

A.C.O.R.N

Athens-Clarke Opportunities and Resources Newsletter - In a Nutshell

An Environmental Education Newsletter for Athens-Clarke County Educators - April 2008

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LOCAL ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION OPPORTUNITIES AND RESOURCES

Celebrate Earth Day 2008 - April 22, 2008

Visit <http://ww2.earthday.net/~earthday/> for Earth Day information and lessons!

Junk Yard Jog 5K Run/Walk

Help keep Athens-Clarke County beautiful through the support of KACCB's annual fundraiser, the Junk Yard Jog 5K Run/Walk. Come on out on Saturday, April 12th in support of a clean and healthy environment. Visit our website at www.keepathensbeautiful.org for registration information.

It's too pretty to be inside! Take your classroom outside and do a service learning schoolyard clean-up activity or beautification project.

KACCB has all the supplies you will need to get your students involved: trash bags, grab-it tools, safety vests, and gardening tools. Teach students how they can reduce the amount of waste they produce, what they can do to help reduce litter, and ways in which they can beautify the community. Call KACCB today to reserve supplies!

Diary of a Worm by Doreen Cronin

In celebration of the upcoming International Compost Awareness Week the Keep Athens-Clarke County Beautiful Board of Directors donated one hard-back copy of Diary of a Worm to each elementary school in the Clarke County School District. Go check it out in the library! Visit the following websites for activities that provide lessons/activities for the book:

<http://www.cobbk12.org/~skyview/bom/march/>

http://www.readwritethink.org/lessons/lesson_view.asp?id=778

https://www.roundrockisd.org/docs/8-diary_of_a_worm.pdf

GreenFest 2008

GreenFest is a community-wide celebration providing citizens with the opportunity to increase their awareness of and interest in improving the environment of their home, yard, business and community. Visit www.athensgreenfest.org for a complete list of events.

GreenFest Passports are Back - Get your Green Hour

Accept the GreenFest 2008 challenge and get your students outside during the month of April. The GreenFest committee is challenging students to get outside for at least 20 hours during the month of April and then log those 20 hours in the GreenFest Passport. One passport has been sent to each Green School Coordinator - additional copies can be requested (only 1000 copies are available) or make copies of the passport at your school. The passports are due to the ACC Recycling Division by Friday, May 2. Prizes and services have been donated by Academy Sports, Georgia State Parks and Historic Sites (Victoria Bryant State Park), ACC Leisure Services, The Georgian Press and The State Botanical Garden of Georgia. Contact your Green School Coordinator for passports! ** This is a Green School Activity.

Green School Log Update

To become an ACC Green School, a school must Strive for 5! At least five (5) teachers at a given school must complete at least five (5) Earth Friendly activities during the 2007-2008 school year. Participation logs must be completed for all activities and submitted to the Green School Committee via the website. Please visit www.accgreenschools.org for details and/or to submit your logs electronically. All logs are due by Friday, May 2, 2008. NOTE: Andrew Lentini has left Athens-Clarke County Recycling Division - please send all information for Green Schools to me at suki@acc-recycle.org.

NEW book - My Bag and Me by Karen Farmer

Help save the planet one bag at a time! Teach your child to be eco-friendly and conserve the earth's precious resources! It's never too early to learn the importance of reusing, reducing and recycling. My Bag Me follows a child and his reusable shopping bag on a trip to the grocery store. By the end of the story, your child will say Paper and plastic no more! Includes a FREE reusable Tyvek shopping bag! Children can tote on their next shopping trip to show-off their eco-awareness! Visit www.amazon.com to purchase a copy.

4th Annual Public Works Week Celebration - May 2008

Once again, ACC Landscape Management, Public Utilities, Solid Waste, Transit and Transportation & Public Works are joining forces to showcase their services and REALLY cool trucks that provide those services. If your school is interested in having the trucks visit your school on Monday, May 12 (morning and afternoon slot available), Tuesday, May 13 (morning and afternoon slot available) and Wednesday, May 14 (afternoon slot available) - please contact the ACC Recycling Division by Monday, April 14th. The visit will last 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. Only one class can be at a truck during a presentation! Don't delay reserve your spot today!!

Be Crafty - Not Trashy

Very Cool Recycled Crafts - <http://www.craftbits.com/viewCategory.do?categoryID=REY>

Vinyl Record Bowl - <http://www.craftbits.com/viewProject.do?projectID=621>

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, ACC Public Utilities Department and ACC 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

WaterSmart - Drought in Georgia Water Materials Available for Free for Teachers
WaterSmart has developed a unit on Drought in Georgia for 6th Grade Earth Science Teachers that features standards-based activities and background information and is supported by a teaching poster. Visit http://www.conservewatergeorgia.net/Documents/tools_teachers.html for information and materials.

International Compost Awareness Week, May 4-10, 2008

Across the United States and Canada, composting advocates will be encouraging everyone to Compost! Those who believe in the Compost Message will be planning events in their community to promote the value of compost. All types of composting events -- from "do it yourself" composting in your backyard to large-scale community-wide composting -- can be promoted during the week. The theme for 2008 is: The Possibilities are Endless ... Compost! Visit <http://www.compostingcouncil.org/section.cfm?id=25> for additional information.

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CALENDAR

April

18 GreenFest Awards

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.).

KACCB would like to CONGRATULATE the following teachers, who all received flower seed packets for each student in their class: Freda Williams (Barnett Shoals Elementary School), Steven King (Whit Davis Elementary School), Kay Isley (Oglethorpe Avenue Elementary). Thanks for helping beautify the community in which we live!

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OUT & ABOUT IN ATHENS-CLARKE COUNTY

ACC staff programs and partnership with ACC schools during the month of March.

Recycling Division sponsored four Dr. T presentations (Jack Golden) at the following schools: Barrow, Barnett Shoals, Chase and Whit Davis.

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REUSED NEWS

Items that need mentioned a second time.

Wormshop

Promote global worming by starting a vermi-composting bin at your school. Invite the ACC Recycling Division to your school to do a "wormshop" for your students. Learn more about the benefits of worms to waste reduction and the environment. Contact the ACC Recycling Division to set up a "wormshop" today!

** This is a 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.

** This is a Green School Activity.

Do a Green Schools School Yard Project!

Give back to your community by planning a school beautification project! KACCB has tools available to help you make the most of your improvement project. Help keep your school clean, safe, and beautiful! Call KACCB to reserve your tools today.

** This is a Green School Activity.

Does Your School Use Laser or Inkjet Cartridges?

If so, recycle those cartridges to reduce waste in our landfill. Call KACCB to receive a free ink jet collection box. Collect your used cartridges and deposit them into one of the pre-paid envelopes and then drop it in the mail. It's that simple! Call KACCB for more information.

Bee Bee Clean

Do your students like to paint or color? Request our free BEE BEE Clean paint sheets. BEE BEE Clean, the KACCB mascot, helps children understand why litter is bad for the environment and community. Get your students involved in discussions about litter through these fun and creative resources. Contact KACCB for the paint sheets.

Check out the ACC Recycling Division Trash Talk Podcasts!

Podcasts are great ways to listen to current waste reduction and recycling issues in our community. Visit <http://www.acc-recycle.org/trashtalk.htm> to listen to all the podcasts. NOTE: iPods are absolutely not necessary to listen to podcasts. Just click on the link above, click on one of the podcasts and listen! It's easy! These are great for school recycling announcements.

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