

Nevada Division of Environmental Protection, Keep Truckee Meadows Beautiful, Truckee Meadows Parks Foundation, Department of Agriculture, Nevada Department of Transportation and the Natural Resources Department of the Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribe are teaming up to put on a 2 day teacher training in Reno over the weekend of September 21st and 22nd in Reno.

The first day will be held at the former Rosewood Lakes Golf Course (now the site of a potential wetland restoration project which would include a nature study center) and is a Project WET (watershed education for teachers) training. It will include a field trip to a constructed wetland adjacent to the Truckee River near Pyramid Lake. This wetland is intended to treat stormwater runoff from the surrounding lands (mainly agricultural) and reduce pollutants going to the river and Pyramid Lake. The Nature Conservancy will also be providing a presentation about the river restoration projects they have upstream of Pyramid Lake. The remaining time will be spent learning how to use various and diverse activities from the Project WET activity guide to engage students in the issues and solutions around water resources in our area. Nevada Department of Transportation and Nevada Water Resources (flood awareness) will be co-facilitating the training. The field trip and guest speaker are intended to provide background information to teachers about local issues and solutions as they relate to river sustainability.

The second day will be held at the California Building on the Truckee River at Idlewild Park and will include KTMB's Warrior curriculum and a Sensory Garden experience. KTMB's Warrior education includes Waste Warriors, reducing and managing wastes properly, including refusing, reducing, reusing excess wastes and recycling properly. Watershed Warriors curriculum engages students in activities that increase their awareness and understanding of water resource issues and concepts. The Weed Warrior program teaches students about invasive weeds and the problems that they cause in our community. The Department of Agriculture will provide a presentation about noxious and invasive weeds. The participants will also go into the adjacent Sensory Garden and learn some outside, hands on activities that they can do with their younger students.

All grade bands are invited, as the covered materials can be tailored to most ages. The environmental training will have an emphasis on sustainability as it relates to our local communities.

Each training day will provide 0.5 renewal credits to teachers who participate entirely, with a total of 1.0 credits possible for the entire training. Teachers will be provided with materials and resources to take home. Teachers who attend both days will be entered into a drawing for a great prize (tbd - last year it was 2 nights stay at The Peppermill) It's a free training with lunch provided. KTMB will also host a wine social at the end of the second day, Sunday, September 22nd.

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