



# KACEE

KANSAS ASSOCIATION FOR  
CONSERVATION &  
ENVIRONMENTAL  
EDUCATION

## 2006 ANNUAL REPORT

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*Environmental education is a process directed at creating an awareness and understanding of environmental issues, leading to responsible individual and group actions.*

# OUR THANKS TO THOSE WHO SUPPORTED KACEE THROUGH CONTRIBUTIONS AND GRANTS IN 2006

## Agency/Organizational/Business Contributors

Acorn Naturalists	Kansas Geological Survey
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City of Topeka Water Division	Mid-America Association of Conservation Districts
City of Topeka Water Pollution Control Division	Midwest Energy, Inc
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Crawford County Convention and Visitors Bureau	Pheasants Forever
Educational Credit Union	Playa Lakes Joint Venture
Environmental Protection Agency, Region 7 EE Grant	Project WET
Ellis County Conservation District	PQ Corporation
Franklin County Conservation District	Shawnee County Commission/Shawnee County Recycling Department
Friends University on behalf of Judy Willingham	Shawnee County Conservation District
Independent Insurance Agents of Topeka, Inc	Shawnee County Farm Bureau
Innovia	State Conservation Commission
Kansas Alliance for Wetlands and Streams	Sunflower RC&D Area, Inc
Kansas Association Conservation Districts	The Watershed Institute
Kansas Biological Survey	Topeka Audubon Society
Kansas Chapter of the Wildlife Society	USD 250 Pittsburg
Kansas Corporation Commission	Wabaunsee County Conservation District
Kansas Department of Agriculture	Westar Energy Green Team
Kansas Department of Health and Environment	Wilson County Conservation District
KDHE/Watershed Management/EPA 319 Funds	Wonderscope Children's Museum
Kansas Department of Wildlife and Parks	Wyandotte County Conservation District
Kansas Farm Bureau	
Kansas Forest Service	

## Individual Contributors

Jolene Amtower	Clark and Susan Duffy	Dene Nelson
Schane'e Anderson	Gordon Elliot	Becky O'Donnell
Melissa Arthur	Hank and Eileen Ernst	Diane Page
Terry and Ginny Arthur	Eric Ferral	Linda Phipps
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Annie Baker	Kent Foerster	Amanda Reed
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Sandy Chandler	Marilyn Johnson	Janet Waugh
Tim Christian	Alisa Rapp Kozlowski	Judy Willingham
Terri Coughlin	Annette Lane	Dennis Wilson
Linda Decker	Jessica Lawrenz	Shari L Wilson & Sen. Chris Steineger
Laura Downey	Brad Loveless	

# President's Message



Dear KACEE Members:

I have enjoyed the first year of serving as President of KACEE. Each board meeting reveals impressive strides toward improving environmental education in Kansas. It has been a pleasure working this year with the professional and motivated staff, the dedicated executive board, and the enthusiastic members I have met through the annual meetings and the conference. Environmental education is alive and well in Kansas!

Many programs around the state have involved hundreds of Kansans. Numerous educational workshops, like Project Learning Tree, Project WET, WET in the City, Project WILD, Project WILD Aquatic, and Discover a Watershed brought both formal and nonformal teachers together to learn "how to think, not what to think". There were 83 educator workshops facilitated around the state in 2006 and new workshop opportunities are on the horizon. For instance, KACEE is working with Pheasants Forever to develop a Kansas customized version of the Leopold Education Project. This educational program is particularly suited to older students and integrates biology with language arts.

The EE Plan for Kansas was completed this year. The program, originally funded by EPA, involved several levels of involvement to provide a vehicle to address environmental literacy. KACEE designed a plan to host meetings with organizational, agency, and business representatives to define goals for environmental literacy, to develop communication among Kansas groups, and to build an environmental network.

KACEE has highlighted water issues in Kansas through several programs. After a number of successful years, the Topeka Water Festival continues to draw hundreds of people. Using this festival as a model, other water festivals are being conducted in other parts of the state. On a larger scale, KACEE is collaborating with leadership teams for the community-based Watershed Restoration and Protection Strategy (WRAPS) focusing on capacity building. To address the problem of water runoff and erosion, a new KACEE curriculum on waterspout gardens has provided a basis for several new educational workshops which have become popular with teachers.

The KACEE Conference continues to be a stage for the best environmental education topics, practices, and speakers. Attendance has been sustained each year and, with the conference in different regions of the state (the Pittsburg area this year), new participants are encouraged to attend. Organizations and businesses continue to show strong support for the conference, as evidenced by an increase of conference sponsorships from those in 2005.

The KACEE Strategic Plan was drafted this year which will guide this organization for the next three to four years. Final touches to the plan will be made soon which will promote several new EE opportunities for Kansans.

