

***Pheasants Forever's Leopold Education Project
And the Aldo Leopold Foundation Present:***

**Renewing Relationships:
*Connecting People and Nature through Leopold's Legacy***

2010 LEP National Conference

Conference Dates and Venue:

June 16-19, 2010
The Leopold Center
Baraboo, WI

Conference information and registration:

<http://www.aldoleopold.org/lep/>

Event co-sponsors:

The Aldo Leopold Foundation
The Leopold Education Project

LEP National Conference Schedule at a Glance

Wednesday and Thursday, June 16th and 17th

Pre-Conference Workshops

- Land Ethic Leaders Training (two day, Wednesday June 16th from 10:00am – 7:30pm, Thursday June 17th from 8:30 am – 5:00 pm)
- Exploring the Outdoors with Aldo Leopold: Pheasants Forever and Quail Forever's Outdoor Activities Guide Training (one day, Thursday June 17th from 9 am – 4 pm)
- PF Activities Kits (half day- Thursday June 17th from 9:00 am – 12:00 pm)
- Leopold Bench Building (half day- Thursday June 17th from 1:00 pm – 4:00 pm)

Registration Table Open at the Leopold Center

Thursday, June 17th

8:00 – 9:00 am

12:30 – 1:00pm

Friday, June 18th

8:00 am – 8:45 am

Saturday, June 19th

8:00 am – 8:45 am

Friday & Saturday, June 18th and 19th

Main Conference: See detailed schedule for concurrent and workshop session times and descriptions. Each day's program begins at 10:00 am, following the morning keynote.

Keynote Speakers:

Friday: Scott Russell Sanders, 8:30 – 9:45 am

Saturday: Marybeth Lorbiecki, 8:30 – 9:45 am

Special Events:

Friday afternoon, 2:30 – 4:00 pm

(choose one during registration)

Behind the Scenes of *Green Fire* with Curt Meine

Land Management on the Leopold Memorial Reserve with Steve Swenson (hike)

Friday night, 6:00 pm

Formal banquet, keynotes: Wil and Sarah Reding-*The Youthful Hike of John Muir*, raffles and silent auction at the Clarion Hotel

Saturday night, 5:15 pm

Boat Cruise and Dinner in the Wisconsin Dells

LEP National Conference Detailed Schedule

WEDNESDAY & THURSDAY, JUNE 16TH AND 17TH: *Optional pre-conference workshops*

1. *Land Ethic Leaders Program (two days) Instructors: Aldo Leopold Foundation staff and special guest Scott Russell Sanders.*

The Land Ethic Leaders program is designed to help you use Leopold's legacy, writing, and ideas to get people in your community exploring their personal connections to the land. We are pairing it with the upcoming release of our documentary film, *Green Fire: the Life and Legacy of Aldo Leopold*. We hope to use the film and the Land Ethic Leaders program to build a strong network of people newly inspired, empowered and refreshed with tools, techniques, and program ideas that will help achieve the goal of reconnecting communities with one another and with the land, using Leopold's ideas and writings as a frame. The basis for the program is Leopold's own method of engaging his family and students in developing a personal land ethic through observing the natural world through scientific inquiry, participating in purposeful work on the land, and reflecting on their experiences. Includes lunch both days, and a comprehensive set of workshop materials that will help you implement activities.

Time: Two days, June 16: 10:00am-7:30pm; June 17: 8:30am-5:00pm. Cost: \$60. Class Limit: 20.

2. *LEP: Exploring the Outdoors with Aldo Leopold (1 day)- Pheasants and Quail Forever's Outdoor Activities Guide, with Treva Breuch and Marc and Suzanne Hirrel*

The Leopold Education Project has recently updated their classroom curriculum with new activities designed for non-formal educators in nature centers, parks, and zoos. Come learn new activities and understand how they can be used at your educational facilities. Participants will receive a copy of the new activities and will have the opportunity to purchase the original curriculum entitled "Lessons in a Land Ethic" for an additional \$20. Workshop fee includes lunch.

