



5th Annual Southeastern EE Alliance (SEEA) Conference

Gwinnett Environmental & Heritage Center, Buford, Georgia

PROGRAM SCHEDULE

THURSDAY, MARCH 2 - Setup & Early Check In

4:00 - 6:00 Registration
Dinner on your own

FRIDAY, MARCH 3 - RESEARCH SYMPOSIUM, FIELD TRIPS, WORKSHOPS

8:00 - 9:00 Registration & Breakfast
9:00 - 9:20 Opening Remarks: Welcome & Overview of the Day
9:30 - 11:30 AM Research Sessions, Field Trips, Workshops
11:45 - 12:00 Advanced Training for Environmental Education in GA Graduation
12:00 - 1:00 Box Lunch, Buzzard Hike, Research Poster Session & SEEA Leadership Meeting
1:10 - 4:30 PM Research Sessions
1:30 - 4:30 PM Field Trips & Workshops
4:40 - 5:00 SEEA/National Update
5:00 - 5:45 Film Festival by GreenShortz
5:45 - 6:00 Closing Remarks & Preview Day 2
6:00 - 8:30 SEEA Family Game Night (Fun Times, Pizza & Beer, Silent Auction)
9:00 - ? Hospitality Suite at Courtyard Marriott

SATURDAY, MARCH 4 - CONCURRENT SESSIONS

8:00 - 9:00 Registration & Breakfast
9:00 - 9:15 Opening Remarks: Welcome & Overview of the Day
9:15 - 9:30 Dragonfly Grant
9:30 - 10:30 Keynote
10:45 - 11:30 AM Short Sessions
11:45 - 1:15 Lunch & Awards
1:30 - 3:10 PM Sessions Part 1 (One Long or Two Short Sessions)
 1:30 - 2:15 PM Short Sessions (A)
 2:25 - 3:10 PM Short Sessions (B)
3:15 - 3:45 Snack Break, State Affiliate Sharing Session, Project WET Facilitator Meeting
3:45 - 5:25 PM Sessions Part 2 (One Long or Two Short Sessions)
 3:45 - 4:30 PM Short Sessions (C)
 4:40 - 5:25 PM Short Sessions (D)
5:35 - 6:00 Closing Remarks, Preview Day 3 & 2018 Conference (EEA & SEEA)
6:00 - 8:30 Sip & Stroll Social (Explore the Galleries, Photo Booth, Book Signing, Silent & Live Auction)
9:00 - ? Hospitality Suite at Courtyard Marriott

SUNDAY, MARCH 5 - FAMILY FUN DAY

7:30 - 8:30 Buzzard Run - 5K FUN RUN
8:00 - 9:00 Registration & Breakfast
9:00 - 9:15 Opening Remarks: Welcome & Overview of the Day
9:25 - 12:00 Sessions (One long or Three Short)
 9:25 - 10:10 Short Sessions (A)
 10:20 - 11:05 Short Sessions (B)
 11:15 - 12:00 Short Sessions (C)
12:10 - 12:30 Closing Remarks



5th Annual Southeastern EE Alliance (SEEA) Conference

Join educators from the southeastern regional member states:
Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Mississippi,
North Carolina, South Carolina, and Tennessee

*Exploring the Richness of Environmental Education
through your Practice, Profession & Partnerships*

Strands will include:

Practice - Considering Educator Identity

Profession - Defining Environmental Education

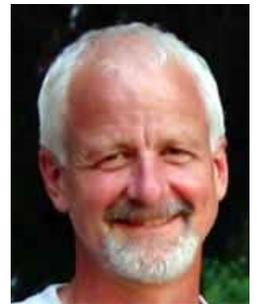
Partnerships - Developing Engagement, Capacity and Community

Keynote Speaker - Christopher Uhl

Date & Time:

Saturday, March 4, 2017, 9:30am

Christopher Uhl, author of *Developing Ecological Consciousness: The End of Separation* and *Teaching As If Life Matters: The Promise of a New Education Culture*, is a professor of Biology at Penn State. In his own words, Uhl explains his philosophy of teaching: "... teaching grows out of my experiences as a learner. Looking back over my learning history, I note that often my true "classrooms" and best "teachers" have shown up in daily life, not in formal education settings... Learning for me has been synonymous with living, a realization congruent with John Dewey's view that human learn best by doing!"



Chris will also be participating in our Author Corner on Saturday night, signing books and talking to participants about his work and transformative education.

SEEA and NAAEE Updates

Date & Time:

Friday, March 3, 2017, 4:40pm

We are also fortunate to have SEEA Executive Director, Ashley Hoffman and North American Association for Environmental Education (NAAEE) Director of Policy and Affiliate Relations, Sarah Bodor attending this year. They will be speaking about the regional and national agenda as well as giving an update on the status of regional projects and the collective impact of our efforts.

2nd Regional EE Research Symposium

Date & Time:

Friday, March 3, 2017, 9:30am, 12:00 pm (Poster Session), 1:10pm

First implemented in 2014, when North Carolina hosted the regional conference, the research symposium is intended to facilitate communication through face-to-face discussion about best practices for environmental education, provide researchers with a forum to share their work and ideas with peers, create networking and partnership opportunities for participants, as well as expand knowledge and skills about research methodology.



THREE STRANDS:

-  Practice - Considering Your Educator Identity
-  Profession - Defining EE
-  Partnerships - Developing Engagement, Capacity and Community
-  All Strands Honored

GRADE LEVEL:

- PK** Preschool
- ES** Elementary School
- MS** Middle School
- HS** High School
- HE** Higher Education
- AA** All Ages

AA

RESEARCH SYMPOSIUM - AM PRESENTATIONS*Various Speakers*

9:30-11:30

BLUE
PLANET

Participants will be attending the second regional research symposium, learning about work occurring across the southeast. Researchers will be sharing both environmental education and environmental science based projects. Join the group and learn about research, methodology, evaluation, and partnerships. Specific presentation descriptions will be coming soon.

