



# Increase Your Environmental Literacy at the 2010 EEA Annual Conference!

Friday March 19, 2010 at the Kennesaw State University Continuing Education Center

You won't want to miss an exciting array of professional development and networking opportunities at the 2010 EEA Annual Conference. This year's theme, "Environmental Literacy," reminds us of the ultimate goal of environmental education—educating others so they have the knowledge, skills and behaviors to make informed decisions. Build your knowledge, enhance your skills, discover new resources, and discuss ideas that will



inspire your efforts to educate through the four conference strands.

## Consumer Choices Strand

It is well known that our actions affect our environment. A presentation in this strand will inform the conference

participants about environmentally friendly consumer choices or behaviors, including the downfalls and successes in moving an organization or school towards better practices.

## Knowledge Strand

Environmental educators are often times the link between the researchers in the natural and social sciences and the general public. This strand will provide insight into Georgia's natural environments and their components - the air, water, land, flora and fauna that make our state unique.



## Important Notes:

- Registration must be postmarked by February 26, 2010 to receive the early bird discount. After this date onsite registration only will be available.
- Limited scholarships are available. Please visit [www.eealliance.org](http://www.eealliance.org) for additional information and an application form, which is due January 8, 2010.
- Lodging is available at area hotels. Please visit the EEA website for a list lodging locations.
- On-site registration and check-in begins on Friday, March 19 at 8:00 am.
- Electronics recycling takes place on Friday, March 19 from 8:30 am to 1:00 pm.
- Networking and ice cream social on Friday, March 19 from 7:30 pm to 9:00 pm.

# EEA Organizes Another Successful Outdoor Classroom Symposium

By Kelly Jo Scott, Rock Eagle 4-H Center

"Growing Fertile Minds," this year's Outdoor Classroom Symposium theme, hosted by Chase Street Elementary in Athens, was a huge success with 184 participants and over 30 exhibitors. Formal and non-formal educators, state agencies, and private organizations all gathered together to support outdoor education.

Tina Fain from Seminole County Elementary School won the 2009 Outdoor Classroom Service Award for her hard work and dedication to her school's outdoor learning center. The Council also awarded scholarships to the Outdoor Classroom Council Photography Contest. The three winners were from Burgess-Peterson Elementary, Atlanta, Oak Grove Montessori, Carrollton, and Winnona Park Elementary, Decatur.

Presentations sampled a variety of topics ranging from seed harvesting techniques to finding funds for an outdoor garden. The day ended with a tour of Spring Valley Ecofarm and dinner and tour at Terrapin Brewery. Everyone left energized and eager to implement new ideas. Just ask Khrista Kent from the McDuffie County QUEST Program:

Bring your own mug for coffee, bottle for water, and tote bag for freebies; bring compact discs, instead of handouts, and carpool, if you are able! I loved the idea of a waste-free conference. Cloth napkins, real plates and forks, and composting all lunch scraps inspired me to take the waste-free concept back to my own school. Teachers were rewarded for carpooling and were encouraged to bring unwanted "teacher stuff" to swap another idea that I could "steal".

What an appropriate theme for this symposium, Growing Fertile Minds. The fresh ideas, the enthusiasm of the exhibitors, educators, and organizers, and the eagerness of the attendees made for an exciting environmental

education experience. I couldn't wait to get back to school and re-energize our "Green Team"! All of the sessions gave practical lessons and ideas that could be taken directly back to the classroom/school and put to use. Most sessions afforded teachers opportunities to leave with many lesson plans and items in-hand ready to implement. I was sad I missed the session where they made rain barrels!

I was also impressed with the number of contacts I made. I have the names, phone numbers, and e-mail addresses of people and agencies around the state that are eager to help schools introduce environmental programs, many of which are funded by outside sources at no cost to schools.

Chase Street School, the host school for the event, had several impressive gardens to inspire even the most timid gardener.

Registration was a breeze, and the food was wonderful. I was unable to be a part of the farm and other tours offered in the afternoon and evening, but I won't miss them next year! If you are interested in "greening-up" your school, whether you are just getting your feet wet or are a seasoned environmentalist, this symposium is a "don't miss event"!

