Designing Outdoor Learning Experiences for All Students

Hyde Park, NY – “All students – regardless of physical or cognitive challenges – need and deserve access to the outdoors, historic sites, parks, and museums,” says Kathy Ambrosini, director of education at Ulster County’s Mohonk Preserve. On Wed., Nov. 18, Ambrosini will facilitate a workshop designed to help teachers and educators with environmental groups, parks, and other sites, explore and practice strategies for making the outdoors accessible.

Ambrosini and her staff provide innovative education programs to thousands of students each year using the Preserve’s NatureAccess® program. It features universally designed activities to accommodate a range of abilities and learning styles. The workshop, Creating Access for All: Universally Designed Outdoor Learning Experiences, will guide participants through the UDL process (More on Universal Design.)
Since 1992, Ambrosini has administered an array of programs including an award-winning seven-year school field study program, a summer camp series, and year-round adult and family programs. She is also the author of Making Outdoor Programs Accessible, a “how to” manual with strategies from the NatureAccess® program and tools for creating programs involving diverse audiences.

Co-sponsored by Teaching the Hudson Valley, the workshop will be held from 9:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. at the Henry A. Wallace Education and Visitor Center at the FDR Home and Presidential Library in Hyde Park (directions). A $25 registration fee covers materials, continental breakfast, and lunch (registration). For additional information visit THV’s website, phone Debi Duke, at 845-229-9116, ext. 2035, or e-mail.