

## TEEAC Providers 2016

### **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 ensure that teacher professional development offered by formal and nonformal 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, participants 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 directly contact a provider 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.texas.gov](mailto:Irene.pickhardt@tea.texas.gov).

## TEEAC Providers 2016

### **Angler Education Instructor Workshop, a Texas Parks and Wildlife Department Program**

This free 4-5 hour workshop is open to anyone 18 or older interested in teaching fishing skills in their communities. The program provides the curriculum, equipment, materials, and support to help volunteers successfully introduce youth and their families to fishing. Topics include: fish identification and fish habitats; stewardship of aquatic resources; equipment, knots and tackle assembly; casting techniques; fishing safety, ethics, and regulations. Ideal for teachers, youth group leaders, after school or camp staff, and community volunteers.

Contact Karen Marks, Aquatic Education Manager, 512-389-4732, [karen.marks@tpwd.texas.gov](mailto:karen.marks@tpwd.texas.gov)

### **Artist Boat**

Artist Boat offers field lab opportunities to teachers and students who can travel by kayak, vessel, and foot to places of natural significance on Galveston Bay. Students participate in a workshop and kayak adventure that includes hands-on and feet-in instruction and experiential learning to interact and learn about estuarine ecology, plein-air water coloring, water quality testing, paddling and safety instruction, and collection of data. Teachers can participate in the Coastal Waters Institute, which is a weeklong, summer professional development. Teachers receive training in Artist Boat's Eco-Art Adventures (workshop, kayaking, vessel tours, and habitat restoration), and learn how to use the Galveston Bay Watershed curriculum which consists of 24 pre- and post-interdisciplinary classroom lessons.

Contact: Amanda Rinehart, 409-740-0422, [arinehart@artistboat.org](mailto:arinehart@artistboat.org), [www.artistboat.org](http://www.artistboat.org)

### **Austin Nature and Science Center**

The Austin Nature and Science Center (ANSC) provides educational and recreational opportunities to increase awareness of and appreciation for science and nature in an informal setting. Professional development for teachers is offered at teacher workshops at the Austin Nature and Science Center site in Zilker Park. The workshops are designed to help teachers meet the science standards for their students in a natural, fun, hands-on learning environment. ANSC also offers TEKS aligned Life Science and Earth Science onsite and outreach programming.

Contact: Barbara Croom, 512-974-3888 or visit the website [www.austintexas.gov/ansc](http://www.austintexas.gov/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, or at

[www.austintexas.gov/Watershed/YouthEd](http://www.austintexas.gov/Watershed/YouthEd)

### **Austin Youth River Watch**

Austin Youth River Watch is a multi-year, after-school and summer program for high school students, combining peer mentoring with intensive environmental education. Students collect, analyze, and publish water-quality data from Austin-area streams and rivers, and report their data to local and statewide agencies. Students are also guided through learning experiences to design and implement service projects that improve water quality and quantity through ecological and hydrological enhancement activities.

Contact: Melinda Chow, 512-767-4719, [melinda@riverwatchers.org](mailto:melinda@riverwatchers.org), <http://riverwatchers.org/>

### **Bayou Preservation Association**

Bayou Preservation Association focuses on Houston's 22 watersheds and their connection to Galveston Bay by providing 4<sup>th</sup>- 8<sup>th</sup> grade guided bayou field trips, classroom presentations on various watershed-related topics, curriculum, volunteer service-learning opportunities, adult lectures, an annual symposium, and educator workshops such as Project WILD and Aquatic WILD.

Contact: Amanda Brown, Director of Education at 713-529-6443 or [abrown@bayoupreservation.org](mailto:abrown@bayoupreservation.org),

<http://www.bayoupreservation.org>

### **BRIT Education**

The Botanical Research Institute of Texas (BRIT) offers a variety of student, teacher and family programs that help children and adults renew their sense of wonder and discover the natural world around them. Located in Fort Worth's Cultural District, BRIT offers educational field trips, family story time, teacher professional development, summer camps and more

Contact: Kimberly Whitlock, 817-546-1958, [kwhitlock@brit.org](mailto:kwhitlock@brit.org), [www.brit.org/education](http://www.brit.org/education)

### **The Center for Reservoir and Aquatic Systems Research, Baylor University**

The Center for Reservoir and Aquatic Systems Research (CRASR) is a research and education partnership between Baylor University and the City of Waco focused on aquatic resources. CRASR provides water education and outreach experiences and teacher professional development through a variety of activities and workshops.

