

Texas Environmental Education Advisory Committee Resources

Prepared for the Texas Science Education Leadership Association

November 10, 2010

Theme: Ecoregions of Texas



The Ecoregions of Texas

Panhandle Plains

Prairies and Lakes

Pineywoods

Gulf Coast/Marine Environment

Hill country

Big Bend Country

The Texas Environmental Education Advisory Committee

The Texas Environmental Education Advisory Committee (TEEAC) coordinates with other state regional and local agencies that are charged with the development of environmental education materials. TEEAC cooperates with a network of providers of environmental education professional development, including universities, state agencies, museums and nature centers. This network of TEEAC Providers helps assure that teacher professional development offered by formal and non-formal providers is educationally sound and consistent with the Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills (TEKS).

To receive a TEEAC Certificate of Recognition, teachers and other educators take approved workshops offered by TEEAC Providers. At the completion of the workshop, they receive stickers that are placed on a Coursework Verification Form. When 45 hours of professional development are completed and documented by the accumulated stickers, the Coursework Verification Form is mailed to the Texas Education Agency (TEA). A current list of TEEAC Providers is found below. Please contact a site directly for upcoming workshop information.

TEEAC Providers may apply for workshop approval by completing a Program Description Form. Request a form from Irene Pickhardt by e-mail at Irene.Pickhardt@tea.state.tx.us.

TEEAC Providers (as of August 31, 2010)

[Austin Nature and Science Center](#)

The Austin Nature and Science Center provides educational and recreational opportunities to increase awareness of and appreciation for the natural environment. Professional development for teachers is offered as teacher workshops at ANSC and teacher workshops arranged in partnership with area school districts. Contact: Janice Sturrock, 512-327-8181, extension 13, <http://www.ci.austin.tx.us/ansc/>

Austin Watershed Protection Department

The City of Austin Watershed Protection Department focuses on Austin's 68 watersheds and the Edwards Aquifer and provides K-12 field trips, kits, curriculum and teacher training in the Austin area. Contact: Sara Heilman, Susan Wall, 512-974-3540; 512-974-6571, <http://www.ci.austin.tx.us/watershed/education.htm>

[Camp JOLT](#)

Take a journey on Lake Texoma with the JOLT staff of All Saints Camp and Conference Center. Highly qualified instructors will guide students through an exciting array of hands-on environmental science, adventure, and team building activities. Contact: 903-786-3148, <http://www.jolt-texoma.org/>

[Coastal Bend Bays & Estuaries Program](#)

The Coastal Bend Environmental Science: Learning on the Edge Teacher Academy provides educators added insight into the issues affecting the bays and estuaries, a sound knowledge base of the local ecology, and supplies and curriculum that translates into successful science experiences for their students. Contact: 361-885-6207, <http://www.cbbep.org/>

[Collin County Adventure Camp](#)

The Collin County Adventure Camp provides overnight and day Outdoor Education on the Blackland Prairie for students, and teacher workshops in outdoor ecology, Project WILD, GLOBE, customized teacher retreat. Contact: 469-952-5600, <http://www.collincountyadventurecamp.org/index.cfm?FuseAction=Page&PageID=1002695>

[Dallas ISD Environmental Education Center](#)

The Dallas Environmental Education Center uses the museum resources and 500 acres of north Texas habitat to provide quality educational programs and staff development opportunities for Dallas area teachers and students. Contact: 972-749-6900, <http://www.dallasisd.org/depts/eec/eec.html>

[Dallas Zoo and Children's Aquarium at Fair Park](#)

The Dallas Zoo and the Children's Aquarium at Fair Park offer engaging, hands on opportunities which connect participants to wildlife and increase awareness and further understanding of our natural world. Exciting teacher workshops are offered year round both at the Zoo and at your facility. Contact: Lucy Hale, 469-554-7304, www.dallaszoo.com

[The Discovery Program at Camp Allen](#)

The Discovery Program is a residential outdoor/environmental/adventure experience for students of all ages, primarily directed at 3rd-8th graders. Teacher workshops are offered occasionally, in the areas of science and nature (Project Wild, PLT, LEP), and student trips are custom-built according to the group size and grade level. Approximately 30 different classes and activities are offered from aquatic biology to high ropes, archery to ornithology, and trips range from one to five days in length. Candy Moore, Director, 936-825-7175 x 4012, candym@campallen.org , www.campallen.org

[EarthKeepers® Children's Education at Texas Discovery Gardens](#)

The education department at Texas Discovery Gardens is committed to providing quality outdoor and year-round educational opportunities for Dallas area teachers and students.

