



FALL 2009

PROGRAMMING HIGHLIGHTS

- Artwork available for download at www.press.discovery.com. All programs simulcast in HD.
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NEW ORIGINAL SERIES

REEL IMPACT

Documentary Series Premiere: Saturday, September 12 at 8 p.m. ET

New documentary premieres weekly on Saturdays at 8 p.m. ET

This fall, Planet Green introduces **REEL IMPACT**, a powerful weekly two-hour block of documentary programming premiering on **Saturday, September 12th at 8 p.m. ET**. **REEL IMPACT** kicks off with the world television premiere of the documentary feature film, *The Last Beekeeper* by director Jeremy Simmons. **REEL IMPACT** features an eclectic slate of high-profile films including some world and U.S. premieres such as *No Impact Man* by Laura Gabbert and Eden Wurmfeld, Barbara Ettinger's film *A Sea Change* and *Black Wave: The Legacy of the Exxon Valdez* by Robert Cornellier. The strand will also present highly-praised classic films like Leonardo DiCaprio's *The 11th Hour*, *An Inconvenient Truth* and *Who Killed the Electric Car?* The premiere schedule for 2009 follows below:

THE LAST BEEKEEPER

World Television Premiere: Saturday, September 12 at 8 p.m. ET

The Last Beekeeper follows the lives of three commercial beekeepers in South Carolina, Montana, and Washington over a year-long period as they struggle to come to terms with a worldwide shrinking of bee populations. The phenomenon, known as Colony Collapse Disorder or CCD, threatens crops and the food supply as well as the livelihoods of a dwindling number of beekeepers. From the award-winning producing team of Fenton Bailey and Randy Barbato, the founders of World Wonder, the film documents the beekeepers' respective pilgrimages, bees and all, to the largest event of the beekeeping year—the massive pollination of California's almonds. The challenges the beekeepers face due to the declining numbers of these essential insects become painfully and poignantly clear. "If all the bees die, what do you have to live for?" asks beekeeper Matt Hutchens. "It's not just a question for the beekeepers, it's a question for all of us." *The Last Beekeeper* marks the feature directing debut of Jeremy Simmons.

THE 11TH HOUR

Cable Network Premiere: Saturday, September 19 at 8 p.m. ET

Written and directed by Leila Conners Petersen; produced and narrated by actor Leonardo DiCaprio. *The 11th Hour* describes the last moment when change is possible. It's a call to action that explores how humanity has arrived at this moment, how we

impact the Earth's ecosystems, and what we can do to change our course. The film features dialogues with experts from around the world, including former Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev, renowned scientist Stephen Hawking, former head of the CIA R. James Woolsey, and sustainable design experts William McDonough and Bruce Mau. More than 50 leading scientists, thinkers and leaders present the facts and discuss the most important issues that face our planet, proposing potential solutions to environmental catastrophes including a complete rethinking of global human activity through technology, social responsibility, and conservation.

A SEA CHANGE

World Television Premiere: Saturday, September 26 at 8 p.m. ET

Director/co-producer Barbara Ettinger asks you to imagine a world without fish. While this may seem inconceivable to some, retired educator and concerned grandfather Sven Huseby (co-producer) fears that such a catastrophe could actually happen. As he sets out aiming to focus public attention on this little-known crisis, he travels to stunning ancestral sites in Norway and Alaska where he finds cutting-edge research on ocean acidification underway. Along the way it becomes clear that dramatic changes in the ocean's chemistry could pose an urgent threat to our survival, which endangers Sven's own cultural identity. His journey of self-discovery brings adventure, surprise and an unflinchingly honest look at a reality we all must act on before the oceans are lost for future generations.

WHO KILLED THE ELECTRIC CAR?

Cable Network Premiere: Saturday, October 3 at 8 p.m. ET

Writer-director Chris Paine weaves together interviews and archival footage of dozens of people involved in the development, limited commercialization, and eventual destruction of the battery electric vehicle known as the General Motors EV1 in the 1990s. The film details the passage of a zero emissions mandate in California to take advantage of the potential air quality benefits of the EV1, and the subsequent reversal of the mandate after lawsuits by automobile manufacturers, the oil industry, and the George W. Bush administration. The EV1 was eliminated from the GM line in 1999.

