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# Earth Science Week 2005

## “Geoscientists Explore the Earth”

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### *Highlights and News Clippings*



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**Earth Science Week 2005**  
**“Geoscientists Explore the Earth”**

*Highlights and News Clippings*

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## **Highlights and News Clippings from Earth Science Week 2005**

### Introduction

The 8<sup>th</sup> annual Earth Science Week was held from October 9-15, 2005, celebrating the theme “Geoscientists Explore the Earth”. This theme focused on Geoscience Careers, and the important work that geoscientists do for society. AGI organizes Earth Science Week as a service to its member societies, with generous help from several major partners. These include the US Geological Survey, the American Association of Petroleum Geologists Foundation, the National Park Service, NASA, and NOAA, who provided funding, donated kit materials, organized events and/or publicized the Earth Science Week celebration.

Participation in Earth Science Week remained strong in every category. People in all 50 states and in more than four countries participated in Earth Science Week in 2005. More than 470 people entered AGI’s National Art, Essay and Photography contests, up about 25 percent from 2004. Total numbers of internet visitors to the Earth Science Week website were up 38 percent for the month of October 2005 from October 2004.

Earth Science Week events ranged from individual teachers and classrooms completing in-class Earth Science activities to open houses held at large USGS field stations. A listing of events around the world is located in Section 1 of this volume. This list only represents the events reported to AGI, so please notify ESW staff if your participation is not listed.

Some of the events held during Earth Science Week are highlighted in Section 2 of this volume. Use these highlights to get ideas or inspiration for your next Earth Science Week participation, and to learn about activities planned by other Earth Science enthusiasts.

Each year, more people become aware of Earth Science Week by reading or watching a story about the week in the media. This year, printed media about Earth Science Week reached more than 836,800 readers. Section 3 of this volume is a compilation of examples of print media that appeared in regional and national publications advertising Earth Science Week Events. In addition this year, viewers watched news coverage of Earth Science Week on their local television stations in eleven states.

This Highlights and News Clippings volume is designed to give an overview of the activities planned by other organizations for Earth Science Week. We hope that you will find ideas about events and publicity that will encourage the development of your own Earth Science Week celebration. As always, please visit [www.earthsciweek.org](http://www.earthsciweek.org) for event planning support, or contact Earth Science Week staff at [info@earthsciweek.org](mailto:info@earthsciweek.org) if we can assist you in planning for Earth Science Week.

## SECTION 1

### Earth Science Week 2005: Summary of Activities

#### ESW kits

For 2005, AGI distributed a record number of information kits, sending more than 15,000 packets to teachers and geoscientists across the country (up from 14,000 in 2004). These kits were sent to all 50 states and to several countries. The kits included valuable posters, flyers and activities from AGI, the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS), National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA), National Atmospheric and Oceanic Administration (NOAA), Incorporated Research Institutions for Seismology (IRIS), the National Parks Service (NPS), and EarthScope.

Included in this year's ESW kits was a new resource, the Earth Science Week 2005-06 School Year Calendar. The calendar featured classroom activities for each month of the school year, which were aligned with the National Science Education Standards. In addition, the publication featured information about geoscience careers, upcoming geoscience events, historical dates relating to Earth science, ways to participate in Earth Science Week, and links to resources on the Internet. Teachers were encouraged to hang the calendar in the classroom, so they and their students could use it and be reminded of the importance of Earth science throughout the year.

#### Web Resources

Changes were made to the ESW website to reflect the new theme, contests, and classroom activities for the 2005 celebration. As a result, there were 13,762 visitors to the site in the month of October, 2005, and more than 53,000 visitors over the entire year. This represents an increase in visitors of 38% from October 2004 to 2005. This is evidence that the ESW website remains an important tool in educating the public about the event, and that we should continue to increase information on and support for the ESW web resources.

#### Newsletters

More than 1700 teachers, students and geoscientists subscribe to the bi-monthly ESW Newsletter. This electronic newsletter keeps planners and participants up-to-date on Earth Science Week Planning at the national level, and encourages participation in local areas. Earth Science Week staff distributed four newsletters leading up to the 2005 ESW Event.

