

A.C.O.R.N

Athens-Clarke Opportunities and Resources Newsletter - In a Nutshell

An Environmental Education Newsletter for Athens-Clarke County Educators - April 2007

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LOCAL ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION OPPORTUNITIES AND RESOURCES

Enjoy a GreenFest Activity during the month of April!

Visit www.accgreenfest.org for a complete list of GreenFest activities.

Earth Day - Sunday, April 22, 2007 - Don't Forget!!

Visit <http://www.earthday.net/> for Earth Day information! Check out your carbon footprint for Earth Day - visit <http://www.carbonfootprint.com/>.

JunkYard Jog 5K Run/Walk

Help keep Athens-Clarke County Beautiful through the support of our annual fundraiser the Junk Yard Jog 5K Run/Walk. Come on out on Saturday, April 14th in support of a clean and healthy environment. E-mail KACCB for a registration form. ** GREEN HOUR ACTIVITY

7th Annual Birchmore Trail Day

Join ACC Leisure Services, ACC Recycling Division and the Kiwanis Club at the 7th annual Birchmore Trail Day on Sunday, May 6, 2007 from 2:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m. The Birchmore Trail Day is a celebration of the Birchmore Trail at Memorial Park. Meet the famous namesake of the trail, Fred Birchmore, walk the trail (get a prize), make leaf rubbings and bird feeders, face paintings/tattoos and other fun games. This event is free and open to all ages. Contact the ACC Recycling Division for additional information. ** GREEN HOUR ACTIVITY

Green School Coordinator ALERT!

Don't forget all logs are due by Friday, May 4, 2007 to be eligible to receive 2006-07 ACC Green School status. To submit a log simply complete the on-line form OR you can simply upload the log (same way as on the previous website) - visit <http://www.accgreenschools.org/submission/submission.php> to submit a green school log.

ACC GreenFest Passports Distributed to Green School Coordinators

To raise awareness about this important health issue, GreenFest 2007 has adopted the theme "Get Your Green Hour." GreenFest will challenge children to get outside at least an hour a day, five days a week. Through special events that stress the fun and adventure of the outdoors, GreenFest will encourage kids to limit indoor time with television and video games and instead get plenty of unstructured, outdoor play. Please contact the ACC Recycling Division at (706) 613-3512 for a Get Your Green Hour Passport or visit www.athensgreenfest.org. The passport is a log for the month of April

that encourages children and parents to get outside. There will be prizes for those children who complete the passport by obtaining 20 "green" hours during the month of April. Don't forget the school with the most completed "Green Hour" passports will receive a recycled bench from Trex. Prizes and services have been donated by Academy Sports, Broad River Outpost, Georgia State Parks and Historic Site (Watson Mill State Park), Sandy Creek Park, The Georgian Press, Trex and Wal-mart. Contact your Green School Coordinator for Passports! ** ACC Green School Activity

Creating a School Garden?

Keep Athens-Clarke County Beautiful has a gardening tool bank that allows all schools and students to borrow gardening/landscaping hand tools. KACCB would like to help you get your students involved in creating outdoor classroom environments. Call to reserve tools and other gardening resources. ** ACC Green School Activity

Athens in Bloom!

Promote the outdoors as a learning environment! KACCB will provide you with the resources! Plan a lesson related to plant growth and KACCB will give you each student in your class their own flower seeds to plant. Call or e-mail your request to day!

Interested in beautifying your school yard?

A local community member has donated Red Canna Lilies to KACCB. If your school is interested, please send an e-mail with a statement of how you or your students will use the bulbs. Hurry! First come First serve!

3rd Annual Public Works Week Celebration - May 2007- ONLY THREE TIME SLOTS LEFT!!

Once again, ACC Landscape Management, Public Utilities, Solid Waste, Transit, Transportation and Public Works are joining forces to showcase their services and the really cool trucks that provide those services. If your school is interested in having the trucks visit your school on May 7th (only one slot left on the 7th) or 8th (9th has been taken)- please contact the ACC Recycling Division as soon as possible (the deadline has officially past but we have three slots to fill). The visit will last for approximately one hour and will include a visit from a truck from each of the ACC Departments mentioned above along with a 10-15 minute presentation describing careers in those fields and/or information about the services that those departments provide to the community. Don't delay - end the school year by celebrating Public Works Week. Again, contact the ACC Recycling Division for additional information or to register your school.