Check out the informative KACEE website ([www.kacee.org](http://www.kacee.org)) often for event and conference information, available workshops, the Kansas Online EE Community, and the Water Festival Field Guide. While exploring the site, why not try designing a waterspout garden?!

Best Regards,

Cindy Ford  
President



Cindy Ford leading a post-conference field experience at the Ford Farm Wetlands just outside of Pittsburg, KS (photo by Jolene Amtower)

**2006 KACEE  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

**Cindy Ford - President**  
Pittsburg State University

**Schaneé' Anderson -  
President-Elect**  
Sedgwick County Zoo

**Rex Buchanan - Secretary**  
Kansas Geological Survey

**John Strickler - Treasurer**  
KACEE Fund Development Chair

**Kate Grover - Past President**  
Hallmark Cards, Inc

**Dolores Daniels - At Large**  
KCK Community College  
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**Gary Keehn - At Large**  
Jackson Heights High School

**Brad Loveless - At Large**  
Westar Energy Green Team

**Bill McGowan - At Large**  
Ernie Miller Nature Center

**Mike Rader - At Large**  
Wilson State Park

**Kathy Sexson - At Large**  
Lee Richardson Zoo

**John Shidler - At Large**

**Steve Swaffar - At Large**  
Kansas Farm Bureau

**Dee Turner - At Large**  
State Conservation Commission

**Dennis Wilson - At Large**  
Labette County, USD 506

**Kim Bomberger - Ex-Officio**  
Kansas Forest Service

**Hank Ernst - Ex-Officio**  
Kansas Water Office

**Jamie Gaggero - Ex-Officio**  
KS Dept of Health and Environment

**Janet Loebel - Ex-Officio**  
Kansas State Department  
of Education

**Roland Stein- Ex-Officio**  
KS Dept of Wildlife and Parks

**Janet Waugh - Ex-Officio**  
Kansas State Board of Education

**KACEE STAFF**

**Laura Downey**  
Executive Director

**Shari Wilson**  
Special Projects Coordinator

**Beth Carreno**  
Coordinator of  
Education Programs

**Melissa Arthur**  
Coordinator of Statewide Water  
Celebration & Outreach

**Sandy Chandler**  
Business Manager

**Jolene Amtower**  
Office Manager

# Introduction

## From KACEE Bylaws amended and approved March 15, 2002:

We, as concerned citizens of Kansas, recognizing human dependency on natural resources and seeking to preserve, improve, and utilize the natural environment of our State for the benefit and enjoyment of all, do hereby agree to encourage citizen awareness and stewardship of natural resources and to direct our educational efforts to achieve these goals.

The Kansas Association for Conservation and Environmental Education (KACEE) is a private, non-profit, 501(c)(3) association, the sole purpose of which is the promotion of effective conservation and environmental education throughout Kansas. The Association does not become involved in specific environmental issues, but rather promotes a full understanding of environmental issues through the education process.

Environmental education is a process directed at creating awareness and understanding of environmental issues, leading to responsible individual and group actions. The focus of environmental education should be on processes that enhance critical thinking, problem solving, and effective decision making. Through these processes, individuals can better understand the complexities and interrelatedness of environmental issues and weigh the various sides to make informed, balanced, responsible decisions.

## KACEE's MISSION

The Kansas Association for Conservation and Environmental Education (KACEE) promotes and provides effective, non-biased, science-based conservation and environmental education to all Kansans.

## KACEE's VISION

KACEE's vision is an environmentally literate Kansas citizenry, with KACEE as the recognized leader of the state's conservation and environmental education network.



# KACEE 2006 Activities

## Estella Leopold at the 8th Annual Kansas Environmental Education Conference



Estella Leopold, daughter of Aldo Leopold,, spoke to participants on the importance of getting outside and in nature. Photo by Jolene Amtower.

Attendees at this year's Kansas Environmental Education Conference experienced a couple of challenges, a little magic, and a global tour as our keynote speakers wowed everyone with their presentations. Northern Illinois University professor of EE, Bora Simmons, took the audience through a timeline of EE as an international profession. Bora reminded us that increasing environmental education has been an international goal ever since the Belgrade Charter was adopted by a United Nations conference in 1976. She also challenged everyone to work to reduce fragmentation in EE programs. Labette County Schools Superintendent and KACEE board member Dennis Wilson entertained an appreciative audience with magic tricks and a few stories about learning magic as a child.

Estella Leopold, Washington University, was the luncheon keynoter. Her talk questioned whether children today are growing up with nature the way kids did a generation or two ago. Part of Estella's presentation related stories of growing up with her father, Aldo Leopold, and times spent at the Shack along the Wisconsin River. Family photos accompanied this part of her discussion. Estella challenged conference participants to focus on ecology before biology in science to reconnect children with nature. This will build an enthusiasm for nature within the students, which can then be



Stream studies during the pre-conference workshop. Photo by Gayan Stanley

taken to another level by getting them outdoors. The new Kansas Leopold Education Project will provide another means by which educators can make outdoor experiences meaningful while teaching reading and communication skills at the same time. Kansas LEP will kick off sometime next year.

