

Teacher Resource List – outdoor education and forests
Maine Project Learning Tree
Summer 2009

- ***Newcomb's Wildflower Guide***, Lawrence Newcomb
Little, Brown & Company
- ***Interpreting Our Heritage*** by Freeman Tilden
The University of North Carolina Press

“Tilden wrote about fundamentals – the guiding principles and underlying philosophy of the interpreter’s art & craft. As pioneer of interpretive philosophy and recognized father of modern park interpretation, Tilden, through *Interpreting Our Heritage*, has made a profound mark on the park conservation movement in America.”

- ***Best Management Practices for Forestry: Protecting Maine's Water Quality***
Department of Conservation, The Maine Forest Service

This handbook describes Best Management Practices, or BMP’s, for protecting water quality during forest harvests. The BMP’s include a wide range of recommended techniques that can be used before, during, and after logging operations. Loggers, foresters, and scientists from Maine and other states have developed these techniques from their own practical experience and research.

- ***Forest Trees of Maine, Centennial Edition 1908 – 2008*** Maine Forest Service,
Department of Conservation
- ***The Alphabet of Trees – A Guide to Nature Writing***, Edited by Christian McEwen &
Mark Statman Published by: Teachers & Writers Collaborative, New York, 2000
- ***Last Child in the Woods – Saving Our Children from Nature-Deficit Disorder*** by
Richard Louv
Published by: Algonquin Books of Chapel Hill, 2006
- ***Bringing Nature Home – How You Can Sustain Wildlife with Native Plants*** by
Douglas W. Tallamy. Published by Timber Press, 2007

“Tallamy recognizes the changing dynamics of our world and suggests how individual gardeners, collectively, can protect and conserve the local biological diversity that is truly vital and irreplaceable..... this book asks and answers essential questions for modern gardeners inclined to good stewardship.”

- ***Maine Amphibians and Reptiles*** edited by Malcolm L. Hunter, Jr., Aram J. K.
Calhoun, & Mark McCollough. Published by the University of Maine Press, Orono
1999
- ***The Trees in my Forest*** by Bernd Heinrich. Harper Collins Publishers 1997

“At the farm, I was mainly interested in looking for birds’ nests, fishing, raising butterflies and moths from caterpillars, and, on occasional nights, chasing after raccoons with the baying hound

down in the swamp by Pease Pond. There were rare and secretive birds here and even rarer and more mysterious insects. All lived in the trees in the surrounding forest that seemed to go on forever.”

- ***Understanding By Design*** by Grant Wiggins and Jay McTighe. Published by the Association for Supervision and Curriculum Development, 1998

“Troubled by the inadequacy of multiple-choice tests, educators began in the 1980’s to look for better ways to assess student learning. Now, after a decade of thoughtful experimentation with tasks, rubrics, exhibitions, and portfolios, our profession has reached a milestone. In numerous districts and schools, educators now feel comfortable developing, administering, and scoring performance tasks. And – because there is no point teaching to an ambitious standard if your assessment misses the mark – today’s emphasis on standards is moving performance assessment from a trendy innovation to an accepted element of good teaching and learning.”

- ***The Life Cycle of Everyday Stuff*** by Mike Reeske and Shirley Watt Ireton. Published by NSTA Press 2001

“NSTA designed instructional units to help you and your students explore a new tool – life cycle assessment. Parallel to living things, material products also have a ‘birth, life, and death’ – a life cycle. For a material product, these steps include design, raw materials, manufacturing and distributing, useful life, and disposal or reuse. Life cycle assessment is a relatively new tool for science and economics. A life cycle assessment (LCA) – also called a cradle-to-grave analysis – looks at the environmental impact of the total life of a product. Its goals are to minimize the product’s negative or unplanned effects and maximize the product’s usefulness and profit. With these goals, the design of the product ultimately affects each stage of its life cycle. This book uses common products, such as the telephone, to illustrate how LCA works.”