Bags to Benches, Bag Recycling Program March Results

January

February
March
April
TOTAL

Athens Montessori
8,905
12,071 14,343
Barnett Shoals
7,443
9,391 11,023
Barrow
6,538 9,540 13,508
Chase
2,447
6,841 13,164
Cleveland
n/a 15,096 15,383
Fowler
7,918
16,426 11,309
Gaines
1,535
1,995
Timothy
3,350
5,700 2,500
Whit Davis
2,600 15,894 8,205
Whitehead Road
3,489
13,739 2,191
Winterville
1,516
18,616 30,299

Congratulations to each school - continue to collect! ** ACC Green School Activity

Teacher Reuse Store - 3rd annual open house

The third annual open house for the Teacher Reuse Store will be on Saturday, August 18, 2007 from 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. The Teacher Reuse Store is located at the Athens-Clarke County Recycling Facility, 699 Hancock Industrial Way, Athens, 30605.

What: This store provides a variety of items to local educators for FREE! These items have been donated from local business and industry. Most of these items would have been landfilled. Items include: binders, file folders, paper, art supplies, recycling bins,

etc. ITEMS ARE AVAILABLE WHILE SUPPLIES LAST!

Who: This store is open to any teacher in Clarke, Madison, Oconee and Oglethorpe Counties. Public, private and homeschoolers are welcome! All teachers must provide official documentation of their teaching status - a school district ID badge or letter on school letterhead signed by the principal will be accepted for entry. Only teachers are allowed in the store - no helpers please! For additional information contact the ACC Recycling Division.

Trash Talk!

Each Green School Coordinator received a class set of Trash Talk! There are additional copies available - please contact the ACC Recycling Division for additional copies. Student generated articles, poetry, and artwork needed for Trash Talk! Topic ideas - waste reduction, reuse, recycling, composting, litter prevention and education - just to name a few. The ACC Recycling Division needs the articles, poetry and/or artwork ASAP (make sure to include the first and last name of the student, grade level, school, and teacher). Just e-mail them to suki@acc-recycle.org.

FREE Office Equipment available

The ACC Recycling Division has received a large equipment donations and we need move it out of our storage area - as soon as possible to make room for our other teacher reuse store collections. We have a drafting table, large 6'6" x 3'x2" table (non-folding legs and brown), 3 cafe tables with 4 chairs each, several 2-door metal cabinets on wheels (about thigh high) and three 4-drawer filing cabinets. First come, first serve - No deliveries available. Contact the ACC Recycling Division for additional information.

Radical Reuse Ideas for the Classroom

Artists Helping Children - www.artistshelpingchildren.org

Send us your classroom reuse ideas and receive a recycled surprise, send entries to suki@acc-recycle.org.

This newsletter is a monthly newsletter from ACC Stormwater, Keep Athens-Clarke County Beautiful, Public Utilities Department, and Solid Waste Department, Recycling Division. If you didn't receive this newsletter directly and would like to be put on the e-mail list, contact Suki at suki@acc-recycle.org.

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STATE ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION OPPORTUNITIES AND RESOURCES

Celebrate Compost Awareness Week

International Compost Awareness Week is scheduled for May 6-12. Visit www.compostingcouncil.org for more information or contact the ACC Recycling Division for the "Think Composting!" coloring books and teacher guides to help celebrate your

composting event. Need a compost bin? Contact Keep Athens-Clarke County Beautiful and purchase one today!

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CALENDAR

April

14 JunkYard Jog

15-22 National Environmental Education Week

22 Earth Day!!

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BRAG BOARD!

IF you have a great Environmental Education accomplishment that you would like to share, contact Suki Janssen, suki@acc-recycle.org. The accomplishment can be for an individual or a school (examples include: award, grant, prize, activity, etc.).

GreenFest Art, Photography and Poetry Winners

K-1

Art - 1st place - Karla Dougan, Camping, Barrow Elementary (grade 1)

2nd place - Zoe Peterson, Playing Soccer, Barrow Elementary (grade 1)

3rd place (tie) - Kinsey Reeves, Spring, Winterville Elementary (grade 1)

Draven Roby, Birds and a Squirrel, Winterville Elementary (grade 1)

Poetry - 1st place - Hayes Phillips, Trees, Winterville Elementary, (grade 1)

2nd place - Lydia Jackson, Down the River, Barrow Elementary, (grade 1)

3rd place - Mekia Faust, I Love, Winterville Elementary, (grade 1)

2-3

Art/Poetry - 1st place - Leia Huisa, Cleaning up, Chase Street, (grade 3)

2nd place - Magali Contreras, Recycling, Chase Street (grade 3)

3rd place - Ty'r'in Baughns, Practice, Chase Street (grade 3)

Elementary

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REUSED NEWS

Items that need mentioned a second time.

