

sustainable living

For PCEI, our slogan, "connecting people, place, and community" means exploring common solutions to diverse societal and environmental issues. Imagine, for an instance, collecting the rainwater from your office building, and using the power of the sun to move that water to a thirsty garden. Imagine that garden growing produce to supply local food banks with healthy vegetables. Imagine this is all possible through the innovation and elbow grease of high school students working hard to stay on a college track.



Looking north at the solar panel, the water catchment tank, the guests at the PCEI celebration and the pantry garden in the distance. Photos: PCEI

That is the thinking behind a recent project on the PCEI Rodeo campus. PCEI's AmeriCorps Member, Community Outreach Specialist Jim Ekins, teamed up with the University of Idaho's Upward Bound Engineering instructor, Aaron Kraft, to create a demonstration project in sustainable living. Upward Bound encourages hands-on and classroom experience in a variety of fields to keep students on track for college. Jim, Aaron, and the following students:

- | | | |
|---------------|-----------------|------------------|
| Mike Morris | Audrey Sedgwick | Janette Garcia |
| Chelsea Almas | Ivan Guzman | Rosa Lupercio |
| Megan Nolan | Luis Mendoza | Francisco Zavala |
| | | William George |

worked furiously for nearly two weeks to install a solar-powered pump system to provide the Backyard Harvest's Pantry Garden with rainwater collected from the roof of PCEI's office building, the Perrine House. Kudos to all those who worked in mid-July heat to finish this forward-thinking project! See page 6 for details.



Who's who at PCEI

Thomas C. Lamar
Executive Director

Jen Hiebert
Receptionist

Alycia R. Lamar
Membership Coordinator

Laurie Gardes
Financial Manager

Tracy Brown
Watersheds Program Director

Greg Fizzell
Education Program Director

Erin Rishling
AmeriCorps Placement Director

Sara Robson Cucksey
Watersheds Project Manager

Courtney Rush
Volunteer Coordinator

Colleen McColl
AmeriCorps Placement Coordinator

Rachael Goetzelman
AmeriCorps Placement Coordinator

Jenica Wood-Beauchamp
Environmental Education Specialist

Karla Bradley
MOSS Director of Education

AmeriCorps Members

Education

Jim Ekins
Caroline Richardson
Heidi Weaver

Watershed Restoration

Maryse Barker
John Sudgen
Talina Gossen
Isaak Julye

Mobile Environmental Education Corps

Jacob Dolence, Claire Foster, Jannis Jocius,
Jennifer Kullgren, Scott Kyser, Tara Maline,
Sara Melancen, Andrew Morrisson, Christina
Newberry, Cailin O'Brien Feeney, Lauren
Perreault, Michelle Pivec, Lauriel Schuman

PCEI, PO Box 8596 Moscow, Idaho 83843
208-882-1444 fax: 208-882-8029
email: <info@pcei.org>
visit: <www.pcei.org>

Fall 2007 Events Calendar

October

October 17, Wednesday: PCEI Board Meeting, Rodeo Drive, 6:30pm
October 19, Friday: Grangeville Watershed Festival (Rylaarsdam)
October 20, Saturday: Flannigan Creek Event (Broyles), Viola
October 24, Wednesday: WSU EcoAdventure at Rose Creek, 5:00pm – 7:00pm

November

November 3 & 4: Non-Profit Day at the Palouse Mall
November 14, Wednesday: PCEI Board Meeting, Rodeo Drive, 6:30pm

December

December 4, Tuesday: PCEI Holiday Party and Annual Membership Meeting
December 12, Wednesday: PCEI Board Meeting, Rodeo Drive, 6:30pm

Please see our web calendar for more details: <www.pcei.org/calendar.htm>

* Work Days and Plant Sales are from 10:00am – 2:00pm.

Questions? Contact Courtney Rush, Volunteer Coordinator (208) 882-1444 or <crush@pcei.org>

PCEI Wish List Fall '07

- 2 person 3-season tents (3)
- Camping stove (1)
- Camping cookset (2)
- Spatula (2)
- Mixing spoon (4)
- Camp plates (8)
- Camp silverware (for 8)
- Horse cady
- Wrench set
- Adjustable wrench
- Week wacker and blades
- Gardening flash cards
- First aid kit (2)
- Vice grips
- Diesel pick up truck
- Hydromulcher/seedler
- Flatbed trailer
- Apple laptop
- Laser jet printer
- Outdoor storage shed

Support PCEI!

