

Hello Students, Colleagues and Friends,

I know this e-mail will find all of you in some hot place! Hopefully, you've been able to take advantage of local rivers and lakes to help you keep your cool during July.

For me, July meant finishing a draft of a booklet - "Life Support: Tennessee's Water" for the Cumberland River Compact and TN Association of Utility Districts. We still have editing to go through but I think there's a lot of sustainability value there for the 4th-6th grade set! Next, CRC's Vena Jones will set forth creating the activity book which will accompany it - lots of fun and blue-green learning too!

I also finally visited my home town of Joplin. My home was a Tudor in a neighborhood cut from Americana Pie with tidy bungalow neighbors and shaded blocks. I include the picture of it not for sympathy, but so you will think about your sustainability impact for today - and after storms whether they are tornados in Tuscaloosa, hurricanes in the Big Easy or earthquakes in New Zealand. How does your work intersect with the realities of a planet and climate ever in motion? Does it fit the needs of the "have gots and the have nots"*? You can make a positive difference - not only in fair weather, but in foul. You can create resilience. Do so.



*Coined recently by Tavis Smiley on CNN when addressing the overall direction of societies based on the well-being of working and middle classes.

ON happier notes, EPA and Athens, TN partnered to create a GREAT instructional video on low-tech green infrastructure practices. I had to let you see THIS! The city's goal is to have this video viewed by 1,000 people in 10 days so you will be motivated to build rain gardens and use smarter growth practices in your community! I may use this as a primer for class but you all definitely ought to take a peek and forward it to others if you like!

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=d9MZUs2FGs8>

THIS one is just to let you know of its existence ... "The International Society of Sustainability Professionals has announced that it will establish the ISSP Sustainability Hall of Fame as a way to formally recognize individuals who have made significant contributions to the field of sustainability and to the professionals that serve it..."
<http://www.sustainabilityprofessionals.org/issp-sustainability-hall-fame>
Check out these folks and their work to broaden your sustainable horizon!

AS for Student News:

- Ed Wansing has been actively working on opposition to "the "BULB Act" (H.R. 91), which would repeal the energy efficiency standards for light bulbs that Congress enacted in 2007, standards that are already helping American households save money every month on their energy bills." Give him a yell for status and how you might get involved.
- Joseph Anthony Thomashefski has been busy setting up a sustainability website <http://www.sustainabletennessee.com/> where any of you can contribute stories that can serve other Tennesseans. Go Joe!
- Several of you have e-mailed that this year's Vermont trip was "inspirational" and at least one student had a professional epiphany about her direction in this fact-packed student outing. You may want to check out upcoming educational trips offered by ISP to round out your scholastic experience!

Until later, be well and -
Make a large impression with a small footprint,

Margo

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(If you've just received this single newsletter, it may be because I thought you'd be interested in this particular subject. You may or may not get others. If you want on my list regularly, e-mail me. If you want off my list, e-mail me. Thanks!)