

# CLUSTER: Teaching for the Future

*A Creative Land Use Series for Teachers and Educator Resources*



A CONCEPTUAL GUIDE TO K-12 LAND USE ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION

## Teaching for the Future

### **CLUSTER: Creative Land Use Series for Teachers and Educator Resources**

Land use environmental education is aimed at developing an understanding of the relationship between land use decisions and the environment, along with the realization that the way in which land is used directly affects the environment. The ultimate goal of CLUSTER, a Creative Land Use Series for Teachers and Educator Resources, is to make resources, lessons and materials readily available to teach land use environmental education. The project aims to assist in the education of the next generation in order to produce thoughtful, engaged citizens that will see the connection between land use and the environment and will be compelled to act. Through this process we will generate a responsible citizenry that can make educated and sustainable, local and global decisions about future land use.

#### [CLUSTER: Teaching for the Future](#)

A Conceptual Guide to K-12 Land Use Environmental Education

The Creative Land Use Series for Teachers and Educator Resources was developed to provide a conceptual guide for K-12 formal and non-formal educational institutions regarding land use environmental education. CLUSTER offers educators a unique land use guide that provides the conceptual framework, a suggested scope and sequence, and an extensive resource guide. Until now there has been no complete, validated conceptual framework, comprehensive resource for educators to utilize in the development of land use curriculum materials. The conceptual guide offers educators two great tools to quickly learn about land use and also to begin incorporating land use topics and issues into their existing curriculum.

The guide contains active hyperlinks to the referenced resources. Just click and go.

#### [Supplement to the CLUSTER Conceptual Guide](#)

Examples of Lessons, Activities, and Implementation Plans

This guide is based on Wisconsin Model Academic Standards. The examples were written by educators from across the nation and can provide examples of how the CLUSTER concepts and guide are applicable nationally. These examples were included to provide educators a framework and ideas for developing lessons for their individual communities and classrooms. Some of these lessons are in-depth and others are simple. The lessons cover numerous subjects and grade levels.

<http://www.uwsp.edu/cnr/landcenter/cluster/guide.html>

#### [On-Line Educator Training Course](#)

There is strong support regarding environmental issues such as land use, although it may be the lack of knowledge on these issues that are holding people back from being able to take effective actions towards sustainable land use. The development of an on-line course in land use environmental education will introduce and familiarize current and aspiring educators with the concepts, issues, ideas, and available resources relating to the topic of land use and have them be able to use, adapt and create activities/lessons for specific land use topics and materials. This online course can help educators see the interdisciplinary nature of land use environmental education and show them how to infuse land use into school programs. Also, the development of the CLUSTER Course will provide educators and students the flexibility to do the course at their own time, pace and place. This on-line course will provide complete lessons that will allow the educators to learn the lessons in depth with built in notes, tips, quick references, links, and simulations with exercises and practice files that will increase the retention, the level of involvement and keep the materials fresh. CLUE will strive to make distance education relevant and interactive, so that educators want to continue learning. Also, the program will be designed to make the learning convenient and fun. This course will be offered through the University of Stevens Point for graduate or continuing education credits.

For more information or to register for this course, go to course website for [Natural Resources 780 - Land Use Education and Resources for Teachers](#) – [www.uwsp.edu](http://www.uwsp.edu)