#### National Contests

AGI held national contests for Earth Science Week for the fourth time. The contests were designed to encourage K-12 students, teachers and the general public to get involved in the week. We received 477 entries in the art, essay, and photography contests, and awarded grand prizes of \$300 plus a complimentary one-year subscription to *Geotimes* to the winners in each category. In addition, the top five entries in each contest received state topographic map atlases of their home states, donated by Digital Map Store. Each contest entrant will receive a certificate of participation.

### Official Proclamations

Official proclamations of Earth Science Week were made in 21 states, including Alabama, Alaska, Connecticut, Delaware, Florida, Illinois, Kentucky, Maine, Maryland, Michigan, Missouri, Nevada, New Mexico, North Dakota, Oklahoma, Oregon, South Dakota, Utah, Vermont, and Washington.

In addition, President George W. Bush officially recognized the week. "I salute the geoscience community for helping us appreciate the wonders of our natural surroundings," he wrote. "I also appreciate parents and teachers for working together to educate our Nation's young people about the Earth. Your efforts inspire future generations of scientists and remind us of our responsibility to be good stewards of the environment." The director of the US Geological Survey also recognized Earth Science Week, saying "The theme for this year is "Geoscientists Explore our Earth," and we hope you will see not only the value Earth science gives to society, but also the thrills of exploration and discovery enjoyed by geoscientists."

### ESW Publicity

In 2005, AGI made a strategic, deliberate effort to enlist the support of a wider range of media in promoting awareness of Earth Science Week. Seeking collaborations with television, Internet, print news media, and others resulted in unprecedented reach for promotional activities in 2005 and helped lay a foundation for more in years to come.

#### *Television*

Fox 5 Morning News (WTTG) covered Earth Science Week activities on the morning of Monday, Oct. 10, at Baltimore's Maryland Science Center, where event representatives worked with local students to kick off a week's worth of hands-on activities and exhibits dealing with Earth science. AGI Employees were on hand to describe the goals of Earth Science Week to the reporter and students. The live broadcast included two four-minute segments, reaching more than 160,000 viewers in the District of Columbia, southern Maryland, and northern Virginia with publicity promoting Earth Science Week and encouraging viewers to visit the center. Similar local coverage of Earth Science Week events appeared on at least 12 stations in 11 states. More details can be found in Section 3 of this volume.

#### *Internet*

USA Today's K-12 Education Online ([www.usatoday.com/educate/home.htm](http://www.usatoday.com/educate/home.htm)) featured a high-profile weblink for AGI's Earth Science Week website during the week of Oct. 9-15. The online service is available to the six million daily readers of USA Today and also reaches more than 30,000 middle and high school classrooms with daily lesson plans and news-related academic resources. USA Today Education representatives also indicated interest in developing curricula and other activities to promote Earth Science Week more fully in the future.

Professional meteorologists in the media were invited to celebrate Earth Science Week by including Earth science students in their broadcasts and spreading awareness about the geosciences and geoscience careers at meteorology-oriented events. The invitation was issued by the National Weather Service through its nationwide network of Warning and Coordination Meteorologists at 125 NWS-affiliated locations.

ESW was also highlighted on such web pages as the USGS website, GSA's education website, DLESE, several NASA portals, National Parks Service's website and on the NOAA Education sites.

#### *Print Media*

AGI distributed press releases to hundreds of print media outlets. Many local and national publications ran items on Earth Science Week, such as the examples featured in Section 3 of this report.

AGI also provided all content and editorial direction for a special edition of the National Earth Science Teachers Association's The Earth Scientist quarterly newsletter, which was devoted entirely to Earth Science Week and this year's theme of geoscience careers. The newsletter featured relevant lesson plans and articles on topics such as recommended resources and activities, media outreach tips, and biographies of scientists in geoscience careers. More than 1,000 copies were distributed to leading Earth science educators and others nationwide.