Also included in this year's conference events were a number of exciting and thought-provoking current sessions, a keynote by Jacquelyn Borgeson, curator of the Martin and Osa Johnson Safari Museum in Chanute and a choice of field studies to Mined Lands Wildlife Area and Big Brutus, Ford Farm Wetlands, or the Southeast Kansas Nature Center in Schermerhorn Park.

For more information on the conference, go to [www.kacee.org](http://www.kacee.org). **Our thanks to the 2006 sponsors for making this event possible and helping to insure this conference is affordable to all.** Make plans now to join us for the:

### 2007 Kansas Environmental Education Conference—Digging EE: Uncovering New Connections

November 2-3, 2007 Hays, Kansas

### Funding for KACEE Programs

In 2006, foundational funding for KACEE programs and activities was provided from the Kansas State Board and Department of Education. This funding continues to remain critical as it allows KACEE to leverage additional funding that totals nearly ten times the KSBE initial allocation. In addition to this support, the ongoing financial sponsorships for key KACEE programs was critical to continue to provide quality, non-biased EE in 2006. The Kansas Forest Service, the Kansas Department of Health and Environment and the Kansas Corporation Commission maintained their sponsorships of Project Learning Tree, PLT Secondary Modules and PLT Energy & Society programs. The Kansas Water Office also continued to sponsor Project WET in 2006, with support for WET In the City, an urban water education program, from the Kansas Department of Health and Environment (Bureau of Water) EPA 319 Grant funding. In addition to ongoing sponsorship of our EE programs, private sector support for EE in Kansas through the Coleman Company, The Kansas Farm Bureau, Nestle Waters North America, Westar Energy and the Kansas Chapter of Pheasants Forever, to name just a few. Sponsorship for both the Kansas Environmental Education Conference and the Topeka Water Festival allow for continued success of these events. Additional funding for projects and programs was secured through grants such as a KDHE/EPA 319 Grant for the Statewide Water Celebrations Project, US Environmental Protection Agency Grants for programs such as the Waterspout Gardens School Curriculum Project. It is through this public/private partnership that KACEE continues to maintain our financial stability and we are deeply grateful for the ongoing support of our partners, as well as the support of our members.

Perhaps most impressive are the in-kind contributions from Board Members, volunteers, program facilitators, committee members and others that totaled more than **\$327,596.00** in value for time, travel and services. We also wish to acknowledge the contribution of office space in Manhattan provided by K-State Research and Extension.

## 2006 Environmental Education Workshop Totals

KACEE offered workshops around the state in Project Learning Tree, Project WET, WET in the City, Project WILD and Project WILD Aquatic. The following table breaks out the number of workshops and participants for 2006. In addition, we hosted a Pre-Conference Workshop using a new curriculum, Discover a Watershed, ongoing Energy and Society Workshops, workshops that explored ways to incorporate EE while developing a waterspout garden.

Workshop Type	Number of Workshops	Number of Participants
Project Learning Tree (PreK-8)	17	346
Project Learning Tree Secondary Module	9	141
Project WET	16	334
WET in the City	5	92
Project WILD	16	304
Project WILD Aquatic	6	108
Specialty Workshops	6	113
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>75</b>	<b>1,438</b>

## Environmental Education for Diverse Audiences

KACEE continues to explore ways in which environmental education can meet the needs of diverse audiences. In 2006, environmental education workshops were specifically tailored for audiences such as early childhood educators, educators of Native American students and urban educators. KACEE will explore options for reaching even more diverse audiences in 2007, such as educators working with English as a Second Language (ESL) students and educators working with special needs audiences, such as the deaf and blind.



Teachers at the USD 501 Summer Institute exploring a local stream. (Photo by Jolene Am-)



Jessi Kirkpatrick's Ottawa 1st Graders and their adopted tree. (photo by Jessi Kirkpatrick)

### Visit the Online EE Community

This one-stop shop for environmental education in Kansas features information on programs, projects, workshops, resources, events, and materials. A searchable database allows teachers, non-formal educators, parents, and others interested in EE to easily find the information they need. Find out what's new at: [www.kacee.org](http://www.kacee.org) (click "Online EE Community")

## The 2006 Topeka Water Festival

On September 21, 2006, in every state across the nation, children were engaged in water festivals. KACEE was proud to host the water festival event in Kansas. For the first time since the event was established in 1999, weather forced us inside and several classes were not able to attend. However, we were able to hold a modified event.

