

Special Thanks

KACEE thanks this year's KEEC planning committee members, their organizations, and friends for their dedication and hard work in making this year's conference and pre-conference workshop a success!

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Twelfth Annual Kansas Environmental Education Conference

"Flying into the Future With EE"

November 4-5, 2011
Highland Hotel & Convention Center
Great Bend, Kansas

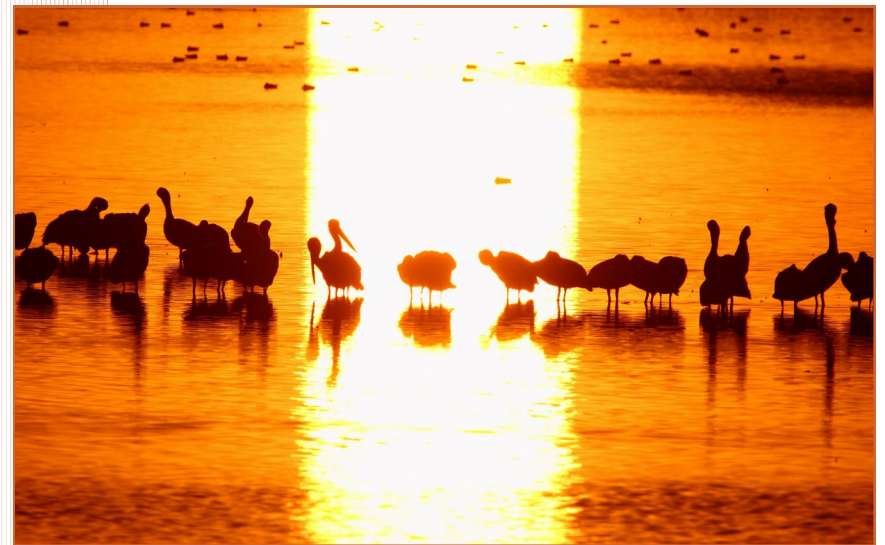


Photo by: ©Bob Gress, BirdsInFocus.com

Friends

Cris Collier,
Great Bend Convention &
Visitors Bureau

Sandy Hiss,
Highland Hotel & Convention Center

Bob Gress
Great Plains Nature Center

Pre-Conference Workshop Special Thanks

Kansas Wetlands Center



Photo by: Eric Giesing



KACEE
KANSAS ASSOCIATION FOR
CONSERVATION &
ENVIRONMENTAL
EDUCATION



Conference Sponsors

KACEE thanks the following agencies, companies, and organizations for supporting the 2011 Kansas Environmental Education Conference



Prairie Level



Wetland Level



Bison Level

Kansas Forest Service
Midwest Energy, Inc.
Kansas Department of Health & Environment
Waste Management Section

Meadowlark Level

Franklin County Conservation District
Kansas Alliance for Wetlands & Streams
Kiowa County Conservation District
Morris County Conservation District
Ness County Conservation District
Wabaunsee County Conservation District
Great Plain Society of American Foresters

Cottonwood Level

Acorn Naturalists
Coleman Company

Professional Development Points are available for the pre-conference workshop and conference. Classroom teachers should pick up certificates at the registration desk. Points are available as follows:

Pre-conference workshop: 7 points
Friday conference: 9 points Saturday conference: 7 points

Need to keep networking?

Join us for snacks, drinks, and great conversation in the KACEE Hospitality Room!
9 to 11 p.m. Thursday and Friday nights in Room 129

Saturday, November 5

Concurrent C—9:30-10:20 a.m.

Stephanie Cold, K-State Libraries ~ East Convention Room

Empowered Students: Enhancing Environmental Education with Information Literacy
This session will introduce and test audience members' familiarity with information literacy and eco literacy through active learning and engagement. We will explore how information and eco literacy can be incorporated into environmental education at various stages of learning including the transition from high school to the university.

High School, College

Libby Albers, The WATER Center ~ Conference Room A

Validating Fun: Connecting Programs and Field Experiences to State Standards
Service learning, field trip, experiential education—whatever you call it, these non-formal learning opportunities are often best “sold” to the traditional education community through approved learning standards. Come learn a quick and easy way to align those museum, nature center, or zoo programs to the State Standards.

Nonformal

Concurrent D—10:30-11:20 a.m.

Brad Guhr, Dyck Arboretum of the Plains ~ East Convention Room

Restoring Connections to the Prairie: Kansas Earth Partnership for Schools
Earth Partnership for Schools facilitates the creation of prairie gardens on school grounds. Teachers (K-12) learn to engage students in Kansas natural/cultural history while creating dirty fingernails, lasting memories, hands-on learning laboratories, and environmentally-friendly landscaping. Gain a standards-based curriculum guide, graduate credit, follow-up support and a renewed passion for teaching.