PK

WORKSHOP - GROWING UP WILD WALDORF STYLE*Angela Sauve, The Garden School of Marietta (GA Speaker)*

9:30-4:30

CLASSROOM
31

Experience Project WILD's Growing Up WILD presented through the lens of the Waldorf School practices of Story and Circle. Participants receive the Growing Up Wild Curriculum and Waldorf resources. BEST practices include engagement of the whole child in outdoor exploration and wonder.

ADDITIONAL COST: \$20

AA

WORKSHOP - EMPOWERING STUDENTS THROUGH PROJECT-BASED LEARNING (PBL) IN THE SCHOOLYARD*Karan Wood, Captain Planet Foundation(GA Speaker)*

9:30-4:30

CLASSROOM
36

PBL is an engaging instructional strategy that integrates EE with learning in STEM fields. Explore ways to implement PBL that give students "voice and choice" in project design while effectively managing productivity. Investigate authentic, real-world projects for each of these standards-based topics: habitat restoration, watershed stewardship, waste reduction, renewable energy, chemical toxicity, healthy food production, and climate change mitigation. Check out resources and rubrics for assessing student work. Learn where to find project supplies, materials and funding. Participants will leave this workshop prepared to facilitate student-directed, project-based learning in the schoolyard.

AA

WORKSHOP - TREADLIGHTLY! AWARENESS WORKSHOP*Avery and Casey Chipka, TCH Enterprises (NC Speakers)*

9:30-11:30

CLASSROOM
32

Join TreadLightly! Master Tread Trainers to discover ways to integrate Tread Lightly! conservation principles and outdoor ethics in your outdoor activities. This is an all ages workshop and special information will be provided for working with youth. The TreadLightly! Awareness workshop provides educators with knowledge based tools and methods for utilizing guidelines for environmental conservation during recreational activities.

AA

FIELD TRIP - F. WAYNE HILL WATER RESOURCES CENTER GUIDED GROUP TOUR*Staff, Gwinnett Environmental & Heritage Center (GA Speakers)*

9:30-11:30

LOBBY

On this tour, you will follow the steps of wastewater treatment and see it all; from the grimy, gritty beginnings to the crystal clear water we send back into the environment. Learn how reclaimed water is used around the county and at the GEHC. This tour takes two hours to complete. Please wear closed-toe shoes. This guided tour requires stairs and time outside. The tour is given rain or shine. **Check in at the Conference Center Lobby at 9:20.**

AA

FIELD TRIP - GREEN BUILDING GUIDED GROUP TOUR*Staff, Gwinnett Environmental & Heritage Center (GA Speakers)*

9:30-11:30

LOBBY

The Gwinnett Environmental and Heritage Center is an educational facility that teaches the community about the importance of being good stewards of the environment, as well as its cultural heritage. The building serves as a model for green architecture by using eco-friendly building products. This field trip include an In-depth tour of the inside and outside of the GEHC, discussion of the green building practices, and a short outdoor interpretative walk on our multi-surfaced trail system (weather permitting). **Check in at the Conference Center Lobby at 9:20.**

AA

FIELD TRIP - BUFORD TROUT HATCHERY TOUR*Staff, GA Dept. of Natural Resources (GA Speaker)*

10-11

LOBBY

The Buford Trout Hatchery rears brown trout (*Salmo trutta*) and rainbow trout (*Oncorhynchus mykiss*) for the Georgia Wildlife Resources Division's stockable and fingerling trout programs. Participants will tour the facility, learn about the program to stock Georgia's public waters, and walk along the hatchery nature and bird trail. Located on the banks of the Chattahoochee River just downstream of Lake Lanier and Buford Dam, the hatchery's proximity to the river draws large numbers of transient and breeding song birds. The trail terminates in a boardwalk and viewing platform that overlooks a beaver swamp. Participants are responsible for transportation from the conference center to the hatchery, approximately 10 miles. **Check in (directions and carpool assistance) at Conference Center Lobby at 9:20.** If you'd like, picnic lunch at nearby West Bank Park after the tour.

AA

12-1

BLUE PLANET

RESEARCH SYMPOSIUM - POSTER SESSION

Various Speakers

Visit with researchers during lunch to learn about work occurring across the southeast. Researchers will be sharing both EE and environmental science based projects.

AA

1:10-4:30

BLUE PLANET

RESEARCH SYMPOSIUM - PM PRESENTATIONS

Various Speakers

Participants will be attending the second regional research symposium, learning about work occurring across the southeast. Researchers will be sharing both EE and environmental science based projects.

AA

1:30-4:30

CLASSROOM
33**WORKSHOP - DIVERSIFYING YOUR CASH CROPS: HOW TO SUSTAIN YOUR ORGANIZATION AND IMPACT THROUGH STRATEGIC FUNDRAISING**

Alice Rolls, Georgia Organics (GA Speaker)

Just as monocropping is unsustainable to agriculture, so can a heavy reliance on a single funding source be to a nonprofit's long-term financial health. As the nonprofit world becomes more competitive and more groups vie for the same grants, how can your organization create a sustainable funding plan that is smart and forward thinking? This course is aimed at staff, board and community members involved in nonprofits. The course will review tried and true development strategies and innovative approaches that gradually build a funding platform that maximizes your return on investment. Topics will include donor cultivation, special events, sponsorships, membership, grants, program fees, special campaigns and social enterprise. The course will help you analyze your organization's assets, seize opportunities and create an organizational culture where everyone is engaged in development activities from your board to your communications team.

