

EECO-OEE

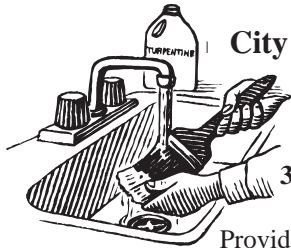


Partnership

Issue No. 2

Winter 2006

Ohio Environmental Education Fund Adult Education Projects Funded, Fall 2005



City of Struthers,

“Storm Water Outreach Program,”
\$45,503. Contact: **Danny Thomas,**
[littercontrol@cityofstruthers.com,](mailto:littercontrol@cityofstruthers.com)
330-755-2181.

Provides a comprehensive city-wide storm water education campaign, including information on water conservation and proper disposal of common household materials, with the objective of reducing water pollution in the Mahoning River and Yellow Creek Watershed.

▮ **Columbus Downtown Development Corporation,** “The Urban/Environmental Interface: RiverSouth Exhibits,” \$41,000. Contact: **Brian Ezzell,** BrianE@NewAlbanyCompany.com

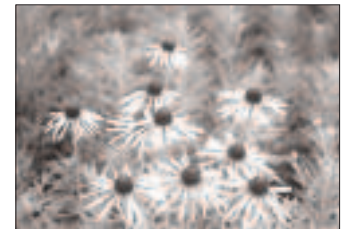
Provides a series of interactive exhibits on the relationship between urban land use, air and water quality, natural habitat, and the built environment. Topics include the Scioto River and storm water issues, Columbus air quality, Wildlife in the City, Brownfield Redevelopment, and Green Building Techniques. A Developer’s Toolkit manual and tour will provide up to 500 real estate developers and representatives of the construction and remodeling industry with information on how to renovate an historic building (the former Lazarus department store in downtown Columbus) to be certified under the LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) Green Building Rating System.



▮ **Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission,** “Greenways Program Pilot Prairie Project,” \$50,000. Contact: **Andrea Gorzitze,** agorzitze@morpc.org

Seeks to reduce the use of fertilizers and pesticides and the frequency of lawn mowing and irrigation by providing information on lawn-to-prairie conversions to individuals who make landscaping decisions for large corporate, municipal, airport, and golf course properties. Through demonstration projects that will convert at least six acres of streamside property from lawn to native prairie habitat, the Greenways Program seeks to help Central Ohio reduce ozone and fine particulates in the air and nonpoint source pollution into streams.

▮ **Sandusky River Watershed Coalition,** “Agricultural Quality Assurance Assessment Training”, \$46,135. Contact: **Christopher Riddle,** [cmiddle@wsos.org,](mailto:cmiddle@wsos.org) 419-334-5016.



Provides a self-assessment program to help agricultural producers in the Sandusky River Watershed to more effectively participate in the federal Conservation Securities Program and other programs promoting best management practices. Provides local case studies and training sessions for small groups of farmers to assess their own practices, showing how to maximize protection of environmental quality while maintaining profitable operations.



Cuyahoga County Board of Health, “Illicit Discharge Detection and Elimination Guidance Manual”, \$4,195. Contact: **Harry Stark,** hstark@ccbh.net

Provides a guidance manual to help local communities develop storm water education materials for the general public. Project will focus on educating elected officials, city and county engineers, and service departments about methods to identify and eliminate illicit sources that are discharging to municipal storm sewer systems.

Ohio Environmental Education Fund

Continued from page 1.



Clermont 20/20 Clean and Green

Collaborative, “Master Recycler Composter Program”, \$4,916. Contact: Julie Toren, cleanandgreen@clermont2020.org

Provides a manual and 8-week train-the-trainer course to equip 18 volunteers annually to conduct community outreach programs. The volunteers will seek to involve Clermont County residents in recycling and composting efforts, and teach about the environmental and public health issues surrounding waste disposal.



Montgomery County Sanitary

Engineer, “Public Education Audio and Visual”, \$2,305. Contact: Judy Holtvogt, holtvogtj@mcOhio.org

Provides two portable displays for presentations to the general public and schools, on topics such as the water cycle, conservation, and treatment methods for drinking and wastewater.

