

Fall 2014

KEEC Legacy

A newsletter of the Kentucky Environmental Education Council

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Receive a Toyota scholarship for certification course admission and travel costs—apply by October 1

The Kentucky Environmental Education Council is excited to announce that it is the recipient of a grant from Toyota Motor Manufacturing of Kentucky! The grant will allow KEEC to offer scholarships for the 2014-15 Professional Environmental Educator Certification course. The scholarships will cover the course admission fee and a significant amount of travel costs. The goal of the funding is to help certify educators who will reach a more diverse audience than is currently served by environmental education efforts.

The Professional Environmental Educator Certification course is held across four fun and informative workshops at Kentucky state parks and the Louisville Zoo from November 2014 through March 2015. Along with great ideas for activities to use in your own work, the workshops will provide you with a thorough understanding of environmental education best practices tied to national guidelines and Kentucky K-12 standards. When you finish the coursework, you will receive the designation “Certified Professional Environmental Educator.”

Further information about the course is available at: keec.ky.gov/EECertification. The course application and scholarship application are available at: keec.ky.gov/EECertification/Pages/CourseInformation.aspx.

To apply for the course, submit the course application and scholarship application by October 1. You do not need to submit the course admission fee.

If you have any questions about the course or the applicants, please contact wesley.bullock@ky.gov.

Have your school recognized as a Green Ribbon School by the US Dept. of Education—submit intent to apply by October 1

On August 20-21, KEEC hosted a tour of Green Ribbon Schools in Central Kentucky. Representatives of the US Department of Education, elected representatives from Kentucky, and members of the public joined us at Northern Elementary School and Georgetown Middle School in Scott County, and Rosa Parks Elementary School, Wellington Elementary School, and Locust Trace AgriScience Farm in Fayette County. You can read about the tour at: www.ed.gov/blog/2014/08/uniting-for-sustainable-excellence-in-kentucky/.

Apply now for your school to be recognized as a Green Ribbon School! The application is available at: education.ky.gov/districts/fac/pages/green-ribbon-schools-application-process.aspx. The deadline to provide intent to apply is October 1.

Thank you to our regional hosts and all who provided input on Kentucky's environmental education master plan

Thanks to all of our meeting participants and especially to our partners who hosted regional meetings for input on the 2015-2020 EE Master Plan: Eastern Kentucky University, Fayette County Public Schools, Kentucky Association for Environmental Education, Kentucky Community and Technical College System, Kentucky State University, Lost River Cave, Morehead State, Murray State, Northern Kentucky University, & Western Kentucky University! Thanks also to Allison Crawford of WKMS for publishing an article on the master plan process. You can read the article at: wkms.org/post/kentucky-environmental-education-council-release-new-master-plan.

Comment on Kentucky's draft environmental education master plan by October 10

KEEC met with the Kentucky Association for Environmental Education and the Kentucky University Partnership for Environmental Education to turn public input into a draft of the 2015 master plan for environmental education in Kentucky. The draft is available on the KEEC website at keec.ky.gov/Publications/Pages/MasterPlan.aspx. Submit your comments by October 10, 2014.

See the initial results of the 2014 Survey of Kentuckians' Environmental Knowledge, Attitudes, & Behaviors

KEEC has completed the fourth Survey of Kentuckians' Environmental Knowledge, Attitudes, & Behaviors. The survey is a snapshot of whether Kentuckians can answer some basic questions about topics such as air, land and water quality. It also gauges Kentuckians' attitudes toward certain environmental issues, such as how well we are protecting our natural resources. Finally, it asks Kentuckians to identify whether or not they engage in behaviors that might improve their environment.

See the initial results of the survey on the KEEC website at keec.ky.gov/Publications/Pages/Surveys.aspx. The full survey results will be available later this year.

New Kentucky Green and Healthy Schools Project Form for the 2014-15 school year

KEEC welcomes new and returning schools to the Kentucky Green and Healthy Schools (KGHS) program for the 2014-15 school year! Now is the time to engage your Green Teams in completing new Inventories and to start planning an Improvement Project for your school or community. Michelle Shane, KGHS Coordinator, has been working with the KGHS Advisory Committee to revise the program forms and resources. The new Project Form is now available online at greenschools.ky.gov/Pages/Program-Overview.aspx. Contact Michelle at KGHS@ky.gov with any questions about the new form, or to be connected to resources to support the efforts of your Green Teams. We look forward to working with you this year!

Thanks for visiting KEEC at the 2014 KAEE Conference in Lexington

It was great to talk to so many of you at the conference put on by our friends at the Kentucky Association for Environmental Education this September 12-13 in Lexington! We hope you had a chance to sit in on one of the sessions by KEEC staff. Executive Director Elizabeth Schmitz presented on “The Mutualistic Relationship between EE and the New Science Standards” with Rae McEntyre. Michelle Shane joined Jennifer Hubbard-Sanchez to teach about the “Project Learning Tree Secondary Modules: *Biotechnology* and *The Places We Live*.” Michelle also supported the conference as a volunteer on the 2014 Conference Planning Committee. If you stopped by the KEEC booth, you probably heard from Wesley Bullock about our certification course or the Kentucky Green & Healthy Schools program.

Congratulations to KAEE on an outstanding conference!

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](https://www.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](https://www.facebook.com/KY4EnvEd) and twitter.com/KY4EnvEd.

Kentucky Environmental Education Council

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