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KEEC Legacy

A newsletter of the Kentucky Environmental Education Council

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Get an exclusive first look at *Land, Legacy and Learning IV*, Kentucky's 2015-2020 Master Plan for Environmental Education

The Kentucky Environmental Education Council is pleased to provide our newsletter subscribers with a sneak peak of *Land, Legacy and Learning IV*, Kentucky's 2015-2020 Master Plan for Environmental Education and the results of the 2014 Survey of Kentuckians' Environmental Knowledge, Attitudes, and Behaviors. The document will be formally released in April, but you can view it now at <http://goo.gl/X76eRc>.

KEEC especially thanks partners who convened regional meetings for input, including the Kentucky Association for Environmental Education and the Kentucky University Partnership for Environmental Education (active meeting hosts were Eastern Kentucky University, Kentucky State University, Kentucky Technical and Community College System, Morehead State University, Murray State University, Northern Kentucky University, and Western Kentucky University). In addition to meeting sites hosted by university partners, Fayette County Public Schools hosted a meeting at Locust Trace AgriScience Center in Lexington, and Lost River Cave hosted a meeting at their site in Bowling Green, Kentucky.

Register now for the 8th Annual KGHS and KY NEED Summit on April 23

Join the Kentucky Environmental Education Council and the Kentucky chapter of the National Energy Education Development Project for the 8th Annual KGHS and KY NEED Youth Summit and Awards Luncheon. Students and teachers from across the Commonwealth who participated in either one or both of the Kentucky Green and Healthy Schools (KGHS) program and the KY NEED program meet to share their service-learning projects with their peers. Schools are honored with awards for their work, served a delicious buffet lunch, and listen to an inspiring speaker.

In 2015, the guest speaker is Michael Winters with the Climate Reality Project. Michael provides evaluation, development, and implementation services in water/ energy/ food sustainability for public sector facilities through public-private partnerships. Michael engages and integrates K-16 students in the evaluation and implementation of sustainability projects through classroom learning activities. He is looking forward to inspiring the students at this year's event!

This year the Summit will take place at the Frankfort Convention Center on Thursday, April 23, 2015. Registration forms for schools and exhibitors are located online at greenschools.ky.gov/Summit%20and%20Awards/Pages/default.aspx. Organizations wishing to sponsor this great event can find the sponsor packet online at greenschools.ky.gov/Pages/Sponsors.aspx. Please contact the KGHS Coordinator at KGHS@ky.gov with any questions.

KGHS teachers, try the new forms for Energy and Green Spaces

During the 2014-15 school year, the KGHS program, in partnership with KY NEED, began piloting new category forms in Energy and Green Spaces. The new forms are user editable PDFs so teachers and students can easily enter information and save their work. The questions in the forms have been reviewed by the KGHS Advisory Committee and specialists in energy and green spaces to bring the science up to date. In addition, at the request of teachers participating in the KGHS program, categories are now broken out into grade bands: K-5, 6-8, and 9-12.

The steps in the KGHS program have changed with these new forms. Rather than submitting the Investigation, Proposal, and Report, Green Teams complete and submit the new category forms and then move directly on to their Improvement Project without needing to complete a new Proposal form. Teams still need to complete a final Report when they have completed their projects.

Access new category forms at the links below:

- Energy - greenschools.ky.gov/Investigations/Pages/Energy.aspx
- Green Spaces - greenschools.ky.gov/Investigations/Pages/Green-Spaces.aspx

KEEC welcomes all feedback on the category forms. If you have comments or questions, please email the KGHS Coordinator at KGHS@ky.gov. The next forms slated for release are the Instructional Leadership and Water categories.

Join KEEC for Earth Day with First Lady Jane Beshear on April 9

The Energy and Environment Cabinet is partnering with the Kentucky Environmental Education Council to celebrate the 40th Anniversary of Earth Day. On Thursday, April 9, from 11 AM – 1 PM, join First Lady Jane Beshear at the History Center in Frankfort, Kentucky to recognize environmental achievements of schools, students, and others. Visit booths from more than 20 state and non-profit education and environmental agencies for fun giveaways and information.

Congratulate the new Master Environmental Educators

Join KEEC in welcoming five new people into the ranks of Master Environmental Educators in Kentucky:

- Billy Bennett
- Debbie Bramlage
- April Haight
- Amanda Patrick
- Carroll Young

Master Environmental Educators are Certified Professional Environmental Educators that have at least six years of documented continuing education and continue to maintain their certification annually. If you are interested in achieving certification, you can get information from the [KEEC website](http://www.keec.org) or by contacting the KEEC at 502-564-5937.

Read an interview with Master Environmental Educator Jen Adler

Jen Adler is an instructor at Maysville Community and Technical College. She graduated from the Professional Environmental Educator Certification Course with the Class of 2007-08, and attained Master Environmental Educator Status in 2014.

Read about the importance of EE to her life and work in an interview on the [KEEC website](http://www.keec.org).

Congratulations to Kentuckians recognized with international EE awards

Several Kentuckians received major awards at the 2014 conference of the North American Association for Environmental Education (NAAEE). The Executive Director of the Kentucky Association for Environmental Education (KAEE), Ashley Hoffman, was recognized by NAAEE for her Outstanding Service to Environmental Education at the Regional Level. Jennifer Hubbard-Sánchez, State Specialist for Sustainable Programs at Kentucky State University, received the 2014 Mentorship Award from the EECapacity Community Climate Change Fellowship Program. Also, Eastern Kentucky University (EKU) was in the first group of four college and university environmental education programs accredited by the NAAEE, thanks to the leadership of Melinda Wilder and Billy Bennett. You can read more about their awards in the Fall 2014 KAEE newsletter at kaee.org/newsletter/.

Congratulations to Ashley, Jennifer, Melinda, and Billy!

Post your environmental education events and resources on EEinKentucky.org

EEinKentucky.org is the place to go for environmental education events and resources in Kentucky. Post your upcoming events, grant opportunities, and job openings, and search what others have posted. Events are listed on the homepage calendar. Use the “News” menu to find other resources. For help with using the site, contact Elizabeth.Schmitz@ky.gov.

Follow KEEC and KAEE on Facebook and Twitter

The Kentucky Environmental Education Council (KEEC) is an agency of the Commonwealth of Kentucky. Keep up with the latest news from KEEC—follow us on Facebook (facebook.com/kyeecouncil) and Twitter (twitter.com/kyeecouncil).

The Kentucky Association for Environmental Education (KAEE) is Kentucky’s statewide nonprofit organization for environmental education. Learn more about KAEE at facebook.com/KY4EnvEd and twitter.com/KY4EnvEd.

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