Save the Date

**Farm Science Review**
Sept 21-23, London Ohio
[https://fsr.osu.edu/home](https://fsr.osu.edu/home)

**101 Conference**
Oct 2
See page 2 for details

**NAAEE Virtual Conference**
Oct 12-15
[https://conference.naaee.org/](https://conference.naaee.org/)

**Teachers, Industry, & the Environment Conference**
Oct 13-15

**OEEF Grants**
Letter of Intent Deadline
Jan 8
Grant Submission Deadline
Jan 15
[www.epa.ohio.gov/oee](http://www.epa.ohio.gov/oee)

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**STEM Environmental Careers**

**Invite an Environmental Career Ambassador**

Do your students care about the planet? Do you want to see connections between your teaching and real world careers? Are you looking for ways to provide career connections to them? Are they curious about the specialized skills and training that is required for different careers? Well, the Ohio Environmental Career Ambassadors have got you covered!

Environmental Career Ambassadors are environmental professionals willing to make classroom or school career fair (due to COVID 19 - these will be virtual) presentations for middle and high school grades about their careers and/or provide shadowing, internship, field trip, and scholarship opportunities to Ohio students. Ohio high school students, teachers, and career counselors need a better understanding of the wide variety of careers in environmental science and engineering.

Ohio is emphasizing Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) fields to prepare students for jobs in the state’s emerging high-tech economy. Employers looking to hire professionals in environmental science and engineering are reporting a shortage of qualified applicants. The Ohio Department of Education’s learning standards and model curriculum also emphasize student learning about real-world careers. Schools and career centers are looking for business professionals to provide role models and diverse work-place experiences for their students.

If you would like to have a Career Ambassador come to your classroom or event via video call, please contact the EECO Executive Director for more information at [director@eeco-online.org](mailto:director@eeco-online.org)

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**Watch Environmental Career Videos**

Numerous videos are available on all sorts of environmental professions, such as horticulturalist, lawyers, chemists, environmental educators, and the examples below. Each video also has the contact information if your students generate further questions.

[https://eeco.wildapricot.org/stack-careers](https://eeco.wildapricot.org/stack-careers)

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**Career Chats**

**Watch Environmental Career Videos**

Numerous videos are available on all sorts of environmental professions, such as horticulturalist, lawyers, chemists, environmental educators, and the examples below. Each video also has the contact information if your students generate further questions.

[https://eeco.wildapricot.org/stack-careers](https://eeco.wildapricot.org/stack-careers)

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**Greg Orr, Environmental Scientist, Ohio Environmental Protection Agency**

**Julie Gee, Naturalist for Ohio Department of Natural Resources**
101 Alternatives to the Chalkboard “Lite,” the 2021 Edition
Saturday October 2, 2021
at YMCA Camp Kern, 5291 St Rt 350 Oregonia, OH 45054

Cost: $20. Includes sessions and meals. Scholarships and discounts available, contact Dave M for details. No charge for students or interns, but registration is needed.

Conference Schedule:
9:00am Gathering and announcements

9:15-10:45 Small Group Session I
• Gia Giammarinaro: Mushrooms for Naturalists
• Tracy Crotty: Core Routines
• Lee Teevan: Weather and GLOBE


12:00 Lunch

12:50 Gathering and announcements

1:00 to 2:30 Small Group Session II
• Ryan Bourgart: Environmental Literature
• Wendy Baker: Stream Quality Monitoring using leaf bags
• Alli Shaw: PawPaw Ramble

3:00 to 5:00 3mile river trip or a guided hike (still working on details, added cost for canoe trip is $14 per person)

5:30 Dinner

6:45 to 8:15 Campfire, Songs, and Stories Chris Walker as master of ceremonies

Accomodation: Folks are welcome to stay Friday and/or Saturday night at no additional charge.

For more information: Contact: Dave Moran, Outdoor Education Director dmoran@daytonymca.org or at 513-932-3756x1527

Registration: Please leave a voice mail or email with your info. Payment can wait until the event.. You will receive a confirmation.
• Name & Address:
• E-mail:
• Phone:
• Do you need a place to stay Friday night? How about Saturday night?
• Describe any special dietary needs:
• Do you have any needs or concerns?
• What Small Group Sessions would you like to attend (availability may be limited)
  • Session I
  • Session II
• Are you planning on staying for the 3mile canoe float Saturday afternoon?

