



Monarchs Across Georgia announces... **Georgia's First Butterfly Symposium** ***September 15, 2007***

Have you ever been curious about a species of caterpillar that might have invaded your garden or that you saw on a recent walk through the park near your home? Dr. David Wagner, author of the best-seller and award-winning book, *Caterpillars of Eastern North America*, will fascinate you with his stories of the adaptations and defenses of these incredible insects. His book will also be available for purchase and signing.

University of Georgia's Monarch researcher, Dr. Sonia Altizer will speak about butterfly conservation and her citizen science project, Monarch Health. Learn about the threats to this migrating species and how you can contribute scientific data to aid in research.

Which plants are best for providing nectar and caterpillar food in Georgia gardens? Karen Garland from Georgia Conservancy will share tips and techniques for developing or improving your site for all species of pollinators. Find out how to certify your garden as an official "Pollinator Habitat" through *Monarchs Across Georgia*.

Become part of the magical Monarch migration as you travel to Mexico with Fernbank Science Center's biologist Trecia Neal and Monarch enthusiast, Susan Meyers in a presentation highlighting their annual trips to the Transvolcanic mountain range of Michoacan

where millions of Monarch butterflies travel each year to spend their winter clustered together on oyamel fir trees awaiting the arrival of spring. Details and applications for the 2008 trips will be available.

A day packed with information about butterfly biology and ecology plus gardening for pollinators sponsored by *Monarchs Across Georgia!* Please visit the Events section on our website www.monarchsacrossga.org to download a registration form. The cost is \$30.00 which includes lunch. Pre-registration is recommended as space is limited.

Georgia's first annual Butterfly Symposium will be held at Fernbank Science Center, 156 Heaton Park Drive, Atlanta on Saturday, September 15, 2007 from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Fernbank's Fall Plant Sale will run concurrently at the same location from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. See www.fsc.fernbank.edu for directions and a plant list.



Register Now For Two Great Symposiums This Fall!

This fall, the Outdoor Classroom Council presents Tools of the Trade: the Nuts and Bolts of Outdoor Classrooms! Join us for our annual symposium on Friday, October 12, 2007 at Fernbank Science Center in Atlanta. An outdoor classroom usually consists of a garden or wildlife habitat where teachers may lead cross-curricular activities and students find inspiration, greater motivation to learn and a stronger connection to the environment.

The Outdoor Classroom Council is a committee of the Environmental Education Alliance and a coalition of organizations and individuals who share an interest in the design, development, maintenance and use of outdoor classrooms. Symposium participants include teachers, parents, principals, community volunteers and nonformal educators. The symposium offers hands-on training sessions, valuable classroom resources and curriculum and informative exhibits prepared by program providers and outdoor classroom experts. Teachers can receive 1 Professional Learning Unit for attending the Friday Symposium and one workshop (either the Thursday evening workshop, Astronomy with Dr. Angela or one of the two Saturday workshops, Garden Earth Naturalist or Project WET: Urban Watershed).

Save the Date of the Outdoor Classroom Symposium now! Registration costs start at only \$30 for pre-service teachers, \$50 for EEA members and \$75 for nonmembers. Session descriptions, registration materials and more can be found on <http://www.eealliance.org>!

Monarchs Across Georgia announces.... 2008 Monarchs in Mexico trips



Travel to Michoacan Mexico with us for the experience of a lifetime! Walk through the pristine forests atop the Transvolcanic mountains where millions of Monarch butterflies drape the trees and flutter in the beams of sunlight that pierce the canopy. The silence is broken by a cascade of butterflies dropping off of a branch above your head and the beating of their wings surrounds you like soft rain falling. This is truly a magical place. We will visit several butterfly colonies during our weeklong stay and enjoy the rich cultural heritage of this delightful winter home of the Monarch.

From the charming colonial city of Morelia to the lava fields of Paracutin, you will taste the culinary delicacies, touch the artisans' handiwork, view the unearthed ruins of past civilizations and hear the stories of the people who live in this colorful land.