The Earth Science Week 2005 poster was inserted into five magazines, including the National Science Teachers Association's ScienceScope and The Science Teacher, the Geological Society of America's GSA Today, the American Association of Petroleum Geologists' AAPG Explorer, and AGI's GeoTimes. The two NSTA publications also included detailed feature articles, authored by AGI staff, encouraging educators to celebrate Earth Science Week and suggesting effective strategies.

#### Key Outcomes of the Professional Evaluation of ESW 2005

As in past years, AGI contracted with an independent contractor, PS International, to complete a formal evaluation of Earth Science Week. In this evaluation, ESW 2005 saw reported overall participation rates rise from 2004 levels. In addition, participation rates rose for every category of respondents (Teachers, Administrators, Other). The largest rise in regional participation rates was for the Northeast and West. The West showed the highest participation rate in 2005.

In this evaluation, fewer respondents reported that they had been *less active* during ESW 2005 (19%) relative to 2004 (22%), while the number of respondents that were *more active* (at 51%) was the same for 2005 as for 2004. Correspondingly, the types of activities that respondents participated in for ESW 2005 were of a more active nature (e.g., field trips, workshops, classes) than in 2004.

The perceived usefulness ratings of ESW remained strong relative to 2004 levels. With those that did not participate excluded, 83% of the respondents rated ESW as *excellent* or *good*, a slight improvement from 2004. In addition usefulness ratings of *excellent* or *good* remained at the 80% level for teachers and for "other" (mostly professional geologists) rose to 88% from approximately 71% in 2004.

Increasing publicity at the national level continues to be a challenge for the Earth Science Week program. In 2005 about 54% of the respondents said that media coverage in their local areas or in national outlets was either nonexistent or marginal. The level of media coverage in 2005 could have been diminished by the extensive media coverage of

two major hurricanes. When asked how the Earth Science Week program could be improved, the largest response in 2005 was to *increase resources and incentives* (49%). Several respondents praised the ESW website as being very helpful which indicates a favorable response to current ESW activities and curriculum materials. Therefore participant desire for *increased resources and incentives* may be an indication of the increased satisfaction (and expectations) with available website materials. Seeking *increased publicity* was the second most suggested area for improvement at 41%.



**ESW Sponsors**

U.S. Geological Survey

American Association of Petroleum Geologists Foundation

**ESW Contributors**

Digital Library for Earth System Education (DLESE)

Incorporated Research Institutions for Seismology (IRIS)

National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA)

National Park Service

National Weather Service/NOAA

Southern California Earthquake Center (SCEC)

U.S. Geological Survey (USGS)

American Geological Institute (AGI)

## **Earth Science Week (ESW) 2005 Events and Activities by State**

### **Alabama**

- USGS staff conducted environmental, GPS, and geography workshops and held an information exhibit at the National Council for Geographic Education Conference in Birmingham.
- The governor of Alabama proclaimed October 9-15 as Earth Science Week.
- The Geological Survey of Alabama sent staff scientists to a local school to give presentations for students.
- The Geological Survey of Alabama held a one-day field workshop in paleontology for teachers and published a guidebook for the workshop.

### **Alaska**

- The governor of Alaska proclaimed October 9-15 as Earth Science Week.
- The Alaska Geological Society held a display of minerals and fossils on loan from the Alaska Museum of Natural History at the Loussac Library in Anchorage during ESW.
- Dr. Kathryn Moran gave a lecture, “Beneath the Ice: Coring the Arctic Ocean for clues on Ancient Climate.”
- The Anchorage Daily News advertised the ESW visual arts contest.

### **Arizona**

- Petrified Forest National Park celebrated ESW with a behind the scenes tour of the paleontology prep lab, the park’s museum collections, and the Triassic Park program at Rainbow Forest Museum. In addition, a geological scavenger hunt was held, hands-on geology exhibits at the Painted Desert Visitor Center, and fossil displays at Rainbow Forest Museum.