Contact: 214-428-7476, extension 270, <http://texasdiscoverygardens.org/education.php>

[Edwards Aquifer Research and Data Center/Aquatic Sciences Adventure Camp](#)

The program involves week-long and 2-day summer camps for students (ages 9-15) where teachers emphasize aquatic biology and water chemistry. Contact: 512-245-3541, <http://www.eardc.txstate.edu/>

[Environmental Institute of Houston EE Institutes and Workshops](#)

EIH offers a variety of EE workshops and institutes focusing on a wide array of environmental programs including school habitat development and implementation, WOW – the Wonders Of Wetlands, and Air-O-Dynamic. EIH administers the Texas Envirothon, a state-wide environmental education competition for high school students. Contact: Wendy Reistle, 281-283-3045, <http://www.uhcl.edu/portal/page/portal/EIH/>

[Fort Worth Botanic Garden](#)

The Fort Worth Botanic Garden, the oldest botanic garden in Texas, offers environmental education for K-12. The Children's Vegetable Garden provides opportunities for students of all ages and abilities to experience the cycles of nature. Contact: Judy Bauereisen, 817- 871-7682, www.fwbg.org

[Guadalupe-Blanco River Authority \(GBRA\)](#)

GBRA offers a wide variety of water resource opportunities (both outdoor and classroom) for students and teachers in the Guadalupe River Basin. Contact: 830-379-5822, <http://www.gbra.org/education/>

[The Heard Natural Science Museum & Wildlife Sanctuary](#)

The Heard is committed to providing quality, enjoyable environmental education opportunities for all educators. We offer a wide variety of professional development workshops that include Project WILD, Project WET, Project Learning Tree and Flying WILD. Contact: Schelly Corry at scorry@heardmuseum.org or at 972-562-5566, extension 227, <http://www.heard.org/education/index.html>

[Keep Austin Beautiful](#)

Keep Austin Beautiful provides presentations, activity kits, tools, cleanup supplies, recycling bins, and more to promote environmental stewardship. Contact: Monica Lopez Magee, 512-391-0619, <http://www.keeptaustinbeautiful.org/educate>

[Kleb Woods Nature Park](#)

The Harris County Cypress Top Historic Park and Kleb Woods Nature Preserve and Historic Farm offer a variety of workshops for teachers and learning experiences for students. Contact: Linda Martin-Rust, 281-357-5324, <http://www.pct3.hctx.net/parks/klebwoodsnaturepres.aspx>

[Lower Colorado River Authority Matagorda Bay Nature Park](#)

All programs support TEKS objectives and are designed to engage the learner and lead to thoughts/actions of land, water or energy stewardship and conservation. Contact: 800-776-5272, extension 4740, <http://www.lcra.org/parks/education.html>

[Major Rivers - Water Education for Texas](#)

The program's host, Major Rivers (named for the major rivers of Texas), and his horse, Aquifer, are designed to help elementary school children learn about their state's major water resources, how water is treated and delivered to their homes and schools, and how to care for their water resources and use them wisely. Contact: 512-303-5073, or 800-776-5272, extension 8001, <http://www.lcra.org/>

[McKinney Roughs Nature Park](#)

All programs support TEKS objectives and are designed to engage the learner and lead to thoughts/actions of land, water or energy stewardship and conservation. Contact: 800-776-5272, extension 8001, http://www.lcra.org/parks/developed_parks/mckinney_roughs.html

[LCRA Matagorda Bay Natural Science Center](#)

Matagorda Bay Nature Park provides a variety of hands-on educational opportunities for students that engage the learner, support TEKS objectives, and promote conservation and stewardship of land, water or energy resources. In addition, professional development workshops are available for educators. Contact: Betsy Terrel, 800-776-5272, extension 4779, <http://www.lcra.org/parks/education.html>

