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#### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

### ECOLOGICAL FIELD EXPERIENCE INSTITUTE

CHARLESTON, IL--Twenty area teachers recently participated in an Ecological Field Experience Institute hosted by Eastern Illinois University.

The program, designed and directed by Marylin Lisowski, associate professor in Eastern's Department of Elementary and Junior High School Education, was aimed at improving science instruction by enhancing teachers' knowledge of science content and processes.

The teachers assessed the water quality of the Lake Charleston and Oakland Spillways and studied two types of prairies in Loxa and Ashmore.

ADD 1/1/1/1 TEACHERS

Their research was used to create activity guides and field manuals that will be shared with teachers throughout the state and used to help students learn more about the environment.

Another group of teachers participated in Project C.A.R.E. (Concepts, Actions and Research about the Environment) at Eastern.

This project, also designed by Lisowski, informed participants how to teach children about trees and pond life and gave them hands-on experience surveying ponds and prairies.

Both projects were funded by a grant from the federal Dwight E. Eisenhower Mathematics and Science Education Program through the Illinois Board of Higher Education.

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Note to the Editor (Charleston Times-Courier): Teachers participating in the Ecological Field Experience Institute were Les Edwards, Humboldt Elementary School; Marijon Stites, Oakland High School; and Donna Richardson, Mark Doan, Mark Niebrugge, and Scott Price, all from Lake Crest Elementary School in Oakland. Suzie Sardella of Charleston, a recent Eastern graduate, also participated in the field experience.

Project C.A.R.E. participants were Gretchen Childress, Nancy Eskew, Sharon Gough, Elaine Hood, Mary Ellen Jordan, and Nancy Meese, all from Lake Crest Elementary; Beverly Edwards, Humboldt Elementary School; Phyllis Sardella, Jefferson Elementary School in Charleston; and Elaine Shoot, Kansas Elementary School.