Society of Environmental Journalists

16<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference

Oct. 25–29, 2006 Burlington, Vermont

> Co-hosted by The University of Vermont in Burlington & Vermont Law School in South Royalton

# Who better to entice you to attend the Society of Environmental Journalists 16th annual conference in Vermont this October 25-29 than Henry David Thoreau?

Thoreau journeyed by train in the fall of 1850 to the Green Mountain State. "All the hills blush; I think that autumn must be the best season to journey over even the Green Mountains," he wrote. "You frequently exclaim to yourself, what red maples!"

Vermont's famous foliage may be fading by the time SEJ arrives in October, but we think you'll get a compelling view of our state, where Vermonters are finding ways to work the land and still protect the landscape. When the University of Vermont and Vermont Law School invited SEJ to come to Burlington for our annual conference, the theme seemed obvious. Vermont's small size and the desire of its residents to make a living from the land have made it a testing ground for many different approaches to sustainable development.

What better chance for us as environmental journalists to explore an idea that has become the buzzword of the 21st century? Just what is sustainability, and how do we as reporters cover it? We think our plans will give you plenty of opportunity to evaluate the issue for yourself – plus you'll get to hear the latest about other topics critical to covering environmental issues today, from big picture issues like global warming and overpopulation to nitty gritty subjects like how to understand the EPA's Risk Screening Environmental Indicators.

Wednesday kicks off with a full day Environmental Law Workshop for Journalists, hosted by Vermont Law School on its South Royalton campus. Some of the nation's top environmental lawyers will help you find local stories involving the nation's environmental laws, or how to get at the meat in 100-page legal decisions. See page three for more on this special opportunity, as well as a pre-conference journalism boot camp organized by Michigan State University.

On Thursday, we've got nine tours, including trips to Montreal and New York State. A forestry tour will visit logging operations where Vermonters experiment with sustainable forestry practices. Or choose a tour of some of Vermont's most innovative farms, where growers and dairymen are lessening their environmental impact while meeting the bottom line. Other tours involve a hike up Camel's Hump, Vermont's signature mountain, to see how acid rain and other forest assaults have played out in a mountain landscape, or a journey to the ski town of Stowe, where we'll look at the intersection of recreation and economic development.

If water is more your interest, you'll want to take the boat trip on Lake Champlain to examine water quality and the effects of invasive species, or journey to the Hudson River to our west, where we'll look at a cleanup of GE's massive Superfund site in the river bed. If you're curious about our neighbors to the north, SEJ's Canadian contingent will showcase Montreal and some of the amazing research being conducted at the Biôdome and the Montreal Botanical Gardens. We'll also look at hunting issues with a visit to the spectacular Missisquoi National Wildlife Refuge, and explore the history of conservation in the United States with a visit to the Marsh-Billings-Rockefeller National Historical Park in Woodstock.

Back in Burlington, we've got two days of fabulous sessions, all scheduled for the Sheraton Burlington Hotel and Conference Center. During Friday's plenary session, we'll ask thinkers like Wangari Maathai (invited), Wes Jackson and Bill McKibben to define their views on sustainability, and on Friday night, you'll get to sample excellent eateries in downtown Burlington as part of our popular beat dinners. On Saturday night, we've got a savory slowfood bash at Shelburne Farms, a National Historic Landmark, with a great dance band and plans for a discussion with folk legend Pete Seeger (invited). Sunday, we'll spend the morning at the University of Vermont's Billings Student Center, an architectural gem on the UVM green, where we'll nosh on breakfast treats and contemplate New England's literary and environmental history legacies. Our post-conference tour takes us west, to the Adirondacks, where you can spend four days exploring the six-million-acre park, with its unique patchwork of public and private lands.

So follow in the footsteps of Thoreau, and join us in Vermont this October!

Nancy Bazilchuk 2006 Conference Chair



#### TOURS

#### **THURSDAY, OCTOBER 26**

#### In the Field, Sheraton Hotel

Advance registration is required for all Thursday tours. Attendance on each tour is strictly limited, so registering early is important. Departure times vary (see below), but all Thursday tours will return to hotels at about 5:00 p.m. Please dress for possible inclement weather and bring rain gear on all tours. Planning was still underway at the time of printing, so please visit www.sej.org/confer/index1.htm for more details. The Camel's Hump and Man on the Mountain tours include strenuous hiking and require hiking boots. None of the other tours do. But, for those with special needs, the Montreal and Lake Champlain tours are best for wheelchair accessibility.