ADDITIONAL COST: \$25

AA

1:30-4:30

CLASSROOM
35**WORKSHOP - PROJECT LEARNING TREE SOUTHEASTERN FORESTS AND CLIMATE CHANGE AND FOCUS ON FORESTS SECONDARY MODULES WORKSHOP AND CERTIFICATION**

Jennifer Hubbard-Sánchez, Kentucky State University & Renee Strnad, NC State University (KY & NC Speaker)

Participants will experience activities from Focus on Forests and the new Southeastern Forests and Climate Change modules, and will become more familiar with these resources, learn about ties to NGSS, and find out how southeastern states are supplementing modules with information on their local forests. All participants will receive copies of the Southeastern Forests and Climate Change module, samples of the KY and TN supplemental documents, and certification as PLT secondary educators.

AA

1:30-4:30

LOBBY

FIELD TRIP - LAKE LANIER AQUATIC STUDY

Staff, Elachee Nature Center & Chattahoochee Riverkeeper (GA Speakers)

Lake Lanier is the most visited lake in Georgia. It provides drinking water to almost half of Georgia's residents and recreational and sporting opportunities to many people. In addition, over 200 species of birds, dozens of game fish, and a variety of mammals call this lake home. This important resource is also at the center of a dispute between three states that depend on its water and that of the Chattahoochee River system. Participants will explore the lake and learn about this model program aboard the Chota Princess, a floating classroom provided by Chattahoochee Riverkeeper. Participants are responsible for transportation from the conference center to the Aqualand Marina, approximately 15 miles. **Check in (directions and carpool assistance) at Conference Center Lobby at 9:20. If leaving from the Conference Center meet in the Lobby at 11:45.**

AA

2:30-4:30

CLASSROOM
32**WORKSHOP - LEAVE NO TRACE AWARENESS WORKSHOP**

Avery & Casey Chipka, TCH Enterprises (NC Speakers)

Join Leave No Trace Master Educators to discover ways to integrate Leave No Trace principles and outdoor ethics in your outdoor activities. This is an all ages workshop and special information will be provided for working with youth. Participants receive introductory training in the skills and ethics of Leave No Trace. Workshop topics include the underlying concept of minimum impact recreation and the Seven Principles of Leave No Trace: Plan Ahead and Prepare Travel and Camp on Durable Surfaces Dispose of Waste Properly Leave What You Find Minimize Campfire Impacts Respect Wildlife Be Considerate of Other Visitors.

AA

1:30-3:30

LOBBY

FIELD TRIP - BUFORD DAM POWERHOUSE TOUR

Staff, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (GA Speaker)

More than 50 years ago, workers blasted through a mountain of granite rock to create Buford Dam, a 200-foot a structure on Lake Lanier at the mouth of the Chattahoochee River. Buford Dam, a hydropower facility, takes in water, pipes the water to the turbines, then the water turns the turbine on the generators. The generators make the power and that power is put out on the grid. The group will learn about the history, purpose and challenges of the lake and well as tour the powerhouse and learn about energy generation. Participants are responsible for transportation from the conference center to the dam, approximately 10 miles. **Check in (directions and carpool assistance) at Conference Center Lobby at 9:20. If leaving from the Conference Center meet in the Lobby at 11:45.**

HE

LEARN FROM MY MISTAKES: USING A DIALECTICAL APPROACH TO TRAIN OUTDOOR EDUCATORS

Brad Daniel (NC speaker)

10:45 - 11:30
CLASSROOM
TBA

During our time together, we will focus on mistakes commonly made while teaching in outdoor settings and how to correct them. The workshop will use skits, reflection, and discussion. It will benefit novice environmental educators and those who train them.

AA

BUILDING THE PROFESSION OF EE THROUGH STATE-LEVEL CERTIFICATION

Kim Morris -Zarneke, Wesley Bullock & Renee Strnad (GA, KY & NC speakers)

10:45 - 11:30
CLASSROOM
TBA

Building capacity for environmental education is important for environmental education to happen. But how do you achieve that? In this presentation, representatives from Georgia, Kentucky and North Carolina will share their state certification programs and discuss the impact of certification as a professional development tool.

HE

ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES FORUM

Melinda Wilder, Eastern Kentucky University (KY speaker)

10:45 - 11:30
CLASSROOM
TBA

Students enrolled in an environmental issues course at Eastern Kentucky University participated in and then led the Environmental Issues Forum, Climate Choices. Students took a pre and post-survey that included questions related to climate change, environmental attitudes and behaviors, and reactions to participating in this forum.

AA

FIRST RESIDENTIAL FARM SCHOOL IN THE SOUTHEAST AT MCDOWELL!

Maggie Johnston, McDowell Environmental Education Programs (AL speaker)

10:45 - 11:30
CLASSROOM
TBA

Housed on a 1,140 acre property in northern Alabama, McDowell Farm School (MFS) is the first residential farm school in the southeast. This session will introduce educators to the gardens, kitchens, barns and animals of MFS. Connect to the natural world through the foods you eat!

HS

TEACHING ABOUT INVASIVE SPECIES

Tim Grant, Green Teacher (Ontario speaker)

10:45 - 11:30
CLASSROOM
TBA

Invasive species represent the second greatest threat to global biodiversity – after habitat loss. This session will first introduce participants to the challenges of engaging young people with the topic of invasive species. Then we'll explore 11 programs and 20 hands-on activities that exemplary educators from across North America have used with great success, and take the time to try a few activities. As serious as the challenges posed by invasive species are, this presentation will leave participants energized and equipped with education strategies that will make a difference.