Contact: Melissa Mullins 254-710-2382, [Melissa\\_mullins@baylor.edu](mailto:Melissa_mullins@baylor.edu), <http://www.baylor.edu/crasr/>

### **Children's Museum of Houston**

The EcoStation exhibit at Children's Museum of Houston (CMH) provides opportunities for museum visitors to engage in ecological studies and explore environmental issues. EcoStation features a native plant garden, woodland area, pond, and research pavilion as well as hands-on activities and educational programming that changes weekly. In addition, CMH provides opportunities for educators and students including professional development, school field experiences, outreach programs, and online classroom curriculum.

Contact: Danni Dancer, 713-535-7266, [ddancer@cmhouston.org](mailto:ddancer@cmhouston.org), [www.cmhouston.org](http://www.cmhouston.org)

### **The Collins Academy**

The Collins Academy in Jefferson, TX offers educational opportunities through student field trips, professional development classes, and special interest workshops. Led by professional educators, industry experts, and professional volunteers, programs include natural science and conservation, history and preservation, and career and community development. The Collins Academy works in cooperation with the Port Jefferson History and Nature Center, Caddo Lake National Wildlife Refuge, and Caddo State Park to provide a classroom without walls and educator professional development. Curriculum resources include Project WILD; Texas Parks and Wildlife Department resources; National Wildlife Refuge System; Texas Master Naturalist; and Texas Master Gardener.

Contact: Gary Endsley or Libby Horton at 903-665-2900 or [www.collinsacademy.com](http://www.collinsacademy.com)

### **Coastal Bend Bays and Estuaries Program**

The Coastal Bend Environmental Science: Learning on the Edge teacher workshops provide educators with added insight into the issues affecting bays and estuaries, a sound knowledge base of the local ecology, and supplies and curriculum that translate into successful science experiences for their students.

Educators may choose from fall or spring one-day workshops or summer intensives.

Contact: Education Department Staff at 361-673-6829 or [education@cbbep.org](mailto:education@cbbep.org), <http://www.nuecesdeltapreserve.org>

### **Council for Environmental Education (CEE)**

CEE serves as the national office for Project WILD and related programs. Texas Parks and Wildlife administers professional development for Project WILD (focusing on wildlife), Aquatic WILD (aquatic species and habitats), and Growing Up WILD (early childhood). Partners in various cities in Texas provide Flying WILD, including Houston Audubon. These cross-curricular programs range in grade levels from Pre-K through 12<sup>th</sup> grade and include topics in wildlife, habitat, water, migratory birds, and learning outdoors.

Contact: Julie Tran, 713-520-1936, [info@councilforee.org](mailto:info@councilforee.org), [www.councilforee.org](http://www.councilforee.org)

### **Cypress Historical Society**

Cypress Historical Society, located at Harris County Cypress Top Historic Park, provides guides for the park. It also offers a variety of workshops for teachers and learning experiences for students and youth groups. Programs focus on the local geography including watersheds, resources and the changing human environment.

Contact: Jay Gavitt, 281-758-0083, [cypresshistsociety@att.net](mailto:cypresshistsociety@att.net)

### **Cypress Top Historic Park**

The Harris County Precinct 3 Cypress Top Historic Park offers learning experiences for students, and is available for history-related workshops for teachers.

