



CREED

Curriculum Resources for Environmental Education Development



President's Message

Ahhh... change, change, change. Change is upon us – in more ways than one. Spring is in the air, finally! I do love winter and snow (please don't hate me) but it *is* nice to see crocus blooming, to hear redwing blackbirds singing and to feel sun on my face when Ian and I walk Chewie after work.

First, EEAI has a new logo – adding the state outline to show our Hoosier pride while retaining our global perspective! And there are more changes afoot. Good changes! The EEAI Board met in late January for a strategic planning retreat in Nashville, IN. We are so lucky to have such a dedicated board with wonderful ideas about how to advance EEAI's mission to "educate, motivate, and inspire the citizens of Indiana to conserve natural resources and meet the needs of our society while maintaining a healthy environment now and in the future."

We spent a Saturday together, with the help of a wonderful facilitator, working to formulate an achievable strategy for increasing the visibility and impact of EEAI. It's difficult to distill such rich discussion and passionate ideas, but here is an overview of some of the changes in store for EEAI in the near future!

New committee structure to better reflect major organizational focus areas (see p. 7)

Redesigned webpage

Development of tool kits for regional chairs (see p. 7 for a list of regional chairs)

Slight increases to organizational dues structure to better align with those of other similar professional organizations in the field.

Writing of an organizational strategic plan to better position us for grants and partnerships.

So as the seasons change, so does EEAI... all to raise the profile of environmental education in Indiana and to position EEAI as *the* professional EE organization in the state. Here's to the power of progress. Can we bring environmental education to *all* Hoosiers? Yes. Yes we can!

Jan Sneddon
EEAI President



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While working on writing the history of EEAI, I ran across an editorial written by Howard Michaud many years ago and decided to share part of it in this CREED issue because it is just as timely today as when it first appeared in CREED:

“Why There Is No Environmental Education Plan For Indiana—The need for a state plan in EE has been recognized since the early 1970’s. A first attempt to develop a state plan originated in 1972. Through efforts of COEAI (now EEAI) a letter was sent to Governor Edgar Whitcomb asking that a task force be appointed to develop a state plan. The Governor assigned a task force and a state plan was completed in 1973. Federal funding was available at that time from the U.S. Office of Education for developing and implementing the plan. However, through a tactical error, the plan was not signed by the Governor and was therefore declared ineligible for consideration.

Again in 1975, Governor Otis Bowen appointed a seventeen member council on EE with the assignment to formulate a state plan. The plan was never implemented due to a lack of funding. About the time the plan was nearing completion, a controversy developed within the council over the emphasis of energy education vs. the total environmental education concept. A sizeable grant for energy education was made available to the Indiana Department of Public Instruction (now the Department of Education). As a result, most other environmental concerns promoted by the IDPI were put on the back burner where they have remained since the late ‘70’s.

Does this mean that the concept of a state plan is dead? If a new thrust in EE is to emanate out of the ashes of the past, a new group of volunteers must emerge. They must be leaders with the competence to establish a base of operations without funds and who can gain support from a coordination of state agencies, private organizations, and public education. Someone must take the initiative. Does EEAI possess such leaders?”

Notice: Articles appearing with an author by-line are the opinions of the author and do not necessarily reflect the views or position of EEAI as an organization.

ATTENTION—New Dues Structure for EEAI

The EEAI Board has decided to increase EEAI membership dues, effective immediately. This decision was made after reviewing the membership dues of other Midwestern environmental education associations and to support improvements to EEAI (i.e., changes to the website, increasing professional development opportunities, etc.). Please note, you still have time to become a Life member at the old rate before September 18, 2011!

The new fee structure (effective immediately) will be the following:

- Student/Senior (Must be enrolled in an accredited school or be over 65 years of age.).....**\$15**
- Individual (18 years or older).....**\$30**
- Family (Includes up to 2 adults sharing the same household and all dependents under the age of 18).....**\$45**
- 2-Person Institutional (Employees/volunteers of public/private industry, governmental agency, or other organization).....**\$50**

- 4-Person Institutional.....**\$90**
- Life (18 years or older)*.....**\$400**

* There is still time to become a **Life** member at the rate of **\$200!** Fees will increase after our 2011 annual conference

Who is EEAI?