GRIZZLY MAN

Network Premiere: Saturday, October 10 at 8 p.m. ET

The inside look at the life of Timothy Treadwell, as documented by filmmaker Werner Herzog. Treadwell spent 13 summers in Alaska living with grizzly bears. He spoke their language, knew their moods and survived unarmed among them. But in October 2003, Treadwell and his girlfriend were attacked and eaten by a bear. Herzog investigates the life and death of Treadwell and probes into the complexities of existence between wild nature and human beings. Treadwell started filming his grizzly journey in 1999 and left behind 80 hours of extraordinary footage taken in the wilderness. The footage includes shots taken hours before his death, at the place where his bones were found, and shots of the bear that took his life. Herzog interviews Treadwell's friends, former lovers and partners, the pilot who dropped him off and who found his remains, and the coroner who opened up the bear.

SPLIT ESTATE

U.S. Premiere: Saturday, October 17 at 8 p.m. ET

Imagine discovering that you don't own the mineral rights under your house and that an energy company plans to drill for natural gas only 200 feet from your front door. Many citizens in the Rocky Mountains face the reality of having no recourse against energy

companies and must accept an unregulated industry in their backyard while watching their civil liberties, communities and health erode. Exempt from federal protections, the oil and gas industry leaves this idyllic landscape and its rural communities scarred with abandoned homes and polluted waters as they seek new drilling sites in as many as 32 additional states. Producer/director Debra Anderson cracks the sugarcoating on an industry touted as a *clean* alternative to fossil fuels and poignantly drives home the need for real choices.

RECIPES FOR DISASTER

U.S. Premiere: Saturday, November 7 at 8 p.m. ET

Filmmaker John Webster is concerned about the world's addiction to oil and its disastrous environmental consequences, so he convinces his family to go on an "oil diet" for one year to reduce their carbon footprint. *Recipes for Disaster* chronicles Webster's efforts along with reluctant participants -- his wife and two young sons -- revealing the personal difficulties involved in making such a radical lifestyle change and the surprising extent to which petroleum-based products figure into our everyday lives. The family is confronted with the magnitude of their oil addiction and faces acute withdrawal symptoms, but hopes that by using reason, logic and sound judgment they can overcome their dependence and convince others to find "green" alternatives.

COAL COUNTRY

World Television Premiere: Saturday, November 14 at 8 p.m. ET

Coal Country reveals the truth about modern coal mining. The story is told by the people directly involved, working miners and activists, who are battling the coal companies in Appalachia. Tensions are high. It's a "new civil war," as families and communities are deeply divided over mountaintop removal mining (MTR). The tops of mountains are blasted away, to expose seams of coal, while debris is pushed into valleys and streams. As a result, residents endure health problems, dirty water in their wells, and dust and grime on their floors. The miners are frightened that without MTR they'll lose their jobs and won't be able to feed their families, but with MTR, the environment suffers irreparable damage.

AN INCONVENIENT TRUTH

Network Premiere: Saturday, November 21 at 8 p.m. ET

Director Davis Guggenheim eloquently weaves the science of global warming with Mr. Gore's personal history and lifelong commitment to reversing the effects of global climate change. A longtime advocate for the environment, Gore presents a wide array of facts and information in a thoughtful and compelling way. "Al Gore strips his presentations of politics, laying out the facts for the audience to draw their own conclusions in a charming, funny and engaging style, and by the end has everyone on the edge of their seats, gripped by his haunting message," said Guggenheim. An Inconvenient Truth is not a story of despair but rather a rallying cry to protect the one earth we all share. "It is now clear that we face a deepening global climate crisis that requires us to act boldly, quickly, and wisely," said Gore.

