



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**Maine Environmental Educators  
To Gather for Annual Conference**

**What:** The Maine Environmental Education Association Conference

**When:** Friday, April 1.

**Where:** Chewonki's Center for Environmental Education, in Wiscasset

**Keynote:** Lisa Pohlmann, Natural Resources Council of Maine

**Register:** [www.meeassociation.org](http://www.meeassociation.org).

**Details:** Registration/ \$65 and includes conference, lunch, snacks, and annual MEEA membership.

The Maine Environmental Education Association (MEEA) Conference announced today that Lisa Pohlmann will be the keynote speaker at the organization's upcoming annual conference scheduled for Friday, April 1 at the Chewonki Foundation in Wiscasset.

Pohlmann is the newly appointed executive director at the Natural Resources Council of Maine, a leading environmental advocacy organization in the state. This year's MEEA conference will bring together Maine leaders and practitioners in education, health care, agriculture, energy, youth programs, and environmental advocacy to address the needs of environmental educators in a climate of enormous change.

Topics and workshops of the day will include:

- Children's Health - how to incorporate movement and outdoor time to address the epidemic of obesity;
- Twenty-First Century Skills - using environmental education to build skills including problem-solving, creativity, inquiry and communication needed to be a productive and involved citizen;
- Energy Needs - Balancing changing societal needs in sustainability, climate change, energy resources and transportation; and
- Sustainable Food - workshops on local food movements, farms-to-schools, and connecting our citizens to food sources and agriculture.

“With Ms. Pohlmann’s address and an impressive slate of workshops, this year’s conference is shaping up to be one of our best in our 25 + years of providing the conference,” said MEEA president Pat Maloney. She added that the MEEA board has exciting plans to present both its annual lifetime achievement award as well as two outstanding educator awards.

To register for the conference, go to : [www.meeassociation.org](http://www.meeassociation.org).

### **About Lisa Pohlmann**

Lisa Pohlmann is executive director at the Natural Resources Council of Maine (NRCM). NRCM is Maine’s leading environmental advocacy organization with a 50 year history and more than 12,000 members and activists across Maine and beyond. NRCM works to protect Maine’s woods, waters and wildlife, and the health of Maine people and our environment. Lisa’s first joined the NRCM team in 2000, as a member of the board of directors, later serving as board president. In 2008, she accepted the position of deputy director. She previously served as associate director for the Maine Center for Economic

Policy, working on sustainable economic development and other social and environmental policy issues. Lisa started her career in Maine as the executive director of New Hope for Women, a domestic violence organization in the Midcoast. Pohlmann has a Masters from the Muskie School of Public Service at the University of Southern Maine. A resident of Jefferson, Lisa has had a lifelong love of the outdoors, and regularly kayaks, hikes, skis, and camps across Maine.

### **About The Maine Environmental Education Association**

The Maine Environmental Education Association (MEEA) facilitates and promotes environmental education in Maine through the sharing of ideas, resources, information, and cooperative programs among educators, organizations, and concerned individuals. MEEA is built on the strengths and contributions of our members. Created in 1982, MEEA helps organizations, schools, groups, educational programs, and individuals promote and expand environmental education in Maine and acts as a clearing house, keeping groups and individuals informed of issues and events in the field of environmental education.

### **About Chewonki**

The Chewonki Foundation is a nonprofit educational institution established in 1962 and located on a 400-acre peninsula in Wiscasset, Maine. Chewonki is dedicated to helping people grow individually and in community with others by providing educational experiences that foster an understanding, appreciation and stewardship of the natural world. Chewonki's leaders challenge participants both physically and intellectually with activities that build self-confidence, a sense of community, and a greater awareness of the inter relatedness of the world around us. The Chewonki Foundation offers summer camp programs; wilderness trips for teenagers and adults; residential, school-year environmental education programs; traveling lessons in natural science to schools; and a residential semester program of academic study for 11th grade students.