### 1. Bienvenue à Montréal!

(6:30 a.m. departure, lunch included, \$20)

Visit one of North America's oldest, most cosmopolitan cities and see how it's addressing ecological challenges. We first drive through Vermont's Green Mountains and Quebec's Sutton range. A biologist will identify fauna and explain the importance of establishing a cross-border green corridor. Our first Montréal stop: Parc Mont-Royal. We'll learn about strategies to protect "the mountain" (designed by Frederick Law Olmsted) against urban encroachment. Then it's Concordia University's rooftop greenhouse to find out about natural dyes, composting and other initiatives. At Montréal's renowned *Jardin Botanique*, we'll smell the roses and learn about using plants for water filtration. Finally, the Biôdome offers a gateway to the Laurentian Forest and four other ecosystems. Pack your passports. On y va!

## **2. Restoring "America's First River": Profile of a Superfund Mega-Site** (7:00 a.m. departure, lunch included, \$20)

At 200 miles long and 23 years old, New York's Hudson River Superfund site is one of the nation's longest running, most controversial and costly toxic-waste clean-up projects. It's also one of Superfund's highest-profile sites. We'll explore this scenic and historic river on the eve of its cleanup, with walking and boat tours that include the industrial complex built to process PCB-laden muck dredged from the river, and the General Electric Co. manufacturing plant that is now a remediation headquarters. Along the way, we'll meet with federal, state and local officials, scientists, legal scholars, fishermen and advocates.

#### **3. From Cow Power to Urban Farms: Sustainable Agriculture in the 21st Century** (7:15 a.m. departure, lunch included, \$20)

It's no longer true that Vermont has more cows than people. Yet agriculture is still a huge part of the state's culture and economy. This tour will take participants to the leading edge of sustainable agriculture. We'll start with a visit to Blue Spruce Farm in the heart of the Champlain Valley's dairy country, where 1,500 cows do double duty, making milk and electricity. A methane digester converts their manure into fuel and fertilizer. The methane is burned to generate electricity that the local utility markets as "cow power." We'll finish the day at the Intervale in Burlington, an incubator for small-scale sustainable agriculture. Originally settled by Vermont pioneer Ethan Allen, the Intervale is now home to more than a dozen urban farms and community supported agriculture enterprises.

## **4. The Conservation Movement: Past, Present and Future** (7:30 a.m. departure, lunch included, \$20)

We'll visit the new (1998) Marsh-Billings-Rockefeller National Historical Park in Woodstock, a postcard-perfect Vermont village. See the rolling hills that inspired one of America's earliest conservationists, George Perkins Marsh (Man and Nature, 1864), later enchanted park magnate Laurance Rockefeller, and is now a living museum to conservation history. We'll discuss Marsh's conservation influence, the Rockefeller family's national and international park legacy, and how a small town changes when a national park moves in. Then we'll take a guided hike up Mount Tom through the park's diverse forest stands for a firsthand view of landmanagement history and current best practices. Lunch will be in Woodstock, with extra free time for your choice of wandering the village streets, touring the Marsh mansion with its collection of memorabilia or visiting the Billings Farm and Museum, a working dairy farm adjacent to the park.

#### 5. The Acid Test: Camel's Hump

(8:00 a.m. departure, lunch included, \$20)

Vermont is filled with mountains, but only one appears on the state quarter: Camel's Hump. Registered as a National Natural Landmark by the National Park Service, and "preserved in a primeval state" in a 19,500-acre state forest, Camel's Hump has still not escaped the ravages of pollution. University of Vermont scientists began studying the effects of acid rain here over 20 years ago and research continues to this day. On a hike up the mountain we'll visit research sites and explore the impact of acid rain on plants, animals and trees.

#### 6. Man on the Mountain

(8:30 a.m. departure, lunch included, \$20)

Walk a piece of the Long Trail, the nation's oldest long-distance hiking trail, as we visit Mount Mansfield, Vermont's highest peak. Traversing Mount Mansfield's summit along the Long Trail, we'll see alpine flora and talk with conservation leaders about the challenges involved in protecting the summit, including: coexisting with ski areas; addressing high elevation water quality issues; managing the effects of the more than 40,000 hikers who cross the summit every year; and resolving the conflict caused by communications towers and wind turbines — an issue that has divided the environmental community. These and other challenges face not only this beautiful peak, but also countless other precious ridgelines across the nation.