Time: Full day, Thursday June 17th, 9:00am – 4:00pm. Cost \$30.

3. *Build a Leopold Bench (half-day) Instructor: Gary Laib*

Build an authentic Leopold bench to take home for your patio or use as a fundraiser! Gary Laib, creator of the original LEP curriculum, will guide you through building the bench that Leopold built and used at the Shack. Cost includes materials. Bring your own tools if possible (skill saw, drill, 3/8" bit, wood chisel). If need be, bench can be taken apart to transport home. Includes lunch after class.

Time: Thursday, June 17th, 9 a.m. – noon. Cost: \$40. Class Limit: Minimum of 6 required to hold the class; maximum is 12.

4. *Youth Activities for Community Events (half-day) Instructor: Beth Carreno, Wisconsin Youth Education Coordinator*

Learn how you can easily involve young people in fun, educational activities using one of our activity kits. Whether it's a family outdoor day, a camp, a nature center program or a banquet, you can get youth involved in making plaster casts, participating in a mock hunt or playing a predator/prey game. Kits will also be available for sale. PF Chapters are invited! Includes lunch before the class.

Time: 1 p.m. – 4 p.m. Location: Leopold Center exhibit hall. Cost: \$30. Class Limit: 20.

THURSDAY, JUNE 17TH , EVENING: *Conclusion of pre-workshops and early arrivals*

Come meet your fellow conferees and explore the Baraboo/Dells dining scene with informal group dinners on your own! Groups will gather every hour from 5pm – 7pm in the Clarion Hotel Lobby to meet up and choose dinner spots. A list of recommended area restaurants will be provided.

FRIDAY, JUNE 18TH: *Day one of conference*

8:00 – 8:45 am: Registration table open at the Leopold Center

8:30 – 9:00 am: Welcome and Daily Announcements

9:00-9:45 Keynote Speaker: Scott Russell Sanders



Sanders was born in Memphis, Tennessee, in 1945. His father came from a family of cotton farmers in Mississippi, his mother from an immigrant doctor's family in Chicago. He spent his early childhood in Tennessee and his school years in Ohio. He studied physics and English at Brown University, graduating in 1967. With the aid of a Marshall Scholarship, he pursued graduate work at the Cambridge University, where he completed his Ph.D. in English in 1971. From 1971 until his retirement in 2009, he taught at Indiana University, from 1995 onward as Distinguished Professor of English.

Among his more than twenty books are novels, collections of stories, and works of personal nonfiction, including *Staying Put*, *Writing from the Center*, and *Hunting for Hope*. His latest book is *A Conservationist Manifesto*, his vision of a shift from a culture of consumption to a culture of caretaking.

Sanders' writing examines the human place in nature, the pursuit of social justice, the relation between culture and geography, and the search for a spiritual path. He and his wife, Ruth, a biochemist, have reared two children in their hometown of Bloomington, in the hardwood hill country of Indiana's White River Valley.

FRIDAY MORNING WORKSHOP SESSIONS

10:00 am – 11:30 am

1. Wild Wellness- Jeff Pritzl

Wellness has been recognized as valuable lifestyle education technique and has been incorporated into school curriculum through health and/or physical education courses and

Wellness Fair events. Nature-based activities affect all aspects of wellness in a positive way. This program takes you through the 6 aspects of personal wellness and provides opportunities to discuss and demonstrate how an outdoor lifestyle provides connections to wellness. The audience will be inspired to seek out new ways to enhance their own wellness and develop a deeper appreciation for the activities they already enjoy.

2. A Cast Iron Connection- Luann Sewell Waters

Dutch oven cooking was a favorite of Leopold and his family. By teaching people how to cook this way, you connect them not only to Leopold's writings, but to the outdoors. This gives them an activity, but also the reward of great food, too! Demonstration of equipment set-up, preparation of a simple recipe, handout of Leopold food quotes. Signup required during conference registration. Limit 20.