[Nature Discovery Center](#)

Nature at Your Doorstep provides real-world investigations for primary students and educator Workshops for Project WILD, Project Learning Tree, WET in the City; Aquatic WILD, and Nature Detectives – hands-on science for preschool and kindergarten in a lush 4-acre park, the Center offers children’s classes and camps, programs for elementary schools, birding walks and fieldtrips, adult lecture series, educator workshops for both national and Center programs. Contact: Jennifer Gillespie-Malone, 713-667-6550,

<http://www.naturediscoverycenter.org/mc/page.do;jsessionid=8A9ACCA6DF150CDEBDA8B8D9693F23AD.mc1?sitePageId=119393>

[North Plains Groundwater Conservation District](#)

North Plains Groundwater Conservation District is constantly striving to educate the public about our precious groundwater resources and the importance of protecting and conserving them. Hands-on, one-day workshops, such as Project WET and Major Rivers, are offered to familiarize teachers with the water education materials, and teachers take home free curriculum guides and free materials kits for classrooms. Contact: Rhonda Artho, 806-935-6401, <http://www.npwd.org/>

[Our Lady of the Lake University GLOBE Partnership](#)

K-12 teachers learn how to help their students gather and analyze environmental data on their campus and then send it into an international data base that scientists use. Contact: 210-434-6711, extension 8215, <http://globe.gov/>

[Project E³- Expanding Energy Education Workshops](#)

Project E³ workshops provide cross-curricular, hands-on activities related to hydrocarbon based energy themes which are correlated to state and national standards. Contact: Doris Tomas, 281-544-2435

[Project WILD, a Texas Parks and Wildlife Department Program](#)

Texas Parks and Wildlife Department sponsors a suite of Project WILD programs, each offering a special iteration of this outstanding, hands-on approach to learning. Project WILD is a Pre-Kindergarten through 12th grade environmental and conservation education program emphasizing awareness, appreciation and understanding of wildlife and natural resources. It is interdisciplinary and supplementary and can be used to teach basic skills in science, social studies, language arts, math, art, music and physical education. TPWD offers Project WILD through free, hands-on workshops for educators Contact: Kiki Corry, 512-389-4369, http://www.tpwd.state.tx.us/learning/project_wild/

[REAL School Gardens](#)

REAL School Gardens professional development sessions are offered to individual schools and entire school districts, providing a unique and intensive focus on outdoor teaching that results in greater and more effective use of school gardens to facilitate children's academic and personal growth. REAL School Gardens also provides teachers with training for using schoolyards, public parks, local creeks and other natural spaces to meet the challenges of the 2010 TEKS, which encourage teachers to use the outdoors as an academic resource. Contact Jeff Cross, jcross@realschoolgardens.org, 817-348-8102, www.realschoolgardens.org/

[Schoolyard Habitats- A Place for Learning](#)

The National Wildlife Federation provides community workshops, professional development for teachers, and educational resources for area school districts in informal educational settings that promote the use of schoolyard habitats as a cross-curricular learning environment. The program is supported by the Access Nature curriculum that supports TEKS objectives. Other educational programs and resources, including Eco-Schools, Climate Classroom, and Green Hour are available. Contact Andrea Dravigne; dravigne@nwf.org or 512-610-7768, <http://www.nwf.org/>

[Sea Camp](#)

Sea Camp – Texas A&M University at Galveston offers marine biology learning experiences for students and TEEAC credit for teachers who participate in programs. Contact: Daisy Duerson, 409-740-4525, <http://www.tamug.edu/seacamp/>

[Service Learning Texas](#)

A statewide initiative of TEA and Region 14 Education Service Center seeks to make service-learning -- the integration of student-designed service projects with classroom learning -- a common experience for all Texas students. Contact: 512-420-0214, <http://www.servicelearningtexas.org/>

[Sibley Nature Center](#)

