



SOLV K-12 Education Programs: 2008-2009 School Year



Take Care of Oregon Days – May, 2009:

Happy 150th Birthday, Oregon! Join SOLV in the celebration!

Throughout the month of May, 2009 people from all over the state will join in *Take Care of Oregon Days*, a statewide initiative to engage Oregonians in a month of volunteer activities to keep Oregon beautiful, inside and out, for the next 150 years. This event is coordinated through a partnership between SOLV, Oregon Volunteers and Rural Development Initiatives.

SOLV can help you and your students prepare for and plan a service-learning project to make Oregon a better place for all of us to live.

Throughout the school year, SOLV's Education staff will:

- Introduce teachers to service-learning – how you can meet curricular goals through projects designed to “give back” to Oregon. Contact our staff to set up a training event at *your* school.
- Suggest project ideas for your class – “150 projects you can do to celebrate Oregon's 150th.” Check out our web site to download this resource.
- Provide project support – planning, coordinating and organizing advice, some supplies and small reimbursement grants for a selection of needed resources.

How can I learn more about SOLV's programs, and how they might apply to my school?

Please visit our web site at: www.solv.org/programs/k16_education.asp for descriptions of our program opportunities, as well as a number of introductory web-based service-learning curricular tools.

To speak to someone at SOLV who can best address your needs, please contact:

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When People Get Together, Things Get Done

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Since 1969, SOLV has been committed to civic engagement, “building community through volunteer action, to preserve this treasure called Oregon.” For the past nine years, SOLV has been working to develop a series of K-12 curricular materials and programs to support Oregon schools in service-learning.

Designed to meet the needs of Oregon teachers, students and their communities, SOLV's service-learning opportunities can be implemented with participation in a single event, in multiple events throughout the school year, or as an ongoing program.

Working in formal partnership with the Oregon Department of Education (ODE), we have built a variety of opportunities for students to meet academic standards in eleven content areas, to which our materials provide the related alignments.

Our programs and curricula are also a great resource for the new Oregon high school diploma requirements. All of our programs and curricula are aligned to the Career-Related Learning Standards; we even provide an assessment tool, to help track student proficiency and achievement. Students can take their work on a restoration activity and use that as a SOLV-supported Extended Application (or Senior Project). We are especially prepared to help students meet and demonstrate the new Essential Skill of “civic and community engagement,” providing students with multiple opportunities to “perform the civic and community responsibilities essential to living in a representative democracy.”



Service-learning is a teaching and learning strategy that intentionally integrates meaningful service to the community with school-based academic learning goals.

Through service-learning each SOLV education program supports both civic engagement and academic success.

SOLV offers educators and students the following resources:



Service-Learning Training:

Recommended by the Oregon Department of Education, SOLV staff provides training in service-learning methodology; in making the curricular connections; and in building community partnerships for sustainability. Each SOLV training opportunity is individually tailored to meet the goals of your group, and to encourage participants towards successful project implementation.



Service-Learning Curricula:

SOLV provides a comprehensive K-12 curriculum – *Students Building Community* – comprised of hundreds of restoration and community-building activity ideas aligned activity-by-activity to Oregon's academic standards across all content areas (from Arts to Technology). By special arrangement, SOLV can help develop appropriate service-learning restoration curriculum to meet specialized needs.



Project Planning Guides:

SOLV also offers grade-level appropriate service-learning project planning guides – *Make It Right* for middle to high school students, *R Oregon* for elementary school students – designed to integrate student voice and leadership in identifying, implementing and evaluating projects

that benefit their community.

Service-Learning Project Opportunities and Support:

SOLV is ready to provide logistical and on-site support and coaching to help teachers and students plan and implement restoration or community enhancement projects – often, in coordination with other SOLV programs (*Down By The Riverside*, *INTEL-SOLV Clean and Green Project*, *SOLV IT and Team Up for Watershed Health*).

Service-Learning Project Funding:

Most SOLV service-learning projects also provide selected free supplies, and are eligible for funding support in the form of small reimbursement grants to offset certain project expenses.

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Youth Leadership for Community Action:

This program, sponsored by The Ford Family Foundation, introduces leadership through service-learning and classroom curriculum to middle and high school students in selected rural Oregon communities. Students collaborate with adults, leading projects to address community priorities.

Green Team and Equipo Verde:

SOLV's education and watershed restoration staff have combined resources to provide two specialized service-learning opportunities:

- *Green Team* is a program for Portland Metro area classes (grades 6-12). Students work on watershed restoration at a SOLV-supported site and receive in-class and in-field instruction in the restoration cycle.
- *Equipo Verde* is a collaboration between SOLV and the Intel *4-H Tech Wizards Program*. Designed for Latino youth, *Equipo Verde* incorporates the *Green Team* experience into an after-school program at Forest Grove High School.



BioSwale Project:

Four different schools in Portland will be working with SOLV's restoration staff again in the 2008-09 school year to maintain bioswales on school grounds. Students will learn about the importance of managing storm water runoff while giving back to and improving their communities.

Senior Projects:

Introduced in 2007, a demonstrated "Extended Application" – or Senior Project – is required of all Oregon graduating seniors. With advanced consultation, SOLV may be able to provide sites and some coaching for high school seniors wishing to plan and implement their own restoration project. Students will work closely with SOLV staff throughout the process.

Education Sponsors*

SOLV gratefully acknowledges support for its education programs from the following:

Presenting Education Sponsor:



Major Education Sponsors:

- John Gray Charitable Fund of the Oregon Community Foundation
- Starbucks Foundation
- The Ford Family Foundation
- The Standard

Supporting Education Sponsors:

- Beaverton School District
- Juan Young Trust
- Oregon Department of Education
- The Ford Institute for Community Building
- The Swigert Foundation
- WARN Industries, Inc.

Additional support provided by:

- Intel Foundation
- Oregon Jewish Community Youth Foundation
- Portland Public Schools

* As of August, 2008

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