- Please contact me about volunteering
- Friends of the Palouse-Clearwater \$150
- Palouse Protector/Family \$75
- Basic Membership \$35
- Limited income/Student \$15
- Additional gift of \$ _____
- Please keep my membership anonymous
- Yes, I want to renew my membership
- Please direct my gift to the following program:
- Environmental Education
- Community Garden
- Watersheds
- VanPool/Transportation
- Endowment gift of \$ _____
- Capital campaign gift of \$ _____

Name _____
Address _____
City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____
Email _____

**Palouse-Clearwater
Environmental Institute**
Mail to: PCEI POBox 8596 Moscow, ID 83843

Backyard Harvest Continues to Grow

By Amy Grey, BYH Coordinator

The Backyard Harvest's second season is a success so far. Produce donations have made their way from local gardens and farms to area food banks and senior meal programs. We are also piloting several new projects, which seek to better the 4,500 lbs of fruits, and vegetables we collected last year. Our Grow More to Share More initiative, for instance, has given out dozens of free seeds and plant starts at the Moscow Farmer's market to people interested in planting an extra row for donation. The Lena Whitmore Roots and Shoots Club, meanwhile, helped design and assemble cucumber container garden kits this spring, which went home with second graders to take care for. Over 100 local trees are registered for gleaming with the Town Orchard initiative and over 50 volunteers have helped in all aspects of the project.

If you are interested in finding out more about the project, volunteering or making a donation please visit our website at www.backyardharvest.org or call 208-669-2259.



Amy Grey visits with PCEI member, Gail Desantis during Moscow's Saturday Farmer's Market. Photo: Ariel Agenbroad

Nursery News

By Isaak Strout, AmeriCorps Nursery Garden Technician

Good news from the Learning Nursery! With our expanding stock of native plants (we're up to nearly 14,000!) has come the daunting task of keeping them all watered through the heat of summer. Until now, we have only managed to ration water to the plants with the help of an army of dedicated, hose-wielding volunteers who have given up countless hours to hand water each and every pot. While hand watering works well, we are in the process of installing a drip irrigation system in a portion of the nursery that will save both time and water. The drip system will slowly deliver water to the root zone of each plant, keeping them healthy and happy and reducing water usage by up to 35 percent! The system will be running soon, so make sure to check it out when you come to the nursery for our fall plant sales!

UPDATES

Message from the Board President

By John Thielbahr, PCEI Board President

There is a national movement stirring to reconnect our children with nature, and your PCEI is right in the middle of it. In the spirit of "One Person Can Make a Difference," author Richard Louv wrote a book called *Last Child in the Woods* two years ago. In his book, Louv pulls together all the growing and compelling research that shows the harm that has been done to our children from being disconnected from nature, why and how it happened, and what can be done about it. This is important not only for the health of our children, it is important for our environment, because if the only world our children know is virtual, how can they become the stewards of our environment in the future.

At a leadership meeting I attended in Minneapolis on August 8-10 with Louv and Cheryl Charles, President of the Children and Nature Network (www.cnaturenet.org), and 70 others from around the country, Louv expanded the impact of our disconnect with nature. What is at stake, he said, is no less than the spiritual renewal of all human beings. There is no substitute for being in nature and experiencing the connectedness of all things: listening, watching, smelling, touching, digging, exploring. Louv invokes our memories of our own childhood, of that special place in nature that we experienced and loved, and that we continually go to in our minds when life's challenges appear, even if those places no longer exist. I have such a place, and I know many of you do also. Our children, in their bedrooms playing videogames or watching TV or talking on cell phones with iPods in their ears, won't have those special places to go to if they don't experience nature.

PCEI recently received a Louv grant from the US Forest Service called *More Kids in the Woods* (see <http://www.pcei.org/education/>), and because of that grant, Greg Fizzell and his team have taken scores of children into nature so they, too, can find their special places. PCEI wants to do more of this. If you care about our children, please donate to PCEI to get *More Kids in the Woods*. Thank you for caring.



PCEI Board President, John Thielbahr visits with AmeriCorps Members Mandie Schoenburg and Talina Gossen at a recent PCEI event. Photo: PCEI

Good-bye and WELCOME!

Thank You Jake!