For more information, contact Ohio EPA, Office of Environmental Education, (614) 644-2873 or oeef@epa.state.oh.us

The next Healthy Water Healthy People (HWHP) Facilitator Training will be held Thursday, June 1 at Flory Park, Newark. Details online at oeef@epa.state.oh.us

You Might Be An Environmental Educator If ...

- You think “hip” clothes are waders
- The décor in your home consists of rocks, pinecones, shells and lichens
- You read field guides more often than fiction
- Your garden contains mostly “weeds” – Milkweed, Jewelweed, Ironweed...
- An interesting summer is trekking students through mosquito-infested swamps
- On walks outdoors you pick up things other people wouldn't touch
- You believe “it's not just dirt, it's soil!”
- Someone says you're “outstanding in your field,” and they mean you are out, standing in a field
- Reduce, Recycle, Reuse is more than a phrase, it's a way of life

You know EEA actually stands for “Environmental Educators Anonymous” – we just can't say no (Courtesy of the Environmental Education Alliance of Georgia – printed on EEAC T-shirts, www.eealliance.org) Have other “You might be...” suggestions? Send them to Carolyn Watkins Carolyn.Watkins@epa.state.oh.us and we will share them with others.

Breathing Easier on School Buses

Ohio's state budget bill for 2006-7 created a new grant program



to help school districts retrofit their diesel buses with pollution control equipment and use cleaner fuels to reduce emissions. Ohio EPA published draft rules in September for public comment, and hopes to accept the first round of

grant applications next month. Priority will be given to applications from school districts in communities that do not meet the National Ambient Air Quality Standards for atmospheric concentrations of fine particulates, and districts that employ additional measures such as anti-idling programs, to reduce emissions from their school bus fleets. The grants will be funded from penalties Ohio EPA collects for pollution violations. The Agency held a series of meetings around the state in January to publicize the program and explain the application process. More information is available on the Web at www.epa.state.oh.us.

US EPA also has a “Clean School Bus USA” grant program designed to reduce children's exposure to diesel exhaust, and reduce the amount of air pollution created by diesel school buses. According to the program Web site, www.epa.gov/clean-schoolbus/, 24 million children ride the school bus every day, and on average, students spend an hour and a half each week-day in a school bus.

The University of Cincinnati Department of Environmental Health is conducting a multi-year study to determine if children with higher levels of exposure to diesel exhaust particles are at increased risk for hypersensitivity to specific allergens and related respiratory disorders. A number of publications from the Cincinnati Childhood Allergy and Air Pollution Study are available online at <http://eh.uc.edu/ccaps/>

Applying to the Ohio Environmental Education Fund is now easier!

Beginning this spring, applicants have been able to prepare and submit their proposals online. Check out the new application at www.epa.state.oh.us/oeef/about_oeef.html

OEEF awards general grants of \$5,000 to \$50,000, and mini grants of \$500 to \$5,000, for environmental education projects targeting pre-school to university students and teachers, as well adult education for the general public and regulated community audiences. Next application deadlines will be July 17, 2006 and January 16, 2007.

Ohio Environmental Education Fund

K-12 Grants, Awarded Fall 2005



┆ **Washington State Community College** – Child Development Center, “Evergreen Environmental Education Project”, \$36,927, Contact: Linda Novak, lnovak@wscc.edu

Provides an outdoor classroom area and activities for 200 pre-school children, as well as professional development and

curriculum alignment workshops for 100 in-service teachers and university faculty working with this age group.

┆ **Dublin City Schools, Wyandot Elementary**, “P.O.N.D. (People, Water, Nature, Diversity)”, \$44,388. Contact: Sharon Buda, buda_sharon@mail.dublin.k12.oh.us



Involves 587 students and 52 staff members in restoring and monitoring riparian habitat around a half-acre pond

on the school grounds, working in collaboration with a series of artists-in-residence to trace the impact of water quality in the pond, through the stream into which it feeds, and on to the Scioto River, Ohio River, and Gulf of Mexico. Students will write poetry and songs, create murals and metal sculptures, and document on a Web site and in community presentations what they have learned about how their actions impact others, their community, and the global environment.