### **California**

- The Santa Barbara Museum of Natural History celebrated ESW with a 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Earth Science Fair. The event included educational information about earthquakes and tsunamis, a guided geology walk, new Planetarium shows, and a real meteorite from outer space.
- The U.S. Geological Survey provided an information exhibit about earthquake hazards and other natural hazards at the San Francisco Earthquake Education and Preparedness Fair.
- The USGS hosted a public lecture by Simon Winchester, author of the new book “A Crack at the Edge of the World: America and the Great California Earthquake of 1906.”
- The USGS hosted a public lecture by seismologist Susan Hough on “The Very Long Reach of Very Large Earthquakes.”
- The USGS provided an exhibit booth at the California Science Teachers Association Conference with information about natural science, natural hazards, and USGS resources for teachers.
- The Palomar College geology department provided a career information table on geoscience careers in the student services center during ESW. The geology

department also had a movie marathon and a guest speaker from San Diego State University, Professor Pat Abbott.

- In celebration of ESW, the Northern California Geological Society and the Educators Academy of the East Bay Regional Park District co-hosted a teacher's workshop at Black Diamond Mines near Antioch.
- Congresswoman Lynn Woolsey of California gave a speech in honor of ESW at Point Reyes National Seashore along with exhibits on "3D Geology and Natural History of the San Andreas Fault" and "Name That Park!" by Phil Stoffer of the USGS and Paula Messina of San Jose State University.
- The Presidio Trust at Point Reyes National Recreation Area hosted a "Teacher's Night" which featured USGS resources related to earthquake awareness and Bay Area geology.
- California teachers participated in activities from the ESW kit.
- Robert Christiansen, a research geologist emeritus with the U.S. Geological Survey in Menlo Park gave a presentation on the "Volcanic Evolution of the Yellowstone Plateau Region" at California State University, Fresno, as part of ESW.

#### Colorado

- In celebration of ESW, Pete Birkeland, retired geology professor at CU-Boulder, and Phillip Verplank, research geologist at the U.S. Geological Survey, Denver, co-lead a bike field trip along Boulder Creek to discuss flooding, water quality, and invasive species issues.
- The Rock Mountain Dinosaur Resource Center, in Woodland Park, celebrated ESW with Mad Science shows, guest lectures, fossil making, shale splitting and fossil rubbings, special presentations for schools, and after school activities.
- USGS geologist Pete Modreski led a geology and nature hike on Green Mountain, Lakewood, discussing local geology, ecology, and landscape development.
- USGS staff conducted a hands-on workshop in GIS and held an information exhibit at the National Indian Education Association Conference in Denver.

#### Connecticut

- Saturday, October 8<sup>th</sup>, the University of Connecticut held a free symposium, "Dimensions in Geosciences," with six speakers.
- Wednesday, October 12<sup>th</sup>, the University of Connecticut held a free pizza luncheon with Dr. James Edson leading a discussion on his presentation, "CO<sub>2</sub> Exchange: Is the Ocean a Source or Sink?"
- Also on Wednesday, Bob Berner, of Yale University gave the lecture, "Trees and the late Paleozoic, O<sub>2</sub>, CO<sub>2</sub>, and Climate Evolution."
- Friday, October 14<sup>th</sup>, at the University of Connecticut, Tom Meyer held a workshop on "What Does Height Really Mean? How to Use GPS to Measure Orthometric Heights."
- The governor of Connecticut proclaimed October 9-15, 2005, to be Earth Science Week.

#### Delaware

- The governor of Delaware proclaimed October 9-15, 2005, to be Earth Science Week.

#### Florida

- The governor of Florida proclaimed October 9-15, 2005, to be Earth Science Week.
- The Florida Geological Survey held its annual open house in honor of ESW.
- The Florida Geological Survey also planned special activities to assist Webelos Scouts in earning their Geology Badges.

#### Georgia

- Teachers in Georgia celebrated ESW by participating in activities found in the Earth Science kit.
- Students from Columbus, Georgia entered the ESW Essay Contest.