PCEI would like to give our very best wishes to Jake Smulkowski who is leaving his position as Environmental Education Specialist. He will be returning to the University of Idaho to pursue a teaching certificate in elementary education in the Fall 2007. Jake started at PCEI in 2003 as a Graduate Resident at the McCall Outdoor Science School. He continued by serving two years as an AmeriCorps member in PCEI's Environmental Education program. He finished his service as a staff member in the EE office. Jake was an important part of the growth experienced in the EE program over the last several years. His contribution will be missed, but we understand his passion for teaching and believe his talents will be a great asset to students wherever he chooses to teach. Good luck Jake!

PCEI's Newest Members



Enjoy an outdoor meeting in the sun at PCEI's Rodeo Campus. Gracie Lynn Rishling and Kobe Finch Brown. Photo: PCEI

If you have not already heard the great news, PCEI staff members Tracy Brown and Erin Rishling gave birth to two gorgeous babies this summer! Tracy (our Watersheds Program Director) and her husband Alan Brown had a healthy baby boy named Kobe Finch < <http://www.gritman.org/stork/mybaby.asp?stork=3721>>. Erin (Community Outreach Program Director) and her husband Greg Fizzell (Environmental Education Program Director) gave birth to a healthy baby girl, Gracie Lynn < <http://www.gritman.org/stork/mybaby.asp?stork=3739>>. PCEI staff and Board of Directors extend their most heartfelt congratulations and are providing a welcoming work environment for the new parents. Congratulations!

PCEI staff, members, and new mothers, Erin Rishling and Tracy Brown with PCEI's newest members, Gracie Lynn and Kobe Finch. Photo: PCEI



Welcome to PCEI, Jen Hiebert!



Jen is joining the PCEI staff after recently moving to Moscow from Carbondale, Illinois. Born and raised in northern Manitoba, Canada, she developed a love for the outdoors and a passion for environmental issues. She has been a field assistant working with every-

thing from fish eggs to seal pups, has taught self-defense for women, and most recently was Front End Manager at a natural foods co-op in southern Illinois. She also has a BS in Ecology and a Master's in Watershed Ecosystems. She has enjoyed living in many places including France and New Zealand but thinks Moscow just might be "the perfect picnic spot". Jen loves cold weather, photography, music, spending time with her husband and family, and spoiling her dog, AJ. Jen is PCEI's receptionist extraordinaire.

Welcome to PCEI, Jenica Wood-Beauchamp!

PCEI is proud to welcome Jenica Wood-Beauchamp to its Environmental Education Program. Jenica's roots lie in upstate New York, where she grew up playing outside and spending long hours exploring her family's garden, pond, and stream. After earning her B.S. in Natural Resources Planning and Interpretation at Humboldt State University,



Jenica taught at several non-formal education settings: two residential outdoor schools, Yellowstone National Park, Mount St. Helens, the Santa Barbara Zoo, and the Pacific Science Center. In 2005 Jenica returned to school for her M.Ed. in Environmental Education through Western Washington University. This program included a year-long professional residency at the North Cascades Institute's Environmental Learning Center in which she lived, worked, learned, and played within sight of glaciers. Jenica joined the PCEI community in August 2007; she is excited to learn about the Palouse and utilize her place-based experiences. When she's not working in the office, you might catch her hiking, plunking away on her guitar, knitting Christmas

Thank You For Your Support!

