

Kansas Green Schools Update #4 (2009-10)



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.

Happy New Year! May this be a very Green year!

Awards Nominations for Green Schools and Educators Being Accepted

It's not too late to nominate your school for the Kansas Green School of the Year Award! Award nominations for PreK-16 Environmental Educators are also being accepted. The online form is easy to fill out. Go to <http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/GLS7HWS> to fill out the form online. To download a form, go to www.kacee.org and look under What's New. The deadline for nominations is Friday, 22 January.

Help Us Meet Our Goal of 500 Green Schools by June 1!

We want to keep our Green Schools Network growing! Help us meet our goal of 500 Green Schools by June 1 by recruiting another Kansas public or private school to join the network. When the new school signs up, you'll receive the DVD *Air: The Search for One Clean Breath*. (80 DVDs available; offer good while supplies last!) Everyone recruiting a new school will be entered into drawings for a free KACEE membership and a free registration to this summer's Kansas Green Schools Conference. The process is easy: Recruit one of your colleagues to register their school at www.kansasgreenschools.org. They will enter your name and address into the proper fields on the registration form, and you'll be entered into the drawings. The first 80 will receive a copy of the DVD. Help us grow our network! Our thanks to KDHE's Bureau of Air and Radiation for providing the DVDs.

Waste Management Grant Application Period Now Open



Are you thinking about starting recycling or composting program at your school? Or are you already recycling, but want to expand your program? Would you like to take your students on a field trip to a landfill or recycling center? The application period for Green School waste management grants is open until Monday, 15

February. Go to <http://www.kansasgreenschools.org/grants/waste-mgmt> to complete the online form. For a list of approved projects, check out <http://www.kansasgreenschools.org/kansas-green-schools-grant-program>

Green Artist

While away the winter blues by making fun media collages! Students of all ages can make these easy collages using magazine pages, glue, product labels, and other packaging. Make the collage 3-D by adding found items. This website will show you how: <http://www.kinderart.com/sculpture/media.shtml>



Green Starters

- Count the lights in your school and decide which ones can be turned off for part of the day. Just turning off half the hall lights could save thousands of dollars each year! (Thanks to Tim Oberhelman, Olathe South High School)
- Does your school library have a hard time getting rid of books it no longer needs? Barb Keltner at Medicine Lodge High School uses Better World Books to both buy and sell library books. They offer free shipping in the United States, and the funds raised through sales goes toward global literacy projects. And the books stay out of the landfill! <http://www.betterworldbooks.com/>



We All Need a Green Smile. . .

At De Soto's Starside Elementary, a new 3rd grade student came to breakfast and his teacher sat him by some of his classmates, telling them to use the time to tell him about his new school. The first thing they said? "We recycle, reuse, and reduce here!"



For more information, check out our website at www.kansasgreenschools.org or contact Shari L. Wilson
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*****KACEE does not necessarily recommend or endorse items and programs on the below items*****

The STORM Project

The Science Center for Teaching, Outreach, and Research on Meteorology (the STORM Project) at the University of Northern Iowa (Cedar Falls) will sponsor a short course entitled "Studies in Air Quality for Science Educators" on June 20-25, 2010. This intensive, one-week course is designed specifically for middle school and high school science teachers. Participants will receive a stipend. Expenses, including travel, will be paid by the STORM Project. Out-of-state teachers are encouraged to apply. For more information, see: <http://www.uni.edu/storm/saqse/>

Webinars

Peaks to Prairies Pollution Prevention Center, in conjunction with the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and WY Dept of Education has designed a series of webinars highlighting a variety of healthy and safe school topics:

- School Chemical Cleanouts
- Green Cleaning and School Renovation
- Bullying and Restorative Practices
- First Aid
- Integrated Pest Management
- Waste Reduction/Recycling



We have some great speakers lined up, and participation in the series is free. Though we have worked to target the series to Wyoming educators, it is **free and open to all who are interested**.

To register, simply go to www.peakstoprairies.org and click the P2 Webinars link in the center of the page. You'll be registering for the entire series, and you can just attend the webinars you are interested in.

Clear as mud??? If you have questions you can contact PTSB at 307-777-6261 or Myla Kelly, webinar series facilitator, at 406-994-6948.

NEA Foundation Grants

The NEA Foundation Leadership & Learning Grant offers \$2,000 - \$5,000 to public school educators for one of the following two purposes:

- Grants to individuals to fund participation in high-quality professional development experiences, such as summer institutes or action research; or
- Grants to groups to fund collegial study, including study groups, action research, lesson study, or mentoring experiences for faculty or staff new to an assignment.

Grants are reviewed three times per year. Deadlines are located on the website, <http://www.neafoundation.org/pages/educators/grant-programs/grant-application/learning-and-leadership/>.

Green Ideas

Make a recycled bird feeder and help our feathered friends through the winter! Check out these websites for ideas ranging from simple to complicated:

http://www.ehow.com/how_4804668_homemade-bird-feeders-common-objects.html

<http://familyfun.go.com/crafts/make-recycled-bird-feeder-710474/>

<http://www.allfreecrafts.com/nature/suet-feeder.shtml>



CALENDAR

- 22 January** Deadline for KACEE Award Nominations
- 30 January & 20 February** Energize Your students with Environmental Education Workshop in Pomona. For more information, visit <http://www.kacee.org/workshop-schedule>
- 15 February** Deadline for Green School Waste Management Grant Applications
- 3 & 10 April** WET in the City Workshop in Kansas City. For more information, visit <http://www.kacee.org/workshop-schedule>
- 7 & 8 May** Discover Your Watershed Workshop in Coyville. For more information, visit <http://www.kacee.org/workshop-schedule>
- 11 – 17 April** EE Week www.eeweek.org
- 30 July** Kansas Green Schools Conference (pre-conference workshop the day before) —More details soon!



HAVE NEWS OR PHOTOS TO SHARE?

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