AA

SYSTEMS THINKING WITH YOUR SCIENCE LESSONS

Tracey Ritchie, University of Florida (FL speaker)

10:45 - 11:30
CLASSROOM
TBA

Come learn how to incorporate systems thinking into your science lessons! Example lessons will be provided. This session will help educators and students see systems and begin to think differently as they answer questions about interacting variables, relationships that change over time, and direct and indirect impacts.

AA

EXPERIENCING NATURAL COMMUNITIES AND ECOREGIONS

Leslie Edwards, Independent Author/Ecologist & Cindy Reittinger, Fernbank Science Center (GA speakers)

10:45 - 11:30
CLASSROOM
TBA

Learn about natural communities, from forests to outcrops, and ecoregions from the Coastal Plain to the Cumberland Plateau, and how a partnership enables teachers to travel among them, enriching their understanding of the habitats of the southeastern United States.

AA

DELIVERING ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION TO COMMUNITIES OF COLOR

Darryl Haddock, West Atlanta Watershed Alliance (WAWA) (GA speaker)

10:45 - 11:30
CLASSROOM
TBA

WAWA programs focus on youth leadership and community development. We are intentionally targeting inter-generational audiences in place based K-Grey EE and service learning. We will summarize recent programs and efforts to build environmental literacy and community capacity through environmental action projects.

AA

GEOLOGY FOR EVERYONE I: VALLEY AND RIDGE, PLATEAU, INTERIOR

Bill Witherspoon, geogiarocks.us & Don Byerly, University of Tennessee (GA & TN speakers)

10:45 - 11:30
LAB

Authors of geology guides for the public take you to favorite destinations that illuminate Earth history. Sedimentary rock layers of the Paleozoic Era (541-252 million years ago) trace life before dinosaurs and underlie TN-KY-GA-AL ridges, valleys, plateaus, and basins.

PM CONCURRENT SESSIONS - PART ONE

SHORT SESSIONS A (1:30-2:15)

SESSION DESCRIPTIONS

AA

PARTNERING WITH DECATUR HOUSING AUTHORITY TO BRING GARDENING, COOKING, AND NUTRITION PROGRAMS TO LOW-INCOME RESIDENTS

Sarah Dasher & Allison Ericson, Wylde Center (GA speakers)

1:30 - 2:15
CLASSROOM
TBA

Learn how Wylde Center partners with the Decatur Housing Authority, bringing gardening and healthy-living programming to under-served youth and senior citizen populations, and how programming grew from using offsite gardens to the establishment of two gardens at the housing complex. Learn about how the partnership started, the co-benefits for each entity, and the lessons we have learned.

MS

CREATING FUTURE CONSERVATIONISTS THROUGH COMMUNITY, CARING, & CURRICULUM

Melanie & Monty Hartfield, Impact Academy (GA speakers)

1:30 - 2:15
CLASSROOM
TBA

Have you ever wondered how to fit in every standard in the curriculum during the year and engage your students too? Come learn how to incorporate standards from all subject areas into engaging, outdoor lessons your students will love.

AA

BOARD GOVERNANCE 101

Ashley Hoffman, Kentucky Association for Environmental Education (KY speaker)

1:30 - 2:15
CLASSROOM
TBA

Working with a nonprofit? Learn the basics of board governance including: board composition, relationships between volunteer boards and paid staff, board responsibilities, and board effectiveness.

AA

NATURE PLAY – STUDENTS DEFINE THEIR FUTURE PLAY ZONES

Liz Cole, GreenbergFarrow (GA speaker)

1:30 - 2:15
CLASSROOM
TBA

The collaboration of students, artists, designers, staff and elected officials is leading to the creation of outdoor spaces that incorporate natural play elements. Experience the journey of what happens when students are encouraged to express their play zone ideas through drawings that are then transformed into the programming and design of natural play facilities.

AA

COMBINING 3-D SCIENCE WITH OUTDOOR LEARNING: A MATCH THAT'S MEANT TO BE

Karan Wood, Captain Planet Foundation & Karen Garland, Georgia Science Teachers Association (GA speakers)

1:30 - 2:15
CLASSROOM
TBA

Explore exciting new standards adopted in several southeastern states. Discover "3-Dimensional Science" and how this approach can engage students in making sense of natural phenomena, investigating science concepts outdoors, project based learning, and engineering solutions to environmental problems. This session, intended for both K-12 teachers and non-formal educators, will focus on the conceptual shifts of "3-Dimensional Science" relevant to environmental ed. A second session from 2:30 – 3:30 will provide an opportunity to try out hands-on learning experiences for various grade levels.

SHORT SESSIONS B (2:25-3:10)

HS

BUILDING LEADERS & BRANDING ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION THROUGH AMERICORPS

Nicole Pinnell Thomas, Georgia Sea Turtle Center (GA speaker)

2:25-3:10
CLASSROOM
TBA

Professional development is essential for building strong leaders in environmental education. Discover how the Georgia Sea Turtle Center is promoting EE through brand identity, research, professional association, and the mentorship of AmeriCorps service members.

AA

MEDIA RELATIONS 101

Dottie Head, Atlanta Audubon Society (GA speaker)

2:25-3:10
CLASSROOM
TBA

In this session, we'll discuss the basics of building a successful media relations program. Topics to be covered will include how to write a press release, how to develop a successful media list, and how to respond to media inquiries. We'll also take a quick look at how to use social media to promote your organization and events, recognizing that we all have limited time and resources to devote to these efforts.

AA

2:25-3:10

CLASSROOM
TBA**WORKING TOGETHER TO FIND NEW AUDIENCES***Beth Cranford, North Carolina Museum of Natural Sciences (NC speaker)*

Are you looking for ways to reach new audiences and advertise your site or programs for free? Take a Child Outside is a web-based movement working to connect families and other groups with natural spaces in their area. Take a Child Outside week is an international, annual event held September 24-30 that is coordinated by the North Carolina Museum of Natural Sciences. Partnership is free and open to any interested organizations.