2007 MEMBERS/SUPPORTERS OF PCEI

Chenoweth, Candace
 Taper, Christopher
 Skyles, Barbara
 Reed, Marilyn
 Lambacher, Gary
 Edwards, Gerald
 Gillis, Jackson and Patricia
 Jussaume, Ray
 Johnson, Diane and Joe
 Argersinger, Jana
 Brians, Paul
 Ullrich, Steven
 Baldwin, Gina
 Beiser, Michael and Teresa
 Charpentier, Paul
 Cusack, Clara
 DePhelps, Colette
 Farley, Jen
 Guettler, Brenda
 Howle, Kelly
 Kent, Miriam and Arceneaux, Don
 Lorincz, Daniella (Donna)
 Martens, Ashley and Palmer, Noel
 Meyers, Judy
 Morton, Richard and Dee
 Omoto, Charlotte
 Thyberg, Robert
 Taylor, Bruce
 Seever, Victoria
 Rush, Courtney and Jonathan
 Stephan, Kirsten
 Weiner, Meika
 Wells-Tanimoto, Lynn and Tanimoto, Phillip
 Rose, Alan and Nicole
 Stoszek, Karl and Milena
 Ames, Lela
 Anderson, John R.
 Bingham, Richard and Roberta
 Kaag, Cynthia and Don
 Karp, Frank and Grace
 Magnuson, Dana and Ellen
 Montgomery, Kay and Monty
 Masson, Ann
 Sreenivasan, Jyotsna and Winstein, Mark
 Cisneros, Jason
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 Fearn, Ben
 Gibler, Gabe
 Hill, Carol
 Jacobson, Erik
 Manning, Brenda
 Paul, Theresa
 Pleron, Andriette and Boersema, Hannah
 Rae, Megan
 Westgate, Brian
 Idaho Environmental Education Association (IDEEA)
 Ackerman, Andrew and Maeda-Ackerman, Wakana
 Adams, Anne
 Adams, Art and Bonnie
 Albrecht, Frank and Lin
 Alford, Joana and Nathan
 Anawalt, Loretta and Bruce
 Anderson, Miranda and John
 Audin, Lisa
 Baker, James and Nancy
 Banks, Molly
 Baumgart, Diane and Schreck, Myron
 Bean, Linda and Ben
 Beerman, Kathy and McGeehan, Steven
 Bennett, Shelley
 Berger, Myrtle and Berger and Peter D.
 Berman, Carolyn and Prall, Jim
 Beutel, Marc and Deprano, Maria
 Billin, Geoffrey and Susan
 Blackburn, Lois
 Bode, Ruth
 Brackney, Elisabeth and Kevin
 Brewer, Anna and Laurence
 Bridges, George and Gitta
 Brown, Tracy and Alan
 Broyles, Elaine and Richard
 Buehler, David and Paige
 Butters, MaryJane and Ogle, Nick
 Carloye, Jack and Mary
 Carrico, Zekla
 Chaney, Nancy and Bryan, Gary
 Chastain, Becky and Willard, Henry
 Clark, Carol and Singleton, Joseph
 Cook, Philip and Kim
 Costello, Pat and Fladager, Donna Kay
 Cousins, Sharon and Yeldel, Josh
 Crawford Carlson, Heather and Carlson, Ryan
 Cronin, Amanda
 Cucksey, Ellis and Robson Cucksey, Sara
 Dakins, Maxine
 Davies, Deborah and Lowenstein, Marc
 Dawes, Denny
 Dearien, Christy and Jason
 Dibble, Margaret and Martin
 Donich, Terrell and Candis
 Donohoe, Gregory and Mary
 Dozier, Dick and Dody
 Eckwright, Gail and Terry
 Eder, Sid and Renee
 Fosberg, Margaret and Maynard
 Tonnmaker, Kole and Sonia

Fowler, Norman and Brown, Helen
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 Fulford, Polly and Taze
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 Gardner, Brian and Trish
 Garnett, David and Pierce-Garnett, Cynthia
 Garton, Oz and Virginia
 Gash, Wayne
 George, Archie and Mary
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 Giddings, Mary and Babcock, Ginna
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 Gilmore, Shelly
 Goodrich, Robert and Rebecca
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 Grey, Amy and Warner, Mark
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 Gropp, Art and Barbara
 Grosse, Ashley and Appleton, Andrew
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 Hazen, Michelle
 Heinlein, Mark and Nabeta, Yoshimi
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 Hoffman Gittins, Eleanor
 Holmquist, Antone
 Hubble, Annie
 Jaeckel, Brad and Kate
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 Johnson, Lei Ann and Roger
 Kalmus, Johanna
 Kalmus, Julia
 Kane, Stephanie and Patton, Steven J.
 Kaytes, Jolie
 Kendall, Janet
 Kitterman, Mat and Heffernan, Heidi
 Klemesrud, Megan and Greg
 Klownen, Anne and Marc
 Kohler, Tim and Von Seggern, Marilyn
 Kohler, Marilynn and Steve
 Korus, Jean and Roger
 Kramer, Edward
 Kutsko, Greg and Stephanie
 La Fortune, Kathleen and Jim
 Lamar, Tom and Aly
 Lamar, Steve and Heidi
 Landeck, Ron and Wyatt, Deb
 Lanier, Glen and Sanchez Lanier, Mary
 Lester, Gary and Pfeifer, John
 LeTourneau, Duane and Phyllis
 Levy, Buddy and Camie
 Lindholdt, Paul and Karen
 Lovrich, Nicholas and Katherine
 Lund, Sandra
 Macvie, Meagan
 McColl, Colleen and Merrill, Alex
 McCoskey, Lisa
 McDaniel, Sarah
 McFarland, Ron and Toppe, Georgia
 Mead, Heidi and Rod
 Meier, Lori
 Meldrum, Barbara and Ronald
 Michalson, Doddy and Ed
 Mickelsen, Carl and Brun, Kappy
 Mifflin, Robert
 Miller, Isabel and Daniel
 Miller, Walter and Janet
 Minagil, Stephen and Loretta
 Moffett, David and Stacia
 Möller, Greg and Laurie
 Moore, Ryan and AnneMarie
 Morgan, Cori and Robert
 Muir, Margery and Earl
 Mullen, Martha
 Murray, Lynn and Vincent
 Myers, Gary
 Nelson, Ivar and Hart, Pat
 Newell, Scott and Kelly
 Nilan, Robert and Winona
 Norton, Linda and Steven
 O'Leary, Lisa and Watkinson, John
 Pall, Linda
 Palmer, Susan and Othberg, Kurt
 Pavis, Tim
 Peckham, Dave
 Pellmyr, Olle and Augenstein, Elise
 Pike, Linda and Bob
 Porter, Cathy and Jack
 Sajwaj, Todd
 Varco, Heather and Nelson, Michael
 Stelman, Barbara and William
 Thomas, Dorothy and Stan
 Scott, Pat
 Torok, Eric and Lauren
 Swift, Charles and Stenkamp, Deborah
 Reeves, Gloria
 Schmidt, Dan and Martha
 Southwick, Chris and Nora
 Reich, Vicki
 Sprague, Linda and Roderick
 Trail, David and Suzanna
 Schmidt, Terri and Bob