With such another successful event, the Outdoor Classroom Council is excited and working hard for next year's symposium. Please save the date for Friday, November 5 at Zoo Atlanta. For more information about the Outdoor Classroom Council visit [www.eealliance.org](http://www.eealliance.org).

The Outdoor Classroom Council would like to thank Zoo Atlanta for being one of this year's sponsors.



## Environmental Education of Georgia Awards Ceremony Call for Award Nominations



On Friday, March 19, 2010 the Environmental Education Alliance (EEA) of Georgia and its conference supporters will recognize and honor exceptional contributions to environmental education at an awards luncheon at the Kennesaw State University Continuing Education Center.

### Call for Nominations for the EEA Board of Directors

Do you know someone who wants to become involved in the leadership of EEA through hands-on involvement? Or maybe that person is you? If so, then a position on the EEA Board of Directors could be just what you are looking for!

Nominations must be submitted electronically in a Word, RTF, or PDF document by **February 12, 2010** to [awards@eealliance.org](mailto:awards@eealliance.org). Please visit [www.eealliance.org](http://www.eealliance.org) for the 2010 nomination process, eligibility, submission instructions, and EEA award categories.

The heart of an organization is its members, especially those who volunteer and make things happen. Nominations are being accepted January 1 through February 18, 2010.

If you are nominating someone, please have nominees complete a "Prospective Board Member Application" and

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# Kim Bailey Receives Award from International Environmental Group



Kim Bailey of the Environmental Protection Division (EPD) in the Georgia Department of Natural Resources has received an award from the North American Association for Environmental Education (NAAEE) for “Outstanding Service to EE by an Individual at the Regional Level.” The award is given each year to a person who has made a significant contribution to environmental education (EE) in an area of the person’s country that extends beyond a local impact. Bailey attended the NAAEE ceremony at its conference in Portland, Oregon, on October 10, 2009 to accept the award.

Bailey, Environmental Outreach Coordinator in the EPD, has successfully expanded environmental education capacity by enhancing communication and resource sharing in nine states through the development of statewide environmental education web sites.

“This project is possible because of the strong partnerships that exist among environmental educators,” said Bailey. “Because we are all working towards the same goals, it’s very natural to find ways of helping each other and making the most of our time, funds, and resources.”

The EE in Georgia site ([www.EEInGeorgia.org](http://www.EEInGeorgia.org)) is a model for quality online tools that strengthen EE communities. In a field where resources are often tight, Bailey has given generously and unselfishly to advance the entire EE community regardless of agency or state boundaries. She embodies the true spirit of environmental education.

**Editors Note:** EEA and its board of directors extend its congratulations to Kim on this well deserved honor. Her hard work and dedication to EE is an inspiration to us all!

## Is it time to renew your EEA membership?

### EEA MEMBERSHIP FORM

We don’t want to lose you! Become a member today or this may be your last newsletter.

Fill out this form and mail it along with a check made out to “EEA” to P.O. Box 286, Mansfield, GA 30055.

### MEMBERSHIP BENEFITS:

- **Quarterly Newsletter** – Provides educational resources, legislative updates, notice of workshops and events, grant opportunities, and much more.
- **Annual Spring Conference and Fall Symposium** – Held at different sites throughout Georgia with guest speakers, workshops and field trips. A great opportunity to meet people and share.
- **Sharing and Exchanging Resources** – The opportunity to find and exchange ideas with member organizations.
- **Discount to Events** – Attend the annual conference, the Outdoor Classroom Symposium and other EEA sponsored events at a discounted rate.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Affiliation \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Fax \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail address \_\_\_\_\_

Membership Category: \_\_\_ Individual \$25  
 \_\_\_ Organizational\* \$100  
 \_\_\_ Corporate\* \$150

\*Please Note: organizations and businesses can list up to five representatives to receive EEA mailings

# 2010 Environmental Education Alliance Annual Conference Fieldtrips

You will need to register in advance for the following fieldtrips, whether there is a cost involved or not. Please see the listing of conference fieldtrips posted at [www.eealliance.org](http://www.eealliance.org). Transportation to and from the fieldtrip is not provided. Carpooling as a group will be encouraged. Maps will be available at the registration desk.

