

A.C.O.R.N

Athens-Clarke Opportunities and Resources Newsletter - *In a Nutshell*

An Environmental Education Newsletter for Athens-Clarke County Educators - January 2006

LOCAL ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION OPPORTUNITIES AND RESOURCES

HAPPY NEW YEAR from the ACC Recycling Division, Public Utilities, and Public Works/Transportation, and Keep Athens-Clarke County Beautiful!

Garbage Is My Bag Performances - FREE for local schools

Performer Jack Golden is back by popular demand to do his show about waste and recycling - Garbage Is My Bag. He will be in Athens for ONLY 7 shows. He is available for performances at your school on the afternoon of March 29, 2006 (one show only), March 30, 2006 and March 31, 2006 (three shows available each day - 1 morning, 2 afternoon time slots). If you didn't catch his show last year, Litter is My Bag, visit www.garbageismybag.com for additional information about his performances. Contact Suki at 613-3512 or suki@acc-recycle.org to organize a performance at your school - don't delay only 7 performances are available. ** This is an ACC Green School Activity.

Volunteer on MLK Day, January 16, 2006

9 a.m. KICK OFF

Light breakfast and registration at HT Edwards Building (Behind the AutoZone on Broad Street)

10:00-1:00 VOLUNTEER

Planting, painting, and building projects at Clarke County Middle and High Schools and clearing paths in Brooklyn and Gospel Pilgrim Cemeteries. Wear work clothes, shoes and gloves. Bring gardening tools. Children must be accompanied by adults

1:00-4:00 PATHWAYS TO SUCCESS & LYNDON HOUSE ART CENTER

ACTIVITIES

Lunch, entertainment, inspirational speeches, educational activities, and arts & crafts at the Lyndon House and Lay Park

Sponsored by Athens Banner Herald, Athens Clarke County Government, Athens Community Tree Council, BellSouth, Buffalo's Café, Chick fil-A, Clarke County School District, Food Bank of Northeast Georgia, Georgia Power, Home Depot, Krispy Kreme Doughnuts, Krystal, Pepsi, Saint Mary's Heath Care System, Southeastern Growers, Thornton Brothers Paper Company, and the University of Georgia

For more information contact, Samanta Carvalho (706) 613-3155, scarvalho@co.clarke.ga.us . ** This is an ACC Green School Acitivity.

Alkaline Battery Recycling - Now Available

Alkaline Battery Recycling is now available in Athens-Clarke County. Just drop off your old alkaline batteries at the Solid Waste Department (1005 College Avenue) or ACC Recycling Facility (699 Hancock Industrial Way). Just place all old batteries in plastic bags and drop them off during operating hours. For additional information, contact the ACC Recycling Division 613-3512 or suki@acc-recycle.org.

10th Annual Environmental Resource Guide and Calendars - They're Here!

The ACC Solid Waste Department publishes an environmental resource guide/calendar each year. They are mailed to approximately 32,000 ACC residents. If you didn't receive one OR you don't live in ACC - please contact Suki for your FREE copy.

FREE - The Georgia Conservancy's Native Seasons Workshop (K-7) - Still Available

Who is the Georgia Conservancy and what is their mission? The first school with the answer (and with a minimum of 10 willing teachers/maximum of 25) will win a FREE Native Seasons workshop - over a \$500 value. Native Seasons: Georgia's Flora and Fauna is a GPS/QCC coorelated curriculum that will assist you when teaching the natural sciences. When you study the natural world you see that life has few definite beginnings and endings, rather passes through stages that are part of a continuing cycle. As the seasons revolve, many organisms alter their routines to compensate for the changing temperatures and available food. In this interactive workshop, you will explore the changes that occur in the flora and fauna throughout the Georgia seasons. PLU credit available for 10 hour workshops. Workshop can be scheduled anytime. Contact the ACC Recycling Division at suki@acc-recycle.org to win the workshop.

Rain Barrel Art Projects

Could a barrel be your canvas? You bet! Classes are needed to paint 55 gallon plastic barrels that will be converted into water saving rain barrels. The art that students produce will be used to promote a community wide rain barrel project coming this Spring. Contact Cail for more information. ** This is an ACC Green School activity.

Radical Reuse Ideas for the Classroom

Old Sock Erasers

Since washing machines and dryers tend to eat socks - use your spare (pairless) sock as a white board eraser. You can wash and use them over and over again. Reuse tip provided by Bethany Hamilton-Jones, Cleveland Road Elementary.

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 .

STATE ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION OPPORTUNITIES AND RESOURCES

**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.

Keep Georgia Beautiful (KGB) Educator Kit Now Available - on-line or hard copy!
KGB has education resources available on a variety of topics - litter, waste, and recycling. Visit <http://www.keepgeorgiabeautiful.org/education.html> or contact Sarah Visser at (404) 679-4853.