BIG RIVER MAN

U.S. Premiere: Saturday, December 5 at 8 p.m. ET

In February 2007, a larger than life horse-burger loving Slovenian in his fifties named Martin Strel attempted to become the first person to swim the entire length of the world's most dangerous river, the Amazon. A four-time world record holding endurance swimmer, Strel, who has previously swam the Mississippi, Danube, Paraná and Yangtze

ivers, puts his life in jeopardy to highlight the impact of pollution on these important waterways. “The Fish Man,” as he is called by local tribes, has braved blisters, sunburn, exotic stomach illnesses, piranhas, anacondas, crocodiles, and a parasitic fish in his tireless quest. ***Big River Man*** follows the eccentric and celebrated Strel as he navigates 3,375 miles of river over 66 days to prove, once and for all, that one man can make a difference.

INHERITANCE: A FISHERMAN’S STORY

Network Premiere : Saturday, December 12 at 8 p.m. ET

When a dam burst at a Romanian goldmine in early 2000, more than 100,000 tons of cyanide was released into the Tisza River, devastating its ecology as well as the livelihoods of fisherman in neighboring Hungary and creating Central Europe’s worst ecological disaster since Chernobyl. ***Inheritance: A Fisherman’s Story*** follows fisherman Balazs Meszaros as he struggles with the effects of the disaster on his own community and attempts to confront the corporate forces behind the mining operation in an effort to prevent a similar disaster from happening in the future. Filmmaker Peter Hegedus captures this quiet fisherman’s profound transformation into a man who stands alone against huge multinational corporations to expose the environmental and human consequences of unregulated globalization.

H2OIL

U.S. Premiere: Saturday, December 19 at 8 p.m. ET

Ever wonder where the United States gets most of its oil? If you thought it was Saudi Arabia or Iraq you are wrong. America’s biggest oil supplier has quickly become Canada’s oil sands. Located under Alberta’s pristine boreal forests, the process of oil sands extraction uses up to 4 barrels of fresh water to produce only one barrel of crude oil. But water — its depletion, exploitation, privatization and contamination — is one of the most important issues facing humanity in this century. As the war for oil is well underway across the globe, a struggle is increasingly being fought between water and oil, and as Alberta rushes towards large-scale extraction, the social, ecological and human impacts are hitting a crisis point with the province at the center of the tension. **H2Oil** follows a voyage of discovery, heartbreak and politicization in the stories of those attempting to defend water in Alberta against tar sands expansion. Unlikely alliances are built and lives are changed as they come up against the largest industrial project in human history. Ultimately we ask, what is more important, oil or water?

RETURNING SERIES

LIVING WITH ED (13x30)

Season Three World Premiere: Wednesday, October 21 at 9:00 p.m. ET

New episodes air weekly on Wednesdays at 9:00 p.m. ET starting 10/21

Living With Ed chronicles the day to day, eco-friendly adventures of actor Ed Begley, Jr. and his wife Rachelle, as they navigate life in Los Angeles with Ed always trying to leave the smallest possible carbon footprint in his wake. This brand new season on Planet Green follows the dynamic couple as they embark on exploits including an unlikely trip to Vegas (yes, Ed in Vegas), a wedding anniversary getaway only Ed could organize and a major home renovation not to be missed. Viewers will also be treated to “On the Road with Ed” video diaries and a host of new companion elements on PlanetGreen.com including original webisodes with Ed and Rachelle, blogs and special interactive events. ***Living With Ed*** is produced for Planet Green by *Brentwood Communications*.

EMERIL GREEN (Season Two)

Ongoing Season Two Premieres: Monday, August 31 at 8 p.m. ET

New episodes premiere weekly on Mondays at 8 p.m. ET starting 8/31

In this Planet Green original series, Chef Emeril Lagasse helps people solve cooking problems by utilizing fresh and organic sources of food to promote a healthier lifestyle. Many of the meals prepared show viewers how to produce sustainable fare by choosing ingredients from local sources and free trade options. Shot mainly on location at Whole Foods Market®, in season two Lagasse works with everyday cooks with culinary challenges. He also moves outside of the store in a series of specials filmed on location at a sustainable farm, Napa Valley, and Vermont.