## **7. Keeping a Patchwork Forest from Unraveling** (9:00 a.m. departure, lunch included, \$20)

Vermont is the nation's third most forested state, after Maine and New Hampshire. These fabled forests are largely family-owned, and are within a day's drive of 70 million people, many of them eager to escape to the woods for a weekend... or forever. Development pressure is extreme, with grim consequences for wildlife and communities. Forestry can play a critical role in maintaining a relatively intact forest, or it can be the first step in a process of liquidation. We'll visit active and recent logging operations to witness firsthand the not-so-obvious differences between forests managed for long-term sustainability and forests managed for more immediate commercial goals. We'll discuss green certification, learn about the prospects of the local timber industry in light of foreign competition, examine fragmentation impacts on wildlife habitat, and discuss the ramifications of Timberland Investment Management Organizations (TIMOs), the controversial new owners of millions of acres.

## 8. Lake Champlain: Ecosystem at Risk

(10:00 a.m. departure, lunch included, \$20)

Spend the day exploring the environmental threats to Lake Champlain, the nation's sixth largest freshwater lake and a laboratory for research on eutrophication, invasive species and the conservation of historic sunken vessels. In the morning we'll look at innovative efforts to stem urban and suburban stormwater pollution. Then we'll board the University of Vermont research vessel Melosira to explore Burlington Bay. We'll analyze water samples, scout the bay's fish population and use research equipment to look below the waves at a 150-year-old sunken sailing canal boat.

## 9. Green Sneakers and Blaze Orange: Can Traditional Conservation and Environmentalism Coexist?

(12:30 p.m. departure, snack included, \$20)

Hunters and anglers were the early leaders of the conservation movement in America, but many now feel like outsiders in today's environmental movement. This tour will have two stops: The Missisquoi National Wildlife Refuge on Lake Champlain, where hunters and birders often inhabit the same space; and a shooting range where journalists can try their hand at a round of skeet and talk with folks who hunt, fish and trap. The tour will explore one of the burning issues of our time: How can consumptive users and non-consumptive users harmoniously share our increasingly limited natural resources?

### AGENDA

**SEJ's 2006 Annual Conference officially begins Wednesday evening, October 25**, with a Welcome Reception and Awards Presentation at our conference headquarters hotel. But some will get an early start through special pre-conference opportunities offered this year in collaboration with academic partners. Check these out!

### Monday, Oct. 23 – Wednesday, Oct. 25

### **Environmental Reporting Boot Camp**

Whether you're new to the beat or a veteran wanting to bolster your toolbox, this pre-conference boot camp offers something for everyone. Michigan State University's Knight Center for Environmental Journalism will train journalists at a threeday workshop in Burlington. Strengthen your reporting skills with sessions on computer-assisted reporting, writing, ethics, investigative techniques and topical issues. This program includes the workshop on environmental law put on by the Vermont Law School (see below). Fellowships for the three-day pre-conference event are awarded on a competitive basis. The application deadline is Aug. 1. *See http://www.ej.msu.edu for application, fee and other information.* 

## Wednesday, October 25

## **Environmental Law Workshop for Journalists**

Boost your legal know-how at Vermont Law School's environmental law and policy training workshop. Experts on numerous specialties offer an insider look at legal principles, briefings on indispensable research tools and hot topics, and valuable story leads, as well as the reference and contact information to turn those leads into finished stories. Journalists can explore emerging issues in energy law, land use, and federal and state statutes through panels, hands-on research, and role-playing. Bus leaves the Sheraton Burlington Hotel and Conference Center at 7:30 a.m. and returns at 5:00 p.m. Lunch along the scenic White River and refreshment breaks are included. Pre-registration and \$30 fee required. *See www.vermontlaw.edu/ EnvLawWorkshop for more details*.

## **Opening Reception at the Sheraton Burlington Hotel and Conference Center**

Ben Cohen and Jerry Greenfield mixed down-country ingenuity with a healthy dollop of rich Vermont cream and came up with Vermont's most famous export, Ben & Jerry's Homemade Ice Cream. But the duo also aggressively pursued a social mission by donating 7.5 percent of their pre-tax profits to social causes, and made sustainable farming a cornerstone in their success. We've invited Ben and Jerry to welcome us to Vermont and tell their story of building a sustainable enterprise in a small New England state – and what happens when the global economy catches up with you. Join us for drinks, hors d'oeuvres (and even ice cream) in the Sheraton's Emerald Ballroom.