American Forest & Paper Association Recycling Awards - Due Feb. 17

Entry forms for the 2006 American Forest & Paper Association (AF&PA) Recycling Awards (school award) are now available at www.paperrecycles.org/recycling/awards . Entries must be received by Friday, February 17, 2006. The winners will be announced on Wednesday, April 12, 2006, in conjunction with AF&PA's 129th Annual Paper Week.

CALENDAR

January

16 MLK Holiday and Volunteer Day!

27 Arbor Day Poster Contest Entry Deadline

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.).

Shannon Vergara at Clarke County Alternative School received one of the ten 2005 Weyerhaeuser Excellence in School Recycling Awards. She will receive a check for \$1,500 to expand her recycling program/efforts.

OUT & ABOUT IN ATHENS-CLARKE COUNTY

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

ACC Recycling Division staff did the Recycling Ranger program at Barrow Elementary for all first graders. Additionally, the ACC Recycling Division participated in the Barrow Elementary career day.

REUSED NEWS

Items that need mentioned a second time.

Green School Registration Forms

We received Green School Registration forms from the following schools: Barrow, Chase Street, Cleveland Road, Fowler Drive, Oglethorpe, and Whitehead Road. These are the only schools eligible to become Green Schools for the 2005-2006 school year. If you still want to participate, e-mail a list of participating teachers along with their e-mail addresses to the ACC Recycling Division - suki@acc-recycle.org. We need those lists immediately!!

ACC Recycling Facility Tour - now on DVD!

Can't come to the ACC Recycling Facility for a tour? Well, now you can with the ACC Recycling Division tour on DVD. Contact 613-3512 or suki@acc-recycle.org for a copy.

NEW this spring - Local School Recycling Award

The ACC Recycling Division will award one local school with the new school recycling award this April at the 2006 Greenfest awards. The winning school will receive \$200 to expand their recycling program. Award applications will be available in early March so document all of your recycling success stories. Stay tuned for more information...

Free Recycling Bins

If you need recycling bins for your school, contact the ACC Recycling Division at 613-3512. Recycling bins are now available at NO charge to schools wanting to start or continue their recycling program.

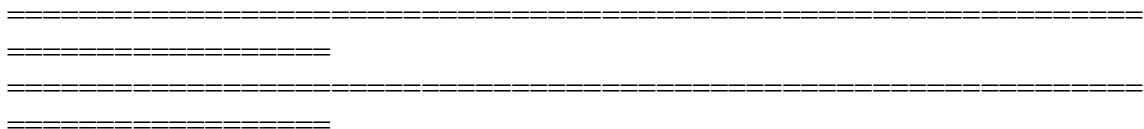
River of Words K-12 Art and Poetry Contest - Enter by Feb. 15

River of Words is an international environmental poetry and art project designed to nurture respect and understanding of the natural world. Students learn their "ecological address" by honing their observation skills and describing through poetry and art, their "place in space." A Georgia teacher's guide is also available. State winners are recognized at an awards ceremony coordinated by the Georgia Center for the Book and Georgia Project WET (Water Education for Teachers). Eight students are chosen as National Grand Prize Winners and receive a trip to Washington, D.C. The contest is open to youth ages 5-19. U.S. entries must be postmarked by February 15, 2006. To receive a FREE teacher's guide, send your name, organization, complete mailing address, phone number, fax, and e-mail to Petey Giroux at: Petey_Giroux@dnr.state.ga.us. For additional information, visit <http://www.riverofwords.org/>.

Arbor Day Poster Contest for 5th Graders - Enter by Jan. 27

Fifth grade classrooms and home schools across America are invited to participate in the 2006 Arbor Day National Poster Contest! This year's theme, "Trees are Terrific... in All Shapes and Sizes!" is designed to increase knowledge about the importance of tree diversity in a community. FREE activity guide available. Select school winner and submit entry to the state-level contest by January 27, 2006. Visit <http://www.arborday.org/kids/postercontest/index.cfm> for additional information and an entry form. The poster and the entry form must be received at the following address by January 27, 2006:

Sherrie Gabriel
Georgia Forestry Commission
1055 East Whitehall Road
Athens, Georgia 30605
Questions? Contact Sherrie at 706-542-6880 or sgabriel@gfc.state.ga.us.



CONTACT US

Cail Hammons

ACC Stormwater
Stormwater Education Coordinator
(706) 613-3440, extension 384
cailhammons@co.clarke.ga.us
www.accestormwater.com

Stacey Farrell
Keep Athens-Clarke County Beautiful
Executive Director
(706) 613-3501, extension 312
sfarrell@co.clarke.ga.us
www.keeppathensbeautiful.org

Suki Janssen
ACC Recycling Division
Waste Reduction Administrator
(706) 613-3512
suki@acc-recycle.org
www.acc-recycle.org