



# News Release

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## **MEDIA ADVISORY**

### **Interior's Annual Rachel Carson Lecture features workshop on youth gardening**

WASHINGTON – The National Business Center's Cultural Resources and Events Division of the Department of the Interior University will host a workshop on engaging young people in outdoor spaces such as gardens and parks with Professor Marcia Eames-Sheavly from Cornell University. This workshop is free and open to the public, and will provide educators, parents, childcare providers, and park and garden professionals with ideas and concepts to help them get kids outside and keep them engaged in the natural world. Due to limited space reservations are required and may be made by calling 202/208-5805.

Marcia Eames-Sheavly works as a leader and coordinator of garden-based learning programs for community and youth development. She also supervises independent studies that focus on art and garden-based learning. She has received the American Horticultural Society's 2005 Jane L. Taylor Award for her efforts in encouraging the development of youth gardens. Eames-Sheavly has been involved in an extraordinary number of horticultural teaching activities and youth garden workshops at Cornell University, where she works as a professor. She has worked with 4-H youth development within the garden-based learning arena, and has also published many works on children's gardens.

*About the Annual Rachel Carson Lecture:* In July of 1956 Rachel Carson (1907-1964) wrote an article in *Woman's Home Companion* magazine titled "Help your Child to Wonder", later published as "The Sense of Wonder", which discussed ways to engage a child out of doors, in nature, to ensure a life long interest in the natural world. Thirty-two years later we are well aware of the effects, both physical and mental, a life spent in a sterile, indoor environment has on children, and in 2007 (the centennial anniversary of Rachel Carson's birth) the Cultural Resources and Events division of the Department of the Interior University instituted the annual Rachel Carson lecture to increase children's activity in nature.



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**WHO:** Professor Marcia Eames-Sheavly, Cornell University

**WHAT:** Workshop on engaging young people in outdoor spaces

**WHEN:** Wednesday, May 7, 2008 10:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.

**WHERE:** 7000A, DOI Main Interior Building

**RSVP REQUIRED: 202-208-5805**

**Special Assistance** – For those in need of special assistance (such as an interpreter for the hearing impaired) or inquiries regarding the handicapped entrance, please notify Brenda Woods at (202) 208-3617 in advance of the workshop. Special needs will be accommodated whenever possible.

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