Accomplishments of the Topeka Water Festival include:



Students participated in The Incredible Journey with staff from KDHE's Bureau of Water, exploring the water cycle.

- ◆ 1100+ Topeka area Fourth Graders scheduled to attend, accompanied by approximately 100 teachers and adults
- ◆ More than 150 volunteers, presenters, and exhibitors with community sponsors and donations
- ◆ 26 hands-on activities and 10 exhibitors promoting an awareness and appreciation for water and water quality



Fourth Graders learned about recycling and composting from the Shawnee Co Conservation District. (photos by Hank Ernst)

Our thanks to Judy Boltman, Shawnee County Conservation District, and Beth Carreno, KACEE, for leading the organization of the event. We would also like to acknowledge more than 150 volunteers who worked so hard to make this event possible and the numerous sponsors who supported the event.

The 2007 Topeka Water Festival will be held at Garfield Community Center in Topeka on September 21st



## Environmental Education Plan for Kansas

The final version of the Environmental Education Plan for Kansas was approved in 2006 (available online at [www.kacee.org](http://www.kacee.org)). This plan is designed to improve coordination and communication among EE providers in the state, and to expand many of the initiatives undertaken by various members of the Kansas EE community in recent years. For more information about how you can be involved in the EE Plan for Kansas, please contact Shari Wilson, [swilson@kacee.org](mailto:swilson@kacee.org).

## Statewide Water Festivals and Celebrations

In 2006, work continued on a the Statewide Water Celebrations Project (funded by KDHE/EPA 319 funds) which included a new online "Kansas Festival Field Guide." This online guide includes information about the more than 37 water festivals and celebrations that happen throughout the state. Also available online are resources for starting your own water celebration in your community and applications for small grants to get the project started. For more information, contact Melissa Arthur, [marthur@kacee.org](mailto:marthur@kacee.org)



## Watershed Restoration and Protection Strategy (WRAPS) Capacity Building



In 2006, KACEE began working in partnership with the Kansas Department of Health and Environment's Bureau of Water (funded through KDHE/EPA 319 Funds) to provide professional development for local leaders who work with WRAPS projects in their communities. WRAPS is a grassroots approach to watershed restoration and protection that involves engagement of local stakeholders in developing and implementing plans that address issues in their communities. KACEE has been involved in capacity-building for local leadership within the WRAPS process and in 2006 facilitated an introductory meeting that helped to provide insight and understanding of the roles and challenges of local leaders as they engage in these community-based efforts. In November, KACEE helped to organize and host a day long training that focused on communication with stakeholders and use of technologies to provide better information and understanding of local watershed issues. For more information on WRAPS, please visit: [www.kswraps.org](http://www.kswraps.org) or contact Melissa Arthur, [marthur@kacee.org](mailto:marthur@kacee.org)

Over 40 WRAPS leaders from across the state learning about communication with stake holders during a capacity-building session facilitated by Gary Flory, KS Institute for Peace and Conflict Resolution (Photo by Jolene Amtower)



## Other KACEE Activities in 2006

KACEE was involved in a variety of activities in 2006. The following represent just some of the highlights:

- KACEE facilitated an intensive professional development opportunity for the entire staff of the Kickapoo Nations School—the staff and school have incorporated environmental education into their school curricula. Students from the Kickapoo Nations School shared their work at the 2006 Kansas Environmental Education Conference.
- The final version of the Kansas Leopold Education Project (LEP) was completed in 2006 and a facilitator workshop was planned. The LEP materials are based on Aldo Leopold's *Sand County Almanac*. During her keynote, Estella Leopold, daughter of Aldo, said: "One classroom remedy I am really excited about is the potential of the Leopold Education Project, and I am pleased to see what KACEE has done with it!" LEP in Kansas is supported by Kansas Chapters of Pheasants Forever and Quail Forever.
- KACEE, in cooperation with the City of Topeka, Water Pollution Control, hosted a series of workshops throughout the state that were focused on the use of waterspout or rain gardens as a tool for education in schools. These workshops provided educators with professional development on what a waterspout garden is, the benefits of waterspout gardens and ways to incorporate the planning and design of waterspout gardens at schools to support reading, writing, math, science and social studies state standards. This continues to be an important tool, especially in urban areas—contact Laura Downey ([ldowney@kacee.org](mailto:ldowney@kacee.org)) for more information.
- KACEE members and staff completed a final draft of the 2007-2010 KACEE Strategic Plan and will seek additional feedback and comments on the final draft by membership early in 2007. (Draft available for comment at [www.kacee.org](http://www.kacee.org))
- KACEE continued ongoing outreach and development of support for EE in Kansas with staff and board members participating and presenting at a variety of meetings, conferences and events in Kansas. With the goal of strengthening support for EE in the state, as well as growing partnerships, KACEE participated in more than 100 events, meetings and activities in both Kansas and the United States.
- KACEE continues to represent Kansas EE nationally as a liaison to the North American Association for Environmental Education (NAAEE), National PLT, WET, and WILD, and additional national/international EE organizations, thus promoting continued collaboration and networking.