This web resource also includes simple outdoor activities for children of all ages. We will share ideas and resources for these as well to help you optimize your programs with limited resources.

HS

2:25-3:10

CLASSROOM
TBA**ENGAGING STUDENTS IN ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICE-LEARNING TOWARD SUSTAINABILITY***Sarah Davis, Florida Gulf Coast University (FL speaker)*

Engage students in meaningful service-learning that benefits the students, agency and meets course objectives. Come share your experiences and learn about the opportunities created at Florida Gulf Coast University in their University Colloquium: A Sustainable Future course.

AA

2:25-3:10

CLASSROOM
TBA**ADVENTURES IN 3-D SCIENCE***Karen Garland, Georgia Science Teachers Association & Karan Wood, Captain Planet Foundation (GA speakers)*

Try out hands-on activities that introduce some of the science and engineering practices, crosscutting concepts, and core ideas of a "3-Dimensional Science" approach. This session is intended for K-12 teachers and non-formal educators. It is strongly recommended that participants attend the 1:30 session.

LONG SESSIONS (1:30-3:10)**AA**

1:30-3:10

CLASSROOM
TBA**DIGGING INTO DEAD STUFF***Jerry Hightower, United States National Park Service (GA speaker)*

Teachers will focus on the role of the FBI (fungi, bacteria, and invertebrates) in recycling nutrients back into the environment as they discover the hidden excitement on and within a decomposing log. Dissect, record, sketch, and catch some of the many fascinating organisms, from carnivorous arthropods and fungi to herbivorous isopods and insects. Care and respect for living organisms will be stressed. All materials will be returned to the collection site.

AA

1:30-3:10

CLASSROOM
TBA**TEACHING WITH NATIVE FISHES***Michael Wolfe, N. American Native Fishes Assoc. & Kathy Reed, Megan Sheehan, Keep N. Fulton Beautiful (GA speakers)*

This is an outdoor, hands-on session focused on native fishes and their adaptations to their environment. Participants will have the opportunity to observe and discuss different habitats and the fishes that are found there. We will demonstrate collecting techniques and observation tools including aquaria. We will also identify the fishes observed to the genus and species level. Individual highlights of the species will be identified as well as giving an overview of how body shape, mouth, coloration, and reproduction vary among the species encountered and more broadly among native species.

AA

1:30-3:10

CLASSROOM
TBA**CONNECTING STUDENTS WITH STEAM THROUGH BIRDS***Melanie Furr, Atlanta Audubon Society (GA speaker)*

This session will train classroom teachers and environmental educators how to use the study of birds and their conservation to engage students in science, technology, and other subjects, as well as how to get started in citizen science. Participants will learn how to identify several common birds of Georgia and some of their unique natural history, as well as how to identify new and unfamiliar birds.

AA

1:30-3:10

LAB

GEOLOGY FOR EVERYONE II: PIEDMONT AND BLUE RIDGE*Bill Witherspoon, geogiarocks.us, Pamela Gore, Georgia State University & Don Byerly, University of Tennessee (GA & TN speakers)*

Within the last decade, new books introducing the geology of a state to the general public have appeared in Alabama, Florida, the Carolinas, Georgia, and Tennessee. This second of three sessions seeks cross-fertilization between contents of these books in reaching attendees from throughout the region. In this session, authors will highlight popular natural destinations and other sites in each state to get at the essence of the wild, rugged Blue Ridge and the populous Piedmont of NC-SC-TN-GA-AL. This is an area with many ore and gem deposits, as well as a plate tectonic history of bringing together pieces of territory once scattered across an ocean as expansive as today's Pacific.

PM CONCURRENT SESSIONS - PART TWO

SHORT SESSIONS C (3:45-4:30)

SESSION DESCRIPTIONS

MS

CREATING RESEARCH & EVALUATION PARTNERSHIPS WITH HIGHER EDUCATION

Rachel Szczytko, North Carolina State University (NC speaker)

Muddy Sneakers and NC State University have initiated a research & evaluation partnership which could serve as a model for other EE organizations wanting to promote practice that is informed by research. Learn more about how the partnership started, the co-benefits for each entity, and the lessons we have learned.

3:45-4:30
CLASSROOM
TBA

AA

BRAIN EDUCATION (BE) FOR EDUCATORS

Penny Costanzo, Body and Brain Center (GA speaker)

To feel our connection with nature, we must first be able to be in the present moment, to connect with and feel our selves.
BE develops the full potential of the brain, eliminates stress, and enlivens total brain function. BE integrates the mind and body through physical and mental exercises that use relaxed concentration and imagination. Educators will engage in gentle and fun samples of physical, mental, and cognitive exercises designed to improve sensory awareness, motor control, regulation, attention and imagination. You will feel great and come away with some techniques to help you and your students relax, be in the present, and feel nature...even inside.

3:45-4:30
CLASSROOM
TBA

AA

GRANTSEEKING FOR ENVIRONMENTAL PROGRAMS

Rochelle Dennis, Beak Consulting (GA speaker)

This session is designed to provide basic information and skills in grant writing, with an emphasis on prospecting tips to help identify foundations, corporation and government grant programs, and how to approach different kinds of grant makers. Participants will learn how to avoid common mistakes applicants make, and develop realistic objectives, activities and budgets.

3:45-4:30
CLASSROOM
TBA

AA

STORYTELLING: IMAGINE, CONNECT & INSPIRE!

