

Kansas Green Schools Update #1 (2010-11)



The goal of the Kansas Green Schools Program is to provide opportunities for preK-12 schools to increase awareness and understanding of the complex environmental interrelationships that impact public health and the environment, and promote environmental stewardship practices that relate to air quality, climate change, solid waste reduction and recycling, water management, and outdoor wildlife habitat.

Registration Now Open for Kansas Environmental Education Conference!

Environmental Education in the 21st Century: Classrooms to Careers

5-6 November, Salina Ramada Inn



Join us for the 11th Annual Kansas Environmental Education Conference! This year's theme focuses on how environmental education can assist schools in teaching Career and Technical Education. Dr. Tom Foster, Director of Career, Standards and Assessments Services and Research and Evaluation Services with the Kansas State Department of Educa-

tion, will keynote Friday's lunch session and participate in a panel discussion on how schools can use environmental education to prepare students for green jobs. Our Saturday morning keynoter will be Michael Everhart, Adjunct Curator of Paleontology with the Sternberg Museum of Natural History. He will talk about "Oceans in Kansas" and will also be part of the new, expanded "A Taste of EE" on Friday night. If you have fossils you would like to have examined, bring them! There will be numerous other stations with hands-on activities to take back to your classrooms. We are looking for participants for "A Taste of EE," so if you have a favorite hands-on activity to share, please contact Shari Wilson at swilson@kacee.org. More information is available in the conference registration materials at

<http://www.kacee.org/kansas-environmental-education-conference>.



Along with the terrific keynoters and fun, informative Friday night activities, there will be 12 concurrent sessions and 4 field studies from which to choose. Early childhood educators (preK-2nd grade) will have two concurrent sessions of interest on Friday and one on Saturday morning. Concurrent sessions on wind energy, Career and Technical Education, biofuels, and involving the community in your school will be of interest to upper elementary, middle, and high school teachers. The field studies include a tour of local Outdoor Wildlife Learning Sites, Smoky Hill Wind Farm, Horsethief Canyon at Kanopolis State Park, and The Land Institute.

For more information, check out our website at www.kansasgreenschools.org or contact Shari L. Wilson

Kansas Association for Conservation and Environmental Education (KACEE)
swilson@kacee.org



"Planting the Seeds of Nature: Appreciation in Early Learners" is the theme of this year's pre-conference workshop, which will be held on 4 November at Rolling Hills Wildlife Adventure Conference Center west of Salina. Spark young children's curiosity about the world around them with exciting

hands-on activities from the newly released activity guides developed for early childhood environmental education. Explore activities designed to engage young children in outdoor exploration and play, and discover new ways to integrate investigations of nature with art, literature, math, music and movement. Participants will receive activity guides for Growing Up WILD and Project Learning Tree's Early Childhood Environmental Experiences. Pre-Conference Registration: \$40 includes lunch, materials, and a full day of professional development. One hour of graduate credit through Baker University is available for an additional \$55 for participants attending both the Kansas Environmental Education Conference and Pre-conference Workshop. Six (6) KDHE Professional Development clock hours are available.

There are several ways for Green Schools to participate in this year's conference!

- Set up a classroom poster or exhibit, free of charge (indicate on registration form that you are bringing a poster or exhibit)
- Showcase a hands-on activity during "A Taste of EE" (e-mail Shari Wilson at swilson@kacee.org to let her know of your interest)
- Give feedback during the session on the Kansas Environmental Literacy Plan
- Network with your peers and share your experience in integrating EE into the classroom
- Bring a colleague and introduce them to Kansas' largest environmental education network

The Kansas Environmental Education Conference is the best professional development value around! Educator discounts are available—attend the entire conference (both days) for just \$65 for KACEE members, \$85 for non-members (includes a one-year membership!).

For more information and to register online for the conference, go to

<http://www.kacee.org/kansas-environmental-education-conference>.

We hope to see you there!



HAVE NEWS OR PHOTOS TO SHARE?

Send them to Shari L. Wilson at swilson@kacee.org

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*****KACEE does not necessarily recommend or endorse items and programs on the below items*****

Garden Grants Available



In partnership with Project Learning Tree (PLT), GreenWorks! Pollinator garden grants of up to \$500 are being offered through PollinatorLIVE. For more information and the requirements, go to

<http://pollinatorlive.pwnet.org/gardening/grants.php>. The deadline to apply is 3 December 2010. If you are not trained in PLT, check out the workshop calendar at <http://www.kacee.org/calendar-events> or contact KACEE to schedule a future workshop at marthur@kacee.org.

Green Fundraiser Opportunity



Kaleidoscope Community Partners offers an opportunity for an eco-friendly school fundraiser by offering hundreds of eco-friendly products including gifts, cleaning supplies, and school supplies online.

A portion of the proceeds goes back to the schools. GoEco! The Ultimate Eco-Fundraiser is a new program and more information is located at <http://www.dwellsmart.com/GoEcoInfo>. If your school participates in the program, let us know about your experience!

Kansas Foundation for Agriculture in the Classroom Post Card Art Contest



KFAC is looking for entries that address the 2011 theme "Celebrate Kansas: 150 Years of Agriculture." The deadline for entries is 31 January 2011. More information is available at <http://www.ksgclassroom.org/>.

Ocean Science Education Webinars – Free!



A fall series of bi-weekly webinars is being presented by the Centers for Ocean Sciences Education – Ocean Systems (COSEE-OS) featuring ocean scientists and educators from across the country. The first will feature scientist Penny Vlahos, who will discuss her research on Persistent Organic Pollutants (POPs). She will present her research using concept mapping tools, followed by high school teacher, Sue Klemmer, who will discuss how she uses concept mapping in her classroom.

Pre-registration is not required, but is encouraged. To pre-register, go to: http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/092210_Webinar_PreSurvey

For more information on the series, please visit: <http://cosee.umaine.edu/programs/webinars/upcomingwebinars>

2011 International Compost Awareness Week Poster Contest



US Composting Council

The US Composting Council is issuing a call for entries for its International Compost Awareness Week Poster Contest. The contest will run from 15 September until 30

November and is open to anyone who wants to help celebrate composting and promote the benefits of composting and compost use. The winning poster will serve as the 2011 International Compost Awareness Week promotional media piece. For more information, go to <http://www.compostingcouncil.org/programs/icaw/sponsors.php>.

CALENDAR

22-23 October Watershed & Natural Resource Education in the Classroom Workshop For more information, visit <http://www.kacee.org/workshop-schedule>

5-6 November Kansas Environmental Education Conference Pre-Conference Workshop 4 November Visit www.kacee.org for more information

Watch Your E-mail Boxes for:

- ◇ 2011 KACEE Excellence in Conservation and Environmental Education Awards Nominations
 - KACEE will host the 2011 Awards Celebration on Friday, 1 April in Topeka. Nomination forms will be available online. The awards include the Kansas Green School of the Year. Consider nominating your school!
- ◇ 2012 Kansas Green Schools Conference Request for Proposals (RFP) to Host the Conference
 - KACEE will be looking for a Green School to host the 2012 Kansas Green Schools Conference. A list of criteria will be provided in the RFP.
- ◇ 2011-12 Green School Waste Management Grant Round.
 - Applications for the 2011-12 Green School Waste Management grants will be accepted online starting in December.