

Ohio Environmental Education Fund Adult Education Projects Funded, Spring 2006



Fisher-Titus Medical Center, "Safe Sharps Disposal for Home-Based Sharps Users," \$14,295. Contact: Lisa Myer, lmyer@ftmc.com

Provides an outreach program to educate home sharps (syringe) users in Erie, Huron and Lorain Counties about the health dangers related to unsafe sharps disposal into the waste stream, and to provide alternative disposal methods.



Sunday Creek Associates, "Little Cities of the Forest: From Stakeholders to Stewards," \$50,000. Contact: Andrew Bashaw, andrew-bashaw@yahoo.com

Targets residents of the former mining communities in the Little Cities of Black Diamonds (LCBD) region of the Hocking Valley coal fields to explore ways to restore and protect the local environment, while encouraging sustainable eco-tourism as an economic development tool.



Franklin Soil and Water Conservation District, "Storm Drain Model Project," \$16,789. Contact: Nora Hiland, nora-hiland@franklinswcd.org.

Creates a storm drain model and accompanying materials about best management practices to show residents and small businesses how run-off down storm drains affects water quality in local streams.



Cleveland Public Art, "WindWorks," \$41,415. Contact: Greg Peckham, gpeckham@clevelandpublicart.org.

Provides an outdoor wind turbine exhibit at the Great Lakes Science Center to show the connection between our daily, everyday energy choices and the possibility of a more sustainable future of wind power for the region.



Cincinnati Nature Center, "Great Outdoor Weekend 2006," \$5,000. Contact: Marihelen M. Bauer, mbauer@cincynature.org.

Provides publicity for a weekend of free family events at nearly 40 venues around Greater Cincinnati September 23-24, highlighting nature and outdoor learning. Activities will include hikes, geocaching, a belted tree canopy experience, pond dips, and demonstrations of water quality monitoring, worm composting, rehabilitation of injured birds of prey, and fly fishing.



Friends of Euclid Creek, "Public Awareness in the Euclid Creek Watershed," \$5,000. Contact: Lynn Garrity, lmgarrity@cuyahogaswcd.org .

Provides print materials and watershed signs along roadways to educate the public, the media, and local businesses about local water resources to support the education strategy of the endorsed Euclid Creek Watershed Plan.



Miami Valley Resource Conservation and Development Council, "Livable Landscapes Conservation Development Program," \$5,000. Contact: Allison Leavitt, leavitor@email.uc.edu

Provides a Web site and conference on conservation design, as well as technical assistance for planners, developers, elected officials, and the general public in Southwest Ohio. Topics include wastewater, conservation easements, and model zoning ordinances and regulations for residential conservation development.

The OEEF provides mini grants of \$500 - \$5,000 and general grants up to \$50,000. Application deadlines are generally around January 15 and July 15. Apply online, at www.epa.state.oh.us/oeef .

Ohio Environmental Education Fund

K-12 Grants Awarded, Spring 2006



Ohio University, "Improving Environmental Awareness of Water, Waste, and Land Issues in Appalachian Ohio," \$48,200. Contact: Chang Liu, liuc@ohio.edu.

Uses "Alice," an educational 3-D

Authoring and Modeling System to help students at Athens and Meigs High Schools better understand local environmental issues related to acid mine drainage, septic system maintenance and coal mine reclamation. The students will create three-dimensional models to simulate environmental impacts, and contest winners will then create accompanying exhibits for display of their models in public libraries to help educate local residents.



The Ohio Wildlife Center (OWC), "Seasons of Change: Ohio Wild Animal, Wild Habitat Learning Adventures for Second Grade Students," \$42,532.

Contact: Barbara Ray, brayowc@earthlink.net, 614-734-9453.

Provides classroom visits and field trips on Ohio native animals and habitats for 500, second graders. Teachers will help the OWC create and field test activities and supply/resource kits which will be offered to 58 school districts in nine counties, along with an on-line environmental education network offering training and resources to science teachers and curriculum coordinators.



The Ohio State University Extension Service, Madison County, "Watershed Monitoring Education Project," \$45,514. Contact: Eric Imerman, imerman.1@osu.edu.

Water quality education project for 350 high school agricultural and Future Farmers of America students who will learn to monitor the Little Darby Creek, Deer Creek, and Paint Creek. Monthly samples gathered from the three watersheds will be analyzed for fertilizer and herbicide content resulting from nonpoint source pollution. Students will help to create educational materials for farmers and residents in the watersheds.