Elementary School, Middle School, High School, Nonformal

Eric Giesing, Kansas Wetlands Education Center ~ Conference Room A

Green When I Grow Up

Kids find themselves having to decide sooner and sooner in life what they want to be when they grow up. Through this presentation, teachers will learn hands on ways to get their students thinking about future careers and how to make every job a green job.

Middle School, High School

Concurrent E—11:30-12:20 p.m.

Delia Lister, Pittsburg State University ~ East Convention Room

Using FEATHERS to Fly in the Future with EE!

You probably know something about birds—BUT have you ever taken time to learn about just their feathers? How have they influenced conservation efforts and our daily lives? Join me in this session to get a few ideas on how to shed new light on these amazing natural wonders.

Middle School, High School, Nonformal

Jacqueline Spears, K-State, Center for Science Education ~ Conference Room A

Supporting an Informed Dialogue on Climate Change

This interactive session focuses on climate change. Presenters will share information on a National Science Foundation-supported Central Great Plains Climate Change Education Partnership and how Kansas teachers can be involved. Participants will discuss examples of how climate change is integrated into curricula as well as needs for additional instructional materials.

Elementary School, Middle School, High School, Nonformal

Concurrent Session Descriptions

Friday, November 4

Concurrent A—10:00-10:50 a.m.

Juan Martinez, Natural Leaders Network ~ East Convention Room

The New Nature Movement

For decades, our culture has struggled with two addictions, to oil and to despair. It's pretty clear by now that we can't kick one of those habits without kicking the other. The key questions here are: How do we change our vision of the future? Where do we start? Here's one suggestion: reconceive environmentalism and sustainability – help them evolve into a larger movement that can touch every part of society.

Jeff Severin, University of Kansas ~ Conference Room A

Sustaining Secondary Environmental Education

How can Kansas schools prepare students for emerging sustainability and green jobs programs at technical schools, colleges, and universities? What resources are needed to help students meet expectations of post-secondary schools regarding sustainability literacy? Join us for an open discussion and provide your input as we explore these topics.

High School, College

Luke Gard, Children's Mercy Hospital ~ Conference Room C

School Assessments: Needs, Processes, Results, and Challenges

Attendees will learn: (1) The complex challenges schools encounter on a daily basis; asthma and allergies, space limitations, financial challenges, deteriorating facilities, high expectations in the community; (2) How to qualitatively and quantitatively assess school facilities and interpret the data; (3) How to create an "action plan" for district's that help create and maintain the safest and healthiest learning environments

PreK, Elementary School, Middle School, High School

Concurrent B—11:00-11:50 a.m.

Eric Giesing, Kansas Wetlands Education Center ~ East Convention Room

Getting kids outdoors...no matter the age!

Want to get your students outside but are not sure where to start? Come learn about various resources available to you and your students. Learn about ways to create outdoor classrooms and learn what nature centers have to offer both you and your students.

PreK, Elementary School, Middle School, General Audience

Melissa Arthur, KACEE ~ Conference Room A

Engaging Students in EE Discussions: Taking it to a Higher Level

Explore strategies and resources for reflective discussions that engage your students to think critically and articulate their ideas about the environmental issues of our time. We'll share strategies from the Land Ethic Leaders program, Socratic Seminars, and the Project on Civic Reflection to use literature as the basis for exploratory dialogue.

Middle School, High School, Non-Formal, General Audience

Matt Krehbiel, Kansas State Department of Education ~ Conference Room C

Teaching for the Next Generation: Kansas, the Next Generation Science Standards, and Environmental Education

We will cover the most current information about the development of the Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS) and Kansas' role in their development. Come ready to work on the connections between NGSS and environmental education. Bring your laptop if you have one. This session will have more of an emphasis on K-5, but all are welcome.

Elementary School, Middle School, High School

Field Studies

Carpooling is encouraged! Field Studies groups meet in the hotel lobby.

Friday, November 4

Cheyenne Bottoms Birding Field Study

Join experienced birders on a tour of Cheyenne Bottoms Wildlife Area, just outside Great Bend. We'll carpool to the site and discover the extraordinary wildlife that utilizes the Central Flyway. Cheyenne Bottoms is a Ramsar-designated Wetland of International Importance and is one of the most important shorebird migration stopover points in the Western Hemisphere.

