

Yuba Bear Watershed Council to hold educational workshop



Jennifer Nobles
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The Yuba Bear Watershed Council is inviting educators to join a meeting Nov. 8 where the future of environmental science education in Nevada County will be discussed.

Environmental Education Summit: A Collaborative Conversation is scheduled to allow teachers and administrators a chance to collaborate in an effort to promote place-based education in our region.

Place-based education is an approach to learning that takes into consideration a child's environment and uses area-specific features to instill knowledge of local cultures, heritages, ecosystems and landscapes as a foundation of study.

"We are taking the education directors from Sierra Streams, from South Yuba River Citizens League, and (charter school) teachers," said Steve Allen of the Yuba Bear Watershed Council. "They're going to start a collaborative process on determining what the future of environmental science education will be in Nevada County."

Sol Henson, educational director of Sierra Streams Institute, and Josie Crawford of Wolf Creek Alliance, will facilitate the two-hour workshop.

"We are striving to come up to either enhance, change, or leave alone the curriculum. This will probably be an ongoing situation," Allen said. "The vital resource we have here is the highly skilled teachers we have working for Sierra Streams, and also for South Yuba River Citizens League and Wolf Creek Alliance."

Thursday's meeting will feature a number of informative presentations, and an opportunity for groups to break off for discussion. The Yuba Bear Watershed are specifically sending a call out to local organizations that are focused on place-based and environmental education to attend.

The conversation is scheduled for 10 a.m. to noon Nov. 8, at the Gene Albaugh Community Room at the Madelyn Helling Library in Nevada City.

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