3. A Sampler: Exploring the Outdoors with Aldo Leopold-

Treva Breuch, Marc Hirrel, and Suzanne Hirrel (offered twice in our schedule so more people can have access to the program- the first session is here; a repeat is on Saturday afternoon.)

If you didn't get a chance to attend the pre-conference workshop and you are interested in the new curriculum, here is a chance to test-drive the materials! The new curriculum materials are designed for use by teachers, interpreters, naturalists, park rangers, zoo educators, youth group leaders, and private citizens. By using these fun, hands-on critical thinking activities, participants will come to understand that students can learn about nature and conservation while developing what Leopold called a "land ethic," an appreciation of and respect for the land. The presenters will "teach" several lessons by directly involving the participants in a variety of hands-on activities. Participants will have the opportunity to purchase a CD of the new curriculum and a copy of Leopold's classic book, *A Sand County Almanac* for \$20. Participants should dress to be outside for part of the session.

FRIDAY LUNCH

11:30 am – 1:00 pm

Meals are provided by Vintage Port Catering in Baraboo, with local and organic options taking center stage. Generous donations of dairy and juice products provided by Organic Valley.

FRIDAY AFTERNOON CONCURRENT SESSIONS

1:00 – 2:00 pm

1. The Aldo Leopold Centennial Celebration in New Mexico: A Case Study-

Tony Anella and Dara Johnson

This presentation will share lessons learned from the recently concluded Aldo Leopold Centennial Celebration 2009 in New Mexico, and provide examples of effective ways to raise the cultural awareness of Aldo Leopold and engage your community in an active conversation about land ethics. Examples from the year-long Celebration to be discussed include: (1) the Cultural Conversation at the National Hispanic Cultural Center; (2) planting trees in the Aldo

Leopold Forest along the banks of the Rio Grande in Albuquerque; (3) the Leopold Legacy Film Series; (4) the Aldo Leopold Film Competition; (5) the Aldo Leopold Writing Contest.

2. Volunteer Programs 101- Michael Hoke

This presentation is designed to allow both the novice environmental educator and the well-seasoned professional to more effectively manage a volunteer program to further their goals in environmental education. In this presentation, participants will learn how volunteers can become valuable components of community outreach programs, provide needed resources for a variety of projects, engage the community in environmental education, provide unique methods to augment fund raising, and develop long term resilience for environmental education in a community. Recruitment, motivation and training of volunteers will be discussed. A final discussion on how to effectively lose volunteers will summarize much of what is discussed in the program. Hand-outs will include a volunteer handbook and job description developed over 15 years of working with volunteers.

3. M.O.R.E. Nature: A Community Movement- Christine Jacobsen

The Metro Omaha Resources for Exploring (M.O.R.E) Nature collaborative started two years ago. Since that time we have built a strong steering committee and task force groups that have been very active in the community. Come learn how to get your community excited about nature play. You'll walk away with ideas on how to start a community group, and some new ideas for community programming.

SNACK BREAK

2:00 – 2:30 pm

SPECIAL PROGRAM OPTIONS

2:30 – 4:00 pm

(choose one during registration)

Option 1: Behind the Scenes of *Green Fire* with Curt Meine



The Aldo Leopold Foundation is working with US Forest Service filmmakers Steve Dunsky, Ann Dunsky, and Dave Steinke to produce a full-length documentary film: *Green Fire: The Life and Legacy of Aldo Leopold*. Currently in production, the high-definition film is scheduled to be completed later this year and then

released on public television sometime in 2011. The film will explore Aldo Leopold's life in the context of American conservation and environmental history, while also illustrating how Leopold's legacy lives on today in the work of people and organizations across the nation and around the world. Additional film segments and teaching tools will build on the *Green Fire* film, with the aim of encouraging educators and community leaders across the nation to screen the

film and organize discussions about critical conservation and environmental issues in their own communities today.