Registration Deadline: Please try to register by September 25th.

Please be aware that the activities may carry a risk of injury. Be aware of these risks and your ability. Ask for help when needed. Please let us know if you have any special needs or concerns.

This event is made possible by YMCA Camp Kern, the Environmental Education Council of Ohio, and the Ohio Environmental Education Fund.
Environmental Career Paths
Kelly Capuzzi, Ohio Environmental Protection Agency

I began my career with Ohio EPA in 1993 as a college intern with the Division of Surface Water monitoring the fish community of Lake Erie, the Ohio River, and numerous streams throughout Ohio. At the time of my college internship, I was a zoology student at The Ohio State University focused on aquatic ecology and fisheries. I knew quickly that I really loved this type of work and wanted to do it full-time. As luck would have it, a job opened with the fish monitoring group just after I graduated in 1995. I was in the right place at the right time, fully trained, and ready to work!

Even though I was the first woman to work in the fish monitoring group, my coworkers treated me with respect and were great mentors and teachers. Now 28 years later, I’ve been a field crew leader for numerous college interns and have always strived to be a good mentor and teacher just like my coworkers were to me. One of my greatest joys is doing education outreach programs for students and teachers. As I approach the end of my career with Ohio EPA, I decided that I wanted to continue volunteering with our local community; so in 2019, I became an Ohio Certified Volunteer Naturalist (OCVN) for the Hocking Hills region and completed the Volunteer Pollinator Specialist program in 2020 through OSU. I now do education programs for Camp Oty’Okwa, Hocking County Soil and Water, Appalachian Ohio Alliance, Arc of Appalachia, Ohio Department of Natural Resources, and the Hocking Hills Monarch Waystation.

My advice to anyone interested in an environmental career path is to do an internship or volunteer and always surround yourself with mentors and people who are passionate about what they do.

Support EECO

...by making a donation

Would you like to help further environmental education in Ohio? Consider contributing an amount of your choice to EECO. All donations are tax-deductible and will help increase awareness of environmental issues in Ohio. Find out more at https://eeco.wildapricot.org/support

Direct Donation: You can easily make a direct donation through your Google account. Your full donation amount will go directly to EECO.

Legacy Donation: Consider making a legacy donation to EECO’s endowment fund at The Columbus Foundation.

Other ways to support EECO:

Amazon Smile. Select the “Environmental Education Council of Ohio” as your designated charity. Log into Amazon Smile every time you shop at Amazon.

Goodshop. Shop hundreds of popular retailers at Goodshop, purchases will benefit EECO.

With office supplies from our amazon wishlist.
Environmental Career Paths

Kilynn Dahl,
Ohio Environmental Protection Agency

My name is Kilynn Dahl, and I am a Geologist at the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency. My main responsibilities involve a mix of field and office work, including inspecting and reviewing sampling events for ground water, well construction, and well abandonment projects, hydraulic investigations, and occasionally sampling water with my co-workers at landfills.

I knew I always wanted to be a geologist of some kind when I was young and took my first trip to Yellowstone National Park. The volcanoes fascinated me, and I wanted to know everything I could about this earthly wonder. In high school, I focused my classes on what I wanted to do in the future like taking chemistry and physics. Unfortunately, there were no geology classes, but hitting the major science courses as best as I could helped me. I even took some classes you wouldn’t think are related like ceramics, which involved a lot of geochemistry. After high school, I attended North Dakota State University where I received my Bachelor of Science in Geology with a Ceramics Minor. The university gave me many opportunities, including field trips to places like Hawaii and eastern Washington, those experiences helped me get an internship. I continued my education at the University of North Dakota in sedimentology, researching the past environment for the Three Forks Formation by looking at core samples. During this time, I did a five-week field camp in Idaho and learned how to do my own research in a way I didn’t learn during my undergraduate experience.

After graduate school I applied for jobs everywhere. In this career path, you need to be adventurous because you may not find a job in geology in your area. I went from the small town of Aitkin, Minnesota to a rural college town in Bowling Green, Ohio. My part-time jobs as a teaching assistant and at McDonalds helped me prepare for my job at Ohio EPA because while working as a geologist, you do work with the public and need to know how to interact and communicate with all kinds of people.