## KACEE MEMBERSHIP 2006

The broad-based membership of KACEE represents an extensive network of public/private partners working to promote effective environmental education throughout Kansas. KACEE membership numbered 224 organizations and 243 individuals in 2006.

### 2006-2008 KACEE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

- Cindy Ford - President**  
Pittsburg State University
- Schaneé' Anderson - President-Elect**  
Sedgwick County Zoo
- Rex Buchanan - Secretary**  
Kansas Geological Survey
- John Strickler - Treasurer**  
KACEE Fund Development Chair
- Kate Grover - Past President**  
Hallmark Cards, Inc
- Dolores Daniels - At Large**  
KCK Community College Campus  
Childcare Center
- Gary Keehn - At Large**  
Jackson Heights High School
- Brad Loveless - At Large**  
Westar Energy Green Team
- Bill McGowan - At Large**  
Ernie Miller Nature Center
- Mike Rader - At Large**  
Wilson State Park
- Kathy Sexson - At Large**  
Lee Richardson Zoo
- John Shidler - At Large**
- Steve Swaffar - At Large**  
Kansas Farm Bureau
- Dee Turner - At Large**  
State Conservation Commission
- Dennis Wilson - At Large**  
Labette County, USD 506
- Kim Bomberger - Ex-Officio**  
Kansas Forest Service
- Hank Ernst - Ex-Officio**  
Kansas Water Office
- Jamie Gaggero - Ex-Officio**  
Kansas Department of  
Health and Environment
- Heather Click - Ex-Officio**  
KS State Department  
of Education
- Janet Waugh - Ex-Officio**  
Kansas State Board of Education

### KACEE STAFF

- Laura Downey**  
Executive Director
- Shari Wilson**  
Special Projects Coordinator
- Beth Carreno**  
Coordinator of Education Programs
- Melissa Arthur**  
Coordinator Statewide Water  
Celebrations and Outreach
- Sandy Chandler**  
Business Manager
- Jolene Amtower**  
Office Manager

### COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES

- Baker University  
Biology Department
- Barton County Community  
College Library
- Benedictine College  
Education Department
- Emporia State University  
Division of Biological Sciences
- Fort Hays State University  
Department of Biological Sciences
- Fort Hays State University  
Sternberg Museum of Natural History
- Friends University
- Kansas Biological Survey  
University of Kansas
- Kansas City Kansas Community College  
Campus Child Care Center
- Kansas City Kansas Community College  
Department Biological Sciences
- Kansas State University  
College of Education Secondary Education
- Kansas State University  
Horticulture Forestry & Recreation Resources
- Kansas State University  
Kansas Agricultural & Rural  
Leadership Program
- Kansas State University  
Kansas Environmental Leadership Program  
(KELP)
- Kansas State University  
PRIDE Program/Project PRIDE
- Kansas State University  
KCARE
- Kansas State University  
Office of Local Government
- Kansas State University  
Research and Extension  
Agricultural & Natural Resources
- Kansas State University  
Pollution Prevention Institute
- Pittsburg State University  
Department of Biology
- University of Kansas  
Center for Science Foundation
- University of Kansas  
Facilities Operations
- University of Kansas  
Natural History Museum
- University of Kansas  
School of Education
- Wichita State University  
College of Education, C & I

### ORGANIZATIONS

- Acorn Naturalists
- Audubon of Kansas
- Blue River Watershed Association
- Bridging the Gap
- Earth Awareness Researchers  
for Tomorrow's Habitat  
E.A.R.T.H.
- Exploration Place  
Adolescent & Adult Education
- Friends of Finney Game Refuge
- Golf Course Superintendents  
Association of America
- Grassland Heritage Foundation
- Great Plains Society of  
American Foresters
- Hillsdale Water Quality Project
- Kansas Alliance for Wetlands & Streams
- Kansas Arborists Association
- Kansas Association of Teachers  
of Science (KATS)
- Kansas Association of Biology Teachers
- Kansas Cattlewomen
- Kansas City Zoo
- Kansas Earth Science Teachers Association
- Kansas Energy Council
- Kansas Geographic Alliance  
Fort Hay State University
- Kansas Geological Foundation
- Kansas Natural Resource Council
- Kansas Park Trust
- Kansas Recreation and Park Association  
Kansas Sierra Club
- Kansas Tree Farm Committee  
Kansas Forest Service
- Kansas Underground Salt Museum
- Kansas Wildlife Federation
- Kansas Wildscape Foundation
- Kaw Valley Heritage Alliance
- Kansas Streamlink
- KCEEN/Mid-America Regional Council
- KS Institute for Peace and Conflict  
Resolution (KIPCOR)
- Konza Prairie Biological Station
- Mid-America Association of  
Conservation Districts

