  
- Tried to provide more info on environmental books on my website
- Tried to have Susan Fowler come to speak here
- Cosmetics-thought more about it
  
- Nalgene bottles-purchased a steel one, plastics-changing the use
  
- Inspired by Chad (river cleanup)-we went out and did more IOWATER testing that every before
- Looking ahead to future farm practices on their own farm-making changes
- Keynote-don't use anything but #1 and #2 plastics; Canoeing the Upper Iowa-dream come true
  
- Can't think of anything specific- I know there was things that I used, but can't remember what they were
- Renewal for me-being with others of similar beliefs-renews what I believe-both in personal life and professionally; ecotourism speakers-be more sustainable at home
- Sharing sustainable living practices with my wife-doing a lot of that-live simply
  
- The tour session, field trip, around Clear Lake also visited an outdoor classroom. Incorporated a lot of things from that and from the nature centers for displays that I have worked on and created. My inspiration was from those sessions.
  
- When I teach environmental science, always incorporating info. Especially white tailed deer, nice to get some new perspectives.
  
- Some of the workshops that I went to for example, alternative energy, that workshop had to do with the different types of energy efficiency, in your home, education or work. Light bulbs, windows. One of the other things, watershed, done through Living Lands Waters. Not working with children at this point. Working with adults, can't say that I have incorporated any one specific activity.
  
- We have done a lot more with alternative fuel. Brought in more research, information that I got on alternative energy

- Used some of the content, some of the professional contacts, as new resources. A couple of the places that we went. A field trip, I have incorporated in my lab activities.
- My visit with the venomous snake section helped me to help with education and local snake handling and identification. Make the public more aware of the nonvenomous snakes that are being destroyed.
- Much more active now in lowater.
- Stewardship-wise, did go on the canoe field trip. From that I did end up taking some water quality training classes from loWater.
- Really, haven't done anything yet. Planning to do more next month. We are going to be, working Monday with my co-teacher to do some planning.
- Some of the foods from the displays and bazaar that was going on in the gym especially the composting and materials. The education, knowledge I have learned from the sessions, including the venomous snakes, I have included in my personal life.
- Own an acreage, 10 acres, hoping to convert the six acres in row crop to native prairie.
- We have reduced our use of plastic bottles.
- Back to that main speaker, he was talking about some of the everyday chemicals that we come in contact with. Made me a lot more aware, check labels, do some reading, things that are not good but are not regulated and used in everyday products.
- I upped how much I select the wind energy from Alliant.
- Some of, the energy field trip, some of the things they talked about reducing electricity and alternative sources. I have adopted several new technology/activities to reduce my energy consumption.
- The id and awareness of the Iowa tall grass prairies has given me more awareness of what our area looked like before and a personal mission to try to restore as many of the tall grass prairies plants as I can.
- Trying to drive less than six thousand miles a year with our car, riding my bike to work. Put a trailer on my bike so I can take it to get groceries.
- Worked on cleaning up a little bit along the river front.
- No.

- Incorporating some of the ideas back into my teaching and in my career itself and around my home.
- hands-on restoration
- Have refocused programming on nature play after seeing Ken Finch and spending time with him and others. Read "Last Child in the Woods" and am using that information to reach educators and better understand this next generation of teachers.
- Additional methods of getting the resources out as a result of the networking
- Much of what was presented was not new to me, but that doesn't mean I didn't pick up a few extra pieces of useful information. I have passed along the information I received during the solar presentation.
- Sessions such as "Activities Connecting Sensory Awareness in Young Children to Nature" joined the conference as a whole in providing a great deal of relevant materials, resources, and methods
- for supporting the way we do environmental education in the elementary school. I purchased books, a "critter cage", puppets, and other resources
- more speaking
- none, information supported what I already do.
- No new environmental service activities, but I've shared info, enthusiasm, and handouts with colleagues. Have renewed zeal for working with my students on environmental problems and studies. In teaching, I've incorporated the enthusiasm, the stories, and the kinesthetic approaches shared by presenters.
- ideas and information on alternative energy water testing
- Susan Fowler's method of story telling, acting, involving audience works very well with students. Chad P.'s inspirational speech is a constant reminder that we all can make a difference if we just start somewhere.
- Collecting and observing monarch butterflies as they progress from egg to caterpillars and eventually hatching. My next plan is to tag monarchs this coming summer. I have been able to share this with a variety of people.
- Our grade is rehabbing the trail in our local park. I'm new to this position and school, so I think I'll be able to get more done in future years! I appreciated hearing what others are doing as inspiration for the future.
- NONE
- None, I was only there for part of the conference.

- We have begun looking at Pre-school aged programs more. Also we found a "free space" on our property where kids could run and get dirty without worry of destroying natural habitat or someone's experience in it.
- Learned from Larry Stone's presentation-more information that can be shared with 3rd. and 4th graders in class and in after-school programs.
- Monarch Project.
- none--bio class got cancelled.
- plastics usage
- awareness
- Have plans to visit rattlesnake den site in Winterset. Have purchased and shared with others Nieman family pork.
- Most have been in the professional area.
- I am quite active in the environmental realm, but one interest that was renewed was edible wild foods.
- I have spent hours sharing with my siblings, friends, and coworkers information on wildflowers and the Loess hills. The dangers of using certain plastics in freezers and microwaves, as well as the dangers in cleaning them with bleach and hot water has resulted in reducing my use plastics and changing how I handle those I continue to use.
- more research
- While some might say that such a conference is like "preaching to the choir," I came away feeling re-energized & rededicated to a sustainable Earth. I couldn't help telling friends about "John Muir" and Chad Pregracke.
- ideas for energy efficiency changed most of our light bulbs thinking twice about using so much plastic using more organic products
- I carry garbage bags with me on my hikes to pick up trash instead of just relying on the limited space of my pockets. I'm planting for wildlife, even if it's small areas.
- I have started carrying a garbage bag with me when I kayak my stretch of the river to clean up whatever I can.
- NONE

- None, again I didn't attend many sessions.
- overall greater awareness.
- Greater appreciation for the birds in our life and the value of taking time to observe them.
- Not heating food in plastic containers in the microwave.
- I finally got around to replacing the rest of my incandescent bulbs with fluorescent ones.
- hawk id