Contact: Jim Wilson or Linda Martin-Rust, 281-357-5324, [cypresstop@Pct3.com](mailto:cypresstop@Pct3.com), <http://www.pct3.com/parks/cypress-top-park>. The website for the monthly newsletter for the park is <http://www.pct3.com/publications/>

### **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: Janet Fuller, [JaFuller@dallasisd.org](mailto:JaFuller@dallasisd.org), 972-749-6900, [www.dallasisd.org/Domain/96](http://www.dallasisd.org/Domain/96)

### **Dallas Zoo and Children's Aquarium at Fair Park**

The Dallas Zoo and the Children's Aquarium at Fair Park offer a variety of educator workshops PK-12 which include hands-on activities designed to engage teachers in science TEKS content. Teachers gain knowledge, activities, and curriculum based on wildlife and the environment to utilize in their classrooms. Educators may participate in learning opportunities throughout the year.

Contact: 469-554-7300, [www.dallaszoo.com/education](http://www.dallaszoo.com/education)

### **Earth Matters**

Earth Matters is an organization based in Kaufman County that is dedicated to assisting educational instructors with making the journey through soils and land use interesting and exciting for students. The soils program meets TEKS for K-5 while introducing ecosystems, entomology, vermicomposting, and plants. To make great use of the day, educators may schedule a second workshop to include Plants, Food and Fiber for Texas. Earth Matters presenters will travel to most areas of the state to provide training at your school to best accommodate busy schedules utilizing workdays.

Contact: Lisa Nalls, 214-729-4756, [earthmatters.ln@gmail.com](mailto:earthmatters.ln@gmail.com)

### **Edwards Aquifer Authority**

The Edwards Aquifer Authority's (EAA) education program offers a wide range of resources for students and educators to explore the Edwards Aquifer system and related issues such as water conservation, endangered species, and aquifer protection. Additionally, the EAA has geologists, hydrologists, biologists, mathematicians, and engineers who can discuss STEM careers and how they are vital to the EAA's mission of managing, enhancing and protecting our aquifer.

Contact: Sarah Valdez, 210-222-2204, [education@edwardsaquifer.org](mailto:education@edwardsaquifer.org), [www.edwardsaquifer.org](http://www.edwardsaquifer.org)

### **Edwards Aquifer Research and Data Center/Aquatic Sciences Adventure Camp**

The Edwards Aquifer Research and Data Center at Texas State University offers week-long and 2-day summer camps for students ages 9-15. The program emphasizes the principles of and field experiences in aquatic biology and water chemistry. Professional development is offered to teachers who assist Texas State University staff with camp activities.

Contact: Aaron P Swink, 512-245-3541, <http://www.eardc.txstate.edu/>, <http://www.eardc.txstate.edu/education-center/camp.html>

### **Elm Fork Education Center, UNT Denton**

Elm Fork Education Center is the public education branch of the University of North Texas' environmental programs. The mission of the center is to develop and present premier environmental education programs that provide investigative encounters for students of all ages in field and discovery experiences through school day field trips, family science events, summer science camps, and professional development opportunities. Elm Fork Education Center is a Project WET Host Institution, and a Texas Aquatic Science Certified Field Site.

Contact: Brian Wheeler, 940-565-4912, Marti Lathrop, 940-369-8936, [elmfork@unt.edu](mailto:elmfork@unt.edu), [efec.unt.edu](http://efec.unt.edu)

### **Environmental Institute of Houston (EIH) EE Institutes and Workshops**

The Environmental Institute of Houston offers a variety of workshops and institutes focusing on a wide array of environmental programs, including school habitat development and implementation, WOW – the Wonders Of Wetlands, and Rain Garden workshops. EIH administers the Texas Envirothon program, a

state-wide environmental education competition for high school students.

Contact: Wendy Reistle, 281-283-3045, <http://www.uhcl.edu/portal/page/portal/EIH/>

### **The Fort Worth Botanic Garden**

The Fort Worth Botanic Garden, the oldest botanic garden in Texas, offers environmental education for K-12 students. The Backyard Vegetable Garden provides opportunities for students of all ages and abilities to experience the cycles of nature. Professional development is provided for teachers.

Contact: Judy Bauereisen, 817-392-5534, [www.fwbg.org](http://www.fwbg.org)

### **Fort Worth Zoo**

Education is an important component to conservation at the Fort Worth Zoo. As an educator, the value of resources is important for students' understanding of animals, science, and conservation. There are beneficial resources (which correlate to the TEKS) for you at the Fort Worth Zoo. We want the Zoo to be a useful resource for educators and a learning experience for students. Explore our website and discover what the Zoo can do for you!