Renee Raney, Georgia-Alabama Land Trust CE Institute (AL speaker)

Storytelling is a powerful educational technique that allows the teller to teach by guiding the listener's experience. Storytelling is an intimate connection between an interpreter and an audience that inspires imagination, creativity and learning. In this session, participants will listen, tell, and experience several storytelling techniques that can be utilized to enhance curriculum in classrooms and interpretive programs.

3:45-4:30
CLASSROOM
TBA

SHORT SESSIONS D (4:40-5:25)

AA

PROGRAMMING ON A SHOESTRING BUDGET

Jackie Sherry, Dunwoody Nature Center & Hannah Penn, Stone Mountain Park (GA speakers)

Developing programs with a limited budget can be a daunting and scary task. Join us as we use tricks and tools to overcome this obstacle. We'll describe how to use minimal materials, create signage, discover your audience, and network.

4:40-5:25
CLASSROOM
TBA

AA

EE ACTIVITIES FOR A VERY POPULAR PLANET

Lauren Johnson, Oxbow Meadows Environmental Learning Center (GA speaker)

Discover lively, interdisciplinary activities that help elementary students understand the human ecological footprint and the challenges of sharing finite resources as our population grows. Build math, literacy and critical thinking skills while fostering global and civic awareness.

4:40-5:25
CLASSROOM
TBA

AA

GETTING LITTLE FEET WET: EARLY CHILDHOOD GUIDE FOR WATER EDUCATION

Jo Adang & Monica Kilpatrick, Georgia Project WET (GA speakers)

Come play and learn with Georgia Project WET as only your inner child can! We will be showcasing our new curriculum for our youngest learners and having a fun time too.

4:40-5:25
CLASSROOM
TBA

AA

CHAT WITH CHARLIE

Charlie Seabrook, Author (GA speaker)

Join our good friend and author Charles Seabrook for a conversation on his approach to writing about science, nature, and conservation.

4:40-5:25
CLASSROOM
TBA

LONG SESSIONS (3:45-5:25)

SESSION DESCRIPTIONS

AA

MAPPING YOUR WATERSHED ONLINE

Chris Kodani, Clayton State University (GA speaker)

3:45-5:25
CLASSROOM
TBA

Learn what a watershed is, and how it can be easily and quickly mapped using ArcGIS Online. Participants can bring a web-enabled device, such as a laptop or a tablet to create a basic map showing their sampling site, and then we can combine these maps into a large, interactive watershed map that will contain everybody's watershed.

AA

MULTISOLVING FOR CLIMATE CHANGE

Coleen O'Connell, Lesley University (MA speaker)

3:45-5:25
CLASSROOM
TBA

The future requires that we become system thinkers and thus system solvers. This workshop will engage you as a system thinker and a hands-on experience of multi-solving. Multi-solving (v.): Searching for systemic solutions that protect the climate while improving health, equity and well-being. This emerging concept from Climate Interactive gives us a framework for working holistically to address issues while solving for climate change at the same time. Teach your students how to be multi-solvers using a framework that can help them plan and evaluate projects.

AA

LICHENS COLOR OUR WORLD

Malcolm Hodges, The Nature Conservancy (GA speaker)

3:45-5:25
CLASSROOM
TBA

Lichens are an underappreciated but fascinating slice of our native biodiversity. This talk will lead to a better understanding of what lichens are, the breadth of lichen diversity, where they live, how they survive, and the roles they play in nature.

AA

EXCELLENCE IN ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION: USING THE NAAEE GUIDELINES

Renee Strnad, North Carolina State University (NC speaker)

3:45-5:25
CLASSROOM
TBA

How can we maintain solid EE programs at our facilities? How do I know if the activity I have written meets our environmental literacy goals and is age appropriate? The Guidelines, that's how! This session will introduce participants to the Guidelines for Excellence in EE with hands-on activities and discussion.

AA

GEOLOGY FOR EVERYONE III: COASTAL PLAIN

Bill Witherspoon, geogiarocks.us, Pamela Gore, Georgia State University, Don Byerly, University of Tennessee & Darrel Schmitz, Mississippi State University (GA, TN, & MS speakers)

3:45-5:25
LAB

Every Southeast state contains some Coastal Plain sediments, blanketing eroded older rocks and thickening from the Fall Line to the Gulf and Atlantic shorelines. In this third of three sessions, authors will highlight popular natural destinations and other sites in each state to get at the essence of the Coastal Plain, which, despite the name, extends up the Mississippi Valley through western Tennessee and a corner of Kentucky as well as taking in all of Florida and around half the territory in the remainder of states in the Southeast.

SUNDAY ACTIVITIES - CONCURRENT SESSIONS

SHORT SESSIONS A (9:25-10:10)

SESSION DESCRIPTIONS

AA

THE POWER OF PLAY

Cora Keber, The State Botanical Garden of Georgia

"You can discover more about a person in one hour of play than you can in one year of conversation." --Plato

9:25 - 10:10
CLASSROOM
TBA

Spend this time with Cora and PLAY! She will engage in a variety of ways to incorporate play into your lessons. Whether it be through song, theater, story time or puppetry these entertainment strategies can engage the imagination to places outside of the four walls and into a place of magic.

ES

TAKE AN INCREDIBLE WATER JOURNEY

Jo Adang and Monica Kilpatrick, Georgia Project WET

9:25 - 10:10
CLASSROOM
TBA

Participants will be transformed into water drops and journey around the planet, learning about the dynamic movement of water as it travels a variety of paths. Participants learn water cycle vocabulary and gain an improved understanding of the water cycle.

