

25 February 2009

Kansas Green Schools Update #3



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.

Hello again! It's been an action-packed winter, and we are starting to look toward spring and summer activities. We have a lot to share with you!

Green School Grant Funds Still Available

Grants of up to \$4,500 per school are still available for waste management, water quality, and air quality projects, field trips, and professional development for teachers. **Waste management grants have a deadline of 15 April.** Air and water quality grants do not have specific deadlines, but please apply soon so grants can be reviewed and processed by the end of the school year. Check the Kansas Green Schools website for more information, grant criteria, and project ideas!

Share Your Green School Projects at the Kansas Environmental Education Conference!



Proposals for concurrent session presentations and poster exhibits are now being accepted for the 10th Annual Kansas Environmental Education Conference. More information and a proposal form are located at www.kacee.org. Deadline for proposals is 15 May. The conference will be held

in Lawrence on 6-7 November. Registration costs for KACEE members will be \$90 for the entire conference.

Watershed Information and Education Small Grants Program

Small grant funding (up to \$5,000) is available for preK-12 student water-related information and education to assist WRAPS (Watershed Restoration and Protection Strategy) initiatives. This funding can be accessed through your local Conservation District. See www.kswrap.org for more information. Click on "Watershed I & E Grant Application" under "What's New." Examples of eligible programs and projects include but are not limited to water celebrations, environmental field experiences, workshops, educational tours/field days, Ag in the Classroom, brochures or newsletters, etc. Deadline is 15 July 2009.

**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**

2009 Kansas Green School of the Year Awards



Three schools have been awarded the 2009 Kansas Green School of the Year Award: Starside Elementary School in DeSoto, Buhler High School, and Wyandotte High School in Kansas City, Kansas. These schools were selected from numerous excellent nominations.

The awards will be presented at the KACEE Awards Celebration in Topeka on 3 April 2009. For more information about all of this year's awardees, go to www.kacee.org.

"It's Easy Being Green: Innovation, Inspiration, and Implementation"

Green Schools Conference, Sedgwick County Zoo, Wichita
31 July 2009

Join us for the first Green Schools Conference, taking place in late summer, just in time to kick off the school year! Featuring Robert Kobet, AIA, LEED AP, as our keynote speaker, the conference is designed to show just how many ways there are to be green. Bob is the president of Sustainaissance International, a multi-disciplined architectural consulting firm specializing in green design. Bob has traveled the world designing green schools, and is a passionate believer in how schools, parents, students, and residents can work together to promote healthy, green communities. We will also feature a panel of schools working on Green Schools Grant projects, along with sessions on writing grants, green infrastructure, and an extended workshop session on Project Learning Tree and Project WET. Registration information will be available in mid-March.

250 Green Schools by 31 May!

Thank you for being part of the Kansas Green Schools Network, which is now 190 strong! Our goal is to reach 250 Green Schools by the end of May. Help us reach this goal by recruiting another school to register. Drop an e-mail to swilson@kacee.org with the name of the school and school district you've recruited, as well as your mailing address, and when they register you'll receive a free 2009 *Kansas Don't Spoil It!* Calendar!

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KACEE does not necessarily recommend or endorse items and programs

Children & Nature Network President to Speak in Lawrence



Cheryl Charles, president of the Children & Nature Network, will be speaking at the Free State High School in Lawrence at 7 p.m. on 1 April. The presentation is free and open to the public. Cheryl worked closely with Richard Louv to develop training and education for emerging regional leaders in the children

and nature movement. She served for nearly 20 years as national director for the two most widely-used environmental education programs in North America, Project Learning Tree and Project WILD. Cheryl was the keynote speaker at the 2007 Kansas Environmental Education Conference. For more information, go to www.childrenandnature.org.

Kansas City Area: Free Performances Offered by StoneLion Puppet Theatre



StoneLion Puppet Theatre is happy to announce that as part of our community outreach Green Day 2009 Festival Series "A Picnic for the Planet", we have received grant funding to present a school assembly to a limited number of metropolitan elementary schools free of

charge in the spring of 2009. Qualifying schools must have or will be initiating some form of "green" education such as; starting a school recycling program, interest in building a butterfly garden or implementing environmental education in your school. Schools must be within a 35 mile radius of downtown Kansas City MO. There are a limited number of assemblies available so make your request to stonelionpuppets@stonelionpuppets.org or call 816-221-5351 soon. Funded by The Francis Family Foundation.

"Frozen Assets" Sculpture

Matthew Farley, a senior at the University of Kansas, turned the Chi Omega Fountain into a public art display earlier this year. His work, which uses 1,000 plastic water bottles to represent the arcing water in the fountain, examines the connection between the ways Americans view and use water in their everyday lives. Take a look at this innovative artwork at:
<http://www.news.ku.edu/2008/december/18/frozenassets.shtml>

Calendar



March 2009

14 Saturday

Let's Get Kids Outside! Resources for Outdoor Education & Youth Events
Project WILD and Leopold Education Project – near Junction City
Contact jamtower@kacee.org or 785-532-1902 to register

April 2009

1 Wednesday

Cheryl Charles speaking at Free State High School, Lawrence

3 Friday

KACEE Awards Celebration, Kansas Museum of History, Topeka

12 – 18 Sunday - Saturday

National Environmental Education Week (more information at www.eeweek.org)

May 2009

28 – 29 Thursday – Friday

Watershed Workshop & Floating Field Experience
Project WET, Discover a Watershed & Leopold Education Project, Topeka
Contact jamtower@kacee.org or 785-532-1902 to register

July 2009

15 Wednesday

Watershed I and E Small Grants applications due

31 Friday

Green Schools Conference

It's Easy Being Green: Innovation, Inspiration, and Implementation
Sedgwick County Zoo, Wichita (more information coming in mid-March)

November 2009

6 – 7 Friday - Saturday

Kansas Environmental Education Conference, Holiday Inn, Lawrence (more information coming!)



HAVE NEWS OR PHOTOS TO SHARE?

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