Contact: Kathy Dorris, Education Director, 817-759-7200, [education@fortworthzoo.org](mailto:education@fortworthzoo.org)

### **Gilmont Outdoor School**

Located in east Texas, just north of Tyler, Gilmont Outdoor School provides a Residential Program (4 days and 3 nights) for fifth graders and Day Programs for K-12 students. Nature is the classroom as trained teachers guide classes through data collection, team building, problem solving, and drawing conclusions about the natural world through aquatic biology, astronomy, forestry, pioneering, orienteering, and geology activities. Professional development for teachers is offered in partnership with school districts.

Contact: Marie Nelson, 903-797-6400, [marie@gilmont.org](mailto:marie@gilmont.org), <http://gilmontoutdoorschool.weebly.com/>

### **Growing the Seeds**

Growing the Seeds of Environmental Education Conference and occasional workshops are provided at Houston ISD's Outdoor Education Center near Trinity, Texas. The conference is usually held in March or April, and the workshop dates vary. The conference focuses on hands-on activities, natural history, and environmental education development and sharing.

Contact: Al Bartell, 936-594-7074, [abartell@houstonisd.org](mailto:abartell@houstonisd.org)

### **Guadalupe-Blanco River Authority (GBRA)**

The Guadalupe-Blanco River Authority 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/>

### **Gulf of Mexico Foundation**

Educators can cruise the Intracoastal Waterway between Texas and Louisiana while gaining CPE credit on the Intracoastal Waterway Wetlands Expedition. Investigate coastal marshes and estuaries and live aboard the motor vessel Fling out of Freeport Texas. Learn the geography, geology, and unique ecology of the Gulf Coast while "immersed" in the study of wetlands. For traditional and non-traditional educators of all levels.

Contact: James R. Jones, Gulf of Mexico Foundation, 361-779-0537, [jrjones@gulfmex.org](mailto:jrjones@gulfmex.org), [www.gulfmex.org](http://www.gulfmex.org)

### **The Heard Natural Science Museum & Wildlife Sanctuary**

Located north of Dallas in Collin County, The Heard Natural Science Museum & Wildlife Sanctuary 's 289 acres of wooded, prairie and wetland ecosystems allows for a variety of programs that help connect families, students, and teachers with nature. In addition to self-guided visits to our museum and trails, we offer live animal presentations, guided trails, TEKS-aligned "field investigations", preschool and homeschool classes, scout workshops, teacher workshops, outreach programming, and seasonal special events.

Contact: Angela Baron, Education Coordinator at [abaron@heardmuseum.org](mailto:abaron@heardmuseum.org), [www.heardmuseum.org](http://www.heardmuseum.org)

### **Houston Audubon – Sims Bayou Urban Nature Center**

Houston Audubon provides educational programs on birds, bird conservation, and Texas wildlife. Programs are available for all ages including youth (pre K- 12), college students, educators and adults. Programs feature live birds of prey and other wildlife. Outreach programs are delivered across the region. Flying WILD workshops for educators take place at the nature center along with a unique badge for brownie and junior girl scouts. Live virtual programs are also available via video conferencing equipment.

Contact: Mary Anne Weber, 713-640-2407, [maweber@houstonaudubon.org](mailto:maweber@houstonaudubon.org), [www.houstonaudubon.org](http://www.houstonaudubon.org)

### **The Houston Museum of Natural Science**

At the Houston Museum of Natural Science the primary goal is education. With that in mind, the staff has created TEKS-aligned curriculum for each of the nine permanent Exhibit Halls, Butterfly Center, Giant Screen Theatre, and our newly renovated Planetarium. The main location is found in the Hermann Park district, however the museum also offers satellite venues located in Sugar Land and the George Observatory in Brazos Bend Park. HMNS offers numerous staff development opportunities throughout the year for area educators.