Paul McAfee



I am a software engineer from Fort Wayne. I have worked on software projects ranging from underground mining applications to space satellite systems and everything in between. I've enjoyed it for quite a while now and it does pay the bills, but my real passion is environmentalism.

The two things I've always thought were most important are habitat protection and environmental education. In regards to habitat protection I've been mostly involved with the Little River Wetlands Project in north-east Indiana. I helped organize this group twenty years ago and we now have more than one thousand acres of restored wetlands in the Little River valley.

As far as environmental education, it's EEAI! This is a fantastic

group with a serious and ambitious mission. It's also a lot of fun. I've been on and off the board a couple of times, including a term as president. I've also helped to organize several of the conferences. This year's will be awesome!

In my spare time I like to hike, backpack, kayak, bird and photograph. You can check out some of my pics at

www.paulmcafeenaturephoto.com. See you at the next EEAI conference.

Brad Rody



I am a Society of American Foresters-certified Forester and a Wildlife Society-certified Wildlife Biologist. I received my degrees in forestry and wildlife science from Purdue University and have served as an IDNR District Forester for the past 12 years. I strive to educate private landowners as to what they have and what they can do to make it better for all types of habitats. Prior to my time as forester, I spent 6 years as a Wildlife Biologist for the IDNR Division of Reservoirs, managing thousands of acres of land & lake for a wide range of recreational uses. With both of these very public positions, I have and will continue to incorporate environmental education of all ages as often as possible. For 18 years, I have been heavily involved in the Indiana Envirothon, a statewide high school-aged natural resource quiz bowl which engages the minds

of our next generation of natural resource educators and users. In the past 6 years, I have been ever-increasingly involved in EEAI, as this organization continues to charge ahead for EE in Indiana on many fronts. These two organizations, coupled with Lions Club, Scouting and 4-H allow me to do what I can to educate myself & serve my family, my community and world around me. I continue to be a proud member of EEAI in serving as Past President for the next 2 years.

Jan Sneddon



I am employed by Earth Force, Inc., and have served on the EEAI board for 5 ½ years. I have a Bachelor's degree from Appalachian

State University (NC) and a Master's in Environmental Science from IU's School of Public and Environmental Affairs. My interest in environmental education stems from a deep love of nature and

an increasing awareness of humans' disconnectedness from the natural world. I am a committed believer of Dr. Bill Stapp's vision of environmental education and use his original definition as the base of my belief: *environmental education is aimed at producing a citizenry that is knowledgeable concerning the biophysical environment and its associated problems, aware of how to help solve these problems, and motivated to work toward their solution.*

As a new mother who wants her little man to witness and enjoy the beauty of the natural world, I am even more staunchly devoted to the field of environmental education. I believe that value stems from understanding and understanding stems from education and that the environment should not be excluded from education. There is work to be done to raise the profile of environmental education in Indiana. I am excited to be a part of that movement!

America Celebrates 140th Arbor Day

On the nearly barren plains of Nebraska in 1872, the dream of J. Sterling Morton became a reality as the United States celebrated its first Arbor Day, and this tradition has continued ever since. Indiana's tradition began 12 years later in 1884. Between 1884 and 1912, Arbor Day was observed on various dates at the governor's discretion. In 1913, the Indiana legislature passed a bill designating the third Friday of April as Arbor Day. In 1929, an amendment was passed changing the date to the second Friday in April. Due to frequent conflicts with school spring vacations and the fact that Arbor Day occasionally fell on Good Friday, the date was again changed in 1991 to the last Friday of April, corresponding to the official date of National Arbor Day.



Here are a few ideas of how YOU might celebrate Arbor Day in your town:

- Sponsor a poster, photography or essay contest
- Create an Arbor Day design and make iron-on transfers for T-shirts
- Obtain a supply of grocery sacks, have kids put an Arbor Day design/ message on them, then return them to the store for use.
- Create an Arbor Day bulletin board in a public area
- And of course, PLANT SOME TREES!

*The last Friday
of April, a day
to put down roots...*

Funds for Field Trips!

Letha's Fund through INPAWS (Indiana Native Plants and Wildflower Society) awards small grants throughout the state to cover the cost of transportation and naturalists fees to enable teachers to expose their students to the natural world. For more information, go to the following webpage:
[www.inpaws.org/
Letha's_Youth_Outdoors_Fund.html](http://www.inpaws.org/Letha's_Youth_Outdoors_Fund.html).