This year fieldtrips will be offered on Saturday, March 20 only. Travel time from Kennesaw State University to each location varies from 10 minutes to 45 minutes.

## 1. The Southern Museum of Civil War and Locomotive History

The Southern Museum, in association with the Smithsonian Institution, features exhibits on Civil War and locomotive history. The Southern Museum is home to the General locomotive, stolen during the Civil War's Great Locomotive Chase; a reproduction of the locomotive assembly line from the Glover Machine Works; weapons, uniforms and everyday items of Civil War soldiers; and the Jolley Education Center that features train history, hands-on activities for children and Georgia's French Gratitude Train.

Time at museum: 2 hrs. Limited to a maximum of 20 participants. Cost: FREE.

## 2. Tellus Northwest Georgia Science Museum

From dinosaurs to helicopters, there's something for everyone at Tellus. The museum features four main galleries: The Weinman Mineral Gallery, The Fossil Gallery, Science in Motion and The Collins Family My Big Backyard, along with a 120-seat digital planetarium and observatory. Have a blast conducting hands-on experiments with light, sound, magnets and more. Tellus will educate, inspire and engage diverse audiences about science through collections, hands-on/minds-on experiences and Georgia connections.

Time at museum: 3.5 hrs. Must have a minimum of 15 people. Cost: \$8.

## 3. Smith-Gilbert Gardens Tour

Smith-Gilbert is a public garden owned by the City of Kennesaw consisting of natural woodlands and a

woodland walk, a dwarf conifer display garden, a sunny rose garden, a perennial border, a rock garden, and a pond and waterfall garden. There are over 3,000 varieties of plants, shrubs and trees accented by 30 pieces of contemporary sculpture, including a 7 acre planted garden.

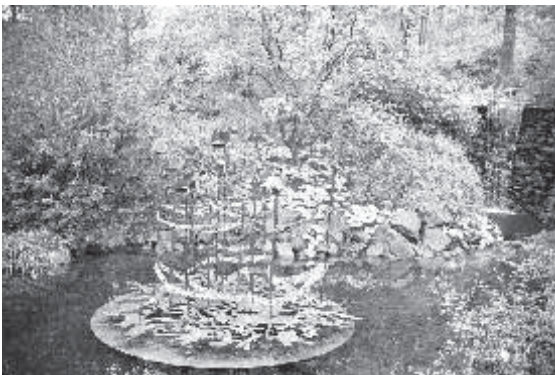
Time at garden: 1.5 hrs. Limited to a maximum of 25 participants. Cost: \$7.



## 4. Stream Morphology Study at Proctor Creek

Fluvial geomorphology unites the disciplines of geology, ecology and hydrology. It studies the interactions between flowing waters and the land over which they flow and evaluates how the physical attributes of a stream impact the stream ecology. Geomorphology studies are important in tracking changes over time within a watershed. Proctor Creek has been a study site for over 10 years, observing factors such as sediment transport, bank erosion, undercutting and deposition, width depth ratio and sinuosity. Participants will learn about change in an urban stream and participate in a hands-on demonstration of a stream morphology study.

Time at creek: 2 hrs. Limited to a maximum of 15 people. Cost: FREE.



## 5. Noonday Water Reclamation Facility Tour

Learn about a very necessary, yet often ignored, component of modern life during a guided tour of Noonday Water Reclamation Facility in northeast Cobb County. The plant treats up to 24 million gallons of sewage a day. Participants will visually learn about



how the wastewater treatment process works and how cleansed wastewater is recycled back into our rivers and streams by experiencing each step of the process as it happens.

Time at facility: 1 hr. Limited to a maximum of 25 participants Cost: FREE.

## 6. Chattahoochee Nature Center

The Chattahoochee Nature Center invites you to experience their new interpretive center! More than a museum or science center, the new Discovery Center is a portal of information to the Chattahoochee River Watershed. From the Forests to the wetlands to the river, visitors discover what makes the Chattahoochee River Watershed unique. Participants will also have the opportunity to explore the forest and wetland trails.

Time at center: 2 hrs. Limited to a maximum of 20 people. Cost: FREE.

## 7. Lake Allatoona Boat Tour

Eat lunch while taking a relaxing tour of Lake Allatoona on a double pontoon boat. Learn about the dam and environmental issues affecting the lake, including shoreline erosion and sedimentation, as well as the geological formations and natural ecology of the area.

