

COEUR D'ALENE TRIBE

NEWS RELEASE

Oct. 22, 2009

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WATER POTATO DAY CELEBRATES TRIBE'S CULTURE

PLUMMER – Area students will get the chance to harvest water potatoes on shores of Coeur d'Alene Lake as part of Water Potato Day on Friday.

Young people will learn about the Coeur d'Alene Tribe's language and culture at series of educational stations. A tribal elder will share Indian stories about how the Coeur d'Alenes lived in North Idaho for centuries and discuss the importance of natural resources in daily life.

"Traditionally, Coeur d'Alene families returned to the lake to take the last foods called the water potatoes or sqigwts," said Marc Stewart, spokesman for the Coeur d'Alene Tribe. "The water potato was a staple in the diet of the Coeur d'Alene people."

Friday's event starts at 9:30 a.m. and runs until around 1 p.m.

Students will also learn about trees, plants and wildlife around the lake from tribal scientists and experts.

The media is welcome to attend. Directions to Hawley's Landing in Heyburn State Park: Take U.S. 95 to Plummer. Then take a left on Highway 5 toward St. Maries. Then take a left into the state's new park headquarters, follow the signs down to the lake.