Leopold biographer and conservation biologist Dr. Curt Meine will serve as the film's on-screen guide, and will give a short talk before screening the film for conferees. Curt will share behind-the-scenes stories from the production process, then screen the film preview and selected scenes. Following the screening, he and the filmmakers will be gathering feedback and thoughts from the audience. The film will continue going through edits and post-production after the conference, so you will be sharing very valuable feedback!

Option 2: Guided hike with Steve Swenson- Leopold Memorial Reserve Ecology and Land Management (limit 20)



Why should we care for land? What is the Aldo Leopold Foundation doing about it? Join staff ecologist Steve Swenson for a discussion and exploration in the field of land stewardship, land health, the Important Bird Area (IBA), adaptive management and conservation partnerships in the area. Steve has been working for the foundation since 1999 and is responsible for the science and stewardship work on foundation property and in partnership with private landowners. Steve's work builds on the critical connection between people

and land – the land ethic. He received his Bachelor's degree (1995) in environmental science and biology from the University of Wisconsin – Green Bay and a Master's degree (1999) in plant ecology from The Ohio State University.

Reflection Time at the Shack—optional

4:15-5:15

FRIDAY EVENING BANQUET AT THE CLARION HOTEL

6:00 pm

A fun and informal evening is planned at the Clarion Hotel in Baraboo. We'll have a buffet dinner, silent auction, raffles and lots of time to visit and relax. Bring an auction item from your region – all proceeds will support community project grants. Emcee Cheryl Riley of Pheasants Forever will highlight some of the community grant projects that were funded with proceeds from last year's auction. Wil and Sarah Reding will share an inspirational power point sharing stories and images from their re-walking of John Muir's 1000 Mile Walk to the Gulf and how it has worked to renew their relationship to the natural world. Dress is casual.

SATURDAY, JUNE 19TH : Final day of conference

8:00 – 8:45 am: Registration table open at the Leopold Center

8:30 – 9:00 am: Welcome and Daily Announcements

9:00 – 9:45 am: Keynote Speaker: Marybeth Lorbiecki



Marybeth Lorbiecki M.A., an author and adjunct professor of writing at the University of Wisconsin River Falls, claims the meadowlark as her spirit bird. She made the connection as a child, when she'd wander into a prairie looking for adventure with her older brother. Since then and many camping trips in the woods with her family, she has continued to love adventures in the natural world—from her garden to the BWCA. She's written two books on her hero Aldo Leopold – one for adults, *Aldo Leopold: A Fierce Green Fire*, and one for children, *Of Things Natural, Wild, and Free*. In addition, she's the author numerous books for children, including *Planet Patrol: A Kids Action Guide for Earth Care*, *Paul Bunyan's Sweetheart*, *Jackie's Bat*, and *Sister Anne's Hands*. When asked what interests her, she replies

as Aldo did -- the relationships of people to the land and people to each other. Currently she is working on two major adult projects: a biography of the famous early 20th Century author and Native American civil rights activist Ohiyesa, Dr. Charles Alexander Eastman; and a guide to the voluminous and radical writings of Pope John Paul II on ecology and Christian creation care.

SATURDAY MORNING CONCURRENT SESSIONS

10:00 am – 11:00 am

1. Conservation Among the Concrete- Brian Russart

This presentation is about the creative use of partnerships and how they have been developed to engage Wisconsin's largest community through the science and beauty of restoration ecology. In just two short years this newly reborn Natural Areas Program has developed 46 community partnerships to assist with the management of the Milwaukee County Park's 10,000 acres of natural areas and agricultural lands. These are resources that have been historically molded by the influences of a great lake, Wisconsin's ecological tension zone, and over 150 years of European settlement. This is a presentation on how to develop a successful restoration program and to engage a community for a greater good.

