

October 17, 2001
TO: GENI Paid Membership
FROM: GENI Home Office

ITEMS TO NOTE:

- ⇒ GENI will host a number of workshops throughout the state during the fall of 2001 highlighting **Geography Awareness Week**, the theme of which focuses on “*Geography Action: Rivers 2001*” (a great topic for the state of Indiana!). See the enclosed announcement and register today! Or visit the GENI web site for a downloadable application and additional information.
- ⇒ **GENI’s Strategic Planning Board Meeting** will be held on Friday and Saturday, November 30 and December 1 at the Indianapolis Holiday Inn Express Northeast. For additional information, contact Jill Bowman at (317)842-8039.
- ⇒ The **Hoosier Association of Science Teachers, Inc.** annual conference will be held at the Indiana Convention Center, February, 6-8. Visit the HASTI web site at **HASTI** continued: <http://www.hasti.org> or send Edward Frazier, HASTI Executive Director an e-mail at efrazier@msn.com or mail a letter to 5007 West 14th Street, Indianapolis IN, 46224.
- ⇒ The 2002 annual conference for the **Association of American Geographers** will be held in Los Angeles, California, March 19-23. Contact the AAG at 1710 16th Street NW, Washington DC 20009-3198 or visit their web site at www.aag.org or e-mail them at gaia@aag.org for further details.
- ⇒ Once again, St. Mary-of-the-Woods College will host a **Weekend Geography Workshop**, April 12-14. Watch the Spring, 2002 GENI Newsletter for an application, or watch the GENI web site for a downloadable application.
- ⇒ The **2002 National Council for the Social Studies Great Lakes Regional Conference** will be held in Indianapolis April 17-20 at the Indiana Convention Center. This is a great opportunity for ALL educators (inservice, preservice, or post-secondary) to be part of an event that makes education so dynamic and fun! Watch the ICSS/NCSS web pages or call Kathy Reppert at (765)494-9638 for further details or send an e-mail to Dr. Lyn Nelson, ICSS/NCSS Executive Director, lrnelson@purdue.edu.
- ⇒ GENI will sponsor a summer institute June 10-14, 2001, entitled “**Geography, Satellite Imagery, Remote Sensing, and NASA’s Mission Geography**”. The Institute will be held at IUPUI with participants staying at the University Place Hotel on campus. Highlights include Indiana satellite imagery and interpretation, work with NASA’s Mission Geography, and a field experience to the Brownsburg Challenger Center. Watch future GENI Newsletters for further details and the GENI web site for an agenda and downloadable application.
- ⇒ The **National Council for Geographic Education’s** annual conference will be held in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, October 16-19. Watch the NCGE web site at <http://www.ncge.org> for further details. An application form will be available via the GENI web site and the GENI Newsletter upon availability.

Editor: Kathleen Lamb Kozenski
Contributors: Melissa Martin, Carole Mayrose
Web Site Management: Scott Mickey and Hilary Steinhardt

GEOGRAPHY ACTION 2001: RIVERS

The concept behind “Geography Action” is for educators to focus on Geography throughout the year, not only during National Geography Awareness Week (November 11-17, 2001). The theme for 2001 is rivers, or taking action to study the many aspects of rivers in our lives and their relationship to conservation: locations, names, quality, management, restoration, degradation, monitoring, urbanization, sewer, sanitation, well, pesticides/herbicides, use,... A hope exists that you and your students, colleagues, students’ parents/guardians, community leaders, and others will better understand the necessity that water has in our lives and the care that we take in protecting our water.

During National Geography Awareness Week, have your students do the following:

- MONDAY:** research the area’s fresh water resources – rivers, streams, lakes, reservoirs, oceans. Visit the following web sites to discover more about fresh water resources and opportunities in your area:
- 1) **Hoosier Riverwatch** <www.ai.org/dnr/soilcons/riverwatch> for great resource links, free diagrams, and downloadable lessons. Adopt-A-River through the Hoosier Riverwatch program.
 - 2) **Environmental Protection Agency** <www.epa.gov> for access to a variety of national and local water oriented links AND locate & research your area’s watershed <www.epa.gov/surf>.
 - 3) **United States Geological Survey** <www.ga.usgs.gov/edu/wateruse.html> for a variety of national USGS water oriented resources. USGS Water Science Map Gallery <www.ga.usgs.gov/edu/mapgallery.html> has a diverse range of resources, maps, and data about water-related issues that are designed for classroom use. View real-time stream/water flow in your region via <www.usgs.gov/waterwatch> OR view a 3-dimensional map of the United States displaying overall water use <water.usgs.gov/watuse/graphics/wuto.fact.3d.gif>.
 - 4) Tom’s of Maine has available a **River Steward River Awareness Kit** through their web site <www.toms-of-maine.com/mission/rvraware.htm>.
 - 5) **The Center for Earth and Environmental Science**, located at IUPUI, has a field site along the White River along the IUPUI campus. View the site, a developing wetland, and the new Lilly Arbor Project at <www.cees.iupui.edu>. School groups are invited to visit and practice water quality studies, site applied statistics, and many additional field techniques.
 - 6) **National Geographic Society’s** web site supporting *Geography Action 2001: Rivers* has an extensive collection of resources, interactive activities, graphics, maps, and ideas for the implementation of the theme into all classrooms <www.nationalgeographic.com>.
 - 7) The **Indiana Geological Survey** produces a variety of maps and resources related to Indiana water concerns <<http://adamite.igs.indiana.edu/index.htm>>.
 - 8) Arrange for a visit by one of the state’s **GIS (Geographic Information Systems)** specialists to demonstrate GIS in the classroom. Call Layne Young at (317)327-3199 <www.gisday.com>