VanZant, Alix and Peter
 Trail, Jo Ann and Tom
 Regelin, Louise and Sherman, Dave
 Swanson, B.J.
 VanOrmer, Chad
 Shaffer, Bruce and Lisa
 Traynor, Tim and Ziring, Sarah
 Talbott, Mrs. John
 Sullivan, Jack and Liz
 Thompson, Melissa
 Ray, Dorothy and Roger
 Savage, Nancy
 Skinner, David
 Robison, Laura
 Stiller, David and Helen
 Sharp, Rose Marie
 Rabe, Fred
 Thiem, Ellen
 Swenson, Kathryn
 Ringo, John and Shirley
 Queener, Nathan
 Sprague, Nancy and Phillips, Bill
 Prorak, Diane and Poplawsky, Al
 Styer, Bill
 Roberts, Jan and Jim
 Rod, Rebecca and Beaver, Theresa
 Swanson, BJ and Cliff
 Sorem, Judith
 Sarai-Clark, Wilhelmina
 Vollmer, David
 Voxman, Mary
 Walker Rice, Betty and Rice, E.A.
 Wandschneider, Mary and Phil
 Wegman, Ronne and Jerry
 Wells, Steve and Carole
 West, Dennis and Joan
 Williams, Gary and Passanante, Joy
 Woolston, Bill and Kendall Woolston, Donna
 Wright, Gerry and Harley
 Wykoff, Bill and Joan
 Roscow, Nina
 Cassidy, Patricia and Jorgensen, Randy
 Calvert, Jim and Susan
 Elwood, John and Burkhardt, Sally
 Fiske, Janet
 Painter, Diana
 Weddell, Bertie and Jim
 Barber, David and Louise
 Bearman, Jessica and Drummond, Christopher
 Bird, Kenton and Saylor, Gerri
 Campbell, Jean and Ken
 Canary, Linda and Gale, Jim
 Caselton Lowe, Carrie and Lowe, Nate
 Christenson, Linda and Charles
 Cross, Bert
 Eareckson, Lee Anne and Gorman, Tom
 Edwards, Dean and Linda
 Falke, Karen
 Holmes, Evan and Nancy
 Holup, Sara and John
 Klingler, George and Joan
 Knowles, Mary Joand Atwood, Randy
 McCloskey, Elinor
 McDaniel, Paul and Lichthardt, Juanita
 Medlin, Ken and Betty
 Nichols, Cynthia and Bonte, Bill
 Stormo, Keith and Mary
 Wagenbrenner, Joe
 Wulfhorst, J.D. and Parker, Julia
 Yenglin, Keely