#### Hawaii

- The University of Hawaii at Manoa's School of Ocean and Earth Science and Technology (SOEST) hosted their 8<sup>th</sup> Biennial Open House, with the theme "The Hot Spot for Cool Science". The open house included entertaining and educational hands on activities that highlighted the ongoing research at SOEST.

#### Idaho

- A special geology hike was held Saturday, October 15<sup>th</sup> for ESW at Craters of the Moon National Monument and Preserve.
- Students from Boise, Idaho entered the ESW Essay contest.

#### Illinois

- A student from Rockford, Illinois was a finalist in the ESW Photo contest.

#### Indiana

- Science Central celebrated ESW the weekend of October 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup>.

#### Iowa

- Four National Parks in Iowa including the Lewis and Clark Trail displayed Earth Science Week materials.

#### Kansas

- The U.S. Geological Survey held a Water Quality Educational Festival, "A Week of Water," in celebration of the Clean Water Act and ESW at Kaw Point, Kansas, the confluence of the Kaw and Missouri Rivers. In addition to the festival, a pre-festival water quality art contest was held, and a post-festival clean-up event was scheduled as well.

## Kentucky

- The Kentucky Geological Survey and University of Kentucky advertised ESW on their website.
- The Kentucky Geological Survey also participated in activities for school children at a local historical and natural preserve, McConnel Springs, by giving presentations and tours.
- Kentucky Governor Ernie Fletcher proclaimed October 9-15, 2005, to be Earth Science Week.
- The Kentucky Geological Survey sponsored an open house on the Wednesday evening of ESW, in which several hundred students and their parents visited displays on geology, Kentucky natural resources, water and other issues.
- A geologist with the Kentucky Geological Survey was interviewed on a noon-time talk segment during the news on the Lexington, KY NBC affiliate, WLEX-TV.
- About 50 ESW kits were distributed to Lexington, KY area schools.

## Louisiana

- The Baton Rouge USGS Water Science Center staffed an exhibit booth and distributed earth science materials to local preK-12 educators at the annual “Experience it All! Toolbox for Success” day at Westdale Middle School, which featured workshops geared toward hands-on science activities.

## Maine

- The governor of Maine proclaimed October 9-15, 2005, to be Earth Science Week.
- Acadia National Park offered several geologic programs in honor of ESW.

## Maryland

- During ESW, geoscientists from AGI and governmental agencies held special exhibits at the Maryland Science Center in Baltimore. The exhibits included a hands-on activity on storm surge and identification of rocks, minerals and fossils.
- To kick off ESW, Fox 5 visited the Maryland Science Center for a morning news clip on ESW and events at the Maryland Science Center.
- The governor of Maryland proclaimed October 9-15, 2005, to be Earth Science Week.
- The Maryland Geological Survey posted information about ESW, careers in the geosciences, what geologists do at the Maryland Geological Survey on their website.
- Women Geoscientists took part in the annual Girl Scouts of Central Maryland’s Big Event, with special activities and answering questions about what geoscientists do and handing out information on career opportunities, and ESW material.

## Massachusetts

- Students from Massachusetts entered the ESW Essay contest.

## Michigan

- The governor of Michigan proclaimed October 9-15, 2005, to be Earth Science Week.
- The Battle Creek Enquirer of Battle Creek ran an article on ESW with information on local geologists that would give presentations to schools and community groups.
- Local students did water and soil sampling along the lakeshore in Lexington Harbor with the Sanilac County Science and Math Center.
- A free presentation was given to fourth through 12<sup>th</sup> grade students, called “Pollution Solutions” at the St. Clair County Health Department.

## Minnesota

- Students from Plymouth, Minnesota entered the ESW Essay contest.

## Mississippi

- The Gulf Islands National Seashore displayed Earth Science Week materials.

## Missouri

- The U.S. Geological Survey held a Water Quality Educational Festival, “A Week of Water,” in celebration of the Clean Water Act and ESW at Kaw Point, Kansas, the confluence of the Kaw and Missouri Rivers. In addition to the festival, a pre-festival water quality art contest was held, and a post-festival clean-up event was scheduled as well.
- The governor of Missouri proclaimed October 9-15, 2005, to be Earth Science Week.