2. Involving Youth-Let 'Em Lead- Cheryl Riley

The best advocates for getting youth outdoors may be youth themselves. Discover ways of tapping into youthful resources and involving youth in your community. Success stories will be told and ideas shared.

3. Connecting Communities to Rivers- Verne Huser

This session will look at rivers as the dynamic source of life that they are, play river detective by walking along a riparian habitat, observing what's there, and determining why it's there--and what meaning it has to the community.

11:00 am – 12:00 pm

Pre-Lunch Speaker Greg Walsh

Greg Walsh is an Organic Valley farmer and current co-owner of Turkey Ridge Apple Farm in Gays Mills, Wisconsin. Greg will highlight the importance of local and organic foods. Many thanks to Organic Valley for their generous donation of dairy and juice products for the conference!

SATURDAY LUNCH

12:00 pm – 1:00 pm

Meals are provided by Vintage Port Catering in Baraboo, with local and organic options taking center stage.

SATURDAY AFTERNOON WORKSHOP SESSIONS

1:00 pm – 2:30 pm

1. What is a Weed?- Ashley Pryor

This presentation will first present and elaborate upon some of the key passages in Leopold's writing that concerns the importance of native plants for promoting land health, and will talk about exercises that have already used in classrooms to familiarize students with the natural history of Northwest Ohio through the native plants of the region. The second half of the presentation will be dedicated to a "nuts and bolts" discussion of ways of establishing a native plant garden in your community or school grounds and will be run more like a workshop than a lecture.

2. Leopold for Special Needs- Teri Rogoway

In this workshop we will explore various Leopold Education Project activities that have been adapted for various special needs. These special needs may include Down Syndrome, Attention-Deficit Disorder, Autism, Mobility Impaired, Sight Impaired and Hearing Impaired. This workshop will be a hands-on experience accompanied by a presentation.

3. A Sampler: Exploring the Outdoors with Aldo Leopold- Treva Breuch, Marc Hirrel, and Suzanne Hirrel

If you didn't get a chance to attend the pre-conference workshop and you are interested in the new curriculum, here is a chance to test-drive the materials! The new curriculum materials are designed for use by teachers, interpreters, naturalists, park rangers, zoo educators, youth group leaders, and private citizens. By using these fun, hands-on critical thinking activities, participants will come to understand that students can learn about nature and conservation

while developing what Leopold called a “land ethic,” an appreciation of and respect for the land. The presenters will “teach” several lessons by directly involving the participants in a variety of hands-on activities. Participants will have the opportunity to purchase a CD of the new curriculum and a copy of Leopold’s classic book, *A Sand County Almanac* for \$20. Participants should dress to be outside for part of the session.

SNACK BREAK

2:30 – 2:45 pm

SATURDAY AFTERNOON CONCURRENT SESSIONS

2:45 pm – 3:45 pm

1. GLADE: Green Leadership Academy for Diverse Ecosystems- Celeste Prussia

The GLADE program enlisted its first crew in 2009 and will engage its second slate of enrollees in summer 2010. High school students compete for the 16 positions that offer a week-long residential program of conservation biology, habitat restoration, and leadership skills building. They meet conservation and scientific staff from agencies and universities in the field while experiencing various ecosystems of the southwestern Missouri Ozarks. The graduates of GLADE return to their communities to lead a conservation project of their choosing supported by small grants that allow for the purchase of supplies needed to complete the project. The program curriculum and mechanics will be shared in this presentation.

2. Expanding Aldo Leopold's Legacy beyond the US: A Case Study for the Restoration of Damaged Lands in Turkey for Outdoor Education- Ufuk Ozdag

This presentation will focus on creating place-attachment through Leopold's essays. Hear the story of two damaged areas in Turkey: the Amik watershed in Southern Turkey and the Bosphorus ecosystem. We will focus on the drainage of Lake Amik and its surrounding wetlands in the '50s, '60s, and '70s, an area that was once a key feeding station of migratory birds in the African-Eurasian flyway as well as the threatened dolphins in the Turkish Straits System. We'll also discuss the ways in which some of Leopold's crucial writings can foster moral action and eventual policy changes for their future restoration. Above all, the presentation will be a plea for holding LEP conferences worldwide in the near future, to enhance intelligent land use and/or ecological restorations of bioregions whose interconnected systems have long been disrupted, across the globe.

