

# Summer Institute for GIS Educators

ESRI is hosting the 2009 ESRI T3G Institute (Teachers Teaching Teachers GIS), from 14 to 19 June 2009, at its company headquarters in Redlands (CA, USA). Teachers of grades 5-12, university instructors, and youth and community group leaders will work with ArcGIS software and data to improve their geographic information system (GIS) knowledge and technical skills. Ultimately, attendees will apply what they learn in their own classrooms or programs and show others in their field how to teach using GIS concepts.

The 2009 institute will include hands-on exercises; best practices discussions; and presentations about the latest geospatial trends in GIS, Web mapping, and GPS. The institute activities will be led by nationally known geospatial technology educators, and a limit of 30 participants will allow for individual assistance.

Participants will leave the institute with a more proficient understanding of how to incorporate GIS into their teaching, find and use GIS-based lessons and public domain datasets, and train other educators on how to teach GIS. Following the institute, participants are expected to apply what they have learned by creating a GIS lesson to share on the Web; leading a hands-on GIS training event; and presenting at a conference the outcomes of their work such as GIS lessons, results of a class or group project, or a pedagogical approach to teaching youth or adults.

Geospatial technology helps create more effective solutions to spatial problems, which is fundamental to a wide variety of disciplines including geography, history, earth science, environmental studies, language arts, mathematics, and youth group educational environments. Educators from all disciplines who have experience teaching with GIS are encouraged to attend. Applications are due by 15<sup>th</sup> January, 2009, and acceptance will be announced in February 2009.