

# Kansas Green Schools Update #5 (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.

## Earth Day Every Day



### 3rd Annual Kansas Green Schools Conference

#### Blazing New Trails: Kansas Green Schools on the Move

Friday, 29 July 2011  
 Goddard High School

**Registration is now open!**

#### Conference Highlights:

- NEW! Kansas "Model Green Schools" Program
- NEW! Kansas School Gardens Initiative
- NEW! National organization for Green Schools
- Environmental projects in Kansas schools
- Ideas for curriculum connections
- Goddard High School's innovative pond aeration project
- And More!



#### Pre-Conference Workshop at GHS

**Trek a New Route in Green Schools!**  
 Projects Learning Tree, WILD, and WET in the City  
 Thursday, 28 July 2011  
 One-Hour Graduate Credit  
 Available for attending Workshop and Conference

**Best Professional Development Value!  
 Early Registration only \$15!**

For more information, go to [www.kansasgreenschools.org](http://www.kansasgreenschools.org) or contact Shari Wilson at [swilson@kacee.org](mailto:swilson@kacee.org).



### Scholarships are Available for the Kansas Green Schools Conference

To apply for a scholarship to the 2011 Kansas Green Schools Conference and Pre-Conference Workshop, please visit <http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/CK3RRYN>. Up to one scholarship will be given per school, while funds last. Recipients must attend BOTH the workshop on Thursday, 28 July and the conference on Friday, 29 July. The scholarship covers the workshop fee (\$50), conference registration (\$15), and a one-year organizational membership to KACEE for your school (\$50). Scholarships are available for formal educators, administrators, and staff from Kansas schools registered on the Kansas Green Schools Network. The deadline for applications is Friday, 8 July. Recipients will be notified of their scholarships the week of 11 July. If you have questions about the scholarships, please contact Shari L. Wilson at KACEE, [swilson@kacee.org](mailto:swilson@kacee.org), or Jolene Amtower at KACEE, [jamtower@kacee.org](mailto:jamtower@kacee.org).

**Scholarships**

### Kansas Green Schools Conference Keynote Speaker

**Dr. Herb Broda** is a professor of education at Ashland University in Ohio. He teaches both graduate and undergraduate courses in the Department of Curriculum and Instruction. His areas of concentration are middle school education, outdoor/experiential education, environmental education, curriculum development, and instructional design. Herb is a past-president of the Environmental Education Council of Ohio, the state-wide professional organization for persons working in the areas of outdoor/environmental education. He is the author of *Schoolyard-Enhanced Learning: Using the Outdoors as an Instructional Tool* (2007) and *Moving the Classroom Outdoors*:



*Schoolyard-Enhanced Learning in Action* (May, 2011) both published by Stenhouse, Portland, Maine. His favorite pastime is spending time outdoors with his family, including two grandchildren.



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

## Kansas Symbols Poster

Celebrate the sesquicentennial of Kansas by getting a copy of the latest poster produced by the Great Plains Nature Center: Kansas Symbols.

Get your copy of the new poster and learn about our state symbols: bison, western meadowlark, honeybee, cottonwood, barred tiger salamander, ornate box turtle and little bluestem. The only symbol not pictured on the poster is our state soil, Harney silt loam. The plants and animals featured on the poster embody the spirit of Kansas. Enjoy the poster as we celebrate 150 years of statehood: 1861-2011.

Free copies of the poster are available at:

- \* Great Plains Nature Center in Wichita
- \* Kansas Wetland Education Center near Great Bend
- \* Pratt Education Center near Pratt
- \* Milford Nature Center near Junction City
- \* Chaplin Nature Center near Arkansas City
- \* Dillon Nature Center in Hutchinson
- \* Quivira National Wildlife Refuge near Hutchinson
- \* Flint Hills National Wildlife Refuge near Emporia
- \* Kirwin National Wildlife Refuge near Phillipsburg
- \* Marais des Cygnes National Wildlife Refuge south of Overland Park
- \* Prairie Park Nature Center in Lawrence
- \* Ernie Miller Nature Center in Overland Park
- \* Lee Richardson Zoo - Finnup Center in Garden City



Please contact the staff at your nearest nature center and/or Refuge to make sure they have the new posters in stock.

Copies can be mailed by sending your name, complete mailing address and a check for \$5.00 (payable to Friends-GPNC) per poster, which includes shipping and handling, to: Great Plains Nature Center, ATTN: Kansas Symbols Poster, 6232 E. 29th St. N, Wichita, Kansas, 67220.

## Go Green Commemorative Stamps



In celebration of Earth Day 2011, the United States Postal Service, in partnership with the United States Environmental Protection Agency, recently issued the Go Green commemorative stamps. With the Go Green stamps, the U.S. Postal Service shows us some simple actions we can take

to conserve natural resources and promote the health of our environment. The next time you need a stamp, consider using the Go Green stamps.



