



Hands on the Land

A National Network of Field Classrooms Connecting Students, Teachers, and Parents to Their Public Lands and Waterways

HOL Publicity Kit



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Press Release Language for Hands on the Land

Possible Headlines

[Name of Program/School] has their Hands on the Land

or

New Hands on the Land program begins in

Key Points—“Boilerplate”

[*Name of School and Federal Agency Site*] are working together on a nationwide environmental education program called Hands on the Land (HOL).

HOL is a network of field classrooms designed to enhance kindergarten through high school student learning. HOL is sponsored by Partners in Resource Education, a collaboration of six federal agencies (including [*name of your agency*]) and a nonprofit educational foundation.

Established in 1999, “Hands on the Land” has sometimes been called “America’s largest classroom.” Currently, 62 [*check HOL website for latest numbers*] federal agency sites are participating nationwide. Education specialists at these sites work closely with local educators to develop programs that meet state education standards. In the process, school subjects are brought to life as students and teachers engage in hands-on activities in natural and cultural settings. Through the HOL website (www.handsontheland.org), students can learn about other sites and participate in environmental monitoring and other interactive projects.

Local Information

Provide a brief description of local program goals and history; names of key people and their roles.

Solicit quotes from local participants, if possible.

Contact Information

For more information on _____ and Hands on the Land, please contact [*local contact*] or go to www.handsontheland.org.

Suggested Talking Points for Hands on the Land Program

HOL is an interagency network of field classrooms connecting students, teachers, and parents to their public lands.

HOL sites have hands-on education programs in natural and cultural settings that have been developed in partnership with local schools. The programs are designed to support established school curriculum and local standards of learning as well as agency resource management objectives.

HOL is a program of Partners in Resource Education (PRE), a partnership of six Federal agencies and a non-profit foundation dedicated to enhancing learning on public lands.

The PRE agencies are Bureau of Land Management, National Park Service, U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service, USDA Forest Service, NOAA Marine Sanctuaries Program, and Natural Resources Conservation Service. The National Environmental Education Foundation coordinates this interagency effort. HOL coordination and administrative support are provided by The Keystone Center, a non-profit public policy and educational organization.

A key feature of the HOL program is its interactive website: www.handsontheland.org.

Established in 1999, 62 sites are now involved in this program.

Membership in the HOL network offers numerous benefits to participating sites, schools, and communities. For example, Federal program providers can:

- exchange best practices with other HOL sites, through the interactive website, mentoring programs, meetings, and other avenues, thus avoiding duplication of efforts;
- showcase programs and disseminate the resource conservation message to a broad audience; and
- strengthen ties to communities and enhance volunteer efforts.

Teachers and students can benefit from participation in HOL by:

- accessing a broad array of teaching resources;
- participating in hands-on experiences and service-learning opportunities on Federal lands;
- interacting with Federal resource professionals; and
- developing exchange programs, including data sharing, with other sites and schools through the website.

Communities can also benefit from the HOL program through opportunities to:

- share experiences with other communities that have similar resources and interests;
- involve parents in learning with their children; and
- develop more informed and active stakeholders in their public lands.



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Greyscale



Full Color



Black and White



Download from
http://www.handsontheland.org/elements/HOL_logo_web.gif

Web Logo

CERTIFICATE OF MEMBERSHIP



A National Network of Field Classrooms Connecting Students,
Teachers, and Parents to Their Public Lands and Waterways

This certifies that

_____ is an official member site of
the Hands on the Land Program
effective this _____ day of _____, _____