## Montana

- Two students from Helena submitted entries into the ESW Visual Arts contest.
- Glacier National Park displayed Earth Science Week materials.

## Nebraska

- The USGS Nebraska Water Science Center co-sponsored “The Environmental Festival” at Auble Pond in Ord. The USGS presented their Water Jeopardy Game as one of the stations for the students.

## Nevada

- The Nevada Bureau of Mines and Geology held a free field trip, “The Great Highway 50 Rock Tour”. The field trip included discussions on careers in the geosciences, such as exploring for mineral resources, investigating Earth hazards to property and people, and monitoring of environmental change on Earth. Key stops included an operating salt mine, a former underground nuclear test site, scarps from a 1954 earthquake and a revived gold exploration project.
- The NV Bureau of Mines and Geology also hosted a teacher’s Earth Science Resource “Fair” during ESW, where K-16 teachers were invited to come to the NV Bureau of Mines and Geology to build their own Earth Science curriculum kits with rocks, minerals, maps, posters, field trip guides and grant information.

#### New Hampshire

- The University of New Hampshire Library Government Documents Department observed ESW by hosting an exhibit featuring publications of the USGS, the National Park Service, the Department of Agriculture, NASA, and other government agencies.

#### New Jersey

- Teachers in New Jersey celebrated ESW by participating in activities found in the ESW kits.
- Students participated in the ESW Essay and Visual Art contests.

#### New Mexico

- The New Mexico Bureau of Geology and Mineral Resources held a science teacher open house October 12 in Socorro, NM.
- The New Mexico Museum of Natural History and Science held an ESW Celebration and Family Day with exhibitors such as the USGS, Albuquerque Seismological Laboratory, New Mexico Bureau of Mining and Mineral Resources.
- The governor of New Mexico proclaimed October 9-15, 2005, to be Earth Science Week.

#### New York

- Teachers in New York celebrated ESW by completing activities found in the ESW Kit.
- Students from New York entered the ESW Photo and Essay Contests.

#### North Carolina

- Teachers from North Carolina celebrated ESW by participating in activities from the ESW Kit.
- Students from Cary North Carolina entered the ESW Essay Contest.

#### North Dakota

- The governor of North Dakota proclaimed October 9-15 as Earth Science Week.
- Greg Gust, of the National Weather Service, Grand Forks, gave a presentation to Central Valley High School Earth science students on hurricanes and tornadoes, what causes them, and how they affect the Earth.

#### Ohio

- The Cleveland Museum of Natural History hosted an Earth Science Day Festival on Sunday October 9. The festival featured displays, demonstrations and lectures from museum scientists, the Cleveland Geological Society and other organizations.
- Geologists from Ohio State University held a free tour of the Ohio Statehouse and the building stones of Capitol Square. Experts helped site and identify many fossils in the Columbus Limestone walls and steps of the Statehouse.

- The Graham High School Science Department in collaboration with the St. Paris Public Library hosted an ESW Celebration with special activities such as exciting earth science experiments erupting a volcano, making clouds, and hunting for fossils, and a presentation from a paleontologist from Wright State University.

#### Oklahoma

- The governor of Oklahoma proclaimed October 9-15 as Earth Science Week.
- An eighth grade Earth science class in Talihina participated in web-based career activities about geoscience and took part in the Contrail Count on October 13.
- Science Club members in Talihina organized an educational on-campus field trip for fifth and sixth grade students
- Latimer County OSU extension service brought a hydrology trailer to Talihina schools, giving presentations and allowing students to participate in activities related to hydrology all day.
- The Science Club in Talihina ran an aluminum can recycling drive during ESW.

#### Oregon

- The governor of Oregon proclaimed October 9-15, 2005, to be Earth Science Week.