## CALENDAR

- |                     |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
|---------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>1-2 June</b>     | Energize Your Students with Environmental Education! workshop in Paola. Graduate Credit is available! Visit <a href="http://www.kacee.org/workshop-schedule">http://www.kacee.org/workshop-schedule</a> for more information.                        |
| <b>2-3 June</b>     | Renew, Recharge & Refresh with Environmental Education workshop in Lawrence. Graduate Credit is available! Visit <a href="http://www.kacee.org/workshop-schedule">http://www.kacee.org/workshop-schedule</a> for more information.                   |
| <b>14-15 June</b>   | Watershed and Natural Resource Education in Your Classroom & Community workshop in Washington. Graduate Credit is available! Visit <a href="http://www.kacee.org/workshop-schedule">http://www.kacee.org/workshop-schedule</a> for more information. |
| <b>28 July</b>      | Green Schools Pre-Conference Workshop, Goddard High School                                                                                                                                                                                           |
| <b>29 July</b>      | 3 <sup>rd</sup> Annual Kansas Green Schools Conference, Goddard High School                                                                                                                                                                          |
| <b>3 November</b>   | Kansas EE Conference Workshop, Great Bend                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| <b>4-5 November</b> | Kansas Environmental Education Conference, Highland Hotel, Great Bend                                                                                                                                                                                |

**For more information, check out our website at [www.kansasgreenschools.org](http://www.kansasgreenschools.org) or contact Shari L. Wilson  
Kansas Association for Conservation and Environmental Education (KACEE)  
[swilson@kacee.org](mailto:swilson@kacee.org)**



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With a joint mission of giving kids fun and engaging ways to learn about nutrition and the importance of fruits and veggies, Yes To will be giving away five \$2,000 Seed Fund Grants in each participating Whole Foods region\* to local schools, plus five \$500 'Starter Garden' grants to schools nationwide! All Yes To products in participating Whole Foods stores are 20% off, and a portion of proceeds of all sales go to the Seed Fund! Deadline to apply is May 31, 2011. Visit <http://www.yestocarrots.com/yes-to-seed-fund.html>

## Want to Engage with Other Kansas Science Educators?

To better facilitate conversations about science education in Kansas, the Kansas State Department of Education developed a website as a location for sharing information about science education across the state. Register to participate at [www.ksde.org/science](http://www.ksde.org/science)



## The Five R's



One way many schools and districts are making a difference with respect to sustainable resource use is by teaching and employing the concept of the five ecological "R's": Reduce, Reuse, Recycle, Rot, and Re-think. These concepts can help schools to

teach reading, writing and arithmetic, and to function in a more environmentally sound fashion -- and they can help transform your school.

Schools are becoming steadily more sustainable as they *reduce* the amount of office and school supplies they purchase; *reuse* as many materials as possible, *recycle* what can't be re-used; *rot*, or compost, organic waste such as lunch scraps and yard waste; and *Re-thinking* their relationship to the environment and health. And of course, the more you engage children in this process, the more they learn.

Learn more about why the 5 R's should be an essential part of your lesson plan at <http://www.greenschools.net/article.php?list=type&type=51>

Kansas Green Schools Program is sponsored by Kansas Association for Conservation and Environmental Education, Kansas Department of Health and Environment, Kansas Corporation Commission/State Energy Office, Kansas Department of Agriculture and Staples Foundation for Learning

# Green Teacher

## Free Webinars

Green Teacher hopes you'll take advantage of the opportunity to explore these current popular topics in environmental learning. These webinars are free of charge. For details and registration, please visit their website at <http://greenteacher.com/webinars>.

Tuesday May 10, 2011, 7:30 - 8:30 p.m. EST

**Webinar topic:** "FROG SONGS: Poetry and Essays, Field Ecology and Entomology"

**Presenter:** Brian Fox Ellis

**Age appropriateness:** K-12 (for formal and non-formal educators)

Monday May 16, 2011, 7:30 - 8:30 p.m. EST

**Webinar topic:** "Water Stewardship – From Source to Sea"

**Presenter:** Cate McEwen

**Age appropriateness:** Grades 1-8

Monday May 19, 2011, 7:30 - 8:30 p.m. EST

**Webinar topic:** "Do a Little or Do a Lot: Sustainability Education"

**Presenter:** Dave Wilton

**Age Appropriateness:** K-12

Wednesday May 25, 2011, 7:30 - 8:30 p.m. EST

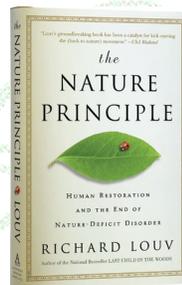
**Webinar topic:** "Green Craft-Making"

**Presenter:** Zabe MacEachren

**Age appropriateness:** K-12

## New on Bookshelves:

### The Nature Principle by Richard Louv



The author who sparked an international movement to encourage kids to spend more time outside has a new book, *The Nature Principle*. Published by Algonquin Books of Chapel Hill, the book is a call to action by adults. Supported by groundbreaking research, anecdotal evidence, and compelling personal stories, Louv shows us how tapping into the restorative powers of the natural world can boost mental acuity and creativity; promote health and wellness; build smarter and more sustainable businesses, communities, and economies; and ultimately strengthen human bonds.



HAVE NEWS OR PHOTOS TO SHARE?  
Send them to Shari L. Wilson at [swilson@kacee.org](mailto:swilson@kacee.org)