TUESDAY: work on the enclosed activity by Carole Mayrose entitled “**Rivers and Capitals**”.

WEDNESDAY: t-shirt wear-in supporting water and Geography. Take a field trip to one of the facilities, noted in the EPA web site watershed above, that is permitted to emit effluent along a water-way near you.

THURSDAY: locate the local waste-water treatment facility. Invite a guest-speaker from facility to visit your classroom. Discuss waste-water and storm water with your students prior to the guest’s visit.

FRIDAY: Adopt a river, stream, waterway in your area. Visit the [Hoosier Riverwatch](http://www.ai.org/dnr/soilcons/riverwatch) web site for additional information <www.ai.org/dnr/soilcons/riverwatch>.

Geography Resources:

- **Hoosier Riverwatch** and **Projects WILD/LT/WET**, Fort Harrison State Park – NREC, 5785 Glenn Road, Indianapolis IN 46216-1066, (317)541-0617, www.ai.org/soilcons/riverwatch
- **National Geographic Society**, 1145 17th Street NW, Washington DC 20036-4688, www.nationalgeographic.com
- **City of Indianapolis/Marion County GIS Team**, 200 East Washington Street, Suite 2441, Indianapolis IN 46204, ATTN: Layne Young, (317)327-3199, www.IndyGov.org/gis/newsandevents/external/external.htm, young@IndyGov.org Or visit the ESRI International GIS Day web site at www.gisday.com for more ideas.
- **Indiana Department of Education**, #229 State House, Indianapolis IN 46204-2798, Environmental Education Consultant, (317)232-0808.
- **Indiana Association of Soil and Water Conservation Districts**, 225 South East Street, Suite 740, Indianapolis IN 46202, (317)692-7374, www.iaswcd.org
- **Indiana Department of Environmental Management**, Office of Water Quality, 100 North Senate Avenue, PO Box 6015, Indianapolis IN 46206-6015, (317)232-8670, www.IN.gov/idem/water
- **Friends of White River**, PO Box 90171, Indianapolis IN 46290, (317)767-4140, www.fowr.org
- **Illinois/Indiana Sea Grants** College Program, University of Illinois, 211 Mumford Hall, 1301 West Gregory Drive, Urbana IL 61801, (217)333-0240, www.iisgcp.org, amcbride@purdue.edu
- **Rivers Project**, Southern Illinois University, Box 2222, Edwardsville IL 62026-2222, www.siu.edu/osme/river, rivers@siue.edu
- **Indiana Geological Survey**, Education Extension, Jeff Kirby, 915 East 11th Street, Indiana University, Bloomington IN 47405, (812)855-1337, <http://adamite.igs.indiana.edu/index.htm>, jekirby@indiana.edu

So many resources revolving around the theme of water exist, but we have attempted to give you a glimpse of a few that may lead you in additional directions. Adopt-A-River through the Hoosier Riverwatch Program of the same title, or look for local waterways “Friends of ...” groups that your students can work with. Learn water quality testing, management techniques, and much more by working with curriculum from the Rivers Project. Contact your local Water Conservation District for details about water quality in your area. Borrow a traveling trunk from the Illinois/Indiana Sea Grant about zebra mussels and other invasive, non-indigenous creatures/plants that wreak havoc on our waterways. Obtain maps and geologic information about your home state from the Indiana Geological Survey. Also, learn the procedures to report water pollution and the research that follows by working with the Indiana Department of Environmental Management. If you are interested in Geographic Information Systems/Science, contact Layne Young of the City of Indianapolis/Marion County GIS Team to arrange a GIS-oriented, interactive presentation for your classroom. Let the GENI office know your ideas by completing the enclosed survey!