#### Pennsylvania

- Girl Scouts in Delaware County earned ESW patches at a special event hosted by Penn State Delaware County students and professors.

#### Rhode Island

- Students from Harrisville, Rhode Island entered the ESW Essay contest.

#### South Carolina

- Students from Elgin, South Carolina entered the ESW Visual Art Contest.

#### South Dakota

- The governor of South Dakota proclaimed October 9-15 as Earth Science Week.

#### Tennessee

- Great Smokey Mountain National Park displayed Earth Science Week materials.

#### Texas

- The University of Texas at El Paso celebrated ESW with a week long event that including displaying a moon rock from NASA's Johnson Space Center, demonstrations of volcanic eruptions, waves of an earthquake, presentations on the history of the Rio Grande and dinosaurs that roamed the Paso del Norte region, a movie, and a barbeque.
- The Alibates Flint Quarries National Monument offered tours covering earth science and geology, since that's how the flint got there.



## Utah

- The Utah Geological Survey held an ESW poster contest, with the theme, “What Geoscientists Really Do.”
- The governor of Utah proclaimed October 9-15, 2005, to be Earth Science Week.

## Vermont

- The governor of Vermont proclaimed October 9-15, 2005, to be Earth Science Week.
- The Vermont Geological Survey held an ESW Poster Contest and an awards ceremony at the Vermont Marble Museum.
- Geologists lead hikes at Mt. Philo and Little River State Parks.
- OMYA hosted their 5<sup>th</sup> annual quarry open house in honor of ESW, inviting students and the general public to participate in tours of the quarry and special activities.
- “Mercury in the Environment Guest Speakers” visited classrooms in Vermont, giving PowerPoint presentations on information about mercury, where it comes from, how it gets into our environment, health effects, what products in our home contain mercury, and proper disposal. The presentation also included a class participation activity on bioaccumulation in the food chain.
- To celebrate ESW and the opening of a new Weather Station exhibit on the waterfront at ECHO at the Leahy Center for Lake Champlain in Burlington, ECHO and the U.S. Geological Survey invited the public to visit the new waterfront exhibit and the related “Be a Watershed Weather Reporter” TV studio inside ECHO.

## Virginia

- The acting director of the U.S. Geological Survey provided an Earth Science Week Message on the importance of studying geosciences.
- Teachers from Virginia celebrated ESW by participating in activities from the ESW Kit.

## Washington

- During ESW, the Geology Library at the Division of Geology and Earth Resources collected cancelled stamps to help the Northwest Federation of Mineralogical Societies raise money for their earth science scholarships.
- In honor of ESW, the Washington Division of Geology and Earth Resources released an ESW website containing geological career information, the Mt. St. Helens videocam, the Washington Geo-Quiz, and field trip suggestions.
- October 14, Bruce Bjornstad, a senior research scientist at Pacific Northwest National Laboratory, gave a brown bag lunch presentation about the proposed National Ice Age Trail at the Department of Natural Resources
- Washington State Librarian Jan Walsh released her fall 2005 *Washington Reads* lists with the topic of geology in honor of ESW.
- To promote ESW, Public Lands Commissioner Doug Sutherland and State Geologist Ron Teissere presented geology books, videos, DVDs, and an ESW kit

- to State Librarian Jan Walsh of the Washington State Library and Eric Wuersten, Science Program Director at the Superintendent of Public Instruction's Office.
- The governor of Washington declared October 9-15, 2005, to be Earth Science Week.
  - The Washington Science Teachers Association posted a special website for Earth Science Week related activities and educational resources.
  - ESW flyers and kit order forms were distributed at the reception counter of the Department of Natural Resources, Division of Geology and Earth Resources.
  - To commemorate ESW, Washington State Geologist, Ron Teissere, presented the new 1:500,000 scale geologic map of Washington to Secretary of State Sam Reed and to Assistant Secretary of State Steve Excell.

#### Washington D.C.

- The National Park Service held a bike tour of the capitol, focusing on the history of waterways.
- A presidential message was issued in recognition of Earth Science Week, October 9-15, 2005.