- National Wildlife Federation
- Ogallala Aquifer Institute
- Operation Brightside, Inc
- Pheasants Forever
- Playa Lakes Joint Venture
- Project Learning Tree - Kansas
- Project WET - Kansas
- Project WILD - Kansas
- Rock Springs 4-H Camp
- Rolling Hills Wildlife Adventure
- Safari Club International  
Kansas City
- Science Pioneers, Inc.
- Southeast Kansas Nature Center  
Of Galena-Schermorhorn Park
- State Association of Kansas Watersheds
- Sunflower RC & D Area, Inc
- The Nature Conservancy
- The Watershed Institute, Inc
- Topeka Audubon Society
- Wildwood Outdoor Education Center
- Wonderscope Children's Museum
- Youth Friends of Kansas City Kansas

### FEDERAL, STATE & LOCAL AGENCIES

- Board of Public Utilities  
Kansas City Kansas
- Bourbon County Conservation District
- Brown County Conservation District
- Butler County Conservation District
- City of Overland Park
- City of Overland Park  
Arboretum & Botanical Gardens
- City of Rossville
- City of Salina  
Household Hazardous Waste
- City of Topeka  
Department of Public  
Works/Water Division
- City of Topeka  
Water Pollution Control
- City of Wichita  
WATER Center
- Clay County Conservation District
- Cowley County Conservation District
- Crawford County Conservation District

Dickinson County Water Improvement Program

Dickerson County Conservation District

Dillon Nature Center

Douglas County Conservation District

Dyck Arboretum of the Plains

Ellis County Conservation District

Finney County Conservation District

Flint Hills RC & D

Franklin County Conservation District

Geary County Conservation District

Grant County Conservation District

Gray County Conservation District

Great Plains Nature Center

Harvey County Conservation District

Jackson County Conservation District

Jefferson County Conservation District

Johnson County Conservation District

Johnson County Park & Recreation District  
Ernie Miller Nature Center

Kan-Ed

Kansas Association of Conservation Districts

Kansas City District Corps of Engineers  
Milford Lake Project Office

Kansas City Kansas Public Library

Kansas Corporation Commission

Kansas Department of Agriculture  
Public Information Office

Kansas Department of Commerce and Housing

KS Department of Health & Environment

Kansas Department of Wildlife & Parks

Kansas Forest Service

Kansas Geological Survey  
University of Kansas West Campus

Kansas Rural Water Association

Kansas State Department of Education

Kansas State Historical Society

Kansas Water Office

K-State Research & Extension  
Reno County

Kickapoo Environmental Office

Lane County Conservation District

Lee Richardson Zoo

Marshall County Conservation District

Milford Nature Center

Miami County Conservation District

Mitchell County Conservation District

Natural Resource Conservation Service

Nemaha County Conservation District

Neosho County Conservation District

Ness County Farm Service Agency  
Ness County Conservation District

Osage County Conservation District

Phillips County Conservation District

Pottawatomie County Conservation District

Prairie Park Nature Center

Quivira National Wildlife Refuge

Rawlins County Conservation District

Riley County Conservation District

Rush County Conservation District

Salina Parks & Recreation  
Lakewood Discovery Center

Saline County Conservation District

Sedgwick County Zoo

Shawnee County Conservation District

Shawnee County Recycling Department

Soil & Water Conservation Society  
Kansas Council of Chapters

State Conservation Commission

Sunset Zoological Park

Thomas County Conservation District

Topeka Zoo  
Friends of Topeka Zoo

Twin Lakes Water Quality Project

US Environmental Protection Agency Region  
7 Environmental Education

US Fish and Wildlife Service

US Geological Survey  
Water Resource Division

USDA Forest Service  
Cimarron National Grasslands

Wabaunsee County Conservation District

Washington County Conservation District

Wilson County Conservation District

Wyandotte County Conservation District

**BUSINESS AND INDUSTRY**

Bass Pro Shops

BRB Contractors, Inc.

