

18 May 2010

Kansas Green Schools Update #7 (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.

**We wish everyone a wonderful summer, and we'll see you at the
Green Schools Conference in July!**

Kansas Green Schools Conference Early Registration Deadline is Approaching!

Register for the conference by 31 May and the cost is just \$15. A block of rooms has been set aside at the Holiday Inn Express, 2175 Lincoln (South Highway 81), in Concordia, 15 miles west of Clyde. Call 785-243-2700 and mention "Kansas Green Schools Conference" to get the special rate of \$79 plus tax. The special rate is good through Thursday, 15 July.

A tentative conference agenda follows:

7:30 a.m. Registration
8:30 a.m. Welcome
--KACEE/Kansas Green Schools Program
--Clifton-Clyde High School Teachers and Students
9:30 a.m. and 10:30 a.m. Breakout Sessions:
--Basics of Grant Writing
-- Getting Everyone on Board: Engaging the Entire School Community to Go Green
--Coordinating School Health and Going Green
--New to Green Schools? Project Ideas to Get You Started!
--Kansas Green Schools Certification
--School Gardens: Get Everybody Outside!
--Community Involvement: A Key Element to Going Green
11:20 a.m. Break
11:30 a.m. Lunch (Students will eat lunch in the cafeteria downstairs so as to have an opportunity to network and talk about their projects)
12 noon Networking, Exhibitors, "A Taste of EE"
During this hour, conference attendees will have an opportunity to network with colleagues, talk with exhibitors, visit the Green Schools Grants Table, and participate in environmental education activities specially tailored to work with Green Schools projects.

1 p.m. Keynote Speaker Kathy McGlaulin, Senior Vice President--Education, American Forest Foundation

Kathy's presentation will introduce Project Learning Tree's new *GreenSchools!* program that is helping communities and schools across the country "go green". The program provides a blueprint for a school community to teach, learn, and engage each other to create a more green and healthy learning environment. It combines environmental education, service learning, and leadership opportunities for students to help turn their school into a *GreenSchool!* Learn more about the national movement to reduce the ecological footprint of our nation's schools, and how Kansas is helping to lead the way.

1:50 p.m. Break
2 p.m. Whistle Stop Tours of Green School Projects
10-15 minute poster presentations on different Green School projects and curriculum ideas. Participants will visit 4-5 "stations" during this time.

3 p.m. Field Tours: Choose One:
--Alternative Energy
• Clifton-Clyde High School wind and solar energy projects
• Meridian Way Wind Farm
--Composting/Gardening/Plant Sciences
• Clifton-Clyde High School greenhouse, hydroponics system, and aquaculture system; compost tumblers; solar-powered water pumps
• Clyde Arboretum
--Animal Sciences
• Clifton-Clyde High School aquaculture system
• LCL Buffalo Ranch

5 p.m. Conference End

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
913-287-6879



HAVE NEWS OR PHOTOS TO SHARE?
Send them to Shari L. Wilson at swilson@kacee.org



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

Trash to Treasure Competition

Deadline: September 5, 2010



Design Squad, a PBS KIDS GO! television series, is launching the nationwide 2010 Trash to Treasure competition -- challenging kids ages 5-19 from across the U.S. to recycle, reuse, and re-engineer everyday materials into new inventions.

Inventions should move things or people, protect the environment, or be used for indoor or outdoor play. Finalists will be featured on the Design Squad Web site and three grand-prize winners will go to Boston to see their designs built and appear on the program.

<http://pbskids.org/designsquad/contest/index.html>

Audubon International's Free Webinars in 2010



To celebrate the mid-way point of the United Nation's Decade of Education for Sustainable Development, throughout

2010 Audubon International will be hosting a series of free training Webinars designed to help people become better stewards of the environment where they live, work, and play. Webinars will focus on topics such as community sustainability, greening your business or property, eco-development practices, and community outreach ideas. Registration is free, but space is limited.

<http://www.auduboninternational.org/webinars>

How Green is My Town?

"How Green is My Town?" is a grassroots effort to empower citizens and local decision makers to address the issues of climate change, sustainability, and environmental health at the local level. The Web site functions as a national clearinghouse of the best programs, ideas, and policies, as well as product solutions where appropriate.

<http://www.howgreenismytown.org/>



Clearing Magazine

Clearing Magazine is an online source for ideas, lesson plans, and resources for environmental and place-based education. Go to <http://www.clearingmagazine.org/> to sign up for the online newsletter and to get a ton of ideas from other educators.

"Nature's Partners: Pollinators, Plants, and You"



One of our many useful resources available on the 501(c)3 Pollinator Partnership's Web site is the "Nature's Partners: Pollinators, Plants, and You" curriculum. It is designed to educate young people about pollinators and the important role they play in providing many of the foods we eat and the plant fiber used in our clothing and household goods, and ways they can help pollinators survive and flourish by protecting and creating pollinator-friendly habitat. The copy written curriculum is available for free download for educators and others who will not use the curriculum for profit.

<http://www.nappc.org/curriculum/>

Green Virtual Conference & Expo

American School & University is hosting the 2nd annual Green Virtual Conference & Expo on 24 June from 9:30 – 5 p.m. At this free virtual conference, you'll learn specific strategies, tactics and best practices on Green Design & Planning, Green Buildings/Construction and Green Cleaning/Operation. Go to <http://asumag.com/webinars/2009-gsu-virtual-conference/> for more information.



Proposals for concurrent session presentations and poster exhibits are now being accepted for the 11th Annual Kansas Environmental Education Conference. More information and a proposal form are located at www.kansasgreenschools.org. Deadline for proposals is 16 July. The conference will be held in Salina on 5-6 November.

CALENDAR

- 29 July** Kansas Green Schools Pre-Conference Workshop in Clyde. For more information, visit <http://www.kansasgreenschools.org/>
- 30 July** Kansas Green Schools Conference in Clyde. For more information, visit <http://www.kansasgreenschools.org/>
- 5-6 November** Kansas Environmental Education Conference. More info to follow at a later date.

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