AA**BUILD A NEST BOX**

Linda May, Georgia Dept. of Natural Resources (GA speaker)

9:25 - 10:10
CLASSROOM
TBA

A nesting box can connect your family to the wild families in your yard. Observing a pair of brown-headed nuthatches gathering fluff and moss, making endless trips with insect and seed, to the day of fledging, you'll experience the joy of watching birds raise young from start to finish. Learn the Do's and Don'ts of bird houses, and build a nest box to take home and provide a safe nesting place for one of the few birds who use tools to find their food- the Brown-headed Nuthatch!

AA**LAUGHTER YOGA**

Deborah Summerville, Independent Instructor (GA speaker)

9:25 - 10:10
CLASSROOM
TBA

Get your endorphins boosted and join Deborah Summerville, naturalist and certified laughter yoga instructor, for a casual hike and intro to laughter yoga. Laughter yoga is a practice first started in public parks and combines deep breathing, laughter exercise, and pure playfulness. We'll hike a bit and have a ball.

AA**TREE GONG - PART ONE**

Neil Norton, TreeInspection.com (GA speaker)

9:25 - 10:10
CLASSROOM
TBA

Neil discovered Qigong 20 years ago and has been avid practitioner and teacher since. Qigong focuses on the language and grace of our body to gather information about ourselves and surroundings to create balance. During the session Neil will demonstrate very basic moves to interface with nature and its beauty, which promotes both balance and personal energy management.

ES**STORYTIME WITH CREATIVE MOVEMENT**

Vicki Culbreth, City of Roswell (GA speaker)

9:25 - 10:10
CLASSROOM
TBA

Embrace action and play as well as literacy! Studies show physical activity improves memory and focus. By integrating interpretive movement and embodying the imagery of the story, we can tap into the creativity and joy of play while learning and skill building.

AA**BUTTERFLIES 101 - THREE FUN ACTIVITIES FOR ALL AGES**

Susan Meyers, Amy Whitney & Sharon McCullough, Monarchs Across Georgia (GA speakers)

9:25-10:10
CLASSROOM
TBA

Who Am I?: *Learn to identify 15 butterflies and moths that are common in Georgia.*
Metamorphosis: *Be amazed as one member of the audience transforms into a Monarch.*
Paper Plate Life Cycle: *Create the life cycle of a butterfly using pasta shapes.*

ES**MOCKINGBIRD LEARNING – AWAKENING THE LESSON WITH SOUND**

Mike Kahle & Robert Bourne, Cobb County Water System (GA speaker)

9:25 - 10:10
CLASSROOM
TBA

You don't have to be a musician to incorporate music into learning. Attend this session and let's put this idea to practice. Centering our attention on the sounds around us can open up a world of emotion and expression with which we can make connections. We'll start with a round table of ideas and move into experimenting with some traditional type instruments, while making some natural material sound objects and noise makers to practice call-and-response and mimicry, as we follow whatever creative direction this environmental jam session takes us. No talent required.

ES**BUBBLE WONDERS**

Mary Winder, Autrey Mill Nature Preserve and Heritage Center (GA speaker)

9:25 - 10:10
CLASSROOM
TBA

Join us to learn about how animals use bubbles as a tool for survival- hunting, reproducing, traveling, and sheltering. We will be making giant bubbles and observing the physical properties of a bubble.

ES**FOREST INTELLIGENCE**

Kathryn Kolb, EcoAddendum (GA speaker)

9:25 - 10:10
CLASSROOM
TBA

"The Standing Peoples" is what Native Americans called trees, and that term may be more accurate than we've known. Eco-A Director Kathryn Kolb shares some of the latest scientific research on the intelligence of trees and plants and how they interact with each other. As we learn more about the extraordinarily complex relationships between trees, plants and the host of other organisms that make up a healthy forest, we begin to realize two important concepts 1) it takes a forest to raise a tree, and 2) trees and plants may be operating in more "conscious" ways than we've realized.

AA**BUZZARD HIKE**

on your own

9:25 - 10:10
LOBBY

Named for our favorite raptor, the Turkey Vulture, the Environmental Education Alliance of Georgia develops a site specific hike each year as part of our conference. Keep an eye out and you might see our buzzard roaming around.

SHORT SESSIONS B (10:20-11:05)

AA

MONARCH MISHAPS: A GAME OF SURVIVAL

Susan Meyers, Amy Whitney & Sharon McCullough, Monarchs Across Georgia (GA speakers)

10:20-11:05
CLASSROOM
TBA

Birds, cars, predators and parasitoids...it isn't easy being a Monarch! Will you survive the perils? Or will you be one of those "limiting factors" that affect the Monarch population? Come role play with us!

ES

BUBBLE WONDERS

Mary Winder, Autrey Mill Nature Preserve and Heritage Center (GA speaker)

10:20-11:05
CLASSROOM
TBA

Join us to learn about how animals use bubbles as a tool for survival- hunting, reproducing, traveling, and sheltering. We will be making giant bubbles and observing the physical properties of a bubble.

ES

BRINGING ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION HOME

Olivia, Carter & Jim Ries, One More Generation (GA speakers)

10:20-11:05
CLASSROOM
TBA

The UN recently published a report stating that plastic pollution is now one of the biggest environmental threats facing humans and animals globally. Our award winning program has been designed to empower youth with the knowledge and tools they need to be the teacher in their home and encouraging them to get involved with solutions to issues such as plastic pollution.

AA

ACTIVITIES FOR A VERY POPULAR PLANET

Lauren Johnson, Oxbow Meadows Environmental Learning Center (GA speaker)

10:20-11:05
CLASSROOM
TBA

Participate in lively, interdisciplinary activities that help elementary students understand the human ecological footprint and the challenges of sharing finite resources as our population grows.