When I first started with the Ohio EPA, I went out to a site not knowing what to expect. The consultants brought me to a well to demonstrate their sampling, since part of my inspections include checking every well to make sure they are in good condition and observing sampling being done, and they thought this well would be a good one. As they started to bail water out of the well, I was told to step back and then water exploded out of the well due to gas build up! It has already been almost five years since I started at Ohio EPA, and I am loving it. In 10 years, I will probably still be loving it. The people you meet are a big part that makes it fun, besides doing geology.

2022 Earth Expeditions

Miami University’s Project Dragonfly is accepting applications for 2022 Earth Expeditions graduate courses that offer extraordinary experiences in 15 countries throughout the world. http://EarthExpeditions.MiamiOH.edu

Earth Expeditions can build toward the Global Field Program (GFP), a master’s degree that combines summer field courses worldwide with weblearning communities so that students can complete the GFP master’s part-time from anywhere in the United States or abroad. http://GFP.MiamiOH.edu

Project Dragonfly also offers the Advanced Inquiry Program (AIP) master’s degree that combines web instruction from Miami University with experiential learning and field study through several AIPMaster Institutions in the U.S. Applications for Miami’s 2022 cohorts are being accepted now with place-based experiences provided at zoos and botanical gardens in Chicago, Cincinnati, Cleveland, Denver, Jacksonville, New York, San Diego, Seattle, and St.Louis. http://AIP.MiamiOH.edu

Graduate tuition for all programs is greatly reduced because of support from Miami University.
Think Water
Think Career

Administration
$50,000-$83,000
Entry-Level Education: Bachelor's degree
Job positions:
- Accountant
- Programmer/Analyst
- Community Affairs Manager

Engineering
$48,000-$98,000
Entry-Level Education: Bachelor's degree
Job positions:
- Geographic Information Systems (GIS) Analyst
- Chemical, Mechanical, Electrical, Environmental or Civil Engineer

Executive
$78,000-$135,000
Entry-Level Education: Bachelor’s degree
Job positions:
- Finance
- Human Resources
- Legal

Laboratory
$42,000-$69,000
Entry-Level Education: Bachelor’s degree
Job positions:
- Chemist
- Water Quality/Lab Manager
- Lab Technician

Plant Maintenance
$46,000-$75,000
Entry-Level Education: High School Diploma/GED
Job positions:
- Electrician
- Pipefitter
- Water Mechanic

Water and Wastewater Operations
$40,000-$79,000
Entry-Level Education: High School Diploma/GED
Job positions:
- Controller
- Operator Water/Wastewater Treatment Plant
- Manager Water/Wastewater Treatment Plant

Watershed and Runoff Control
$61,000-$94,000
Entry-Level Education:
Bachelor’s degree
Job positions:
- Conservation Scientist
- Environmental Scientist
- Water Resource Planning Manager

Join Us
By joining EECO, you will receive:
- A network of professional educators exchanging new ideas, resources, and techniques in EE
- An informative quarterly EECO newsletter
- Periodic email newsletters with links to events, job opportunities, and updates about EE in Ohio
- Outstanding EE publications and resources
- Annual statewide and regional conferences
- Regional professional development workshops
- Special member rates for conferences, workshops, and publications as specified
- An opportunity to participate in a variety of committees & activities to promote innovative EE in Ohio
- Peer recognition of professional efforts through EECO Awards

https://eeco.wildapricot.org/joinus
Environmental Career Paths

Andreas Eddy, City of Oxford
Water Treatment Division

My name is Andreas W. Eddy (or just Andy). I am the Water Treatment Division Manager for the City of Oxford, Ohio. I currently hold an OEPA Water Supply III certification as well as a Wastewater Treatment Class IV certification. I am the Operator in Responsible Charge (ORC) of the City’s 6.8 Million Gallon per Day (MGD) Water Treatment Plant (WTP). Along with the WTP, I direct the operation and maintenance of the City’s seven drinking water wells in two geographically separate wellfields and a water pump station to assure delivery of safe drinking water with adequate water pressure and flow for our Fire Department to fight fires.