Contact: Cathy Walton, Lead Marketing Coordinator, 713-639-4617, [cwalton@hmns.org](mailto:cwalton@hmns.org), [www.hmns.org](http://www.hmns.org)

### **Houston Zoo**

The Houston Zoo offers enriching professional development opportunities for teachers, and engaging educational programs for area schools in a one-of-a-kind 55-acre living classroom. Throughout all of our programs and workshops, the Houston Zoo Conservation Education team has the unique ability to tie TEKS-related material and classroom instruction to wildlife and wild places by providing educators and students with a personal connection to animals.

Contact: Melissa Wong, Community Programs Manager, 713-655-6500, [education@houstonzoo.org](mailto:education@houstonzoo.org), <http://www.houstonzoo.org/education/educators/>

### **HummerBird Celebration of Rockport-Fulton, Texas**

Educators are invited to celebrate the fall migration of the ruby-throated hummingbirds and all birds during this 4-day event focused around birds. Learn at field trips, lectures, boat trips, bus trips, vendor halls and outdoor exhibits. Educators can visit the backyards of Hummer Homes on a self-guided Hummer Home Tour.

Contact: Rockport-Fulton Chamber of Commerce, 800-242-0071, [tourism@1rockport.org](mailto:tourism@1rockport.org), [www.rockporthummingbird.com](http://www.rockporthummingbird.com)

## **Integrating Sustainability Across STEM Curriculum**

The purpose of the Sustainability workshops is to present concepts and modules that enable educators to implement sustainability themes and concepts across STEM curriculum.

Contact: [www.eegi.org](http://www.eegi.org)

## **Irma Lewis Seguin Outdoor Learning Center**

The Irma Lewis Seguin Outdoor Learning Center's (SOLC) mission is to provide an educational experience for all ages in a natural setting. SOLC provides a variety of opportunities for educators, students, and youth groups. Our programs include field trips that focus on environmental science and outdoor adventure activities. SOLC also offers teacher professional development, team building, and high/low ropes courses.

Contact: Diana Kimble, 830-379-7652, [www.seguinolc.org](http://www.seguinolc.org)

## **John Bunker Sands Wetland Center**

The John Bunker Sands Wetland Center is located in the middle of a 2000 acre constructed wetland and offers in-depth field study experiences to middle and high school students in the areas of wetland ecology and water conservation. We also offer teacher development workshops such as Project WET, Wonders of Wetlands, and Project WILD.

Contact: Linda Dunn, Education Manager, 972-474-9100, [ldunn@wetlandcenter.com](mailto:ldunn@wetlandcenter.com)

## **Keep Austin Beautiful**

Keep Austin Beautiful leads hands-on educational activities focusing on protecting watersheds and proper recycling practices, loans tools and cleanup supplies for service projects, and mobilizes the Austin community to raise awareness and promote environment stewardship.

Contact: Ilya Shmulenson, 512-391-0617 x 701, [ilya@keepaustinbeautiful.org](mailto:ilya@keepaustinbeautiful.org),  
[www.keepaustinbeautiful.org](http://www.keepaustinbeautiful.org)

## **Kleb Woods Nature Preserve and Historic Farm**

The Harris County Precinct 3 Kleb Woods Nature Preserve and Historic Farm offers learning experiences for students and is available for history and science-related workshops for teachers.

Contact: Jim Wilson or Kendra Kocab, 281-357-5324, [klebwoods@Pct3.com](mailto:klebwoods@Pct3.com),  
<http://www.pct3.com/parks/kleb-park/>; website for monthly newsletter is  
<http://www.pct3.com/publications/>

## **Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center**

The Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center is in southwest Austin and is an organized research unit of the University of Texas at Austin. It provides educational programs for children and adults that teach people about their natural surroundings and how to grow native plants in their own backyards. We provide teacher resources on-line as well as professional development classes that provide CPE hours.

Contact: Julie Graham, 512-232-0249, [jgraham@wildflower.org](mailto:jgraham@wildflower.org),  
<http://www.wildflower.org/education.php>

## **LISDOLA (Lewisville ISD Outdoor Learning Area)**

LISDOLA offers learning experiences for LISD students and the community using the 84-acre site featuring comfortable walking trails, an outdoor interactive watershed model, Earth History interactive center/trail, team building stations, and flexible curriculum options. LISDOLA provides fun and powerful learning in a



classroom without walls.