#### West Virginia

- The New River Gorge National River displayed Earth Science Week materials.

#### Wisconsin

- The Weis Earth Science Museum at the University of Wisconsin, Fox Valley, celebrated ESW with special activities at the museum.
- The University of Wisconsin, Fox Valley, posted information about ESW in the news section.

#### Wyoming

- Devils Tower Monument and Grand Teton National Park displayed Earth Science Week Materials.

#### Nation Wide:

- On October 13, students and teachers across the country observed contrails in the sky as part of the GLOBE project, which gets students involved in real research being conducted by NASA scientists studying the effect these contrails have on global warming.
- The National Science Digital Library posted Earth Science Week on their website.

## International Events

### Argentina

- In honor of Earth Science Week, the department of Geological Sciences at the University of Buenos Aires held a 3 day event in which more than 3,000 visitors participated in exhibitions, conferences, hands on activities, visits to the labs, and workshops for teachers.
- The Ministry of Education of the Nation and the education authorities of the Province of Buenos Aires and that of the City of Buenos Aires, declared the Earth Science Week celebration of Educational Interest.

### Australia

- The National Geographic Channel hosted Savage Earth Week, starting Sunday, October 9<sup>th</sup>, examining major natural disasters throughout time
- Geoscience Australia held an Earth Science Week competition for Canberra schools to build their own seismographs.
- Questacon, the National Science and Technology Centre opened a permanent exhibit, Awesome Earth, the Power and Beauty, in honor of Earth Science Week. Questacon also held special Earth Science Shows, such as Natural Disasters, Tsunami, and Volcanoes, during the month of October.
- The ACT Waterwatch held a festival, “Splash Out in your National Botanic Gardens” in honor of Earth Science Week.
- The National Museum of Australia held special performances of *Gondwana*, a production on the origins of the Australian continent.
- The Australian Reptile Centre two galleries, the Australian Reptile Gallery, and the Prehistory Gallery, which took visitors through Australian habitat types and the evolution of life on earth to the Age of Reptiles, respectively.
- The Australian Academy of Science compiled an annotated list of science books for children for Earth Science Week.
- The Australian Academy of Science interviewed some the greatest Earth scientists in Australia about how they became interested in science, their research, as well as other aspects of their lives.
- The IMAX Theatre in New South Wales celebrated Earth Science Week with showings of *Wild Safari 3D* and *Magificent Desolation: Walking on the Moon 3D*.
- The New South Wales Division of the Geological Society of Australia and The Australian Museum Society held a series of lectures, “Geoscience in the City” and a rocks and minerals workshop for kids in honor of Earth Science Week.
- A free Earth Science Week course on “Teaching the Dynamic Earth” was held in the Geology Teaching Laboratory and Earth Science Museum at the University of Western Australia.
- The Australian Prospectors and Miners Hall of Fame offered tours underground of an old gold mine in honor of Earth Science Week.
- The Tasmanian Museum and Art Gallery in Hobart held a special exhibit during October called Earth Quest, Outer Space to Inner Earth.

- Hastings Caves, Mole Creek Caves and Gunns Plains Caves in Tasmania offered schools the opportunity to participate in hand-on monitoring of caves in several sessions during Earth Science Week.
- Adult Education Tasmania held a course on how to assess a land's hazards and risks effecting foundations, the building and style of houses, gardens and driveways before buying the land.
- The Queensland Resources Council offered free in-school presentations to primary and secondary students.
- The Minister for Mines and Energy offered a scholarship for a native of Northern Territory to study at a university in the Earth sciences/geology.

#### India

- Schools and clubs participated in local Earth Science Week events.

#### Sweden

- Activities and ideas from the Earth Science Week kit were used in planning Sweden's Geology Day, September 9-10, 2005.
- Around 80 organizations celebrated Geology Day in Sweden, with special activities for schools and the general public.

#### Taiwan

- Teachers in Taipei, Taiwan celebrated Earth Science Week by participating in activities found on the Earth Science Week website.