Allredge, Rich and Meuth, Judy
 Bassingthwaite, James and Victoria
 Bettis, Pam and Gregson, James
 Bice, Trent and Jodi
 Calkins, Bruce
 Cooley, Jim and Zoe Ann
 Crowley, Don and Hall, Janis
 DeSantis, Gail and Mark
 Eaton, Nikki and Joe
 Estocin-Klaiber, Jane and Klaiber, Peter Jay
 Fizzell, Richard and Zoe Ann
 Fox, Larry
 Freed, Jane
 Goodman, Betsy and Davis, John
 Grant, Connie
 Groseclose, Brian
 Halter, Brad
 Harris, Chuck and Kris
 Hiebert, Jennifer and Wilhelm, Frank
 Hornel, LT and Elkins, Jim
 Howard, Yvonne
 Hunter, Corinne and Jay
 Jones, Jeff and Jane
 Judge, John and Mary Ann
 Kawula, Mary
 Kearney, Kathleen and Robert
 Kurtz, Suzanne
 Kyte, Michael and Ford, Marti
 Lambeth, Douglas and Suzanne
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 Mazur, Amy and Rosa, Eugene
 McNally, Renee
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 Sullivan, Brandy and Jack
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 Sutton, Charles and Joanne
 Stroschein, Tom and Ruby
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 Staab, Robert and Sylvia
 Webb, Carolea and Wright MD, Bruce
 Whipple, Eileen and James
 Cooper, Garf and Ursula
 Driver, Toney
 Firor, Susan and John
 Firor, Lissa
 Firor Family
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 Laflin, Maureen
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 Mika, Cynthia and Peter
 Moffitt, Christine
 Nelson, Mike and Nancy
 Owen, Mike and Spitzer, Alice
 Talbott, Chris and Steven
 Topping, Traci and Nissen, Mark
 Thomson, Dorothy
 Salant, Priscilla
 Sheneman, Jenny and Luke
 Swett, Sarah and Edwards, Dan

Ashmun, Louise and Allen, Paul
 Beckley, Gregg
 Binninger, Hannah and Jon
 Bolt, Jan and Jennifer
 Boyd, Ray
 Bradberry, Brent and Donna
 Brown, Gary
 Collins-Warner, Nancy and Warner, Chris
 Cordon, Jenine and Dan
 Cosens, Barbara
 Craft, Rebecca and Vaughan, Joseph
 Force, Jo Ellen and Ron
 Gier, Nick and Adele, Gail
 Hilding, Tina and Walden, Von
 Hilken, Steve
 Hill, Crag and Schneider, Laurie Beth
 Hoyt, David
 Husa, Sonia and Thielbahr, John
 Jenness, Ben and Pat
 Jette, Cindi
 Koerber, Sarah
 Lamar, Margot and Stan
 Lawrence, John and Wendy
 McCreight, Lynne
 Melina, Carl and Lois
 Silvernale Shook, Mary and Shook, Steven
 Rumburg, Brian and Filippy, Jenny
 Thompson, Bill and Frances
 Thornbrough, Wayne and Barbara
 Thornbrough, Adam and Crayne, Keri
 Trail, Julie and Martin
 Walden, Von and Hilding, Tina
 Blanchard, Alane and Roger
 Brigham, Tom
 Grunewald, Bob and Marjorie
 Du Pree, Mary and Hume, Mark
 Fedale, Scott and Karri
 Hamilton, Joel and Mary Jo
 Parks, Bill and Donna
 Thomson, Bill and McClure, Wendy
 Wells, Barbara and Richard
 Von Wandruszka, Brenda and Rob
 McHale, Jeanne and Knorr, Fritz
 Reece, Jim and Hine, Patricia
 Owens, Pauli
 Renfrew, Carol and Malcolm
 Littlejohn, Margaret
 Alvarez, Patty and Gerardo
 Burke, Tenley and Charles
 Von Braun, Margrit and Von Lindern, Ian
 Bushaw, Don and Sylvia
 Sokol, Chris and Stanford, Loudon
 Gresch, Gordon and Mary
 Everson, Dale and Darlene
 Fauci, Mary and Smith, Keith
 Fazio, Dawna and Jim
 Fife, Lizette and Randy
 Fisher, Cindy and Jim
 Fizzell, Greg and Rishling, Erin
 Robertson, Marta
 Raulk, Jan and David
 Solomon, Mark and Clothiaux, Jeanne Amie
 Shipley, Mark and Lisa
 Sharpe, Carole
 Rudzitis, Gundars and Streatfeild, Rosemary
 Rankin, Virginia and David
 Arrasmith, Linda
 Caldwell, Shirley
 ANONYMOUS (10)

Planning is Critical for you and PCEI

Use retirement funds to ensure future victories

CREATE A LASTING LEGACY Designate the Palouse-Clearwater Environmental Institute as a beneficiary of a percentage or amount of your 401(k) or IRA. You may also remember Palouse-Clearwater Environmental Institute in your will or living trust.