Members of the Lake Allatoona Preservation Authority will be on hand to answer any questions about the lake.

Time at lake: 2.5 hrs. Limited to a maximum of 30 people. Cost: \$10.



## 8. Cochran Shoals Birding Walk

The Cochran Shoals area is one of the largest and most popular in the Chattahoochee River National Recreation Area and a good spot to observe herons, woodpeckers, flycatchers and vireos. The three mile trail has a wetlands area that is excellent for bird watching. This early morning birding walk will be led by an Atlanta Audubon Society naturalist. Participants should wear sturdy, waterproof shoes.

Time on trail: 1 hr. Limited to a maximum of 20. Cost: \$3.

## 9. Etowah Indian Mounds

Home to several thousand Native Americans between 1000 A.D. to 1550 A.D., this 54-acre site contains six earthen mounds, a plaza, village area, borrow pits and



defensive ditch. This is the most intact Mississippian Culture site in the Southeastern United States. The Etowah Indian Mounds symbolize a society rich in ritual. The 63-foot flat-topped earthen knoll was likely used as a platform for the home of the priest-chief. In another mound, nobility were buried in elaborate costumes. Visitors will tour the museum where exhibits interpret daily life in the once self-sufficient community.

Time at museum: 2 hrs. Limited to a maximum of 20 people. Cost: \$5.

## Skills Strand

Teaching and communicating about the environment requires people to creatively share their experiences, knowledge and skills with diverse audiences. This strand will focus on strategies environmental educators can use to teach and reach Georgia's citizens and developing the skills necessary to understanding environmental issues.

## Partnerships for Environmental Literacy Strand

The cultivation of an environmentally literate person can transpire through local, regional or statewide partnerships that help people develop knowledge, skills and behaviors and lead them to be more informed and better environmental stewards. This strand will offer strategies on how organizations can build their own successful partnerships.

Building on the theme of this year's conference several unique opportunities are being offered to conference attendees. EEA has partnered with The Museum of History and Holocaust Education to bring a social studies focus to the ever-popular, fun and educational Buzzard Hike. "The Butterfly Project", an exhibit offered at the museum, is the theme for this year's scavenger hunt. Nature sustains people both physically and spiritually, especially those affected by war and genocide. Follow the handmade butterflies to add to your knowledge and understanding of this history.

A service project has also been scheduled at the museum on Saturday, March 20 from 1:30 pm to 3:30 pm., which will involve planting a victory garden. They also offers a free on-site exhibit, "V for Victory: Georgia Remembers World War II." Monarchs Across Georgia, an initiative of EEA, is further collaborating with the museum to plant a pollinator garden in a nearby area.

Keynote speakers will help bring meaning to the conference theme as Darryl Haddock, Environmental Education Director for the West Atlanta Watershed Alliance in Atlanta delivers inspiration of putting environmental knowledge into community action as the opening speaker. Friday afternoon speakers will include Ruth Mead, Southeastern Natural Sciences Academy, Sydney Peden, Watson Brown Foundation and Susan Boyd, Army Corps of Engineers, all members of the Central Savannah River Area Environmental Science Education Cooperative, as they share how they began an environmental partnership.

Dr. Mildred McClain, Executive Director of Citizens for Environmental Justice, Inc., the Harambee House, Inc, and Southern Association of Black Educators, Inc. in

Savannah, will end the conference on Saturday. With over 30 years of experience as a human rights activist, teacher, administrat



or and consultant she will inspire attendees to use their knowledge and skills to make informed decisions for their community.

Everyone is also invited to attend the 8<sup>th</sup> Annual Silent Auction, which helps raise money for the EEA scholarship program and a chance to network at the Friday evening ice cream social. But the fun doesn't end yet! In an effort to further engage participants Saturday fieldtrips will be offered for participants to explore the wonders of area attractions of suburban Atlanta.

## Registration:

ALL registration information (fees, deadlines, directions, lodging, scholarship applications and fieldtrips) are available online at the EEA website at [www.eealliance.org](http://www.eealliance.org). Register by February 26, 2010 to take advantage of the early bird registration price. For more information about the conference contact 2010 EEA conference chairperson Naomi Thompson at [conference@eealliance.org](mailto:conference@eealliance.org).