We've Got Worms!

The ACC Recycling Division has worms and will travel. Schools can request a vermicomposting program. Vermicomposting involves using red wiggler worms to compost food scraps. ACC's vermicomposting program gives students and teachers everything they need to know to create a vermicomposting bin at school. The recycling division uses the funny, yet educational book, Diary of a Worm by Doreen Cronin, to help spread the wormy message. Contact the ACC Recycling Division to set-up a program - (706) 613- 2512. ** ACC Green School Activity

Terracycle

TerraCycle manufacturerer of affordable, potent, organic products that are not only made from waste, but are also packaged entirely in waste! TerraCycle Plant FoodT is made by feeding premium organic waste to millions of worms. The worm poop is then liquified into a powerful organic plant food and bottled directly in used soda bottles. For every bottle that is collected, TerraCycle will donate \$0.05 to the charity of your choice or save 10 square feet of the rainforest through The Nature Conservancy. We provide four boxes with prepaid UPS labels and all you have to do is mail them back full of 20 oz. soda bottles with the labels removed. After they're cleaned, your bottles are used to package TerraCycle Plant FoodT. To date, we have been able to rescue over 1,406,416 bottles. Just another way to reuse - visit www.terracycle.net for additional information. ** ACC Green School Activity

Make Less Waste at Lunch

Innovative product to help reduce waste at lunch - Wrap-N-Map. To find out more information about this product visit www.wrapnmat.com .

Trash and Climate Change Activity Book

The EPA is offering kids K-12 education on linking trash and global warming. The publication titled "Trash and Climate Change Activity Book" is designed to educate children about the effects of product reuse and recycling on global climate change. Through a series of word games, the publication describes how children can prevent climate change by reducing solid waste. The Climate Change Kids Site is a Web site designed to educate children about climate change and global warming. The Web site presents the potential causes and effects of climate change along with explanations of the greenhouse effect and the global climate system. In addition, the Web site describes several methods for reducing global warming. The site also includes a glossary of relevant terms, online games, and links to Web sites designed to inform children about

global warming and other environmental issues. For more information on these subjects, please visit: <http://www.epa.gov/climatechange/wycd/waste/kids.html>

NEW - STORMWATER DETECTIVES

Have your students become STORMWATER DETECTIVES! - Three mysterious cases of pollution are going on in Centerville, and YOU (the reader) have been called in to help! This short choose-your-own-adventure style story book lets each student "investigate" sites in town to determine where the pollution is coming from, and what can be done to stop it. Students can work in small groups or individually. Designed for 4th through 6th grade students, this program lasts about an hour. Contact Natalie at NatalieWhite@co.clarke.ga.us or at (706) 613-3440 to schedule the STORMWATER DETECTIVE for your classroom. ** ACC Green School Activity

National Environmental Education Week is scheduled for April 15-22, 2007.

For information about resources and how to sign up as a local partner, visit www.eeweek.org

Clear Recycle Bags

Please contact the ACC Recycling Division if you need clear bags for recycling bottles and cans. Please e-mail suki@acc-recycle.org.

Litter It Costs You Website

Kids can be part of the litter solution! Explore <http://www.litteritcostsyoud.org/schools.aspx> to find games, activities and programs that get tomorrow's leaders involved in cleaning up our litter problem today. Use the new state Litter Mascot, The Brown Trasher, in a fun and educational way!

AFTER YOU BECOME AN ACC GREEN SCHOOL CONSIDER THE FOLLOWING: NEW GEORGIA GREEN AND HEALTHY SCHOOLS PROGRAM FOR TEACHERS AND STUDENTS

Georgia Green & Healthy Schools (GGHS) is a new collaborative initiative to assist and support schools in understanding and practicing environmentally sound principals. All public and private/independent schools (grades K-12) in Georgia are invited to participate in this new program. The GGHS program begins with a pledge and is followed by up to three levels of advancement. To participate, students and teachers use assessment tools to conduct school-based investigations. Students practice real life problem solving skills by collecting data, identifying areas that could use improvement, implementing changes, tracking progress, and sharing results. By completing requirements to advance to higher levels, schools earn awards and recognition. Awards include certificate, banner, patches, awards ceremony, and grant eligibility. Schools may also maintain their accomplishments to earn renewal each school year. Visit <http://www.eeingorgia.org/net/content/item.aspx?s=24834.0.68.48.63> for more information.

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