MAKE A GIFT THIS YEAR Exclusively for supporters 70 or older, request a tax-free transfer from your IRA. Through December 31, 2007, direct distributions up to \$100,000 to charities like the Palouse-Clearwater Environmental Institute are non-taxable. This type of gift would also count towards your minimum required withdrawal.

For more information about these types of gifts, please contact Tom Lamar at 208-882-1444, lamar@pcei.org. We would be happy to send you information to share with your lawyer or financial planner.

Pump Project

By Jim Ekins, AmeriCorps Community Outreach Specialist



I took a phone call in May from Upward Bound Instructor Aaron Kraft. He was seeking a nonprofit organization interested in hosting a solar powered engineering project. Upward Bound provides hands-on experience and a college track to high school students from economically disadvantaged households where neither parent has gone to college. It fit PCEI's goals of being innovative with demonstration projects in sustainable living and in using renewable resources to live more lightly on the land.

Aaron met with PCEI staff for a brainstorming session. PCEI AmeriCorps Member and Watersheds Technician Will Fontaine thought that the solar energy could be used to pump water from the lower 1600-gallon rainwater cistern that he had installed as part of his Community Action Project (CAP) up to water the pantry garden. The project thus dovetails with additional rainwater catchment planned for PCEI.

Aaron took the idea of a rainwater pumping system and ran with it. He researched and purchased all the components of the project in advance. He and I began initial work on the project, starting on the morning of July 5th. In 100-degree heat, we measured, planned, and began digging out and trenching for the pipe and other installations. Upward Bound students arrived on the morning of July 9th. They were provided with an introduction to and tour of PCEI. They then got to work, finishing the trench for the connection pipe. They worked in 95 degree heat to get the groundwork completed. Aaron made sure that they took breaks, had plenty of water and sunscreen, and used shady spots in the yard or in the bike shelter to provide learning moments and teaching sessions to break up the monotony.

The 550 gallon tank was delivered on Thursday morning, just as the students had completed all trenching and inserting the pipe. The pump, solar panel, and electrical connections were installed on Monday. We had to scramble at the last minute when the pump housing broke, but I was able to find a qualified repairman at the McGregor Company on the morning of the dedication ceremony. I returned from having the pump repaired with a half-hour to spare, and we installed it in time for the ceremony.

We had the students water a part of the pantry garden with the water that we pumped to the upper tank. In addition, on Thursday, July 12th, the students presented their semester's

ENVIRONMENTAL

news

Local

In 2006, The Center for Biological Diversity, Palouse Prairie Foundation, Palouse Audubon Society, and Friends of the Clearwater filed a petition with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) to list the giant Palouse earthworm (*Driloleirus americanus*) as an endangered species. In September, the groups filed a formal 60-day notice of intent to sue the FWS for failing to respond to the petition.

Researchers believe that the loss of Palouse prairie is endangering the earthworm and other species. Less than one percent of native Palouse prairie remain. For more info, see <www.friendsoftheclearwater.org>.

Regional

The Western Environmental Law Center won a victory for two salamander species that live in the old-growth forests of California and Oregon. U.S. District Judge William Alsup ordered the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to reconsider listing the Siskiyou Mountains and Scott Bar salamanders as threatened or endangered species. If granted protected status under the Endangered Species Act, agencies would be required to ensure that forest activities, such as logging operations, do not harm the salamanders or their habitat. For more info, visit <www.westernlaw.org>.

National

Many K-12 schools are signing on to green-building standards. According to the The U.S. Green Building Council (USGBC), only 4 schools applied for green building certification in 2000, compared with the 360 applications this year. Currently there are 60 USGBC certified schools nation-wide. Green features include: rooftop gardens, waterless urinals, natural skylights and motion-sensors. According to USGBC these schools can increase test scores, retain teachers, and save districts up to \$100,000 a year. To learn more visit <www.usgbc.org>.

A Gift that Keeps on Growing

Need a great gift idea for an upcoming holiday, birthday, wedding, anniversary, or birth? Buy a plant and we'll plant it for you at the PCEI Nature Center. The PCEI Nature Center will provide outdoor learning experiences for both young and old. The trees and shrubs purchased during this campaign will help us establish native Palouse landscapes to aid in the exploration. What an innovative way to help clean the air and water and help provide valuable habitat. Gift Trees planted on PCEI's campus are \$35 a piece. We will plant the tree and send you or your gift recipient a personalized certificate. Call 208-882-1444 to order your trees now or visit us at <www.pcei.org>.