Ecological Design Innovation Center, "Full Circle Learning: Linking Local Foods and Composting Education," \$49,000. Contact: Brad Masi, bradmasi@earthlink.net

Demonstrates vermi-composting using food waste from

Oberlin College dining halls for visiting K-5 students. Research and monitoring information from the project will be incorporated into several courses at the college. A two-day training session will be offered for low-income inner-city residents participating in an Urban Market Gardeners program in Cleveland on how to use restaurant and micro-brewery organic wastes and a composting method that works in confined spaces to restore the productivity of urban lands to generate foods for local markets.



Miami University, Hefner Zoology Museum, "The GREEN Teachers Institute: Museum Resources for Teachers," \$33,172. Contact: Dr. Donald Kaufman, kaufmadg@muohio.edu.

Adds a new early-childhood component and a second session to a successful series of natural history summer workshops and follow-up sessions during the academic year for K-8 teachers in southwest Ohio.



Meigs Soil and Water Conservation District, "WATER Meigs County," \$4,983. Contact: Jenny Ridenour, Jenny.Ridenour@oh.nacdn.net.

Supports classroom visits and water quality monitoring field trips for 1,100 students in grades 3-6, a Project WET workshop for teachers, a summer Watershed Day Camp for 50 children entering grades 5-8, and a quarterly newsletter on water quality and land use issues for local schools and residents. The day camp and newsletter are components of the education portion of the endorsed Leading Creek Watershed Management Plan.



Brukner Nature Center, "Science Comes Alive! At Bradford Elementary," \$2,990. Contact: Debra Brill, deb@bruknernature-center.com

Supports a one-year pilot program to introduce and field-test hands-on classroom activities at a Miami County elementary school. Grade-specific activities use live animals and materials such as feathers, furs, bones, and owl pellets to teach about the role various species play within ecosystems and their food and habitat requirements. After field-testing, the program will be offered throughout the Greater Miami Valley Region.

Ohio Environmental Education Fund *cont.*



University of Cincinnati, College of Medicine, “Interactive Workshop on Air Pollution for Young Children,” \$4,972. Contact:

Patrick Ryan, patrick.ryan@uc.edu.

Pilot project to introduce learning activities on air toxins to 757 children (ages 4-5) at high risk for asthma, and their parents. The families are participating in the University’s Cincinnati Childhood Allergy and Air Pollution Study (CCAAPS) and will visit the Cincinnati Zoo and Botanical Garden for the program. Interactive activities include a puppet show on air pollution, ways to reduce exposure, and how air pollution affects different animals and plants.



Washington Soil and Water Conservation District, “Traveling Through our Water World Summer Camp”, \$3,458. Contact: Glenna Hoff, glenna.hoff@oh.nacdnet.net.

Provides a four-day camp for 25 students in grades 3-5 to use science process skills (observe, classify, communicate, measure, infer, and predict) to study chemical and physical properties of water, water quality, and aquatic environments, as well as human impacts and historical influences on the Muskingum and Ohio Rivers. Posters created by the students will be exhibited in the Ohio Historical Society’s Campus Martius and Ohio River Museums.



St. Joseph Montessori School, Columbus Catholic Diocese, “Schoolyard Wildlife Habitat,” \$3,722. Contact: Andrea Gorzitze, gorzitze@sbcglobal.net

Creates three schoolyard wildlife habitats on the grounds of an inner-city elementary school. Invasive species will be removed and native plants placed to attract birds and butterflies to observation areas and to re-create a native prairie plot. Interdisciplinary lessons will focus on the contribution of plants and greenspace to urban air quality, and reducing water, fertilizer, and pesticide use through xeriscaping to prevent nonpoint source pollution.



Village of Racine, “Integration of Source Water Protection: Grades K-12,” \$4,882. Contact: John Holman, racinepsd@charter-internet.com

Provides classroom activities on drinking water from Project WET for 741 students in the Southern Local School District. Students and teachers will also prepare articles for the Community’s bi-monthly Source Water Protection newsletter and help the Village create an informational brochure for residents on how septic tank maintenance and the use of lawn chemicals impact nitrate levels.



Greene County Park District, “FootpathThrough History,” \$ 3,381. Contact: Christine L. Barnett, cbarnett@co.greene.oh.us

Provides a field trip to Indian Mound Reserve for 1,300, 3rd – 5th grade students to learn about how the environment affected runaway slaves following rivers northward along the Underground Railroad. Students will study the geology and geography of Massie’s Creek gorge and land use changes from the mid 19th into the early 20th century. They will use critical thinking skills to see if they would be able to make it to freedom, by investigating what wildlife would have been present, what plants would be safe to use for food and medicine, what water is safe to drink, what places would make safe hideouts, and how to use trees, stars and different kinds of maps to find direction. The National Afro-American Museum and Cultural Center in Wilberforce is collaborating.



