Computer Hands-on Training

Friday, August 16, 2002

Join us in the computer lab for three hours of hands-on experience with the Environmental Atlas. At your own PC, we will walk you through the easy-to-use program step by step. You will learn how to install the program, use basic GIS features and impress others with your map making ability. We will explore 150 data sets, aerial photography, topographic maps and more. You will learn how to use simple GIS commands to quantify, display and analyze data. We will also illustrate how the Atlas can be used to develop curriculum for the classroom. This session requires no previous GIS experience.

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Atlas Conference and Computer Training Registration

Thursday, August 15
☐ Conference, 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. $30*

Friday, August 16
Hands-on training session (select one session) $25
☐ Morning session, 9 a.m. to noon
☐ Afternoon session, 1 to 4 p.m.

Total enclosed $____

*Includes buffet lunch and afternoon refreshments.
This form may be photocopied for additional reservations; submit one form per person. Combined registration fees may be on one check. Confirmation will include maps and hotel information.

Computer lab space is limited, so register early. Teachers outside the metro area have priority for the morning training session. CEU credits for training will be offered through Macalester College. Make checks payable to:

MN Planning - LMIC Atlas Conference

Name ____________________________
Organization _______________________
Home address _______________________
City __________________ State ____ Zip code ________
E-mail ____________________________
Phone (area code) ______ Fax ________

Mail completed form and payment by August 1, 2002 to:
EPPL Coordinator, Atlas Conference
Minnesota Planning - LMIC
658 Cedar St., Room 300
St. Paul, MN 55155

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EPPL's 9th Annual Conference and Workshops

A conference empowering teachers to use GIS data and software in the classroom

Minnesota Environmental Atlas Conference

Tools for Schools: Free GIS data and software to use in the classroom

Thursday and Friday
August 15-16, 2002

Earle Brown Continuing Education Center
St. Paul, Minnesota

Conference sponsors:
Minnesota Planning, Land Management Information Center
Macalester College, Geography Department
Minnesota Department of Natural Resources, Forestry Division

MINNESOTA PLANNING  LAND MANAGEMENT INFORMATION CENTER
Minnesota Environmental Atlas was developed through a grant from the Minnesota Board of Government Innovation and Cooperation.

Come see what every teacher should have in the classroom. Attend the conference and receive free Minnesota Environmental Atlas software to explore and analyze your local community.

This conference will provide classroom teachers and environmental educators with an electronic atlas of environmental data including free software to operate it in the classroom. The Environmental Atlas was designed in cooperation with more than 30 secondary and college instructors. Attendees will see Atlas demonstrations and sample curriculum, hear from panels of teachers who guided its two-year development and have opportunities for hands-on training.

The Atlas is fast, easy-to-use and requires no special GIS training. More than 150 digital maps cover agriculture, climate, ecology, forestry, geology, hazards and events, land use and cover, demographic change, soils and water resources. Unique features allow you to compare maps side-by-side, measure distance, determine direction and graph elevation. The Environmental Atlas software operates on Windows operating systems 98, ME, XP and NT. The primary audience for the Atlas is fifth grade through college.

Who should attend:

✱ Teachers in geography, social studies, science, math and ecology
✱ Environmental educators interested in interdisciplinary curricula
✱ Instructors who need a powerful, but easy-to-use GIS classroom tool
✱ School administrators looking for a cost-effective learning option
✱ State or local government staff who present environmental issues to local communities

The Atlas is destined to become the #1 environmental resource tool for Minnesota classrooms. Plan to attend this conference and be first to take it back to your school.

Check our web site in April, 2002 for updates:
http://www.mnplan.state.mn.us/EPPL7

For more information, call 651-296-1201 or e-mail ken.pekarek@state.mn.us

Minnesota Environmental Atlas Conference
Tools for Schools

Thursday, August 15, 2002

8:00 Registration and continental breakfast
8:30 Welcome — The Atlas Project: Tools for Schools
9:00 Keynote presentation: Minnesota's changing landscape — Barbara Coffin, Institute of Sustainable Resources, College of Natural Resources, University of Minnesota. Includes a sneak preview of a video series on Minnesota's changing landscape that chronicles vast changes over the last 200 years. This outstanding visual production sets the stage for using the electronic Atlas to explore our natural environment and the impacts people have had on it.
10:00 Break
10:20 Tour de Minnesota — Let the Atlas take you on a virtual tour of Minnesota's landscape. Learn how to apply GIS techniques to explore some of the 150 data sets. Visualize the impacts and interrelationships of man and his natural environment. Discover exciting areas for curriculum development in your own community.
11:45 Buffet lunch
1:00 Spotlight applications from around the state — Presentations by classroom teachers will show science lessons in alternative energy sources, how to conduct local watershed analysis and measure shape and size of features to fulfill math standards.
2:00 Extending curriculum beyond the classroom — See how teachers involve students in community-based projects that integrate Atlas capabilities and related GPS technology. Applications include working with the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources to develop a wildfire hazard model and explore methods to monitor wildlife movements.
2:45 Break
3:15 Extreme networking — Network beyond the ordinary. Learn from a panel of college instructors how the EPIC and Atlas tools are applying environmental data to college-level biology and forest management lessons. Hear from educational leaders on how the Atlas can address the People and Cultures Framework or your district's learning requirements.
4:15 The future — As we begin to cross the digital divide, where does the road lead? Join us in a wrap-up session to chart our course. Includes feedback, conference evaluation and door prizes.