AA

BRAIN EDUCATION (BE) FOR FAMILIES

Penny Costanzo, Body and Brain Center (GA speaker)

10:20-11:05
CLASSROOM
TBA

Develop the full potential of the brain, eliminate stress, and enliven total brain function by integrating the mind and body through physical and mental exercises that use relaxed concentration and imagination. Adults and children will engage in gentle and fun samples of physical, mental, and cognitive exercises designed to improve sensory awareness, motor control, regulation, attention and imagination.

AA

BUZZARD HIKE

on your own

10:20-11:05
LOBBY

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SHORT SESSIONS C (11:15-12)

ES

TAKE AN INCREDIBLE WATER JOURNEY

Jo Adang and Monica Kilpatrick, Georgia Project WET

11:15-12
CLASSROOM
TBA

Participants will be transformed into water drops and journey around the planet, learning about the dynamic movement of water as it travels a variety of paths. Participants learn water cycle vocabulary and gain an improved understanding of the water cycle.

AA

LAUGHTER YOGA

Deborah Summerville, Independent Instructor (GA speaker)

11:15-12
CLASSROOM
TBA

Get your endorphins boosted and join Deborah Summerville, naturalist and certified laughter yoga instructor, for a casual hike and intro to laughter yoga. Laughter yoga is a practice first started in public parks and combines deep breathing, laughter exercise, and pure playfulness. We'll hike a bit and have a ball.

AA

TREE GONG - PART TWO

Neil Norton, TreeInspection.com (GA speaker)

11:15-12
CLASSROOM
TBA

During the session Neil uses Qigong to "feel" photosynthesis and calls this practice Tree Gong. Children are naturals at Tree Gong. Join Neil and learn how to connect, learn, and have fun in the outdoors.

AA**BUTTERFLIES 101 - THREE FUN ACTIVITIES FOR ALL AGES***Susan Meyers, Amy Whitney & Sharon McCullough, Monarchs Across Georgia (GA speakers)*11:15-12
CLASSROOM
TBA

Who Am I?: Learn to identify 15 butterflies and moths that are common in Georgia.
 Metamorphosis: Be amazed as one member of the audience transforms into a Monarch.
 Paper Plate Life Cycle: Create the life cycle of a butterfly using pasta shapes.

ES**BUBBLE WONDERS***Mary Winder, Autrey Mill Nature Preserve and Heritage Center (GA speaker)*11:15-12
CLASSROOM
TBA

Join us to learn about how animals use bubbles as a tool for survival- hunting, reproducing, traveling, and sheltering. We will be making giant bubbles and observing the physical properties of a bubble.

AA**SE ECOSYSTEM VALUE***Kathryn Kolb, EcoAddendum (GA speaker)*11:15-12
CLASSROOM
TBA

Often when we think about high value natural areas we tend to consider far corners of the globe or the grand landscapes of the western US. However, the Southeastern eco-region is the richest in the US and our biodiversity in several ways rivals most areas on the planet. The City of Atlanta even contains remnants of the old growth forest. We'll discuss the superlative values of the Southeastern ecosystem and how accidents of history and culture have impacted nature and how we think about it in the Southeast.

AA**BUZZARD HIKE***on your own*11:15-12
LOBBY

Named for our favorite raptor, the Turkey Vulture, the Environmental Education Alliance of Georgia develops a site specific hike each year as part of our conference. Keep an eye out and you might see our buzzard roaming around.

LONG SESSIONS (10:20-12)**ES****ADOPT A STREAM (AAS): A STEM DREAM***Karen Stanfield, Cowan Road Elementary School & Alexa Robinson, City of Griffin (GA Speakers)*10:20 - 12
CLASSROOM
TBA

Learn how AAS program can become an exciting outdoor STEM project for youth. AAS water quality monitoring teaches ecosystems, chemical/physical properties and changes in matter, microorganisms, invertebrate studies, data collection, and more. Join us to learn how this real world, hands on experience will engage learners in meaningful projects that help develop a deeper understanding and love of nature and respect for the world.

AA**NATIVE FISHES OF GEORGIA***Amos Tuck, Limestone Valley RC&D, Harold Harbert, Georgia EPD & Robert Bourne, Cobb County Water System (GA speakers)*10:20 - 12
CLASSROOM
TBA

Explore a nearby stream and see what fishes are found - maybe a brook lamprey or a Alabama hogsucker!! This is an outdoor, hands-on session focused on native fishes and their adaptations to their environment. Participants will have the opportunity to observe and discuss different habitats and the fishes that are found there. We will demonstrate collecting techniques and observation tools.

AA**BUILDING NATURE OBSERVATION SKILLS THROUGH FAIRY HOUSES***Renee Raney, Georgia-Alabama Land Trust CE Institute (AL speaker)*10:20 - 12
CLASSROOM
TBA

Learning flows easily as participants listen to trees to create micro-habitats for tiny magical beings. They begin to notice the moss, lichens, tree bark, and tiny creatures that creep and crawl. Through fairy house construction, students find a new and everlasting link to the natural world.

AA**BATTY ABOUT BATS***Vicky Beckham Smith, A-Z Animals & Norma Lewis, Cochran Mill Nature Center (GA speakers)*10:20-12
CLASSROOM
TBA

Come face to face with live bats as we explore their ecological importance, micro/mega bat differences, bat adaptations, and conservation issues. Make-and-take crafts will be available and presenters will give a list of activities, patterns, and resources.

AA**ESTABLISHING OUR LIVING LEGACY - A CELEBRATION OF LIFE***Robby Astrove, Davidson-Arabia Mountain Nature Preserve (GA speaker)*10:20-12
LOBBY

Help us install trees to create a new grove for our Memorial Forest. No experience needed. We'll walk you through the process for how to correctly plant and care for trees. Tools and gloves provided.