



Converging Environmental Crises Teach-In

Posted by [Gail the Actuary](#) on April 6, 2008 - 4:03pm

Topic: [Site news](#)

Tags: [education](#), [peak oil](#), [seminar](#) [[list all tags](#)]

Note added April 10: If you are having difficulty connecting, the last page of [this PDF](#) gives some troubleshooting tips. It doesn't work with Safari, and you cannot be using pop-up blocker, among other things. It may not work if you are behind a firewall. You can test in advance.

The Ohio State University Department of Public Health is sponsoring a web-based teach-in, which they would like TOD readers to help publicize. The basic information is as follows:

[Converging Environmental Crises:
A Teach-In on Energy, Climate Change, Water, Agriculture and Population](#)

Thursday, April 10, 2008

11:00am to 4:00pm EDT

<http://sg60.oar.net>

Select "Converging Environmental Crises" in the Pull-Down Menu

The teach-in is free, and has a fairly strong peak oil component. The organizers are Dan Bednarz and Mac Crawford. A few high-lights:

11:30am Congressman Roscoe Bartlett provides a 15 minute introduction.

11:45am Terry Tamminen, former director of the California EPA, talks about whether it is really possible to address climate change in time, and what steps might be needed.

12:15pm Gail Tverberg, AKA "Gail the Actuary," talks about the economic impact of an energy downturn.

12:45pm William Catton PhD, author of [Overshoot: The Ecological Basis of Revolutionary Change](#), talks about [living on a finite planet, and reaching a carrying capacity bottleneck](#).

1:30pm Dick Jackson MD, PhD, environmental health expert, talks about pollution related issues.

Between 2:00 and 3:00, there are simultaneous break out talks. The choices are

Kristin Bradford, MD, from Willits, California, talks about hospital care in the context of peak oil and climate issues.

Joel Kreisberg, DC, MA talks about pharmaceutical pollution of drinking water.

Walt Lierman, PhD, talks about the economics of climate change mitigation.

Don Spady, MD, talks about differences between the Canadian and US medical systems in needed responses to peak oil.

Jason Bradford, PhD of Willits, California, talks about reducing fossil fuel inputs to the food system.

Ken Smail, PhD, talks about global population reduction, and other inconvenient truths.

Between 3:00 and 4:00 is a time for summing up.

3:00 Jessica Pierce, PhD, bioethicist, looks at the moral challenges facing health care.

3:30 Mac Crawford, PhD, one of the conference organizers, talks about the public health response to the converging crises of peak oil, climate change, water shortages, and population growth.

3:45 Dan Bednarz, PhD, the lead conference organizer, talks about abandoning silos between disciplines.

The schedule I have provided is my interpretation of what the talks are about. Full abstracts of each of the talks and a complete schedule are given in the [Converging Environmental Crises flier](#). The flier also provides biographical information on each of the speakers.

My comments

The talks start at 11:00 am with some introductory material. There will be some provision for dial in questions. It would be good to listen at 11:00 to find out more about that. Most presenters will not be physically present in Ohio. It is my understanding that the people presenting from Ohio will answer the questions.

I am fairly certain that the talks will be available after the fact, as well, at the same web site, so if you are not available at the appointed time, you can view the same web site later.

I put a draft of my talk up on TOD a few days ago. After I did this, the organizers asked me to add a little more to the talk. It now has a section on why a drop in oil production makes a difference, near the beginning, and a few more concrete examples though-out. The discussion of the transition to a lower-energy economy at the end has been expanded, and mentions the possibility of an implosion. This is a [link](#) to the earlier post, with the additions. I plan to put a version of my talk up on You Tube, after the event.

I think that there are parts of this teach-in that will be of interest to a broad range of viewers. Ohio State has invited many in the public health field, and at least some medical schools. If you know of public officials who might be interested, please let them know about it. Universities may also be interested. Pass the word around!

[File test](#)



This work is licensed under a [Creative Commons Attribution-Share Alike 3.0 United States License](http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-sa/3.0/).