

February 26, 2014

Dear Sir or Madam,

To celebrate **World Water Day 2014**, we will be holding a short ***course on spring protection*** in Panchgani, Maharashtra on March 20th & 21st, 2014. The goal is to build awareness and capacity within the Western Ghats to protect spring ecosystems and ensure safe, sustainable drinking water. Day 1 includes presentations by various experts and farmers with local experience covering basic concepts and best practices. Adequate time will be given for interaction regarding participant-specific issues – so bring maps and photos if you have them. The overnight and second day is optional and will include a field visit/work day for hands-on training at a village site:

March 20th

- 10am - 1pm, an overview of springs including geography, ecology, hydrogeology, social import & case studies
- 1:30 – 2pm, lunch with organic produce from our farm
- 2pm - 4pm, best practices for spring protection and drinking water collection including mapping and identification of recharge areas, ecological restoration, harvesting, storage and water quality
- 4pm – 4:30pm, tea
- 4:30 – 6:00pm, detailed methods on spring box construction and other best practices, & an interactive session covering participant issues

March 21st

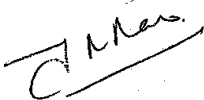
- 7am – 8am, forest walk to Panchgani tableland
- 8:30 – 9am, breakfast
- 9:30am - 4pm, travel to a local partner village for hands-on training as part of an implementation project



Food, lodging and local transport to field sites will be provided. Transport to and from Panchgani will be the responsibility of the participants. There is *no fee* – this programme is supported by Argyham – but registration is required by March 15th. Participants include government engineers, regional NGOs, and local village members. Presentations will be multi-lingual. Please come prepared for cool evenings and trekking.

To register, or for more information on the programme or travel details please contact Archana Rao at arao.grampar@gmail.com or on 7758009817.

Best Wishes,



Jayashree Rao
Executive Director