I have been interested in all things water related since I was a child. When my brother and I were 4 and 5 years old, we would go to the creek for what seemed like all day and return with an assortment of fish, crawdads and snakes. When I was in 5th grade, my Father acquired some aquariums and associated air pumps, water pumps, tubing, etc. for me from one of his friends who was getting out of the hobby. At ten years old, I was scabbing together two or three old water pumps to come up with one that worked. I have come to understand that the same biological processes (nitrification/de-nitrification) that are at work in healthy aquariums are the same processes we use in wastewater treatment plants to clean the water before we discharge it back into the environment. Forty-six years later I am still keeping aquariums and I have a 225 gallon set-up in my dining room with mostly South American Cichlids.

I am a veteran of the U.S. Army and was part of the first Patriot Missile Battalion ever deployed. During my enlistment, I had the opportunity to work on a Diatomaceous Earth water filtration system to supply my unit with drinking water in the field. For six years I worked at the Children’s Medical Center in Dayton, Ohio as a Carpenter and Maintenance Mechanic. While working at the hospital, and on my own time, I built a Coral Reef Aquarium that I installed and maintained at the front entrance of the hospital. I also maintained aquariums for the Neurology and Surgery Departments.

In 1995, my family and I decided to re-locate to Eaton, Ohio. I developed plans to purchase a structure downtown to rehabilitate. I planned multiple apartments above and a cabinet shop with a storefront below. I gave a presentation to the Building and Zoning Commission on sound abatement for my woodworking equipment. In a follow-up meeting with the building officials and the City Manager; the City Manager expressed interest in having me come to work for the City. He described the City’s utility department and that the current Superintendent would be retiring in 5-7 years. If I took a job with them, the City would support my training in the field. If I could attain the proper OEPA certifications, I may be able to assume his role. This was all new and seemed to suit me so I jumped right in! I began my formal career in the water and wastewater field in January of 1996. I held several positions including Meter Reader/Utility Worker, Treatment Plant Operator, Chief Treatment Plant Operator and in 2000 I became the Superintendent of Public Works for the City’s Class IV Wastewater Treatment Plant and two Iron and Manganese WTPs along with the Sewer Collection System and Water Distribution System.

Great Resource

Equity in EE

The North American Association for Environmental Education’s partners and friends have put together a list of recommended articles, books, videos, and podcasts. They are a great resource to help environmental educators understand more about systematic racism and to help EE organizations address equity both internally and in the work they do in the field. [https://naaee.org/eepro/resources/equity-resources](https://naaee.org/eepro/resources/equity-resources)
Agriculture and Environmental Systems Career Pathway

Start Pre-Agriculture
As early as grade 7 (based on readiness)

Workplace Visits
Job Shadow
Internship
Work

Environmental Technician
Median Salary: $51,500
Job Growth (10 yr): 12%
Annual Openings: 17
Average Tuition (1 yr): $0 – $3,900/yr

Supervised Experience
Work

Environmental Specialist
Median Salary: $67,770
Job Growth (10 yr): 12%
Annual Openings: 108
Average Tuition (4 yrs): $9,600/yr

Supervised Experience
Internship
Work

Natural Sciences Manager
Median Salary: $101,540
Job Growth (10 yr): 6.4%
Annual Openings: 72
Average Tuition (2 yrs): $11,300/yr

Internship
Work

Provided by middle schools, high schools, employers, Ohio Tech Centers, and colleges.

Preparing students for multiple options after high school:
gainful employment and/or postsecondary study.

Ohio In-Demand Occupations
Data reflects 2014 Ohio labor statistics and public institutions of higher education for 2013-2014. For specific tuition costs, visit ohioshareded.org

Secondary Pathway: Natural Resource Management
Postsecondary Program: Environmental Science

An Example of Courses with Secondary and Postsecondary Credits

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Secondary</th>
<th>Postsecondary</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>7 8</td>
<td>Year 1 1st Semester</td>
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<td>English I</td>
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<td>9 10</td>
<td>English II</td>
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<td>11</td>
<td>English III</td>
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<td>English IV</td>
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<table>
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<tr>
<th>Postsecondary</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Year 1 2nd Semester</td>
<td>Technical Writing</td>
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<tr>
<td>Year 2 1st Semester</td>
<td>Hazardous Materials Management</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 2 2nd Semester</td>
<td>Cultural Anthropology</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Environmental Restoration</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

High School Career Technical Education Program Courses

High School Courses for Postsecondary Credit (Including Apprenticeship Hours) and the Corresponding Postsecondary Courses

Visit education.ohio.gov/CareerConnections for reference information.
Course titles and sequences will vary between schools.