Work on the Trail

By John Sudgen, Watershed Restoration AmeriCorps Member

I recruited four volunteers for my Community Action Project (CAP) to work with three members from the Nez Perce National Forest Service Trail Crew from July 9-16, 2007. The trail we cleared was near the West Fork of Rapid River adjacent to the Hells Canyon Wilderness in the Seven Devils. We worked 10 miles of trail in a hot south facing burn at elevations between 4800 and 7200 feet. The work consisted of installing drainage features, repairing tread, and brushing. The drainage features included water bars and grade dips and these features break up slopes to decrease the carrying capacity of water running down and off the trail. The tread repair was required because burned out stumps left holes of various sizes along the trail. Holes were filled with rocks of various sizes to repair the tread. In the burn, the primary brush cleared was *Ceanothus*, a sturdy bush with waxy leaves, while out of the burn a 600 foot section of trail was cleared of thick ponderosa saplings. Five volunteers provided 208 hours of on the ground service excluding travel time. With the three Forest service employees and five volunteers, 30 rock bars and 80 grade dips were constructed, several hundred large and small holes were repaired, 300 feet of new trail were constructed, and several thousand feet of new trail were reconstructed. Seeing the team work well together in a special and rugged place to help the



Silene spaldingii

Spalding Catchfly Habitat Rehabilitation

The Spalding Catchfly (*Silene spaldingii*) Mitigation Project will mitigate damage done to endangered spalding catchfly population and habitat. An existing spalding site will be rehabilitated through weed control efforts and native bunchgrass restoration to promote the reestablishment of spalding. PCEI will conduct project implementation under the direction of the Conservation Data Center's (CDC) Juanita Lichtart. The project will commence in spring 2007 with planning and seed source identification and collection protocol established, followed by seed collections from multiple native spalding sites during summer 2007. Sufficient quantity of seed will be collected to propagate approximately 100 plants.

Following seed collection, the seed will be cleaned and processed using the best available propagation data. Plants will be propagated in an outdoor nursery to mimic natural stratification and weather patterns. Potting media and fertilizers will consist of all natural and completely organic materials. Containerized plants will be cared for and maintained in the outdoor nursery for their first season, followed by planting in the fall of 2008 and possibly some spring 2009. The planting site will be prepared prior to implementation as necessary to control weeds, support beneficial species, and create a suitable site for spalding establishment. During fall 2008 planting will occur at the Mervyn Farms site. Plants will be watered as needed throughout summer 2009 to provide for successful establishment. Plantings will be monitored for effectiveness.

For more information on this project, please call PCEI at 208-882-1444.

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People interested in being on our mailing list should join PCEI (see page 2).

This newsletter is printed on 100% recycled paper with 30% post-consumer content.

PCEI people to brag about

Member(s):
Evelyn and Neil Palmer

Evelyn and Neil Palmer have been active members of PCEI for the past SIXTEEN YEARS! They have not let a year sneak by with out supporting PCEI, either through their membership dues, donating to our Capital Campaign, supporting the Village Bicycle Project or donating to our Rodeo grounds, Evelyn and Neil Palmer have "walked the walk." We thank you for your stewardship and leadership!



Volunteer:
Kaitlin Quick

Kaitlin Quick has been an incredible intern this summer. She has volunteered in every program possible including finance, membership, watersheds, nursery, and environmental education. Kaitlin quickly became a reliable and friendly presence around Rodeo as a volunteer and AmeriCorps EAP member. We wish her the best as she continues her education in Spokane, Washington.



Kaitlin Quick smiles as she sorts the garlic she recently harvested from the PCEI Pantry Garden. She will send the garlic on to the local food bank through the Backyard Harvest. Photo: Courtney Rush

Landowner(s):
Flannigan Creek

Friends of
This



fall the PCEI Watersheds Program will begin excavation on another stream restoration project. This particular project is extraordinary for many reasons. One outstanding element is that we don't just have one enthusiastic landowner, but a collaborative group of neighbors willing to pitch in and work towards the common goal of improved water quality. Thanks and kudos to the Friends of Flannigan Creek pictured above (Mark Lawrence, Pam and Andy Rogers, Barbara, Hannah, Jay, and Sam

Photos: PCEI

**Palouse-Clearwater
Environmental Institute**
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- Washington State Combined Fund Drive
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- United Vision for Idaho
- Western Sustainable Agriculture Working Group
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