Tri-Moraine Audubon Society/Council of Ohio Audubon Chapters, “Audubon Adventures Ohio Series Revision,” \$5,000. Contact: Tom Schaefer, 937-276-2162.

Updates a series of classroom publications on the native species found in Ohio Forests, Ohio Wetlands, and Ohio Prairies, and aligns them with the state’s new Academic Content Standards. Local Audubon chapters statewide will distribute the publications to several hundred classrooms and homeschool networks, as well as park districts, museums, and nature center programs.

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EECO Regional Directors

Region 1
Linda Pettit
Franklin Soil and Water
Conservation District
1328 Dublin Road, Suite 101
Columbus, OH 43215
Tel: 614/486-9613
Fax: 614/486-9614
linda-pettit@oh.nacdn.net

Region 2
Bunny Rossnagel
Metro Parks of the Toledo Area
5100 W. Central Avenue
Toledo, OH 43615-2106
Tel: 419/407-9772
Fax: 419/407-9785
bunny.rossnagel@metroparkstoledo.com

Region 3
Dawn Wingate
OSU-Lima, Galvin Hall
4240 Campus Drive
Lima, OH 45804
Tel: 419/995-8437
wingate.2@osu.edu

Region 4
Donna Lewis
Boonshoft Museum of
Discovery
2600 DeWeese Parkway
Dayton, OH 45414
937-275-7431 ext. 114
Fax - 937-275-5811
dlewis@boonshoftmuseum.org

Region 5
Sue Magness
Hamilton County Dept. of
Environmental Services

250 William Howard Taft Rd.
Cincinnati, OH 45219-2660
Tel: 513/946-7736
Fax: 513/946-7779
sue.magness@hamilton-co.org
Errin Howard
513-451-5027 (home)
hcrownie@current.net

Region 6
Joanne Mudra
Richland County Solid Waste
1495 West Longview Ave.
Suite 201
Mansfield, Ohio 44906
419-774-5861
Fax: 419/774-6330
jmudra@voyager.net

Janet Ellsworth
606 Highridge Rd.
Lexington, Ohio 44904
Phone: 419/884-0818

Region 7
Jeff Montavon
Scioto Soil and Water
Conservation District
12167A State Route 104
Lucasville, OH 45648
Tel: 740/259-9231
Jeff.montavon@oh.nacdn.net

Region 8
Dawn Wrench
Earth Day Coalition
3606 Bridge Avenue
Cleveland, OH 44113
Tel: 216/281-6468x225
Fax: 216/281-5112
dwrench@earthdaycoalition.org

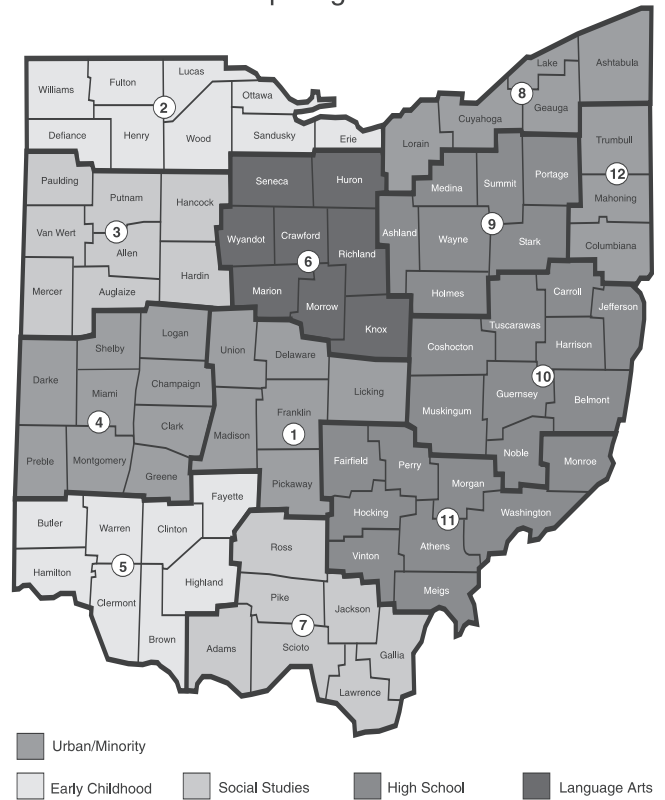
Region 9
Patty Rickard
Huston Brumbaugh Nature
Center
1972 Clark Avenue.
Alliance, OH 44601
Tel: 330/823-7487
Fax: 330/823-8531
rickarpa@muc.edu

Region 10
Bonnie Dailey
Muskingum Valley Park
District
P.O. Box 446
Zanesville, OH 43702
Tel: 740/455-8237
Fax: 740/455-7939
mvpd@rroho.com