4/2015
Ohio Environmental Education Certification Program

Ohio's EE Certification program is sponsored by EECO. This certification program is based on NAAEE's national competencies for an Environmental Educator. The ability to earn two graduate credits through Kent State University allows formal educators the opportunity to gain professional development in a way that is recognized by the Ohio Department of Education. We also have a partnership with Miami University that allows their undergraduates to achieve EE certification.

Outdoor educational components include but are not limited to forest, stream, and lake environments. Training in the following areas will need to be completed to meet certification requirements:

- Foundations of Environmental Education
- Knowledge of Environmental Process and Systems
- Personal and Civic Responsibility
- Planning and Implementing Environmental Education
- Fostering Learning
- Assessment and Evaluation

To find out more and to receive approval to attend the program, please email Jen Bucheit at jennifer.bucheit@dnr.ohio.gov

Currently, we have 13 people participating in the program, a great mix of formal and non-formal educators. They range from all corners of Ohio. They are about half-way through the program which had to convert to virtual. It was created to allow them to go at their own pace. The participants that earn their EE certification will present a poster at the 2022 annual conference in April.

EECO Winter Conference Call for Proposals

Winter Snow – Creative Ways to Teach STEM in the Winter!
Friday, January 28th & Saturday, January 29th, 2022

In person at Camp Nuhop: 1077 Hanover Twp. Rd. 2916, Perrysville, OH 44864

Thank you for your interest in presenting at this year's "Winter Snow Conference," We plan to hold this conference in person. There will likely be COVID related health and safety instructions for in-person attendees. If you have health concerns or questions before submitting your proposal, please email akriner@richlandcountyoh.us.

Presentation topics: These can be diverse and if possible related to winter, but should relate to one of the following:

- STEM
- Arts
- Environmental Literacy
- 21st Century Skills
- Careers and the Environment

Submit a proposal: The presenter form can be found at https://eeco.wildapricot.org/event-4464216, or you can receive a copy by contacting Amanda Kriner at akriner@richlandcountyoh.us

Deadline: Please complete this presenter form and return by September 24th to akriner@richlandcountyoh.us
Student Wildlife Research Symposium

Call for Proposals

The Call for Proposals is now open for the Ohio Student Wildlife Research Symposium. The Symposium will take place as part of the Annual EECO Conference on March 31, 2022 at Hueston Woods State Park.

Any middle or high school-aged student can present a poster on research related to native Ohio wildlife and their habitats. Paper presentations are selected by a panel to fill a limited number of presentation slots. Paper presentations must be completed research. Posters can be either completed or ongoing research. Guidelines are included in the Call for Proposals. Submissions not selected for Paper Presentations will be allowed to present their research as part of the Poster Session. Please see the abstracts from previous Symposia for past presentation and poster topics.


Anyone with an interest in Ohio’s wildlife can attend the Symposium. Registration fees apply, discounted rates for students. Registration will open in December or January through the EECO website [https://eeco.wildapricot.org/](https://eeco.wildapricot.org/).

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**Student Career Resources**

Career Paths in Arboriculture:

American Water Works Association Career Center AWWA Career Center [https://careercenter.awwa.org/](https://careercenter.awwa.org/)


Students who are looking for a career in Science and Research here is a great site [https://kids.niehs.nih.gov/topics/environment-health/meet-the-scientist/lab-coat/index.htm](https://kids.niehs.nih.gov/topics/environment-health/meet-the-scientist/lab-coat/index.htm)


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**Save the Date: EECO Annual Conference 2022**

**Hueston Woods State Park, in SW Ohio**

**March 31 - April 2, 2022**

Get ready to join us in SW Ohio for the EECO Annual Conference which will be packed with fun, learning, community, and fossils!