EMERIL GREEN

Special Episode: GRILLIN' WITH EMERIL (1x60)

World Premiere: Monday, August 31 at 8:00 p.m. ET

As the dog days of summer wind down and Labor Day approaches, Chef Emeril fires up the barbeque and heads into the Maryland countryside. Lagasse visits a local farmstead where he shows viewers how to prepare a smokin' end-of-summer meal in *Grillin' with Emeril*, premiering Monday, August 31 at 8:00 p.m. E/P. Join the community cookout as Chef Emeril presents his best grilling tips and techniques, and explores the resources required to bring food from the field to the table. Chef Emeril takes viewers on an in-depth tour of the farm and showcases:

- engaging community supported agriculture to create mouth-watering summer treats;
- grilling fresh ingredients without losing important nutrients and flavor;
- using garden herbs for savory drinks.

EMERIL GREEN

Special Episode: EMERIL'S CULINARY ADVENTURES: NAPA (1x60)

World Premiere: Monday, October 26 at 8:00 p.m. ET

Emeril's Culinary Adventures: Napa takes viewers to one of the country's most progressive and dedicated organic and sustainable farming areas – Sonoma and Napa Valleys. At the Culinary Institute of America in Napa Valley, see a school leading the way with its commitment to local ingredients and sustainable farming practices. New students arrive each semester to study the art of food preparation, and wine education; with the land so rich in ingredients, they quickly come to realize the importance of knowing where their food has been grown. While the school may provide the canvas for these culinary artists in training, the local farms and food purveyors supply the materials. Follow a few students and teachers as they mix it up with Chef Emeril to create a local, seasonal menu from ingredients all from within a 150 miles radius. Chef Emeril's tour of wine country includes:

- visiting a farm that uses solar power and biodiesel fuels for all its energy needs;
- learning more about sustainable fishing and water conservation practices;
- exploring the in's and out's of organic farms.

FOCUS EARTH WITH BOB WOODRUFF (Season Two)

Ongoing Season Two Premieres: Saturday, September 19 at 7 p.m. ET *Note: new time slot*

New episodes of FOCUS EARTH premiere every other Saturday at 7 p.m. ET starting 9/19

***Fall Premiere Schedule: 9/19, 10/3, 10/17, 10/31, 11/14, 11/28, 12/12, 12/26 at 7pm ET**

ABC News anchor Bob Woodruff hosts Planet Green's *Focus Earth with Bob Woodruff* featuring environmental news and events. Each week, Woodruff covers a variety of subjects ranging from climate impact, environmental policy, political debate and world events. The series

includes studio-based roundtable discussions, feature stories, and lively debates as well as field segments, making it the one-stop destination for a deeper perspective on the environment. The program draws upon the global resources of ABC News and its reporting team around the world.

RENOVATION NATION (Season Two)

Ongoing Season Two Premieres: Friday, October 16 at 8 p.m. ET *Note: new time slot*

New episodes premiere weekly on Fridays at 8 p.m. ET starting 10/16

Emmy Award® winning host Steve Thomas takes viewers into the exciting world of eco friendly homes on the captivating second season of *Renovation Nation*. Once again, Steve visits renovation sites across the country and meets eco-sensitive homeowners who are making the choice to be environmentally aware. Steve leads the way as he introduces the audience to new and exciting sustainable building materials, technology, techniques and products for the home. Whether it's exploring the latest designs with homeowners to the most innovative technology, Steve brings out the best in home renovations while enjoying the forward-thinking people who are making them a reality.

MINI-SERIES & SPECIALS

PLANET MECHANICS (8x60)

U.S. Premiere: Tuesday, September 8 at 9:00 p.m. ET

New episodes air weekly on Tuesdays at 9:00 p.m. ET starting 9/8

Planet Mechanics Dick Strawbridge and Jem Stansfield use eco-engineering smarts and stubborn determination to build energy efficient creations that are equal parts science and art. If the projects they are undertaking don't frustrate them into submission, their individual personalities might drive them over the edge. Against all odds, this dynamic pair takes viewers on a wild journey of cutting edge technology and elbow grease that includes the successful creation of Britain's first street legal, air driven motorbike, a wood fueled truck and a farm powered solely by cow manure! *Planet Mechanics* is produced by *Renegade Pictures*.