Dates: February 16-23, 2008 or
February 23 – March 1, 2008

Cost: \$1400.00 double occupancy
(\$1800.00 single occupancy)
plus airfare to Morelia, Mexico

Visit the Events section of our website www.monarchsacrossga.org for a complete itinerary, details and an application. Space is limited.

Five PLU credits are available to Georgia certified teachers. Attendance at all pre- and post-trip meetings plus journal and lesson plan are required for credit.

WATERSMART

www.ConserveWaterGeorgia.net

This spring, waterSmart was launched in the pilot communities of Albany, Augusta, Cobb County, Columbus, Dalton and Macon with tools for homeowners, tools for teachers, and tools for facilities managers.

Visit www.ConserveWaterGeorgia.net for more information on the online tools you can make available to the citizens you serve, regardless of where you live.

If you work in one of the pilot communities, please contact Beth Brown, bbrown@gadnr.org or Deron Davis, deron_davis@gadnr.org for more information on how you can get involved with waterSmart.

Tools for homeowners - waterSmart designed a two-hour workshop to teach homeowners how to choose, select and maintain plants that require less water for their landscape.

The information contained in the workshop is available at http://www.conservewatergeorgia.net/Documents/tools_homeowners.html.

Tools for teachers - waterSmart developed a unit on Drought in Georgia for 6th grade Earth Science Teachers.

The unit features 4 lessons designed to address 9 content and characteristics of science standards, plus language arts and social studies standards. It will help students understand that drought and water use impact the availability of water resources. The Drought in Georgia unit is available at http://www.conservewatergeorgia.net/Documents/tols_teachers.html.

Tools for facilities managers - waterSmart provided a free videoconference on Drought Survival Strategies for Georgia Colleges and Universities in June and will provide a workshop on Water Efficiency in Campus Landscapes in September.

The information contained in the videoconference is available at

http://www.conservewatergeorgia.net/Documents/tols_facilities.html.

WaterSmart is a program that seeks to conserve water in Georgia by encouraging reductions in outdoor water use. It offers simple tips for maintaining healthy lawns and gardens while using less water. The tools provided through the WaterSmart program were developed by the Education Roundtable, a partnership of organizations working together to deliver coordinated environmental messages to Georgians.

Please remember:

Plants need no more than 1 inch of water every 7 to 10 days to stay healthy.

Try these 5 to help them thrive!

1. Water only once a week. When it hasn't rained, a deep soaking every week will provide your plants with plenty of moisture.
2. Soak, don't sprinkle. When you water, aim the nozzle at the base of plants so more water will reach the roots.
3. Don't water in the heat of the day. You will only lose water to evaporation. If you have an automatic system, set it to come on in the early morning hours between 4 a.m. and 10 a.m.
4. Turn off sprinkler systems when it rains. Install an inexpensive rain sensor shut-off switch.
5. Mulch! Using pine straw, bark chips or ground hardwood mulch on the roots of plants and trees helps the soil retain water.



Remember to sign up for EE Week 2008!

Don't forget to register for National Environmental Education Week, April 13-19, 2008!

Interested educators can access the online registration form

at

<http://rs6.net/tn.jsp?t=o665hbcab.0.bzu9ibcab.vlyzwzn6.26458&ts=S0255&p=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.EEWeek.org%2Fregister.htm>
www.EEWeek.org/register.htm.