**Thursday**
- Student Wildlife Research Symposium

**Friday**
- Fieldtrips
- Workshops
- Open Space

**Saturday**
- Sessions
- Annual Meeting
- Auction
- Awards Banquet

**Sunday**
- Bird Hike
- EECO Tour

**Saturday Keynote**
Learn about “the Big Woods” with Shawn Connor, Hueston Woods Naturalist.

**Information & registration will be posted at** [https://eeco.wildapricot.org/](https://eeco.wildapricot.org/)
Ohio Environmental Education Fund

The OEEF was created by the General Assembly in 1990 to enhance Ohio citizens’ awareness and understanding of environmental issues. It is administered by the Director of the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency (Ohio EPA) and provides approximately $1 million annually in grants to support environmental education efforts within the state of Ohio. The OEEF derives its monies from one-half of the civil penalties collected from violations of Ohio’s air and water pollution control regulations. https://epa.ohio.gov/oee/

Grant Applications

The Ohio Environmental Education Fund (OEEF) invites applications for mini grants ($500 - $5,000) and general grants ($5,000 - $50,000) for education projects targeting pre-school through university students and teachers, the general public, and the regulated community. Prospective applicants can start the application process by opening an account in Ohio EPA's eBusiness Center at https://ebiz.epa.ohio.gov/

Ohio EPA encourages OEEF applicants to discuss their proposal ideas with OEEF staff members before completing their applications. OEEF staff members will be happy to provide a pre-review of draft applications as they are under development in the online grant service.

Electronic Letter of Intent Deadline is due by 5:00 p.m. on January 8th, 2022.

Application Deadline is 5:00 p.m on January 15th, 2022.

Grant Writing Workshops

The Ohio EPA Office of Environmental Education typically offers grant writing workshops around the state throughout the year. Once staff are able to travel again, the following workshops will be offered. If interested in finding out more, please contact Dennis Clement at dennis.clement@epa.ohio.gov

• Grant Writing 101: Finding the Right Funder. Prospecting tips to help you identify foundations, corporations, and government grant programs, and how to approach different kinds of grantmakers.
• Grant Writing 102: Writing a Winning Proposal. How to avoid common mistakes applicants make, and develop realistic objectives, activities and budgets. OEEF will be referred to during this session.

Milkweed Seed Pod Collection

While many things have changed in our day to day lives, one thing has not changed. Monarchs still need milkweed. Ohio’s efforts over the last few years is paying off and we are seeing an uptick in milkweed across the landscape. You can help by collecting common milkweed seed pods. Harvesting pods from milkweed plants does not have any effect on the population of milkweed in established areas. Here are a few tips:

• Become familiar with the common milkweed to avoid harvesting pods from similar plants such as hemp dogbane and swamp milkweed.
• Locate common milkweed stands and check with the property owner that you have permission to collect.
• Do not harvest seed pods before they are ripe. Seeds develop best when left to ripen on the stem. Common milkweed pods will go from a soft green to a gold/yellow or gray to brown. When the pods appear ready, test the seams. If they easily pop open with gentle pressure, they are ready.
• Do not collect pods that are already open as they may have been infested by the giant milkweed beetle making the seed non-viable. These beetles wait for the pod to open. To prevent their entry use a small rubber band, lightly wrapped around the pod but not crushing it, or surround the pod with cheesecloth until they are ripe.
• Once harvested, keep pods in paper bags. Avoid plastic as this allows for the development of mildew or mold.
• When collecting, please note the date and county of collection on the paper sack, then bring them to your local Soil and Water Conservation District office between September 1 and October 30.

Find out more at www.ophi.info
Water Quality Monitoring Credible Data Program: Level 1 Training

Wednesday, September 23, 2021
8:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.

Butler Soil and Water Conservation District
1802 Princeton Road, Hamilton, Ohio 45011

This training will be hands-on with all participants getting in the water to learn techniques for biological, physical, and chemical water quality monitoring. This is an entry level training intended for participants who desire basic water quality information. Level 1 was designed with educators in mind, and may be appropriate for Soil & Water Conservation Districts, Park Districts, Health Departments, or anyone with an interest in Ohio water quality.