┆ **Cuyahoga Soil and Water Conservation District**, “Linking Middle School Teachers to Web-Based Water Quality Resources Aligned with New State Science Standards”, \$49,998. Contact: Frank Wilson, fwilson@wviz.org

Seeks to improve environmental science teaching in Cleveland Public Schools by revising the Cuyahoga SWCD’s 1995 Water Quality Handbook and companion video, and aligning these materials with the Ohio Department of Education’s Academic Content Standards. The project will employ master teachers to create reality-based online environmental science programs for teachers and students in grades 4-8.



┆ **Bowling Green State University**, “EXCITE Odyssey,” \$49,971. Contact: Jodi Haney, jhaney@bgnet.bgsu.edu

EXCITE is a seven-year program to provide problem-based learning modules on local environmental health

issues in Northwest Ohio. The modules are field-tested, expert-

reviewed, interdisciplinary, and aligned with state and national standards. OEEF funding will provide two new modules and professional development workshops for 120 5th - 12th grade Ohio teachers, and the opportunity for their students to present their work in an EXCITE Colloquium at COSI-Toledo.

┆ **Miami University – Hamilton**, “Discovery Carts for Miami Hamilton’s New Conservatory”, \$4,994. Contact: Richard M. Munson, munsonrh@muohio.edu

Provides wheeled Discovery Carts for interactive learning about ecological topics such as vermi-composting, wetlands, and prairies for use in programs at 14 elementary schools serving 5,150 students.



┆ **Toledo Botanical Garden** – Children’s Education Department, “Growing Science,” \$4,988. Contact: Patty Toneff, rentals@toledogarden.org

Provides one-hour classroom visits by TBG educators, followed by fourteen, two-hour field trips to the Botanical Garden for a total of 700 students from low-income areas, as well as in-service training and resource toolkits for participating teachers. Topics include plant and animal interdependence, biological classification, soil formation and function, water quality, and conservation.



┆ **Upper Valley Joint Vocational School**, “Vermiculture: Raising Earthworms to Reduce Solid Waste & Improve Garden Soil”, \$3,994. Contact: Mark Longenecker, 937-339-1858.

Supplies a vermi-composting program to teach Agri-Science students how to use earthworms to reduce newspaper and other solid waste and improve the quality of soils in the school’s organic garden. Program includes components on solid waste disposal, landfill siting, recycling, soil erosion, no-till farming, and fertilizer and pesticide use.

┆ **Wyoming City Schools – Primary Division**, “Quality Classroom Environmental Education Through Teacher Training,” \$4,994. Contact: Robert Carovillano, carovillanor@wyomingcityschools.org

Provides professional development training for 26 teachers to begin utilizing four Full Option Science System (FOSS) teaching modules in a pilot project to help 620 K-4 students meet Ohio’s academic content standards for science education. Grade-specific lessons include “Animals Two by Two;” “Trees;” “Pebbles, Sand and Silt;” “Structures of Life;” and “Water.”

EECO Regional Directors

Region 1
Linda Pett
Franklin Soil and Water Conservation
District
1338 Dublin Road, Suite 101
Columbus, OH 43215
Tel: 614/486-9613
Fax: 614/486-9614
lpett@franklinswcd.org

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@metroparkstolledo.com

Region 3
Dawn Wingate
OSU Lima, Calvin Hall
4240 Campus Drive
Lima, OH 45804
Tel: 419/935-8837
wingate.2@osu.edu

Region 4
Donna Lewis
Boonshoff Museum of Discovery
2600 Delaware Parkway
Dayton, OH 45414
937-275-7431 ext. 114
Fax: 937-275-5811
dlew@boonshoffmuseum.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
Ana Kelly
70 Springfield Pike
Cincinnati, OH 45215
513-761-7980
kelly.aj@tlfeffover-school.org

Region 6
Joanne Mucha
Richland County Solid Waste
1495 West Longview Ave. Site 201
Mansfield, OH 44886
Tel: 419-774-8861
Fax: 419-774-6330
jmuch@aoyogear.net

Jared Ellsworth
606 Highridge Rd
Lexington, OH 44004
Tel: 419-884-0818
Fax: 419-525-6339
wellsworth@rcnr.com

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

Region 8
Dawn Wrench
Earth Day Coalition
3606 Bridge Avenue

Cleveland, OH 44113
Tel: 216/281-6468/225
Fax: 216/281-5112
dvr@earthdaycoalition.org