Bucher Willis & Ratliff Corp

Chapman Creek Cattle Co

Chatter's Restaurant

Coleman Company Inc

Crawford County Convention & Visitors Bureau

Deffenbaugh Industries, Inc

Downey Ranch, Inc

Educational Credit Union

Family Books at Home

Hutchinson Convention Visitors Bureau

Independent Insurance Agents

Integrated Solutions, Inc

Kansas Agribusiness Retailers Association

Kansas Chamber of Commerce & Industry

Kansas Farm Bureau  
Natural Resources Division

Kansas Gas Service

Kansas Land Improvement Contractors Association

Kansas Petroleum Council

Koch Industries, Inc

Mid-America Lumbermens Association

Midwest Energy

Monarch Cement Company

Nestle Waters of North America

Salt Institute

Slitterbahn Vacation Village

Science City at Union Station

Shawnee County Farm Bureau

Sprint

Sunflower Diversified Services  
1st Step Recycling

Tall Oaks Conference Center

Taylor & Associates, Inc

The Development Company

The Pathfinder-Manhattan

Vulcan Chemical Company

Westar Energy

Western Resources/KGE

Wolf Creek Nuclear Operating Corporation

**ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY EDUCATION**

Central Middle School

John Dewey Learning Academy

Kickapoo Nation School

Lawrence Public Schools #497

Morse Elementary School

Smoky Hill Education Service Center

South Central Kansas Educational Service Center

USD #202 Turner

USD #229  
Blue Valley School District

USD #233 Olathe District Schools

USD #307  
Ell-Saline High School

USD #335 North Jackson  
Jackson Heights High School

USD #340 Jefferson West  
Jefferson West Elementary

USD #355  
Ellinwood Grade School

USD #495

USD #500 Kansas City

USD #500 Kansas City  
Professional Development Center

USD #506 Labette County

West Indianola Elementary School

Wichita West High School

**INDIVIDUAL MEMBERS**

**243**



**Know someone who ought to be a member?**

Pass on the membership form found on the back page or join online at [www.kacee.org](http://www.kacee.org)

**Help us grow in 2007!**



Part of a large organization that is already a member? Sign up today as an associate member! Contact Melissa Arthur for more information, [marthure@kacee.org](mailto:marthure@kacee.org)

## KACEE'S FUTURE

This year will prove to be an exciting year for KACEE and for EE in Kansas! Richard Louv's book, *Last Child in the Woods*, in which he coins the phrase, "nature deficit disorder," brings attention to why our work with environmental education is more important than ever. In his book, Louv points to the disconnect our children have with nature and the links between that disconnect and rises in ADHD, childhood obesity and social and cognitive delays in our children, to name just a few. This is a book I'd encourage you all to read if you have not already done so—for it clearly outlines the need for us all to devote even more energy and effort toward promoting environmental education for our children and has renewed interest internationally in these efforts. We are very proud of the leadership we've demonstrated here in Kansas and in March, we'll be honoring those who exemplify excellence and leadership in promoting and providing quality, non-biased, science-based conservation and environmental education during a special event. Traditionally we have honored these awardees at our annual conference, but this year we are pleased to have the opportunity to share the accomplishments of our awardees with a broader audience. The event, scheduled to take place on March 30th will feature an evening of celebration at the Kansas History Museum and we hope that many of you will join us and find out more about the outstanding EE taking place in the state.

Another first for KACEE will take place May 7-10, 2007 in Wichita as KACEE hosts the Project Learning Tree International Coordinator's Conference. We'll have the opportunity to bring leaders from every state in the US and international partners as well to learn more about the beauty and richness of our Kansas natural resources, highlighted in a trip to the Tallgrass Prairie Preserve. We also have another exciting opportunity to showcase Kansas and the environmental education efforts here in an event that will soon be announced—so keep an eye out for this upcoming information!

The recently completed EE Plan for Kansas (at [www.kacee.org](http://www.kacee.org)), which was developed cooperatively and collaboratively with many partners, outlines goals and strategies to make EE a more integral part of the classroom experience. For instance, greater attention on ensuring the quality of EE programs and materials needs to be undertaken; professional development for EE providers in the cornerstones of what makes for quality EE must be implemented; and increased opportunities for ongoing networking and collaboration must be provided. Through the strong public/private partnership of our membership, KACEE can provide leadership in seeing that these critical steps are taken in moving EE forward in our state—plans are underway to take these steps. We're exploring opportunities to include more reading-based EE programs in our offerings, provide professional development in program evaluation and looking at an EE program and materials review process, to name a just a few initiatives for 2007. Realizing the goals of the EE Plan for Kansas will require all to be involved—take a moment to look at the plan and I'd challenge you to find ways you can be a part of this important work in the state.

We'll also continue to provide the cornerstone programs and services that have helped to make Kansas a national leader in EE. The Kansas Environmental Education Conference, EE workshops, the Topeka Water Festival and Statewide Water Celebrations project, as well as our work with adult environmental education and capacity-building through projects like the WRAPS Capacity-Building initiative and ongoing workshop facilitator development will be critical components of our work in 2007. We'll seek to continue to diversify the EE community, with initiatives that focus on bringing in underserved audiences such as early childhood educators and educators of children with special needs. Now more than ever, we need your help. As a member of KACEE, we'll rely on your continued support and involvement as we work toward this mission—I challenge you all to take an active role at this critical juncture. I welcome the opportunity to talk with you more about all the exciting events to come in 2007, so please feel free to contact me and find out how you can be a part!