Region 11
Vicki Kohli
Fairfield Soil and Water
Conservation District
831 College Avenue, Suite B
Lancaster, OH 43130
Tel: 740/653-8154
Fax: 740/653-1135
vicki-kohli@oh.nacdn.net

Region 12
Cheryl Mattevi
831 Highland Ave.
Salem, OH 44460
Tel: 330.337.3956
c.mattevi@att.net

Ohio EPA-Environmental Education Council of Ohio Partnership Regional Priorities



Partnership Steering Committee

Carolyn Watkins
Dave Todt
Dick Dieffenderfer

Pat Barron
Marty McTigue
Vicki Kohli

OEE Chief

Carolyn Watkins
Office of Environmental Education, OEPA
P.O. Box 1049 • Columbus, OH 43216-1049
Tel: 614.644.2873 • Fax: 614.728.1275
carolyn.watkins@epa.state.oh.us

EECO Executive Director

Brenda S. Metcalf
P.O. Box 1004 • Lancaster, OH 43130
Tel: 740-653-2649 • Fax: 740-653-6100
director@eeco-online.org

Ohio's Clean Diesel School Bus Fund Awarded Grants, June 2006



During the spring, 2006 grant cycle, Ohio EPA awarded the following nine grants to school districts, for a total of \$424,157.78

Beaver Creek City Schools, Greene County, \$9,750 to retrofit 13 buses with diesel oxidation catalysts, #B2006S-011. The district provided an in-kind match of \$110,967. Contact: Gary Sattler, Director of Business, (937) 458-2435 or gary.sattler@beavercreek.k12.oh.us

Brecksville Broadview Heights City School District, Cuyahoga County, \$96,210 to retrofit 38 buses with diesel oxidation catalysts, 10 buses with closed crankcase filtration systems, and 10 buses with pre-heaters, #B2006S-015. The district provided an in-kind match of \$93,382. Contact: Rick Fillmore, Transportation Supervisor, (440) 740-4055 or fillmorer@bbhcsd.org

Columbus Public Schools, Franklin County, \$88,440 to retrofit 88 buses with diesel oxidation catalysts, #B2006S-005. The district provided an in-kind match of \$18,501. Contact: Phil Downs, Fleet Supervisor, (614) 365-5263 or pdowns@columbus.k12.oh.us

Edgewood City Schools, Butler County, \$73,134.38 to retrofit 3 buses with diesel oxidation catalysts and 10 buses with diesel particulate filters, #B2006S-012. The district provided an in-kind match of \$9,269. Contact: Tom Foley, Transportation Mechanic, (513) 863-4692 ext. 1015 or foleyc@edgewood.k12.oh.us

Liberty Union Thurston Schools, Fairfield County, \$93,392 to retrofit 11 buses with diesel particulate filters, #B2006S-004. The district provided an in-kind match of \$9,180. Contact: Judy Cleland, Transportation Director, (740) 862-4171 or clelandj@postbox.esu.k12.oh.us

Madison Local Schools, Lake County, \$13,550 to retrofit 14 buses with diesel oxidation catalysts, #B2006S-006. The district provided an in-kind match of \$4,295. Contact: Daryl Stumph, Assistant Superintendent, (440) 428-2166 or ma_stumph@lgca.org

North Ridgeville City Schools, Lorain County, \$12,320 to retrofit 14 buses with diesel oxidation catalysts, #B2006S-010. The district provided an in-kind match of \$6,258. Contact: William Yonkof, Head Mechanic, (440) 327-4422 or wyonko@leeca.org

Northmont City Schools, Montgomery County, \$30,180 to retrofit 33 buses with diesel oxidation catalysts, #B2006S-002. The district provided an in-kind match of \$8,563. Contact: John Blessing, Director of Operations, (937) 832-5057 or jrblessing@northmontschools.com

Yellow Springs Exempted Village Schools, Greene County, \$7,181.40 to retrofit 4 buses with diesel particulate filters, #B2006S-003. The district provided an in-kind match of \$899. Contact: Susan Butler and Sharon Horne, Transportation Supervisor and Secretary, (937) 767-7381 or ys_shorne@mveca.org

Next grant application deadlines are September 1, 2006 and March 1, 2007. For more information on Ohio's Clean Diesel School Bus Fund for retrofit grants, contact:

Ohio EPA, Office of Environmental Education
P.O. Box 1049
Columbus, OH 43216-1049
Phone (614) 644-2873
Email oeeef@epa.state.oh.us
Web <http://www.epa.state.oh.us/oeeef/html/schoolbus.html>