COOLFUEL (6x60)

Network Premiere: Tuesday, September 8 at 10:00 p.m. ET

New episodes premiere weekly on Tuesdays at 10:00 p.m. ET starting 9/8

A radical road trip fueled by a tank full of surprises is in store for adventurer Shaun Murphy when he decides to travel 16,000 miles across America in vehicles run on anything but gasoline! The adventure begins as he journeys from California to the Midwest, and all the way down to the Deep South, using nothing but alternative fuels. No vehicle will go untested in this "Coolfuel Challenge" whether it's electric cars, motorcycles, dragsters or even boats! Murphy and his crew try everything to get from points A to B, including solar power, bio-diesel, corn whiskey, hemp or a whole slew of other organic fuels. This group is determined to make it GO! *Coolfuel* is produced by *Balance Vector*.

THE 100 MILE CHALLENGE (6x60)

U.S. Premiere: Monday, October 12 at 9:00 p.m. ET

New episodes air weekly on Mondays at 9:00 p.m. ET starting on 10/12

Six families in the town of Mission, British Columbia accept a challenge to consume only food and drink produced within a 100-mile radius for 100 days in *The 100 Mile Challenge*. How hard can it be? As the kitchen cupboards are stripped bare the families begin to panic as they soon discover it is not going to be as easy as it first appeared. Items on the "banned in Mission" list include coffee, tea, chocolate, sugar, beer, pop, rice, pepper, most spices, tropical fruits, peanut butter, and commercial bread and pasta. So, what does that leave? Good question. *The 100 Mile*

Challenge is a food revolution that documents the 100-Milers' progress, revealing the ups and downs, and downright creativity of ordinary citizens as they try to cook three full meals day after day from locally available ingredients. *The 100 Mile Challenge* is produced by *Paperny Productions*.

NATURE, INC. (6x30)

U.S. Premiere: Wednesday, October 14 at 10:00 p.m. ET

New episodes premiere weekly on Wednesdays at 10:00 p.m. ET starting on 10/14

How much is nature really worth to the world economy? Can a value be placed on what the global ecosystem provides? *Nature, Inc* explores, the question of “what if?” and the ripple effect of a world without coral reefs, honeybees, and other key species. *Nature, Inc* is produced by *dev.tv*.

ULTIMATE POWER BUILDERS (4x60)

U.S. Premiere: Friday, December 4 at 10:00 p.m. ET

New episodes air weekly on Fridays at 10 p.m. ET throughout December

Ultimate Power Builders defies all four basic elements (earth, air, heat, and water) to engineer big, ambitious and environmentally-friendly projects that will shape the Earth’s landscape for future generations, while providing unlimited sources of energy. Watch as the construction of one mega-structure after another evolves, whether it’s a carbon neutral city in the Middle East; a skyscraper in China which produces its own power and water; an energy plant that harnesses the power of the atom or a geothermal station that drills deep within the Earth to tap the extreme heat down below to operate. *Ultimate Power Builders* reveals how far technology will go to secure a sustainable existence for all. *Ultimate Power Builders* is a co-production of *Saint Thomas Productions* and Planet Green.

TOXIC FILES (1x60)

World Premiere: December 2009

An electrician from rural Delaware is struck with a searing headache, blurred vision and dizziness. His life begins to unravel as the symptoms get increasingly worse with passing time and he finds he is often confined to his bed, wracked with unexplainable pain. No one has a diagnosis for the source of his agony. A six-year-old is no longer able to sleep, battling epic bouts of insomnia and suddenly begins to lose hand control. Her parents’ worst fear is that her leukemia is no longer in remission, but physicians soon dispel that conclusion and arrive at another; their daughter is being poisoned and they are the prime suspects. Two very separate cases with one common denominator: environment. *Toxic Files* takes viewers inside a world of intrigue and shocking revelations as each medical mystery is unraveled symptom by symptom. *Toxic Files* is produced by *Atlas Media*.

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