

## TIP 7

So here's tip number seven.

Explore other training providers available to you.

Let me go over four examples.

Obviously, the Department of Interior offers a lot of courses as well.

They have a program called the Department of Interior university, and that university offers courses throughout the year in a variety of subject matters and you can access those courses, again through going to DOI learn.

Now, a couple of years ago we started working with the forest service, and we started formulating a group called the natural resources distance learning consortium.

That's a mouthful, but it's ten universities that are working with us to offer distance learning courses related to natural resource management.

Some of those universities include Oregon state university, Penn State university, Austin Peay university, Mississippi state and others.

These universities can be found on the home page for the natural resources distance learning consortium and there's a screen shot up right now.

Now, the other thing you can see once you go to that web site, is that they offer about 200 distance learning courses throughout the year, and these are college credit courses that you have to go to, to specific university to sign up with, but if you peruse that site, you will see quite a few courses that might help you in your career or you can help advance towards a degree or maybe even a masters or a doctoral degree.

Another good partner is the national conservation training center and this is located in Shepherdstown, West Virginia, and this is the official training center for the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service.

So many of you deal with the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service and we have thousands of employees that work in fisheries and wildlife biology, and they offer some very good courses.

Go to their web site, look at their catalog, and you can register for those courses through DOI learn.

There's no tuition.

And we actually have a BLM person that works at NCTC and will help you with whatever accommodations and registration issues you might have.

And all you have to do is pick up the phone and call her.

Now, that resource is, again, available on the Internet and all you have to do is type in is U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service, national conservation training center.

One of the great partnerships is with the Arthur car hart national wilderness training center in Montana, at the University of Montana.

Their web site is wilderness.net and it's on your screen.

That program actually has both national park service as well as BLM, U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service and the other programs that are involved in Bureau of Land Management have program represent environments this.

So the cart hart wilderness training center, has been teaching it for years and we enjoy the great working relationship with them.

Lastly, I would like to encourage you to look in your own backyard.

There are community colleges and universities right in your neighborhood that would be very useful to you.

Look and see what they are offering.

It could be anything from your own self-improvement to courses that are specific to your discipline, or courses that you can take to get ahead in your career that's directly related to your

profession.

Now, let's go back to Leon for the next tip.

>> L. Thomas: Thanks, Don.

We have some solid partnerships there.