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

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

Region 11
Vicki Kihl
Fairfield Soil and Water
Conservation District
831 College Avenue, Suite B
Lancaster, OH 43130
Tel: 740/653-8154
Fax: 740/653-1135
vicki-kihl@nacdnet.org

Region 12
Cheryl Mitter
831 Highard Ave
Salmon, OH 44460
Tel: 330/337-3926
cmitter@att.net

Calendar of EE Events

March 9 - OEEF Grant Writing Workshop – Akron,
www.epa.state.oh.us/oeef/oeefcalendar.html

March 11 - Project WET workshop - Waynesville
www.dnr.state.oh.us/water/educate/owep

March 11 - Smart consumers/Windows on the Wild workshop –
Highbanks Metro Park,
www.epa.state.oh.us/oeef/oeefcalendar.html

March 17 - OEEF Grant Writing Workshop - Pomeroy
www.epa.state.oh.us/oeef/oeefcalendar.html

April 1 - application deadline for AEP summer workshops for
educators www.AEP.com/go/workshops

April 1 - Norwest Ohio Woodland and Wildlife Workshop, spon-
sored by NW Ohio SWCDs - Diehl Park in Defiance County,
details at www.epa.state.oh.us/oeef/oeefcalendar.html

April 7 - Project WILD “Science and Civics: Sustaining
Wildlife” secondary curriculum workshop - Ohio Council for
Social Studies Annual Conference, Radisson Hotel in
Worthington, www.ocss.org

April 8 - WaterWise workshops - Highbanks Metro Park, details
at www.epa.state.oh.us/oeef/oeefcalendar.html

April 16-22 - National EE Week, www.eeweek.org

April 22 - Earth Day

April 28-29 Project WILD facilitator training at Atwood Lake,
details at [www.dnr.state.oh.us/wildlife/Resources/projectwild/proj-
ect_wild.htm](http://www.dnr.state.oh.us/wildlife/Resources/projectwild/project_wild.htm)

June 1 - Healthy Water Healthy People (HWHP) Facilitator
Training - Flory Park, Newark. Details at
www.oeef@epa.state.oh.us

June 20-22 - Black Swamp Educators’ Extravaganza, 577
Foundation in Perrysburg and at Stone Lab on Gibraltar
Island/Put-in-Bay on Lake Erie. Contact Nicki Kale, Wood
SWCD; nicki-kale@oh.nacdnet.org

July 1 - grant application deadline, Ohio Environmental
Education Fund, www.epa.state.oh.us/oeef

August 2 - OEEF Grant writing workshop in Wauseon, Fulton
County (details on the attached)

September 1, application deadline, Ohio EPA diesel school bus
retrofit grants, www.epa.state.oh.us/oeef

October (1st or 2nd weekend, date TBA) 101 Conference at
YMCA Camp Kern, Oregonia (contact: Dave Moran,
dmoran@daytonymca.org)

Ohio Chemistry Technology Foundation,
“Teachers, Industry, and Environment Conference”,
\$5,000. Contact: Chris Elsner, celsner@ohio-chemistry.org



Supports a two-day professional development
workshop for 60 elementary and middle school teachers, offering
interactive tools and resources for teaching chemistry and
environmental topics.



**Brown Soil and Water
Conservation District,** “Tri-County
Envirothon Leaders”, \$4,620. Contact:
Danielle Thompson,
danielle.thompson@oh.nacdnet.net

Prepares 115 high school students and their
16 advisors from 14 school districts for the Area 5 Envirothon
competition sponsored by local soil and water conservation
districts. The Envirothon program tests student teams on aquatic
ecology, forestry, wildlife, soils, and current environmental
issues.

Lucas Soil and Water Conservation District,
“Exposing the Native Mussel Fauna of Northwest Ohio”, \$5,000.
Contact: Jeff Grabarkiewicz, jeff-grabarkiewicz@oh.nacdnet.org

Funds three exhibits on native Ohio mussels, and printing a new
K-12 publication on native and exotic mussels based on recently

completed Maumee basin survey work conducted by the SWCD
and the University of Toledo.

**For more information, contact the Ohio EPA Office of
Environmental Education,
(614) 644-2873 or oeef@epa.state.oh.us**

