



Photo: Martin Neptune

Pəskehtək^wok

Joining of the Branches

Fall 2004 ~ Issue 2

Penobscot Indian Nation
Department of Natural Resources

Children Protecting the Environment

Phone Extensions	
David Almenas, Forest Technician	7335
Ron Bear, Forest Technician	7335
John Banks, DNR Director	7330
Rhonda Daigle, Water Quality Monitoring Program Coordinator	7326
Clem Fay, Fisheries Manager	7362
Yvonne "Cookie" Francis, Administrative Assistant	7331
Tim Gould, Game Warden Supervisor	7395
Dan Kusnierz, Water Resources Program Manager	7361
Frank Loring, Game Warden	7392
Josh Loring, Game Warden	7392
Jason Mitchell, Water Resources Field Coordinator	7381
Eric Nicolar, Air Quality Manager	7336
Jim Pardia, Game Warden	7392
Ed Paul, Game Warden	7392
Jan Paul, Water Resources Field and Lab Technician	7382
Angie Reed, Water Resources Planner	7360
Russ Roy, Forest Manager	7339
Dennis Stevens, Forester	7337
Bill Thompson, Air Technician	7340
Binke Wang, GIS Specialist	7341
Water Resources Trainees	7363



This past summer, six Penobscot youth had the amazing opportunity to meet children from around the world who were interested in protecting the environment. The 2004 Tunza International Children's Conference on the Environment was hosted in New London, CT between July 19-23 2004. The conference was organized by the International Coalition for Children & the Environment, with initial funding from the Mashantucket Pequot Tribal Nation. James Sappier was responsible for getting



financial support from EPA for Native children to attend.

Maya Attean, Danielle Altvater, Gary Fearon, Dakota Meserve, Leigh Neptune and Gabe Sappier joined more than 450 delegates from 50 countries. As you can see



from the pictures included in this article, they all enjoyed their trip! A special thanks goes out to Bonnie Sappier for helping to chaperone this event. The kids could not have gone without Bonnie and Ruth Jewell taking time out of their lives to join them.



While there, all of the attendees came up with a list of commitments and challenges, including:

- ✓ To respect, support, share and celebrate indigenous peoples' cultures and knowledge.
 - ✓ To not harm any plants or animals, especially endangered species.
 - ✓ To establish or help at a local shelter for animals, either for domestic animals or for endangered species if available.
 - ✓ To educate ourselves and others about the value of water and the problem of pollution.
- Please take the time to check out www.icc04.org/home.html for the complete list. There you will also find a list of actions that the children pledged to take in support of those challenges and commitments, including:
- Treating indigenous peoples fairly and respecting their rights, including them in decision making and giving back artifacts that were taken from them.
 - Treating water as a global resource and sharing the resource.

(Continued on next page)

(Continued from previous page)

- Educating the public, using the media, school curricula and any other available methods, reminding them to use water, energy and other resources wisely.

When asked about their favorite experience at the conference, the six attendees had some similar and unique responses. Maya and Danielle really enjoyed meeting kids from other countries, especially a girl named Lisa from Paraguay. Danielle also had fun at the Pequot Museum because she got to learn about their history and see the very realistic village. Leigh's favorite activity was participating in the "action circles" where they learned



about what they could do to help protect the environment. She also liked using a camera to take pictures of trees that weren't healthy and learning that one action she can take is to plant more trees to make up for the impacts of pollution. Gabe most enjoyed

the Mystic Seaport and the old whaling ship.

As a result of the conference, Ruth and Bonnie are helping the original six attendees form an environment group on the Island. Everyone wanted to get more people involved and go to the 2005 conference in Japan. So far, their strategy has been to have every person bring one new person to a meeting, which has increased their size by five. New members include Rochelle Carlson, Tori Hildreth, Megan Loring, Jasmine Thompson and Marcus Sapiel. Everyone comes to the group with a different focus and things that they want to do. Jasmine and Leigh are interested in water and the river. Maya wants to do something related to the air. Marcus and Tori are concerned about landfills. Danielle finds wildlife most interesting. Gabe wants to protect harbor seals and their habitat. Gary is going to help with recycling efforts.

The kids have a whole bunch of great ideas about what they can do as individuals to protect the environment including walking instead of driving,

picking up garbage, not putting bad things in the water and leaving more trees around. With this kind of a focus they are working on developing an appropriate name for the group - choosing



from thoughts they have had so far including: Children's Penobscot Indian Nation Environmental Doctors, Penobscot Indian Nation Children of the Earth, Penobscot Indian Nation Reservation Environmental Group, Wabanaki Children's Environmental Group, and Penobscot Nation Mountain Walkers Children's Group.

And in order to help raise funds to pay for a trip to next years conference in Japan they are thinking about a variety of fundraising efforts including delivering the community flyer, holding a raffle, yard sales, a cake walk, bottle drives, car washes, a 50/50 table at Bingo and selling candy and candles. So look for the many ways you can support these young people caring for the environment that supports all of us. For more information please contact either Ruth Jewell or Bonnie Sappier.

Art: James Eric Francis

Green Cleaning Tip

Unclogging drains without the use of harsh chemicals can be as easy as this:

- 1/2 cup of baking soda**
- 1/2 cup of vinegar or lemon juice**

Pour the baking soda into the drain first and then add the vinegar. Although it makes a lot of noise, the chemical interaction will break up the clog. Let this mixture sit for 15 minutes before rinsing with boiling water.

This tip comes from "Clean & Green" by Annie Berthould-Bond