

Web Calendar Allows Teachers to Book Programs Online

By Tim Whynot, Natural Resources Education Centre

Starting this fall, teachers will be able to visit the Department of Natural Resources website and view a calendar of upcoming program bookings at the Natural Resources Education Centre (NREC). To book a program, the user can identify available date(s) and request a booking. NREC staff will review the booking and then send an e-mail confirmation to the applicant. Teachers will be able to check the web calendar to confirm when their class will be visiting the centre.

As is currently the practice, a second followup confirmation will be sent by e-mail approximately six weeks before the visit. A confirmation can also be sent by regular mail or fax, if requested.

Improved teacher guides for each program are also being posted on the web as they are completed. An exciting program on Lichens is nearing completion and a new program on orienteering for Scouts is now available.

At least two-thirds of all class visits are spent in the McCurdy Educational Woodlot, where students can learn about natural resource management in a managed woodlot setting. Recent forest management activities and eight kilometres (five miles) of interpretive trails make the woodlot ideal for teaching about natural resource stewardship.

Teachers not familiar with NREC may want to call to discuss the programs with a staff member. You can reach us at (902) 384-3420 between 8:00 am and 4:00 pm. After hours, please leave a message on our answering machine.

Community groups will also be able to reserve the Chaswood Educational Woodlot (see article in this issue) through the web calendar.

Maps showing how to get to NREC, and a complete list of our programs by grade level, are available at <http://www.gov.ns.ca/natr/extension/centre/default.html>



Doug Craig of Truro was the winner of a Nature's Resorts poster featuring Five Islands Provincial Park. The poster was a prize in a contest conducted in provincial parks this summer for purchasers of a new pellet-wood product that can be used in place of traditional firewood.

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