

2000 IAN/ICEC Conservation and Environmental Education Awards Announced

Aldo Leopold Environmental Education Award: *William Desmarais.*

This award commends a lifetime achievement in environmental education (EE) excellence and leadership. For over 30 years, William has taught secondary EE, volunteered for many state and local agencies, facilitated workshops, and been an active member of several environmental and science oriented associations locally, statewide, and nationally. Highlights include offering the only advanced placement environmental science course in Iowa and working for environmental legislation.

Bohumil Shimek Environmental Educator Award: *Linda Scheuermann.*

This award commends outstanding efforts by an environmental educator. Through her work as a fourth grade teacher in Story City, Scheuermann has shown herself to be an exceptional educator. She has developed curriculum used internationally, worked on several projects with state agencies, and raised funds with her students to release trumpeter swans locally. Scheuermann and her students met the governor as a result of their swan program.

"Ding" Darling Environmental Education Award: *Des Moines Water Works – Iowa Children's Water Festival.*

This award commends an outstanding environmental education program which informs and educates the general public. The Des Moines Water Works began the annual Iowa's Children Festival to raise awareness and knowledge of water resources. In the four years of the event 5,500 fifth grade students across Iowa have attended this free one day event full of interactive presentations, exhibits, and stage shows.

Chris Holt Youth Environmental Education Award: *Knoxville High School Science Club.*

This award commends an outstanding EE program for or by youth. This highly popular school club encourages students to become actively involved in stewardship for the environment. Over the last 25 years, students have planted over 100,000 trees, created and maintained butterfly gardens and outdoor classrooms, built bird houses, participate in wildlife surveys, and assisted researchers throughout the U.S. and Canada.

Outstanding County Conservation Board EE Program (pop. >35,000): *Hartman Reserve Nature Center, Black Hawk County Conservation Board.*

This award commends excellence in a county conservation board's EE program of counties with a population of over 35,000. Hartman Reserve supports a highly diverse educational program, including a new program center demonstrating "green" building practices. Another unique program is their Hartman Trail Tram for senior citizens. The Tram provides weekly interpretive trail rides through the warmer months.

Outstanding County Conservation Board EE Program (pop. <35,000): *Bremer County Conservation Board.*

This award commends excellence in a county conservation board's EE program of counties with a population of less than 35,000. For a small county, Bremer County aims high, serving over 19,000 people in the last year alone. This county sponsors a wide range of programming, including teacher workshops,

residential programs, county recycling programs, wildlife surveys, and a Rocky Mountain trip for local high-schoolers.