- **PBS National Parks special** to be aired in six two-hour segments beginning 9/27/09: www.pbs.org/nationalparks
- oldfilm.org
Stump to Ship 28 minute DVD, \$19.95
- **Maine Natural Areas Program**
www.maine.gov/doc/nrimc/mnap/

The Maine Natural Areas Program (MNAP), within the [Maine Department of Conservation](http://www.maine.gov/doc/nrimc/mnap/), serves Maine's citizens as the most comprehensive source on the State's important natural features. With landowner permission, the Program inventories lands that support rare and endangered plants, rare natural communities and ecosystems, and outstanding examples of more common natural communities and ecosystems. MNAP also provides objective and comprehensive information to equip decision-makers with the necessary tools to make informed and responsible decisions.

MNAP continues a strong commitment to conserving natural areas. The Program maintains a cross-referenced data management system containing current and historical information about natural features from across Maine. This information is shared with other state agencies, town planners, land trusts, and other groups interested in natural resource and conservation planning.

- <http://www.natureserve.org/>

A network connecting science with conservation providing the scientific basis for effective conservation, NatureServe and its network of natural heritage programs are the trusted source for information about rare and endangered species and threatened ecosystems.

- <http://www.maine.gov/dep/blwq/docstream/team/streamteam.htm>

[Maine Stream Team Program](#)

Jeffrey.T.Varricchione@maine.gov (Program Coordinator), 207-822-6317

The Maine Stream Team Program (MSTP) is a network of people concerned about Maine's streams as well as a clearinghouse of information intended to support stream protection activities. A "stream team" is a group of people who have banded together to promote stewardship of their local stream.

- *The Lobster Coast* by Colin Woodard

In this riveting history of his native state, award-winning journalist Colin Woodard reveals Mainers' increasingly difficult struggle to hold on to their communities and the early American ideals that have sustained them. *The Lobster Coast* tells a story as big as America itself, from the formative experiences of the colonial era to the perils of failing to conserve a cultural and environmental heritage in the face of uncontrolled growth and development.

- *Reading the Forested Landscape: A Natural History of New England* by Tom Wessels (Antioch College)

Landscape is much more than scenery to be observed or even terrain to be traveled, as this fascinating and many-layered book vividly shows us. Etched into the land is the history of how we have inhabited it, the storms and fires that have shaped it, and its response to these and other changes.

- *Changes in the Land: Indians, Colonists, and the Ecology of New England* by William Cronon (New York: Hill and Wang, 1983, 20th anniversary edition, 2003)

The book investigates the ecological effects of European settlement of New England between 1600 and 1800. In addition to discussing the Europeans' social impact on indigenous peoples, the book closely examines ways that forests, soils, animal populations, and terrain were affected, and how practical, philosophical, and legal approaches to land and land use were transformed during the period. It offers a useful and interesting historical context for considering the changes that have occurred since the industrial and technological revolutions.

- *A Sand County Almanac* by Aldo Leopold

A Sand County Almanac is a wonderful book about conservation and the need for a human conscience towards the use of land. The first twelve chapters are great descriptions of nature and the way [plants and animals](#) interact with each other for survival. The following chapters are about

different places that the narrator has visited, and he takes the reader through amazing journeys through his memories. The final chapters are about the need to create a social conscience towards [the environment](#) and the land. Land ethic is the main argument of this book. It states that people should care less about what they can gain monetarily from the land, and more about what they can gain in the long run from engaging in long term sustainability of it.

➤ **“Tragedy of the Commons”** - an article by G. Hardin

From Wikipedia: "**The Tragedy of the Commons**" is an influential article written by [Garrett Hardin](#) and first published in the journal *Science* in 1968. The article describes a dilemma in which multiple individuals acting independently in their own self-interest can ultimately destroy a shared limited resource even when it is clear that it is not in anyone's long term interest for this to happen.

Central to Hardin's article is a metaphor of herders sharing a common parcel of land, on which they are all entitled to let their cows graze. In Hardin's view, it is in each herder's interest to put as many cows as possible onto the land, even if the commons are damaged as a result. The herder receives all of the benefits from the additional cows, while the damage to the commons is shared by the entire group. If all herders make this individually rational decision, however, the commons are destroyed and all herders suffer.

A similar alleged dilemma of the commons had previously been discussed by early agrarian reformers since the 18th century. The predecessors of Hardin used the alleged tragedy, as well as a variety of examples of the Greek Classics, to motivate the [Enclosures](#). Radkau sees Garrett Hardin's writings as having a different aim. Hardin asks for a strict management of global common goods via increased government involvement or/and international regulation bodies.