The purpose of Level 1 is primarily to promote public awareness and education about surface waters of the state. Approval of Level 1 QDC will be automatic by the Ohio EPA after completion of this training. Healthy Water, Healthy People Curriculum will be used in this training.

Workshop is limited to 20 participants. If Covid-19 restrictions are increased again, participants will be limited to 10 people. Social distancing and face masks will be required.

Please bring: Waders or shoes you don’t mind getting wet, a brown bag lunch / drink, and wear old clothing.

Cost: There are no fees associated with this training.

For more information: Contact Dennis Clement, Ohio Environmental Protection Agency, Office of Environmental Education at 614-644-2048 or Dennis.Clement@epa.ohio.gov

Registration: By e-mail ONLY on or before September 17, 2021, at dennis.clement@epa.ohio.gov.

Teachers, Industry & Environment (TIE) Conference

October 13-15, 2021 at the Embassy Suites in Columbus, Ohio

For more than two decades, the TIE Conference has allowed 3rd through 8th grade science teachers from across Ohio to experience an intensive two and a half days of dynamic presentations, experiments and workshops that enable them to take exciting hands-on science projects back to the classroom. Additionally, the TIE Conference is completely free for participating teachers through the support of scholarships from the chemical manufacturing industry.

COVID-19 Update: We know there is a lot of uncertainty right now, especially for our educators. We want to assure interested teachers that by registering for the TIE Conference at this time, they will NOT be held responsible for payment or confirming their attendance until we approach the conference. We remain hopeful that we can hold the TIE Conference this October and ask that you continue to share this amazing opportunity with your educators so we can secure their spot. OCTC will continue to monitor the events of COVID-19 and will send updates as needed.

Cost: Completely free through the support of the chemical manufacturing industry

Sponsored by: Ohio Chemistry Technology Council and Ohio EPA OEE

Questions: Please email info@ohiochemistry.org

Find out more: at www.ohiochemistry.org/aws/OCTC/pt/sp/tieconference
Climate Superstars Challenge

This is an online environmental challenge that gets kids excited about the environment and how they can take an active role in caring for its future.

During the challenge, middle school classrooms (Grades 6-8) complete short tasks geared towards environmental literacy and energy efficiency. Classes that complete at least 7 tasks in the month of October (1-31) will be entered into a drawing to win a $5,000 e-voucher for Samsung products like tablets, laptops, and interactive displays to modernize their classrooms. Six classrooms will be awarded!

www.neefusa.org/education/climate-superstars

Image courtesy of the National Environmental Education Foundation (NEEF), neefusa.org
Great Readings

Kick back on your hammock or couch this fall with these great readings suggested by Ohio EPA staff. These suggestions are not intended to be a comprehensive list – just some that Ohio EPA staff members found particularly inspiring or thought-provoking. Send suggestions to oeef@epa.ohio.gov page. We're also happy to loan out our office or personal copies if you can't find something online or in your local library.

This issue, we are sharing their fiction and film favorites:

**Fiction**
- John Brunner, *The Sheep Look Up*
- Barbara Kingsolver, *Prodigal Summer*
- Margaret Atwood, *Oryx and Crake, The Year of the Flood, and MaddAddam*
- Marge Piercy, *Woman on the Edge of Time*
- Daniel Quinn, *Ishmael*

**Ohioana: Books, Films, Videos, Photography**
- *A Guide to Ohio Streams*
- Ian Adams and Randall Lee Schieber, *Ohio in Photographs*
- Peter Annin, *The Great Lakes Water Wars*
- James E. Casto, *The Great Ohio River Flood of 1937*
- Jerry Dennis, *The Living Great Lakes: Searching for the Heart of the Inland Seas*
- *A Forest Returns: The Success Story of Ohio’s Only National Forest as Told by Ora E. Anderson*
- John and Nathan Lorentz, *River Voices: A Portrait of An American River Community*
- Ohio Academy of Science, *Ohio’s Natural Heritage CD-ROM*
- Ralph Ramey, *50 Hikes in Ohio and 50 More Hikes in Ohio*
- Robert L. Reid (ed), *Always a River: The Ohio River and the American Experience*
- Jerry Sieve, *Ohio: Images of Nature*
- Sunday Creek Associates, *At the Glacier’s Edge: An Environmental History and Field Guide of the Little Cities of Black Diamonds Microregion*

**Diversity Equity & Inclusion**

At EECO, we are not experts in diversity, equity or inclusion. We are experts in showing how learning occurs through environmental education. We all can learn to provide support of people of color and LGTBQ individuals. We can learn to provide safe spaces for all to come to know nature. We are an EE Community that can be the change we want to see in the world!