Friends, Roamers & EEAI Members, Lend Me Your Pen.....

Our CREED newsletter is intended to be a compilation of news by, about and for our members (that's YOU!) Lots of great EE is going on out there, but no one will know about it unless you're willing to share. So PLEASE send submissions for the newsletter to an EEAI Board member or to the CREED editor. Deadlines are March 1, June 1, September 1 and December 1.

Your Chance To Get Involved & Make A Difference

Work is currently underway through the Indiana Environmental Education Council to develop environmental literacy guidelines and an implementation plan for the state of Indiana. If you are interested in being involved in this effort in any capacity, please contact Warren Gartner, IEEC Chair at wgartner@dnr.IN.gov.

WANTED

Editor for CREED Newsletter

One fairly easy way to take a very active role in EEAI is to be the editor of the CREED newsletter. It comes out 4 times per year and is all electronic now, so no trips to the post office are necessary. And best of all, you're the first to know all of the latest news! If you're willing to consider it and would like more information, contact our current interim editor Sam Carman at scarman@tds.net or call him at 317-892-4239.



Putting Together the Pieces ~
Solving the Environmental Puzzle



Annual Conference

Please join us at beautiful [Turkey Run State Park](#) on September 16-18 to help "Solve the Environmental Puzzle".

Threads:

- The Big Picture:** Sharing information about environmental topics, EE theory and research
- Bits and Pieces:** Learn "EE tricks of the trade" and secrets to making a successful program
- Interlocking Pieces:** Showcase of collaborative programs ~ discuss the value of partnerships

Keynotes:

Joe Peters: With a PhD in Forestry from North Carolina State, Joe has worked all around the globe consulting for and coordinating natural resource programs in Ecuador, Vietnam, Madagascar and a list way too long to put in this sentence. He is also an accomplished singer/songwriter. He is pairing up with Rena Brouwer to inspire us to greater heights in environmental education.

Rena Brouwer: In 2006, Rena was one of 10 Indiana artists selected by internationally known jurors for the Preserving Nature project, through the Central Indiana Land Trust. Her work was awarded Outstanding Watercolor from the collection of statewide art exhibited, and she continues to work with nature groups throughout Indiana to promote preservation of habitat through her art.

Trudi Volk: Executive director of The Center for Instruction, Staff Development and Evaluation (CISDE). Winner of NAAEE's Outstanding Contributions to Environmental Education Research Award in 1995. She is currently an investigator in the National Middle School Environmental Literacy Assessment Project.

Field trips:

Pine Hills Nature Preserve: A guided tour of Indiana's oldest Nature Preserve, a rugged and spectacular 480 acres near Shades State Park.

Wabashiki FWA: A guided tour of Indiana's newest Fish & Wildlife Area, 2400 acres along the Wabash River.

Newport Tallgrass Prairie: A guided tour of a portion of the decommissioned Newport Chemical Depot that has been restored to a tallgrass prairie.

Canoe Sugar Creek: Canoe down beautiful Sugar Creek.

Visit our webpage for a registration form - <http://www.goshen.edu/eeai/conference2011/conference11.html>

Two Hats: Revisiting John Hug

Orin Lyons, the Native American Faithkeeper of the turtle clan of the Onondaga and Seneca Nations, spoke at the 2010 NAAEE annual conference as the closing keynote speaker saying his people has been around for 3000 years and have been quite happy in the Buffalo New York area. He said it is time for his people to move faster with all the evidence that he has observed and what scientists are saying – if we want to be proactive at protecting our earth.

James Hansen, well-respected climatologist from the NASA Goddard Institute, says we must act now and not wait for tomorrow. In 2008 he exclaimed “If humanity wishes to preserve a planet similar to that on which civilization developed and to which life on Earth is adapted, paleoclimate evidence and ongoing climate change suggest that CO2 will need to be reduced from its current 385ppm to at most 350ppm.” Currently we are at 392 ppm.

I know I need to be a nonpolitical environmental educator and be diplomatic but I also realize the urgency of our planet’s health – what should I do??