Need PLU credit for participating in the conference? Be sure to check the line on the registration form if you are interested in receiving 1 PLU for attending the conference. Information on PLU paperwork will also be at the registration desk. If you have any questions, contact Karen Garland at [kgarland@gaconservancy.org](mailto:kgarland@gaconservancy.org).

## Call for EEA Board Nominations

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submit it by email to [boardnominations@eealliance.org](mailto:boardnominations@eealliance.org). An email will be sent upon receipt of application. Applications and job descriptions can be found on our website at [www.eealliance.org](http://www.eealliance.org). Self-nominations are also accepted.

For more information about the election process contact Jennifer McCoy at [boardnominations@eealliance.org](mailto:boardnominations@eealliance.org).

# Electronic Recycling is a Good Thing!

As our technological society advances around us, so does the need to recycle those materials leading us into the future. The theme of this year's EEA conference is Environmental Literacy and one way conference attendees and KSU affiliates can become "environmentally literate" is through the recycling of electronics. Many of today's common tools, not so common a decade ago, are accumulating in our landfills as "e-waste."



Cell phones, flat screens, laptops, and more are made with chemicals such as mercury, lead, and cadmium. These chemicals can eventually find their way into our soils and drinking water. With today's ever increasing "upgrade," electronic waste has presented itself as an environmental dilemma and one that we can solve.

Please join EEA, in partnership with Complete PC Recycling and the City of Kennesaw, for a day of electronic recycling.

**Where** - KSU Continuing Education Center, south-end parking lot

**When** - March 19, 8:30 am-1:00 pm

**Accepted Materials** - [www.completepcrecycling.us/recycle-list/](http://www.completepcrecycling.us/recycle-list/)

## 2010 Environmental Education Alliance Annual Conference Keynote Speakers

### Putting Environmental Knowledge into Community Action



Darryl Haddock—keynote speaker

Darryl Haddock is the Environmental Education Director for the West Atlanta Watershed Alliance (WAWA). His responsibilities include program implementation and administration as well as evaluation of core programs sponsored by WAWA and its partners. He has over 10 years experience as an environmental professional. His current duties

include managing environmental education and outreach projects for local schools, residents, and organizations, facilitating workshops, and coordinating community service activities.

### Partnerships for Environmental Literacy

Members of the Central Savannah River Area - Environmental Science Education Cooperative (CSRA-ESEC) will share how this environmental partnership began and the advantages of such a partnership. Speakers Ruth Mead, Southeastern Natural Sciences Academy, Sydney Peden, Watson Brown Foundation, and Susan Boyd, Army Corps of Engineers each present how they are involved in educating people of all ages in environmental

science. ESEC is a collaborative organization in the Central Savannah River area that shares ideas, explores ways to teach about the natural world with others, and befriends fellow colleagues.

### Environmental Justice

Dr. Mildred McClain, Ed.D., is the Executive Director of the Citizens for Environmental Justice, Inc., the Harambee House, Inc, and Southern Association of Black Educators, Inc. in Savannah, GA. Citizens for Environmental Justice



Mildred McClain—keynote speaker

provides environmental education and information to African American and low-income communities. The Harambee House, a community center, works for political, socioeconomic and community empowerment. The Southern Association of Black Educators works to

uplift young people in the community. She has 30 years of experience as a human rights activist, teacher, administrator and consultant. Mildred McClain will inspire attendees to use their knowledge and skills to make informed decisions for their community.



Environmental Education Alliance of Georgia

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Mansfield, GA 30055

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EEA is a self-governed, non-profit organization that promotes communication and education among professionals in the field of environmental education in Georgia. EEA is an affiliate of the North American Association for Environmental Education.

## Newsletter Committee

Karen Garland, Georgia Conservancy

Alison Findley, "Green" Marketing/  
Communications Consultant

For comments and article suggestions  
or submissions please email  
[newsletter@eealliance.org](mailto:newsletter@eealliance.org).

### Deadlines:

March 25, 2010

August 1, 2010

December 1, 2010

March 25, 2011

*Give us Something to  
Talk About!*

