

Special Great Outdoors Week Program:
America's Children, Leisure Time and the Outdoors

You are invited to participate in a special two-part Great Outdoors Week program on ***America's Children, Leisure Time and the Outdoors***. The program will be held in the auditorium of the American Association for the Advancement of Science at 1200 New York Avenue, NW, on Tuesday, June 10, between 1:30 PM and 4:00 PM. The program will include a special showing of the PBS documentary ***Where Do the Children Play?*** and presentations by key federal agencies on programs underway to provide America's youth with opportunities to connect with the outdoors, especially in ways that involve physical activity. The presentations will outline opportunities for national and local conservation and recreation organizations to develop and submit partnership proposals for cooperative projects.

Where Do the Children Play? is a one-hour documentary for public television that examines how restrictive patterns of sprawl, congestion, and endless suburban development across America are impacting children's mental and physical health and development. The making of the film began in 2001 with the work of Dr. Elizabeth Goodenough on *Secret Spaces of Childhood* (University of Michigan Press, 2003), which the producers developed into an idea for a film. Dr. Goodenough will be joined at the June showing by Joan Almon, a former kindergarten teacher who is currently Coordinator of the Alliance for Childhood.

The second portion of the program will include information on projects already funded and underway under such programs as More Kids in the Woods and Take It Outside and information about future partnership opportunities. Agency executives from the National Park Service, the Forest Service, the Bureau of Land Management and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service will discuss current efforts and highlight opportunities for cooperation and partnerships, as well as discuss ways to maximize the results of individual efforts through coordination and common goals. Participants will be able to ask questions and comment on the PBS show and the agency initiatives.

The Honorable Lyle Lavery, Assistant Secretary of the Interior for Fish and Wildlife and Parks, has been invited to moderate the program. We offer special thanks to the National Trails System and Steve Elkinton for partial underwriting of this program.

Date: June 10, 2008 (Tuesday)
Time: 1:30 PM to 4:00 PM
Location: American Association for the Advancement of Science Auditorium
1200 New York Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20005
Cost: Free, but registration required
Registration: cmica@funoutdoors.com