## SEJ Awards for Reporting on the Environment

Share the pride of your profession at the annual presentation of SEJ's prestigious environmental journalism awards. SEJ will award up to nine top prizes of \$1,000 each in broadcast, print and online categories to recognize this year's top environmental journalism.

## **Thursday, October 26**

**Tours**: See previous page for details and logistics for SEJ's 2006 crop of unique field expeditions.

# Independent Hospitality Events, Newfangled Cars and Exhibitor Sneak Peek

Thursday evening is all about networking and fun. Wine and dine with environmental exhibitors and independent hosts. Festivities kick off immediately following your return from tours. View the newest environmentally friendly and alternative-fuel vehicles right in the Sheraton's spacious exhibition hall and sign up for your personal Friday and Saturday test drives. Exhibitors will have booths set up too. *Check www.sej.org in August for the 2006 vehicle and exhibitors list.* 

#### Friday, October 27

#### **Breakfast Sessions**

Join colleagues for a good Vermont breakfast over the topic of your choice. Pre-registration required. \$15

## 1. The Biggest Story, the Biggest Challenge: Capturing Climate Change

Climate Change is the biggest story of our lives, and perhaps the most difficult to tell. Critical natural support systems are being disrupted wholesale, but the fundamental causes are often obscure. The science is complex and the challenges daunting, and explaining them can bring on denial, even hopelessness. The culprit is us and how we fuel our lives, but we don't really want to know it. How do you capture a story that demands to be told but eludes effective telling? A panel of some of the best in the business including **Elizabeth Kolbert** of *The New Yorker*, and **Bill Blakemore** of ABC News, will discuss how they bring the overwhelming story of climate change down to earth.

## 2. Covering Disasters... Without Becoming One

Big disasters are big news for all media, but they often place environment reporters in the spotlight trying to explain the dangers, what happened and why. Whether it's hurricanes like Katrina, air quality problems from 9-11, mining disasters, forest fires or tsunamis, your editors will likely turn to you to try to sort things out, or to be the reporter who gets sent in. How can journalists be better prepared when the unimaginable actually happens? Veteran reporters will share their experiences responding on the fly when natural or manmade disasters strike. They'll also discuss how to cover these stories before disaster hits your town.

## Opening Plenary Session: Sustainability: What is It? Who Decides? How Do We Get There?

Development, growth, industry, businesses, forestry and agriculture have all had the word "sustainable" appended to their names to suggest an environmentally friendly approach. But what does sustainability really mean in an age where more than six billion people share the planet and its dwindling resources? Come listen as some of the world's leading thinkers on sustainability share their thoughts and visions for the future. Speakers so far include: Nobel laureate **Wangari Maathai** (invited), author **Bill McKibben** and sustainable agriculture guru **Wes Jackson**.

### **Network Lunch**

One of SEJ's most popular conference offerings returns in 2006 with a fresh round of unique discussion tables with a wide variety of reporting tips, timely topics and lively newsmakers.

## **SEJ Beat Dinners**

Burlington's varied restaurant scene and spectacular views of Lake Champlain make an unforgettable backdrop for a night on the town. Join your colleagues at Burlington's best restaurants to talk about the latest and hottest issues on the environmental beat. Each dinner is organized by an SEJ member and will be assigned to a specific restaurant. Sign up on-site for the dinner of your choice. Attendees pay for their own dinners.

## Saturday, October 28

## **Breakfast Session**

Join colleagues for a good Vermont breakfast and discussion. Pre-registration required. \$15

**Covering the Big Stories: Up a Creek, Without a News Hook** How can reporters cover issues like sustainability, consumption, climate change or loss of biodiversity without a news hook or a sympathetic editor? These big-picture issues are absolutely critical to covering the environment, but by their very nature they are usually not newsy. Join two veteran reporters who do have sympathetic editors, **Andy Revkin** of *The New York Times* and **Tom Knudson** of *The Sacramento Bee*, in this interactive writing workshop. We'll examine the evolution of environmental coverage from smokestack and drainpipe stories to the 21st Century's increasingly complex environmental problems. We'll also discuss turning generic issues like sustainability and loss of biodiversity into readable, local journalism that might help you sell these stories to your editors.