John Hug’s essay called “Two Hats” explains my dilemma. I desire to wake people up to climate change, education reform, and sense of place especially in regards to bioregionalism and lessening my impact upon this earth - but professionally I am an Environmental Educator who assists “people to gain an understanding of how individual actions affect the environment, acquire skills to weigh various sides of issues, and become better equipped to make informed decisions.” (www.epa.gov/enviroed)

Two Hats by John Hug, former Environmental Education Supervisor for the Ohio Department of Education

It would appear that environmental educators have a bad case of the "two hat" problem. We have come by the problem naturally and, therefore, we have paid little attention to it.

The problem is simply that industry, utilities, labor, business, media and other segments of the population and the general public have consistently recognized only one hat when talking about environmentalists and environmental educators. It is not uncommon for dedicated environmental educators to be summarily dismissed as troublemakers - environmentalists. This one hat view is easily explained because environmental educators are almost always environmentalists. Perhaps definitions will help clarify the problem.

Any world citizen who advocates with greater or lesser action that wrongs against our environment must be stopped is an environmentalist. Perhaps the negative reputation environmentalists have stems from the dramatic and radical actions of a few.

An environmental educator, on the other hand, is any world citizen who uses information and educational processes to help people analyze the merits of the many and varied points of view usually pre-sent on a given environmental issue. The environmental educator is not the "mediator," "trade-off specialist" or "negotiator," but a developer of skills and an information analyst who prepares the people (from any segment of the population) who will participate in environmental decision making.

Environmental educators, therefore, need to be as "value fair" or "value free" as they can when working in this role. They must scrupulously strive to get all the facts, examine and illuminate all the viewpoints, and keep from letting their own particular position (as an environmentalist) from mixing with their educator role.

My suggestion is simply that environmental educators make an effort to clarify the two distinct roles. At every opportunity, we should emphasize the neutral nature of environmental education activity. Strong advocates are all around us, each using the techniques of persuasion and propaganda to build their constituencies. We must, ourselves, be familiar with all sides, stand firm for each advocate's right to be heard, and provide a rational stage for informed debate.

Environmental educators have the right and the duty to be environmentalists, but the dual roles must adhere to the original premise - to keep each hat on its proper head, while utilizing to the fullest the professional skills of the environmental educators.

Originally in Aldrich, James L., Blackburn, A-M., & George, A. A. (Eds.) (1977). *The Report of the North American Regional Seminar on Environmental Education for the Red World*. Columbus, OH: SMEAC Information Reference Center.

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GET INVOLVED IN EEAI!

Want to be active in raising the profile of Environmental Education in Indiana?

JOIN A COMMITTEE!!!!

New EEAI Committee Structure

Note: We will change the organizations bylaws this fall to reflect these changes, but are adopting this new structure now to better serve the organization. Further changes may occur as organizational planning continues.

Communication: website, listserv, CREED, publicity, marketing and history

Chairs: Sarah O'Hara (seohara@hotmail.com) & Matt Jones (matt.jones@IN.nacdnet.net)

Activities: programs and activities outside of the EEAI annual conference

Chair: Ingrid Weiland (iweiland@indiana.edu)

Conference: planning and administration of annual conference

Chair 2011: Paul McAfee (pmcafee@toast.net)

Chairs 2012: Kara Salazar (salazark@iupui.edu) & Jennifer Amstutz (Jennifer.Amstutz@nwcs.k12.in.us)

Membership: management of membership

Chair: Shannon Unger (sbigham-unger@marian.edu)

Finance: funding, annual budget, audits

Chair: Brad Rody (brody@dnr.in.gov)

Nominations/awards: manages nomination of board members & award recipients

Chair: Paul McAfee (pmcafee@toast.net)

Key Member: Warren Gartner (WGartner@dnr.in.gov)



Another way to be involved—attend quarterly Board meetings to participate in discussions governing EEAI. Contact any of our board members (see page one) for more information.

