



4220 King Street
Alexandria, VA 22302-1502
703-379-2480;
Fax: 703-379-7563
www.agiweb.org

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Contact: John Rasanen
jr@agiweb.org

4,000 AGI Environmental Awareness Series Books to be distributed to Alaskan Educators

The Alaska Mineral & Energy Resource Education Fund (AMEREF), a partnership between the Alaska Department of Education and private industry, has purchased 4,000 Environmental Awareness Series books published by the American Geological Institute (AGI) to be distributed to Alaskan educators as part of the Alaskan Resources Kits.

The Environmental Awareness Series promotes better understanding among citizens, educators, and policy-makers of the role of earth sciences in all aspects of understanding and mitigating environmental concerns. The nine volume series addresses specific and timely environmental topics in clear language.

AMEREF is distributing the *Aggregate and the Environment*, *Metal, Mining and the Environment*, *Petroleum and the Environment*, and *Coal and the Environment* as part of their resource kits distributed free of charge to Alaskan educators. The kits contain standards-based, Alaskan specific educational materials and supplemental items that provide students with information to make informed and objective decisions about Alaska's mineral, energy, and forest resources. In addition to the Environmental Awareness Series publications, kits include rock and mineral samples, videos, posters, maps, lesson plans and more. Kits have been distributed to all of Alaska's school districts and have materials pertaining to science, math, social studies and Alaska studies. They are being used in kindergarten through high school.

Organizations interested in developing similar programs as AMEREF's in support of public outreach and education activities, such as teacher enhancement programs, can purchase bulk quantities of these publications at cost. To view the entire catalog of Environmental Awareness Series publications please go to <http://www.agiweb.org/pubs/index.html>

The American Geological Institute is a nonprofit federation of 44 scientific and professional associations that represents more than 120,000 geologists, geophysicists, and other Earth scientists. Founded in 1948, AGI provides information services to geoscientists, serves as a voice of shared interest in the profession, plays a major role in strengthening geoscience education, and strives to increase public awareness of the vital role the geosciences play in society's use of the resources and interaction with the environment. More information about AGI can be found at <http://www.agiweb.org/>. The Institute also provides a public outreach site at <http://www.earthscienceworld.org/>.