Field Study Leader: Mike Rader

Ellinwood Grade School OWLS Site Field Study

Join Principal Eric Sjogren for a tour of this courtyard-style Outdoor Wildlife Learning Site. Learn about how the school started the OWLS and how they maintain it, and the different ways EGS's teachers incorporate the OWLS into classroom lessons.

Bus transportation from the Great Bend School District will be available for this field study.

Field Study Host: Principal Eric Sjogren

Saturday, November 5

Turner Farms Field Study (parking is limited)

This unique farm is located just outside Great Bend, and was previously a refuge for migratory birds such as the Greater Canada Goose. Now it serves as a laboratory for sustainable practices. We'll carpool to the farm (parking is limited) and learn about the fall macroinvertebrate study conducted to evaluate pond health, songbird tree plantings that draw wildlife such as barred owls and wading birds, and agricultural best practices. Light refreshments will be served after the field study.

Field Study Host: Stephanie Turner

Cheyenne Bottoms Birding Field Study

Join experienced birders on a tour of Cheyenne Bottoms Wildlife Area, just outside Great Bend. We'll carpool to the site and discover the extraordinary wildlife that utilizes the Central Flyway. Cheyenne Bottoms is a Ramsar-designated Wetland of International Importance and is one of the most important shorebird migration stopover points in the Western Hemisphere.

Field Study Leader: Mike Rader

Conference Schedule

All sessions take place in the Convention Center unless otherwise noted.

The schedule is subject to change.

Thursday, November 3

- 9 to 5 p.m. Pre-Conference Workshop: Soar Into EE!
Kansas Wetlands Education Center
- 3 to 8 p.m. Exhibitor and Poster Session Set Up
- 6 to 8:30 p.m. Evening activities focusing on a migration theme/dinner
Kansas Wetlands Education Center
- 8:30 to 9:30 p.m. Pre-Registration **Convention Center Lobby**
- 9 to 11 p.m. Hospitality Room **Room 129**

Friday, November 4

- 7 to 8 a.m. Breakfast **West Convention Room**
- 7:30 a.m. Registration Opens **Convention Center Lobby**
Exhibits and Poster Sessions Open **West Convention Room**
- 8 to 9:30 a.m. Opening Session **East Convention Room**
~ Welcome, Kathy Sexson, KACEE President
~ Keynote Presentation: Juan D. Martinez,
National Natural Leaders Network
- 9:30 to 10 a.m. Break in Exhibit Area **West Convention Room**
- 9:30 a.m. Silent Auction Begins **West Convention Room**
- 10 to 10:50 a.m. Concurrent Session A **Conference Rooms A & C,
East Convention Room**
- 11 to 11:50 a.m. Concurrent Session B **Conference Rooms A & C,
East Convention Room**
- 12 to 1:15 p.m. Lunch **West Convention Room**
~ Recognition of Excellence in Conservation and
Environmental Education Awardees
~ Putting a Bow on it in Kansas: Tying together Kansas
Green Schools of Excellence and the National Green
Ribbon Schools Awards
Laura Downey, KACEE and Matt Krehbiel, KSDE
- 1:30 to 2:45 p.m. Nature Networking: KACEE's Annual (Outdoor) Business
Meeting: Join us for a nature break, an update on KACEE
initiatives, and an opportunity to network with peers
Offsite at Suchy Lake or East Convention Room

3 to 5 p.m.

5:30 p.m.
6 to 7 p.m.
7 p.m.

9 to 11 p.m.

Saturday, November 5

- 7 to 8 a.m. Breakfast **West Convention Room**
Registration **Convention Center Lobby**
- 8 to 9:15 a.m. Opening Session **East Convention Room**
A Taste of EE: Experience Demonstrations of
Environmental Education Activities to Take Back to Your
Classroom!
Break in Exhibit Area **West Convention Room**
- 9:15 to 9:30 a.m. Concurrent Session C **Conference Room A and
East Convention Room**
- 9:30 to 10:20 a.m. Concurrent Session D **Conference Room A and
East Convention Room**
- 10:30 to 11:20 a.m. Concurrent Session E **Conference Room A and
East Convention Room**
- 11:30 to 12:20 p.m. Lunch **West Convention Room**
~ 2011 Conference Revue
~ 2012 Conference Announcement
- 12:20 to 1:10 p.m. Field Studies: choose one; space on field studies is limited
and sign-up prior to conference is required.
We will carpool to the field study sites.
~ Turner Farms Tour
~ Birding Tour of Cheyenne Bottoms
- 1:15 to 3 p.m. Conference ends
- 3 p.m.