# Lunch and Plenary Session: Government Secrecy: What We Don't Know Can't...

Shortly after 9-11, Attorney General John Ashcroft reversed a long trend toward increased government disclosure and ordered federal agencies to err on the side of secrecy. With America under attack, Ashcroft argued, we must keep critical information out of the hands of our enemies. But the information shutdown goes far beyond traditional national security to the EPA, NASA and a host of government agencies. In fact, many argue that the Bush administration is the most secretive in recent history. Now, five years later, journalists and others are trying to turn the tide. Is America safer with less information? We'll throw the question to an expert panel. Confirmed speakers include: **Sen. Patrick Leahy**, D-VT, and **James Hansen** of NASA.

#### **Saturday Afternoon Mini-Tours**

Sign up online beginning Oct. 1 or on-site beginning Wednesday afternoon for SEJ's fabulous mini-tours. Options will include a trip to the University of Vermont's Proctor Maple Research Center, where you can learn the secrets of why leaves turn colors, the effects of pollution blowing in from the Midwest, what makes sap sweet and whether global warming will spell the demise of Vermont's maple industry; a visit to the Burlington Intervale, where we'll tour the largest wood-fired power plant in the United States along with the Intervale Conservation Nursery; a trip on the research vessel *Melosira* to check out water quality in Burlington Bay; and walking tours of Shelburne Farms, where we'll get an in-depth look at everything from artisanal cheese-making to the facility's sustainable forestry operations.

# Party at Shelburne Farms: Slow Food: A Taste of Sustainability

Live what you learned this week as you party on the shores of Lake Champlain in the century-old Coach Barn at Shelburne Farms, once the pastoral playground and experimental farm of the "new aristocracy." What better way to witness the growing success of Vermont's sustainable agriculture then to taste your way through these exquisite traditional foods? Local farmers will be on hand to discuss the cornucopia of in-season Vermontgrown foods and drinks. Dance to the sound of some of the state's top musicians along with a few musical surprises. (We have high hopes that folk musician legend Pete Seeger will finish his songbook in time to join us as part of the evening's program and festivities.) This evening promises to be a feast for all the senses. Pre-registration and \$35 fee required.

### Sunday, October 29

#### New England Nature Writers: A Breakfast Café

New England's intimate landscapes have long inspired nature writers, whether it's Henry Beston's vision of Cape Cod night skies, where "we have a glimpse of ourselves and of our world islanded in its stream of stars," or Edward Hoagland marveling over "a noisy energetic tributary stream, chiseling potholes and digging rock sculptures in rhythmic curves." Join us for breakfast at University of Vermont's Billings Student Center, a 19th Century architectural masterpiece, where we'll host an authors panel to discuss New England's contributions to literary environmental writing, along with a workshop on long-form narrative journalism. This morning writer's café will also feature readings by select New England writers.

Buses will depart the Sheraton at 8:30 a.m. Pre-registration with \$15 fee required for breakfast. See registration form. Buses return to the Sheraton no later than 12:30 p.m.

#### **Post-Conference Tour**

#### The Wild, Wild East

(Bus departs Sunday, October 29, 12:00 p.m., following the morning program at the University of Vermont. Bus returns to Burlington Airport and the Sheraton Hotel by 1:00 p.m., Wednesday, November 1. \$230 fee includes transportation, lodging and several meals.)

Teddy Roosevelt learned about preserving wilderness while hiking in New York State's Adirondack Park. Today, more than 10 million people visit the park each year for its outstanding beauty and wildness. Larger than Yosemite, the Grand Canyon and Yellowstone combined, the park's 5.8 million acres has become an international model for park development. That's because about 45 percent of the park is publicly owned and protected by the state constitution as "forever wild"; yet 150,000 people live in the park year-round. Is this the future of park development? Come learn how well the park does at preserving nature while meeting the needs of those who live there.

Join us for four days and three nights of kayaking, hiking and discussions about the future of park preservation around the world. Enjoy a ride on the *W.W. Durant*, reminiscent of the country's gilded age. Visit the Vanderbilt family's wilderness retreat. Stay in an Adirondacks Great Camp, and learn all about the unique park called the Adirondacks.

Deadline to sign-up is Aug. 1. Deadline to cancel for refund, less \$25 processing fee, is Aug. 15. Substitutions are accepted. *Warning:* This tour will not be confirmed until Aug. 16. Book flights before Aug. 16 at your own risk. Check with the SEJ Office for final dates and logistics, on Aug. 16. (sej@sej.org or 215-884-8174.)

