Reinventing Our Educational Models to Train the Next Generation of Environmental Leaders

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Evolution of Leadership Programs

Researching National Environmental Leadership Literature and Curriculum

Evolution of Leadership Programs

— Outcome two environmental leadership books — One on environmental leadership
— Many books on business, military, and political leadership, but none on environmental leadership

(2006) Old and new leadership and differences between organizational leadership with a focus on context, insights from first book...

(1993) First book described environmental leaders and advice of career paths, experiences about skills and styles.

...second book builds on...
Why Environmental Leadership Is Different

Central Premise: Environmental leadership is different from other leadership because of the unique characteristics of environmental problems.

- Long time to solution
- Complexity
- Emotionally charged situations
- Uncertainty and unintended consequences
- Integration across disciplines
- Incomplete and scattered science base

Environmental leadership is different from other leadership because of the unique characteristics of environmental problems.
Leadership Hypotheses

CONTRIBUTING FACTORS:

Several hypotheses noted in the book affect the nature and style of environmental leadership. There is no single leadership model, however, there are commonly identified traits and characteristics. Successful leadership requires diversity of skills and styles. Everyone learns to lead depending on circumstances. Leaders are not born, leadership is a set of skills that can be learned.
Definition of Environmental Leadership

The ability of an individual or group to guide change toward a vision of a more positive future
Understanding societal needs and the ability to articulate how NR management links to those needs

Team approach
Communication with a broad-range of stakeholders to find common ground
Excellent relation building skills
Value diversity
Broad base of knowledge
Adapt to change
Action oriented—take calculated risks
Proactive problem solving
Vision

2004 Survey results...

Environmental Leadership—What are they? Personal characteristics describe Skills and Styles: Critical Skills and Styles
Leadership in Environmental and Natural Resources Science and Management

YALE LEADERSHIP COURSE: “Leadership in Environmental
Curriculum Development

Course Components

- Identify and examine leadership skills and styles; develop list
- Leadership organization prescription exercise; current status,
- Leadership or challenge, options for solving problem; indicators
- Examples of leaders & leadership
- Observation and interaction with diverse leaders; real life
- Most common traits
- To track success/problem solved
Leadership Tree

Elements of Personal and Lifelong Leadership

Leadership Tree
Environmental leadership has never been more important than it is today. The past environmental leadership is more complex than in the present. Two overriding conditions: 21st Century Global Leadership.