The Sibley Nature Center offers workshops for teachers and students and boasts the best bioregional education website on the Internet with over 4000 photos of West Texas in 110 photoessays and 600+ essays about Llano Estacado ecology and history. Contact: Burr Williams at 432-684-6827, <http://www.sibleynaturecenter.org/>

[South Central Microscale Chemistry Center](#)

The Microscale Chemistry Center's major focus is offering workshops and professional development on the operation and advantages of converting laboratories to the microscale level while promoting hands-on science and engaged learners. Contact: 903-510-2528, <http://chemistry.tjc.edu/scrmcc.htm>

[Texas Environthon](#)

Texas Environthon is an environmental competition for high school students (grades 9 – 12) focusing on soils, forestry, aquatics, wildlife and a current environmental issue that changes each year. Contact: Wendy Reistle, 281-283-3045, <http://www.texasenvirothon.org/>

[Texas Forestry Association – Project Learning Tree](#)

Project Learning Tree® (PLT) is an award-winning, multi-disciplinary environmental education program for educators and students in PreK-grade 12. Contact: Casey Harris, 936-632-8733, <http://www.plttexas.org/>

[Texas Nature Trackers, a Texas Parks and Wildlife Department Program](#)

Texas Nature Trackers is a citizen science monitoring effort designed to gather scientific data on species of concern in Texas through experiential learning. Participants may participate in 4 to 7 hour Texas Amphibian and Mussel Watch Workshops scheduled throughout the state. Contact: Marsha May, 512-389-8062, http://www.tpwd.state.tx.us/learning/texas_nature_trackers/

[Texas State Aquarium](#)

Experience a variety of Professional Development Opportunities such as Project WILD, Project WILD Aquatic, Project WET, Project Learning Tree, Energy and Society, Flying WILD, and Project WET. Contact: Auburn Carpenter, 361-881-1203, http://www.texasstateaquarium.org/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=23&Itemid=43

[Texas Stream Team](#)

Texas Stream Team trains volunteers, including teachers and students, to collect water quality data on lakes, rivers, streams, wetlands, bays, bayous, and estuaries in Texas. Contact: 877-506-1401, <http://txstreamteam.rivers.txstate.edu/>

[Texas Water Development Board - TWDB Kids](#)

The Texas Water Development Board (TWDB) offers K-12 educational resources for students and professional development workshops for educators on the topic of Texas water resources and water conservation. Contact: Linda Ruiz McCall, 512-463-5836, <http://www.twdb.state.tx.us/kids/>

[Texas Wildlife Association](#)

Texas Wildlife Association believes that today's children are tomorrow's decision makers and have thus made it their mission to create an awareness of wildlife and wildlife-related issues by implementing new and innovative programs that enable educators to meet their goals while fostering a consciousness of the natural world. Contact: 210-826-2904, <http://www.texas-wildlife.org/>

[Treetops-in-the-Forest](#)

Treetops-in-the Forest is a residential program combining TEKS-related math and science content with actual daily environmental responsibilities involving grounds and gardens, food preparation, systems, and community insights and interaction. Arts and humanity resources are used to reinforce environmental awareness. Contact: 936-655-2557 or 972-262-2816, <http://www.treetopsintheforest.org/>

[UT MD Anderson Cancer Center Environmental Health Sciences Summer Institute](#)

The summer institute offers an extensive variety of workshops pursuing the connections between health and the environment. Learn how to help students use scientific inquiry to develop an understanding of the mechanisms that affect the environment and our health. Contact: Heather Reddick, 512-237-6407, <http://k12summerinstitute.mdanderson.org/home/>

[University of Texas at San Antonio](#)

UTSA, an official GLOBE partner, offers a variety of professional development opportunities through workshops and college courses for preservice and inservice teachers. Contact: Dr. Christine Moseley, 210-458-5992, http://ilt.utsa.edu/Faculty_Pages/Christine_Moseley.htm

[Welder Wildlife Foundation](#)

The Welder Wildlife Foundation is a 7,800 acre wildlife research and education refuge located in south Texas. Conservation education programs for K-12 groups, teacher workshops and courses, university groups, professional and landowner workshops, and general public groups are offered throughout the year. Contact: Dr. Selma Glasscock, 361-364-2643, www.welderwildlife.org