

Summer 2016

KEEC Legacy

A newsletter of the Kentucky Environmental Education Council

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DEADLINE EXTENDED: Apply by July 31 for the 2016-17 Professional Environmental Educator Certification course

Join the Kentucky Environmental Education Council and dedicated environmental educators from across the state of Kentucky for the upcoming Professional Environmental Educator Certification course. The course will be held in four workshops from November 2016 to March 2017. Here are just a few of the reasons this will be a great year to participate:

- Thanks to a grant from Toyota Motor Manufacturing of Kentucky, \$5000 in scholarships are available to course participants.
- In 2015, the course earned national accreditation from the North American Association for Environmental Education (NAAEE).
- It is one of only three NAAEE-accredited programs in North America.

This will be the tenth offering of the course. Since its launch in 2004, 187 participants have completed the course. KEEC continues to build on the foundation laid in those previous years, offering great ideas for activities to use in your own work and a thorough understanding of environmental education best practices. The course is based on the Guidelines for the Preparation and Professional Development of Environmental Educators, developed by NAAEE. The course also relates environmental education content to the Kentucky Academic Standards.

A participant from the 2014-15 course told us, "I feel better prepared, more comfortable/confident, and more informed about EE. My overall work has improved and my lessons/programs are more EE focused. I am just super happy and excited to have the opportunity to meet like-minded individuals."

The [course application, syllabus, scholarship application, and course schedule](#) are available on the KEEC website. The deadline for submitting applications is July 31, 2016, but enrollment is limited to the first 25 applicants who send complete applications, including the \$200 refundable registration fee. Scholarship recipients will be notified of their awards by August 8.

Due to staff's limited office hours in July, we have extended the deadline to July 31. However, there are only a few spots available in the course, so submit your application as soon as you can. For more information, see [the course overview on the KEEC website](#) or write wesley.bullock@ky.gov.

Register by July 15 for the "Air Quality, Climate, and Forestry: Systems as a Theme for Teaching and Learning" workshop

KEEC is partnering with the Kentucky Division for Air Quality and the Kentucky Association for Environmental Education to offer a Project Learning Tree educator workshop, "Air Quality, Climate, and Forestry: Systems as a Theme for Teaching and Learning", on July 19 in Frankfort. Enjoy a morning tour of the Josephine Sculpture Park and an afternoon tour of the Capitol Education Center. Receive quality curriculum for integrating science, technology, engineering and math instruction for ages 10 - 18 during this experiential workshop for educators.

When: July 19, 2016 from 8 AM – 3:30 PM

Where: [Josephine Sculpture Park](#) (AM) and [Capitol Education Center](#) (PM)

Register: By June 30, contact wesley.bullock@ky.gov for the registration form.

Cost: \$20 (includes lunch and 2 curriculum guides)

Get inspired by the amazing projects from the Kentucky Green and Healthy Schools program

Check out this [Kentucky Teacher article](#) about the outstanding projects that schools in the Kentucky Green and Healthy Schools (KGHS) program shared at this year's Summit on April 28. Education and Workforce Development Cabinet Secretary Hal Heiner, the keynote speaker, was impressed by the ingenuity and teamwork on display. The [KGHS Facebook page](#) has even more projects and pictures.

The simplified KGHS process is explained on the [KGHS website](#). You can also find additional educational resources on the [KEEC website](#). Shelby County High School science teacher Karin Ceralde said, "It fits really well with our new science standards, especially having students investigate problems and find solutions. Most of what happens, happens because they did it, not because I did it. They have really taken on a lot of leadership roles."

In order to further the program's alignment with science standards, KGHS plans to add information about cross-cutting concepts to the teacher guides for each category for the 2016-17 school year. If you have any suggestions for how to incorporate the cross-cutting concepts, or would like to discuss any aspect of the program, contact us at kghs@ky.gov.

KEEC thanks the Institute for Healthy Air, Water + Soil for its grant for Kentucky's EE Master Plan

The Institute for Healthy Air, Water + Soil has provided KEEC with a \$2000 grant to print copies of *Land, Legacy and Learning IV: A Master Plan for Environmental Education in Kentucky and the 2014 Survey of Kentuckians' Environmental Knowledge, Attitudes and Behaviors*. KEEC will also use the funds to print the 4-page Executive Summary of Land, Legacy and Learning IV. Copies of the Master Plan and Executive Summary will be provided to legislators and other decision-makers in Kentucky to inform them about the importance of ongoing environmental education efforts across the Commonwealth.

The Master Plan is a collaborative effort between the council, environmental education organizations, and the public to increase the impact of environmental education statewide in schools and through informal learning opportunities for citizens of all ages. *Land, Legacy and Learning IV* and the Executive Summary are available on [KEEC's website](#).

KEEC thanks the Institute for Healthy Air, Water + Soil for their generous donation.

Billie Hardin is the new KEEC Vice-Chair

At the April 27, 2016, Council Meeting, Billie Hardin was elected Council Vice-Chair. In addition to her role with KEEC, Ms. Hardin is the Kentucky Community and Technical College System Sustainability Project Manager and the Chair of the

Kentucky Association for Environmental Education Board of Directors. A full interview with her will be published in KEEC's upcoming Fall 2016 newsletter.

It's not too late to apply for recertification through the pilot Reinstatement Course

KEEC has rolled out a Reinstatement Course pilot for Professional Environmental Educator Certification (PEEC) course graduates whose certification has lapsed. The goal of the course is to engage our highly qualified community of graduates in contributing to the needs in the field of environmental education. In addition to completing your annual renewal requirements, you will spend 20 hours working on evaluating an EE program or implementing a component of Kentucky's five-year EE master plan. The application is available under the "Lapsed Certification" heading at keec.ky.gov/EECertification/Pages/CER.aspx. Seven graduates have already enrolled.

During the pilot in 2016, all graduates of the PEEC course will be eligible for reinstatement. The Reinstatement Course fee is \$25. After January 31, 2017, only graduates whose certification has lapsed for three years or less will be eligible for reinstatement. At that time, the Reinstatement Course fee will be \$25 for those whose certification has been lapsed for one year, \$50 for two years, and \$75 for three years.

The deadline for completing the Reinstatement Course is January 31, 2017, so apply now to get started. Contact wesley.bullock@ky.gov for more information.

Grant opportunities for environmental educators

The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) compiles an approximately 20-page email newsletter, including grants and other resources for science educators and environmental educators, called the "Information Exchange for Marine Educators." You can subscribe to the newsletter by contacting phyllis.dermer@noaa.gov. The list often includes opportunities that close in the upcoming month, so please note the imminent deadline dates.

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 others' posts. 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

Keep up with the latest news from KEEC by following us on Facebook (facebook.com/kyeecouncil) and Twitter (twitter.com/kyeecouncil).

You can also learn about the Kentucky Association for Environmental Education (KAEE), Kentucky's statewide EE nonprofit organization, by following KAEE at facebook.com/KY4EnvEd and twitter.com/KY4EnvEd.

Kentucky Environmental Education Council

Education and Workforce Development Cabinet Secretary:
Hal Heiner

Council Members:
Horace Brown, KEEC Chair
Billie Hardin, KEEC Vice-Chair
Lona Brewer
Karin Ceralde
Gordon Garner
Greg Higdon

Marc Norton
Karen Reagor

KEEC Staff:
Elizabeth Schmitz, executive director
Wesley Bullock, administrative specialist

Contact:
500 Mero St., Capital Plaza Tower, Rm. 1901
Frankfort, KY 40601
Phone: (502) 564-5937/ (800) 882-5271
Fax: (502) 564-6784

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