3. No Child Left Indoors: A Community Approach- David Grass and Greg Kielback

This session will show how No Child Left Indoors begins with kindergarten students and goes through conservation camp which is offered to young people in high school who are looking towards a career in conservation. There will be a timeline of how we got started and successes as well as some roadblocks. We will share how we developed cooperative activities with a number of conservation groups in the community. Our program is extremely diversified, from hunter safety and shooting sports to inner city children realizing at 1st grade there are not bears at the outdoor center that will eat you. We will share activity ideas, recruitment tools,

volunteer training as well as various forms to cover liability. One of the best things about linking with a Pheasants Forever group beside a volunteer base is free liability insurance. We will leave time for any questions at the end of the presentation.

CLOSING SPEAKER, 3:45– 4:30 pm

Buddy Huffaker



As the Executive Director of the Aldo Leopold Foundation, Buddy Huffaker serves as a leading voice for the power of combining the emerging interests of the green building movement with the longer standing conservation and environmental movements. Building upon Huffaker’s academic background in landscape architecture, he was deeply involved in every aspect of the design and construction of the Aldo Leopold Legacy Center, currently the U.S. Green Building Council’s third highest ranked LEED NC (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design, New Construction category) building in the world. Further demonstrating his leadership is his participation in the White

House Conference on Cooperative Conservation and his election to represent the Northeast Region at the US Forest Service’s Centennial Congress. In addition, he has contributed to two books; *The Farm as a Natural Habitat* (Island Press) and *Aldo Leopold and the Ecological Conscience* (Oxford University Press) and addressed audiences across North America on why and how society must develop an ecological conscience. During his tenure as Executive Director, Huffaker has directed the Foundation’s growth from an operational budget of \$100,000 in 1999 to an annual budget of \$1,000,000 and increased the staff capacity over that time from 1.5 FTE to 12 FTE. Huffaker has also been recognized as an Executive Scholar in Not-for-Profit Management by Northwestern University’s Kellogg School of Management.

CLOSING CELEBRATION, 5:15pm

Boat Cruise and Dinner in the Beautiful Wisconsin Dells



The closing event of the conference will be an evening boat trip up one of the most scenic stretches of the Wisconsin River. See the true Wisconsin Dells—the rock formations that first made the town famous—and learn about its fascinating geologic history. We’ll take a cruise up to a secluded pavilion inside Cold Water Canyon where we will enjoy the evening with a private catered dinner, cocktails, and optional walks along the surrounding trails to explore the fascinating canyon. This is a trip you won’t want to miss, so we

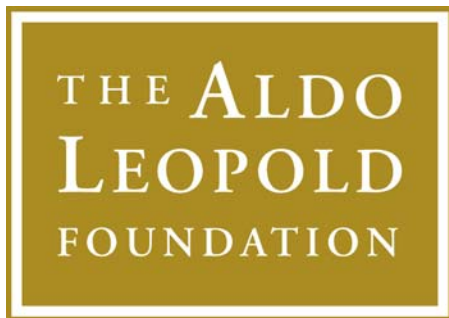
hope you’ll stick around and join us for a truly fitting finale to the conference!

Thank you to all of our partner organizations for making this conference possible!



Leopold
Education
Project

Teaching Lessons in a Land Ethic
www.lep.org * lep@pheasantsforever.org * (877) 773-2070



Catering and product donations:

*Vintage Port Catering
Baraboo, Wisconsin*



Safe travels to all, and thank you for sharing your land ethic and love of the outdoors with us! All the best for and exciting year ahead connecting people and nature through Leopold's legacy. See you next year!