## SESSIONS

Friday and Saturday Concurrent Sessions Check www.sej.org for updates on sessions and speakers. Please note: SEJ members and working journalists will be given preference during the question-and-answer periods.

## **The Craft**

- \* The Environmental Journalist's Toolbox
- \* Reading Alphabet Soup: Understanding the TRI and the New RSEI
- \* The Ultimate Blogshop: How to Build a Successful Blog
- \* Editors' Pitch Slam: Instant Feedback on Your Freelance Ideas
- \* The Well-Educated Writer: Journalism Fellowships and Continuing Education
- \* On the Air: Tools for Broadcast Journalists, from TV Sweeps to Using Sound
- \* Picturing the Story: Using Images to Tell Your Tale
- \* Teaching Environmental Journalism
- \* The Lawyer is In: An Open Clinic Staffed by Environmental Law Experts

## **The Land**

- \* A Growing Problem: Eating as an Environmental Issue
- \* Seeing the Forests and the Trees: Sustainable Forestry in the 21st Century
- \* Protecting the Land: Land Trusts and Conservation Easements
- \* Restoring Endangered Species: What Price Recovery?

## **The Nation**

- \* The Politicization of Science: Attacks on Scientific Integrity
- \* Whither Congress? Midterm Elections and the Environment
- \* The U.S. Farm Bill: It's Not Just Crop Payments
- \* Blowout: America's Aging Water, Pipeline and Sewer Infrastructures

## The Globe

- \* Globalization and the Environment: NAFTA, CAFTA and GATT
- \* The Old World Agenda: How the E.U. Shapes U.S. Environmental Policy
- \* Too Many People? Environment and Population
- \* Shrinking Globe, Growing Bugs: The Avian Flu and Other Diseases

## **The Border**

- \* Wolves Don't Need Passports: Building Wildlife Corridors
- \* The Great Lakes (and One Pretty Good One)
- \* Wildlife Trafficking in North America
- \* Invasives: Unwelcome Immigrants or Inevitable Inhabitants?

## **Business and Industry**

- \* Pricing Sustainability: Private Benefits, Social Costs and Green Taxes
- \* High-Tech Trash: E-Waste and Toxic Wastes
- \* Negawatts, Not Megawatts: An Energy-Efficiency Utility at Work
- \* Green Labeling and Greenwashing

## **The Future**

- \* Global Warming in Your State: Climate Change's Regional Impacts
- \* Beyond Oil: Reality and Alternative Energy
- \* The Future of Farming: Can Traditional Crop and Livestock Farming Be Sustained?
- \* Cradle to Grave: New Nukes and Old Radioactive Waste

### **REGISTRATION INFORMATION**

#### Instructions

Register Online at www.sej.org/go/ conference2006.htm

Mail conference registration to: Convention Management Services, Inc. SEJ Conference 500 Business Centre Drive Lansing, MI 48917

Make your check payable to SEJ.

Paying by credit card? Fax registration to: (517) 485-4178

Questions? Call (800) 878-5131 (US) or (517)485-2309 and ask for SEJ Conference.

**Registration can be confirmed only when** payment is received.

Cancellation Policy: If you cancel your registration in writing by Oct. 1, 2006, you will receive a full refund less a \$35 processing fee. Non-attendance does not constitute cancellation. Substitutions may be made. Mail or fax your request for cancellation to Convention Management Services, Inc.

Current members only: You may include your dues payment of \$45 (students and Canadians, \$35; Mexicans, \$30) with your registration fee. You must already be a member of SEJ to renew with conference registration.

#### **Conference Registration Fees**

Member rates apply to SEJ members only. SEJ membership is restricted to journalists, professors and students. Please visit www.sej. org or contact the SEJ office at (215) 884-8174 or sej@sej.org about eligibility and to receive an application. Membership applications submitted after Oct. 1, 2006, may not be processed in time for the conference.

Membership applicants: do not include your new member fees with conference registration. Send your membership application and member fees to:

SEJ Membership Department P.O. Box 2492 Jenkintown, PA 19046

 Members

 By 8/15/06
 \$170

 After 8/15/06
 \$200

 Single day (Please specify which day)

 By 8/15/06
 \$85

 After 8/15/06
 \$95

Students \$65 (Membership not needed for student rate. However, students may be eligible for membership. Visit www.sej.org for details.)

Non-members

Save money! Subscriptions to SEJ's quarterly newsletter, SEJournal, include conference fee discounts for up to three people per subscription.