Get To Know Your Regional Chair

To improve networking and communications within our organization, EEAI members are organized into regions with each region having a Chair. If you have any questions, suggestions, events to report, lesson plans to share, or anything else you feel would be beneficial for other members to know, please pass it along to your Regional Chair. Here's who and how:

Region 1: Niki Schmutte, natureniki@csinet.net

Region 2: Nancy Brown, nancy.brown@in.nacdnet.net

Region 3: Matt Jones, matt.jones@one.usda.gov

Region 4: Sam Carman, scarman@dnr.IN.gov

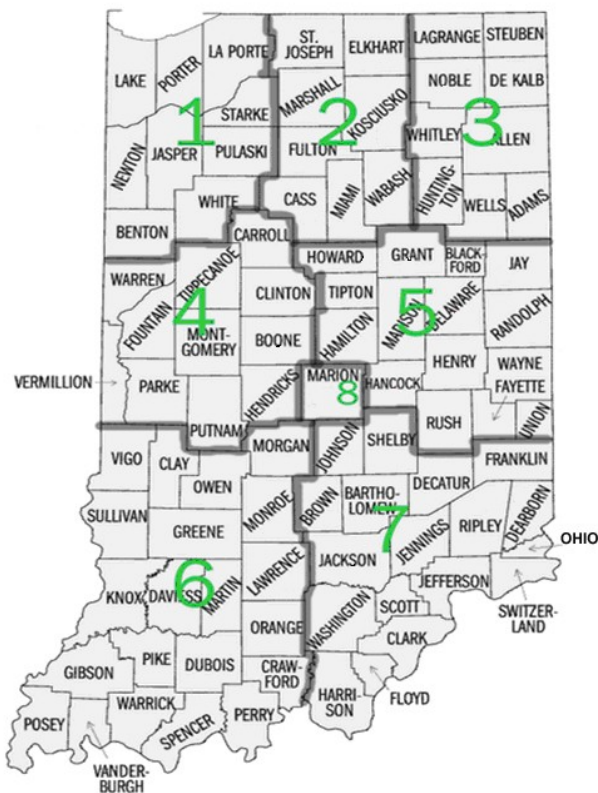
Region 5: Megan Bowman, gutierrez_megan@hotmail.com

Region 6: Carissa Lovett, carissa.lovett@terrehaute.in.gov

Region 7: Donna Stanley, donna_stanley@fws.gov

Region 8: Ann Niednagel, niednagel@sbcglobal.net

Active communications within regions can greatly increase the benefits you receive from being an EEAI member. PLEASE take advantage of it!



News from the Regions

Region 4

McCloud Nature Park, 8518 N. Hughes Rd., North Salem, IN 46165, 765-676-5437

April 2, 10 am & 2 pm—McCloud Bird Safari

April 9, 2 pm—Walking Stick Carving workshop (ages 12 and up, must register by April 1)

April 16, 2-4 pm—Easter Bunny Scavenger Hunt

April 23, 10 am to 5 pm—Easter Crafts

Region 6

Dobbs Park Nature Center, 5170 E Poplar Street, Terre Haute, IN, 812-877-1095

April 26 from 6 pm to 9 pm: How healthy is Indiana's water?

Hear from local experts in a free educational forum about nutrients and water quality problems and how to solve them.

RSVP: www.indianawildlife.org by April 19 or call 317-875-9453

Region 7

Muscatatuck National Wildlife Refuge, 12985 E. U.S. Hwy. 50, Seymour, IN 47274, 812-522-4352

March 12: WILD and WET workshop

March 19: Wetland Day event with guided walks and kid's activities

March 26: Junior Duck Stamp judging

April 16: United Way Day of Caring Cleanup

April 23: Earth Day Cleanup

May 13-14: Wings Over Muscatatuck Bird Festival including the May Day Bird Count on the 13th (Brian Fox Ellis will give his "Audubon" program as the bird festival kick-off on Friday night.)

June 4: Take A Kid Fishing Event

July 9: Butterfly Count.

Region 8

Indiana State Museum, 650 W. Washington Street, Indianapolis, IN 46204, 317-232-1637

March 18: Going Green Festival, 9:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. and March 19 from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Free for members and included with museum admission for non-members. Meet members of environmental awareness organizations and businesses from around the state who will be available to show you the latest, greatest and simplest ways to reduce, reuse and recycle.

April 29: Indiana Arbor Day Celebration, 9:30 am to 2 pm

We all know that trees look pretty and provide oxygen – but they also do so much more. From jobs to wood products, learn how trees contribute to your community at the Indiana.

If your events or activities do not appear on this page, be sure that you let your Regional Chairperson know about what's happening! See page 7 for a list of all EEAI Regional Chairs and their contact information.