Environmental Education Alliance of Georgia
2008 Conference at Unicoi State Park, Helen, GA
March 14 - 16



HANDS-ON SESSIONS
PRESENTATIONS
SHARING ROUNDS
DISCUSSION PANELS
FIELD TRIPS
KEYNOTE SPEAKERS

AWARDS CEREMONY
WORKSHOPS
SCHOLARSHIPS
DISCOUNTS FOR EEA MEMBERS
SOCIAL EVENTS
SILENT AUCTION

Early Bird Registration
by February 15, 2008
Proposals due Nov. 21

To register visit
www.eealliance.org

Scholarships available

No Child Left Behind Up for Reauthorization

Whether you are a teacher at a public school or non-formal educator at a nature center, park, zoo, or aquarium, you may be aware that the No Child Left Behind Act must be reauthorized by Congress in 2007 in order to allow for its continuation in public schools across the country. First enacted in 2002, NCLB places a strong emphasis on stringent testing in reading and math. Unfortunately, an unintended consequence has been a reduction in time devoted to environmental education, including valuable field experiences at nature centers, parks, and wildlife refuges. As NCLB is up for reauthorization this year, now is an opportune time for educators across the country to request a greater emphasis on environmental education within NCLB.

The Chesapeake Bay Foundation, North American Association for Environmental Education and Project Learning Tree are just a few of the organizations working to mobilize educators to ask for greater flexibility and funding in developing and implementing environmental education programs in science, math, language arts, and other curricula areas.

The House Committee is considering language for NCLB this week. We encourage you to become educated about the reauthorization by going to <http://rs6.net/tn.jsp?t=o665hbcab.0.azu9ibcab.vlyzwn6.26458&ts=S0255&p=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.eenclb.org>
www.eenclb.org

Thank you for your support of environmental education!

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

SAVE THESE DATES
for the
2007 NAAEE Conference!

November 14-17, 2007

(all day workshops and Research Symposium are Nov. 14)

Virginia Beach, Virginia

Registration Opens July 1, 2007

Check the NAAEE web site to learn more about this
year's conference:
www.naaee.org/conference

COME



TO THE
COAST

explore new horizons
for environmental education



2007 NAAEE CONFERENCE HIGHLIGHTS



WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 14
KEYNOTE: **Milton Chen**
*Executive Director of the George Lucas
Educational Foundation*

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 14
PERFORMANCE: **John McCutcheon**
Grammy-nominated singer and storyteller



THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 15
PERFORMANCE: **Peter Yarrow**
of Peter, Paul and Mary returns!

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 17
KEYNOTE: **Sylvia Earle**
*Author and Explorer in Residence
at the National Geographic Society*



All conference registrants will be transported to Nauticus on Friday evening, November 16, for NAAEE's annual Stapp Scholarship Fundraising Dinner & Auction. NAAEE has rented the entire third floor of Nauticus where there are several maritime-themed science exhibits for our evening enjoyment.

Field trips are scheduled Tuesday, Nov. 13, and Sunday, Nov. 18. Some great excursions are planned: kayak in the Atlantic and look for whales and dolphins, or slip through the Back Bay National Wildlife Refuge in your canoe or kayak. Take a cultural history tour of Jamestown, or sign up for a day of deep sea fishing before you settle into three days of back to back sessions, symposia, and keynote addresses.

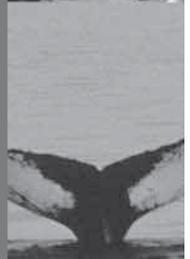
THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSORS
for their help in making this year's conference possible.

\$15,000
Foundation for Virginia's
Natural Resources
Sierra Club
US Fish & Wildlife Service
USDA Forest Service

\$10,000
The Albert I. Pierce Foundation
NOAA Education
Waste Management



Virginia Beach CVB



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Lower right photo: Jamestown Settlement, courtesy of the Jamestown-Yorktown Foundation

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Environmental Education Alliance of Georgia

P.O. Box 286
Mansfield, GA 30055



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

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Patti Ackermann, Blackburn Elementary School
Claire Hayes, Dunwoody Nature Center
Johnna Tuttle, Georgia Department of Natural Resources

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EEA member contributions are encouraged.
Deadline for articles and news of interest
for the next issue is:

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Email your articles and photos/graphics to:
annie.quinting@savannah.chatham.k12.ga.us

Give Us Something to Talk About!

Send us

your news!