Laura Downey  
Executive Director



Look deep into nature and then you will  
understand everything better.

—Albert Einstein

## 2006 KACEE FINANCIAL STATEMENT

### INCOME

Membership Dues & Miscellaneous Donations	\$12,140.00
Meeting Registration	\$8,259.00
Interest	\$430.00
State Department of Education/Board of Education Partnership	\$35,000.00
Administrative and Indirect Income	\$2,189.00
Project WET (Kansas Water Office Contract/State Water Plan Fund)	\$43,000.00
Project Learning Tree (Kansas Forest Service Contract)	\$5,142.00
Project Learning Tree (Kansas Department of Health and Environment Contract)	\$30,000.00
Project Learning Tree (Kansas Corporation Commission, Energy & Society)	\$15,000.00
Playa Lakes Joint Venture	\$3,881.00
Leopold Education Project (Kansas Pheasants Forever)	\$2,092.00
Workshop Income	\$13,733.00
KDHE/EPA 319 Statewide Water Celebrations Grant	\$55,873.00
KDHE/EPA 319 WET in the City Grant	\$14,341.00
KDHE/EPA 319 WRAPS Capacity Building Project	\$7,965.00
Kansas Environmental Education Conference	\$16,750.00
Topeka Water Festival	\$15,350.00
SEP/Bureau of Air Grant Program	\$1,250.00
EPA Region 7 Waterspout Gardens Project	\$17,979.00
<b>TOTAL 2006 INCOME *</b>	<b>\$324,571.00</b>

### EXPENSES

Spring Meeting	\$460.00
Kansas Environmental Education Conference	\$34,642.00
IYE Workshop Expenses	\$435.00
General Travel Expenses (Staff, Executive Committee and Volunteers)	\$4,652.00
Project Travel Expenses (Staff, Executive Committee, Volunteers, Speakers)	\$18,190.00
Miscellaneous General Operating Expenses (Phone, Office Supplies, Services)	\$29,590.00
PLT Operating Expenses (Supplies, Services, Activity Guides)	\$4,173.00
WET Operating Expenses (Supplies, Services, Activity Guides)	\$6,220.00
WILD Operating Expenses (Supplies, Services, Activity Guides)	\$637.00
Special Projects Expenses (Supplies, Services, etc.)**	\$34,125.00
Staff Salaries, Medicare, Social Security and Benefits	(General) \$52,327.00
	(PLT) \$29,263.00
	(WET) \$37,325.00
	(Special Projects) \$87,532.00
<b>TOTAL 2006 EXPENSES</b>	<b>\$339,571.00</b>

\*This statement includes only the actual cash income and expenses reflected in the KACEE accounts. It does not reflect invoiced payments for services rendered in 2006 of \$20,205. Nor does it reflect the in-kind contributions by individual members, member organizations or volunteer workshop facilitators in time and services.

A conservative value of these in-kind contributions exceeded \$327,596.00 in 2006.

NOW  
AVAILABLE  
Join and manage your  
membership online at  
[www.kacee.org](http://www.kacee.org)

# KACEE Membership & Request for Information

Organizational Membership (\$50/year)     Individual Membership (\$20/year)

Student Membership (Grade 9-Undergraduate) \$10/year

Additional donation to support quality, non-biased, science-based environmental education in Kansas \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Primary Contact: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Organization/School/Affiliation: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Work Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Fax: \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail Address: \_\_\_\_\_

If you are joining as an individual member or primary contact for an Organizational membership, how would you like to receive your KACEE newsletter and Communications:     Paper     Electronic

(NOTE: Student members and Organizational member contacts will receive KACEE news via e-mail only)

Organizational members may list up to two additional contacts at no extra charge (please list on a separate sheet). For more than two additional contacts, please include \$10 per additional contact (beyond two additional contacts included with organizational membership)

I am interested in the following:

Assisting and/or hosting a workshop in my area

Serving on a committee or working with a project

Providing educator scholarship in my community

Attending a workshop:     PLT     PLT Secondary     WET     WILD

Investigating Your Environment

Other (please specify): \_\_\_\_\_

Becoming a project facilitator

Presenting at a workshop or conference

Becoming a school or district liaison

Becoming a corporate sponsor

WILD Aquatic     WET In the City     Leopold Education Project

Please return completed form to:

KACEE

2610 Claflin Road

Manhattan, KS 66502-2743

785-532-3322

Internal Use:

Membership Category: \_\_\_\_\_

Date Received: \_\_\_\_\_



## KACEE

KANSAS ASSOCIATION FOR  
CONSERVATION &  
ENVIRONMENTAL  
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2610 Claflin Road  
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