

JOINT NEWS RELEASE

USDA Forest Service - Northern Region



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Aldo Leopold Documentary *Green Fire* Showing in Missoula & Hamilton

Green Fire film connects legendary conservationist Aldo Leopold with modern environmental projects

Missoula, MT—During Earth Week on April 20 and 21, 2011 the Northern Region of the U.S. Forest Service will host a free screening of the new film *Green Fire*, the first full-length, high definition documentary film ever made about legendary conservationist Aldo Leopold. The film explores Aldo Leopold's life in the early part of the twentieth century and the many ways his idea of a land ethic continues to be applied all over the world today.

The film is being shown locally at two Montana venues: The Historic Wilma Theater in downtown Missoula on April 20 and in the Glaxo Smith Kline Building in Hamilton on April 21. Additional venues across Idaho, Montana and Washington are forthcoming.

Green Fire: Aldo Leopold and a Land Ethic for Our Time is a production of the Aldo Leopold Foundation, the U.S. Forest Service, and the Center for Humans and Nature. Although probably best known as the author of the conservation classic *A Sand County Almanac*, Leopold is also renowned for his work as an educator, philosopher, forester, ecologist, and wilderness advocate.

Missoula audiences can anticipate a gallery art show prior to the film screening and a dynamic panel discussion highlighting community members that will share their thoughts and experiences surrounding the topic of: *Citizen Conservation and Contemporary Reflections of Aldo Leopold's Land Ethic*. The art show will be a collection of student and professional artwork hosted by the Aldo Leopold Wilderness Research Institute, Rocky Mountain Research Station on the UM campus and the Arthur Carhart Wilderness Training Center in conjunction with the Flathead N.F. Artist-In-Residence Program.

“The concepts of Aldo Leopold's Land Ethic are just as relevant today, if not more relevant. The documentary, *Green Fire* highlights ongoing projects and encourages dialogue between organizations, agencies, non-profits and private landowners to further connect people and the natural world to continually care for our lands,” explained Northern Regional Forester Leslie A.C. Weldon.

Throughout 2011, the film is being shown in community screening venues. It will then be released on public television in early 2012. *Green Fire: Aldo Leopold and a Land Ethic for Our Time* explores Leopold's influence in the conservation movement and offers a modern perspective to current environmental issues. Scholars of Leopold's work yield new connections and work to inspire an ethical relationship between people and the land. Leopold is regarded by many as one of the most influential conservation thinkers of the twentieth century, and the film highlights the ways his legacy continues to encourage us to see the natural world “as a community to which we belong.” The land ethic is regarded as a product of social evolution. ““Nothing so important as an ethic is ever ‘written,’” Leopold explained. “It evolves ‘in the minds of a thinking community.’” Learn more about the *Green Fire* Documentary at www.greenfiremovie.com

If you go:

Register for FREE - simply and quickly at: <http://greenfiredoc.eventbrite.com/>

Missoula Showing:

DATE: April 20, 2011

TIME: Doors open 5 p.m, program starts at 6 p.m.

LOCATION: The Historic Wilma Theatre

ADDRESS: 131 S. Higgins Ave, Missoula, Mont.

TICKETS: Event is Free, Advanced tickets recommended. Tickets will be emailed following registration and the registration roster will be automatically updated.

Problems with registration: email or call – mdleuschen@fs.fed.us or 406-329-3095

MORE INFORMATION: www.GreenFireMovie.com, www.fs.fed.us/r1

VIEW TRAILER ON USDA FOREST SERVICE YOU TUBE CHANNEL:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iQED4YEMx9A>

Hamilton Showing:

DATE: April 21, 2011

TIME: Doors open 7 p.m, program starts at 7:30 p.m.

LOCATION: Glaxo Smith Kline Building

ADDRESS: 553 Old Corvallis Rd. Hamilton, Mont.

TICKETS: Event is Free, No Tickets

CONTACT FOR HAMILTON: Tod McKay, tgmckay@fs.fed.us, 406-363-7122

NOTE TO EDITORS:

- Members of the film team are also available for interviews with media. Contact Jeannine Richards at the Aldo Leopold Foundation for more information.

Jeannine Richards, Communications Coordinator

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