#### **Subscription Rates**

• Corporate: \$200 (saves 10% off nonmember registration fees for up to three people)

• Government: \$80 (saves 30% off nonmember registration fees for up to three people)

Nonprofit: \$75 (saves 30% off non-member registration fees for up to three people)
University: \$55 (saves 50% off non-member registration fees for up to three people)
Small Nonprofit: \$50 (saves 50% off non-member registration fees for up to three people)

• Individual: \$45 (saves 50% off non-member registration fees for up to three people)

To take advantage of subscriber discounts, subscribe today by including your subscription fee with your conference payment. Please contact SEJ at sej@sej.org or (215) 884-8174 if you are unsure about your category.

| Corporate Subscribers |       |
|-----------------------|-------|
| By 8/15/06            | \$630 |
| After 8/15/06         | \$675 |

Single Day (Please specify which day) By 8/15/06 \$250 After 8/15/06 \$275

Nonprofit/Government Subscribers By 8/15/06 \$490 After 8/15/06 \$525

Single Day (Please specify which day)By 8/15/06\$150After 8/15/06\$175

Individual, University, Small Nonprofit(annual budget of \$1,000,000 or less)SubscribersBy 8/15/06\$350After 8/15/06\$375

Single Day (Please specify which day) By 8/15/06 \$100 After 8/15/06 \$125

Non-Members without SubscriptionBy 8/15/06\$700After 8/15/06\$750

Single Day (Please specify which day)By 8/15/06\$300After 8/15/06\$325

### **Important Deadlines**

August 1: Deadline to sign up for Post-Conference Tour: The Wild, Wild East

August 15: Postmark deadline for early discount registration Deadline to cancel Post-Conference Tour registration for refund less \$25 processing fee.

August 16: Final logistics for Post-Conference Tour. Okay to book flights once you have these details.

September 29: Deadline to book rooms at the Sheraton Burlington Hotel and Conference Center

October 1: Deadline to cancel conference registration for refund less \$35 processing fee (see cancellation policy)

#### **Transportation**

From Burlington International Airport. The Sheraton Burlington Hotel and Conference Center, SEJ's primary hotel and conference site, is located just 1.7 miles from the airport. The hotel's free shuttle runs from 5:00 a.m. to roughly 11:00 p.m. every day. It's about a 10-minute ride depending on traffic, but rarely more than 15 minutes. The courtesy phone for pick up from the airport is located in the baggage claim area. The hotel is usually able to get your shuttle to the airport in 15-20 minutes or less.

**Driving Directions.** 

www.sheratonburlington.com/direct.html

#### Lodging

The Sheraton Burlington Hotel and Conference Center, SEJ's primary conference hotel, is the site of most conference sessions and events—and just 1.7 miles away from the Airport. Conference registration will begin at the Sheraton Burlington Hotel and Conference Center Tues., Oct. 24, at 3:00 p.m.

Make it easy on yourself and book online! Just follow this link: www.starwoodmeeting.com/StarGroupsWeb/ res?id=0506085097&key=23220

Sheraton Burlington Hotel 870 Williston Road Burlington, VT 05403 www.sheratonburlington.com Phone: (802) 865-6600; Fax: (802) 865-6670 Rate: \$87 (single/double) Reservation Deadline: September 29, 2006, for SEJ conference rate.





VERMONT LAW SCHOOL



Founded in 1990, the Society of Environmental Journalists exists to advance public understanding of environmental issues by improving the quality, accuracy and visibility of environmental news reporting. SEJ works to develop more and better news coverage of environmental issues through programs and services designed by and for journalists. For more information about SEJ, please visit www.sej.org

The University of Vermont, fifth oldest in New England, aims to become the nation's premier environmental university. Since Kaplan/ Newsweek cited UVM as one of the nation's 25 hottest schools in its 2006 College Guide, applications surged more than 37 percent over last year. More than 10,000 students are enrolled. Visit www.uvm.edu.

Vermont Law School, an independent, private institution, is Vermont's only law school. A leading program in Environmental Law complements the general law curriculum. Winner, American Bar Association Award for Distinguished Achievement in Environmental Law Policy. VLS is located on the White River in South Royalton (central Vermont). For more information, visit www.vermontlaw.edu.

SEJ 2006 Annual Conference Cheryl Dorschner College of Agriculture and Life Sciences 208 Morrill Hall 146 University Place Burlington, VT 05405-0106

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