Last September, EECO held their first ever DEI Listening Session. We plan to have more discussions and zoom table talks to continue this dialogue of how we can make the field of environmental and outdoor education a more inclusive and safe space for people of color. We also want to encourage more students of color to feel comfortable going into green careers as well as supporting environmentalism. A recording of the session can be found on the EECO website, along with resources that help us learn and bring about change.

[https://eeco.wildapricot.org/JEDI-Justice-Equity-Diversity-Inclusion](https://eeco.wildapricot.org/JEDI-Justice-Equity-Diversity-Inclusion)
Meet EECO

We would like to introduce you to the EECO family. Each issue, we will highlight one or two EECO individuals. They may be regional directors, advisors, board members, advisory council members, or members.

EECO Board Member
Bill Troy, Polaris institute
bill@troyresearch.com

My wife, Kim, and I are originally from California and Washington. We both spent a lot of time out in nature as kids; camping and hiking in the Sierra Nevada and Cascade ranges and boating all around Puget Sound. As adults, though, we left that part of the country and moved a lot for jobs, eventually ending up in Ohio. All that time, we kept thinking we wanted to get back to the West Coast to live in a place with beautiful green spaces and lots of wildlife. We were amazed when we discovered how much wild beauty existed right here in Ohio. Today, we live in the woods in Coshocton County and when friends and family come to visit from other parts of the country, we love that they are so amazed by the beauty of this state.

There are so many beautiful spots in Ohio, but I’m a fan of Malabar Farm State Park. It has such an innovative and educational history. Louis Bromfield, the original owner of the farm, helped develop innovative farming techniques such as contour plowing. Most notably, however, he was a Pulitzer Prize winning author whose books were turned into several movies. He had many influential and famous friends, and he used his farm to help people from New York and Hollywood experience nature...in fact, he insisted on it. The story goes that each morning, all guests would receive a note under their door of the farm chores they were expected to accomplish before breakfast. This even included renowned visitors like Humphrey Bogart and Lauren Bacall, who visited Malabar Farm on their honeymoon. I’m sure that Louis would be happy to see how many people are still being educated at this unique Ohio State Park!

EECO Advisory Council Co-Chair
Paul Khacherian
khachp@hotmail.com

I grew up in Parma- a suburb just outside Cleveland- and firmly believe that all roads, from any place on earth, lead back to Parma, Ohio. Everyone knows someone, or has some connection to someone, from Parma. And if you didn’t, you do now!

Most of my childhood was spent romping around the woods and streams in the Cleveland Metroparks. What an amazing park system that has only gotten better and bigger over the years! As I got older, my backyard playground expanded to include the Cuyahoga Valley National Park (then the Cuyahoga Valley National Recreation Area). Again, what a treasure to have in our region and what a playground to have to grow up in! As I continued to grow older (that kind of just keeps happening and before you know it, you’re moregray than not), I landed my first post-college internship at the Cuyahoga Valley Environmental Education Center where I spent the next 8 years of my life. It was there that I was introduced to EECO. It was also in the Cuyahoga Valley National Park where I met, got engaged to, and got married to, my wife, Katie!

As life continues to come at you, things change. For me, professionally, I am no longer working in the “environmental” field, but you can still find me out on the trails in the Cuyahoga Valley several times a week, or volunteering, or serving on various boards/committees of environmental organizations, such as my current role of co-chair for EECO’s Advisory Council. I guess my point is: you can take nature away from me, professionally, but you can’t take me away from nature. It’s now my job to pass on the joys of nature, and the importance of protecting and respecting nature, to our 7-month-old daughter, Anna Rae.
Contact EECO

Partnerships strengthen EE in Ohio, leading to a more environmentally literate population and a healthier environment. You are welcome to become a partner and friend to EECO. Please contact any of our regional directors, officers, advisors, and board members to find out more about becoming a part of EECO.

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