Contact: Suzanne Barnard, Environmental Learning Supervisor, 469-446-8946 [lisdola@lisd.net](mailto:lisdola@lisd.net),  
<http://www.lisd.net/Domain/76>

### **Lubbock Lake Landmark**

Lubbock Lake Landmark reveals 12,000 years of continuous human occupation as an active archaeological and nature preserve. Through environmental education curriculum the Landmark promotes environmental literacy and provides K-12 and higher education students and educators with tools that encourage lifelong learning, science inquiry in a natural environment, and a greater understanding of the Southern High Plains.

Contact: Susan Rowe, 806-742-1116; [www.lubbocklake.musm.ttu.edu](http://www.lubbocklake.musm.ttu.edu)

### **McDonald Observatory**

The University of Texas at Austin's McDonald Observatory provides K-12 teacher professional development workshops for educators in astronomy, earth and space science, and physics. Workshops vary by theme, but all include hands-on TEKS-aligned activities, night-sky observing, visits to research-class telescopes, and more. McDonald Observatory also offers K-12 student field experiences on site, and remote video-conferencing with classrooms.

Contact: Keely Finkelstein, [keelyf@astro.as.utexas.edu](mailto:keelyf@astro.as.utexas.edu), 512-471-3339,  
<http://mcdonaldobservatory.org/learn>

### **McKinney Roughs Nature Park**

Situated just east of Austin, nestled among the Lost Pines of Bastrop County and the Texas Colorado River, McKinney Roughs Nature Park is a special place where the natural resources of several ecosystems converge. McKinney Roughs Nature Park, owned and operated by the Lower Colorado River Authority (LCRA), is home to hundreds of plant and animal species living within 1,100 acres of rolling box canyons, wildflower meadows, and lazy river bends of the park. We offer a variety of single or multi-day natural science education programs related to wildlife, water conservation, land stewardship, and renewable energy, as well as recreation activities like rafting, kayaking, and challenge course. Onsite dormitory housing is available for groups.

Contact Erin Holley, 512-303-5073, [outdoorprograms@lcra.org](mailto:outdoorprograms@lcra.org), [lcra.org/mckinneyroughs](http://lcra.org/mckinneyroughs)

### **Nature Discovery Center**

Nature Discovery Center provides scientific investigations for primary students through its curriculum, Nature At Your Doorstep, as well as educator workshops such as Project WILD, Aquatic WILD, Growing Up WILD, Project Learning Tree, and Wet In the City. Located in a 4-acre park, the center offers children's classes and camps, field trips, adult lectures, and Discovery Presentations at off-site locations.

Contact: Anne Eisner, Program Coordinator at 713-667-6550, [aeisner@naturediscoverycenter.org](mailto:aeisner@naturediscoverycenter.org)

### **Nature Heritage Society**

Nature Heritage Society, a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization, provides environmental education in public schools and park recreation centers to foster nature stewardship, improve natural resource conservation, and increase natural heritage development opportunities for populations in urban communities throughout Texas, with a focus on Houston and Harris County.

Contact: Treasa Antony, 847-780-6474, [natureheritagesociety.houston@gmail.com](mailto:natureheritagesociety.houston@gmail.com)



## **The Outdoor School**

The Outdoor School is an overnight field trip venue for schools. The school focuses on students in grades 4 – 8, and the program is both academic and adventure-based. All courses correlate with the TEKS. The mission is to use the outdoors to awaken others to the potential within and around them.

Contact: Darren Smith, 325-446-2301, [dsmith@outdoorschool.com](mailto:dsmith@outdoorschool.com), [www.outdoorschool.com](http://www.outdoorschool.com)

## **Perot Museum of Nature and Science**

The Perot Museum offers professional development to Dallas-Fort Worth teachers through the Kosmos Energy STEM Teacher Institute which serve our organizational mission of inspiring minds through nature and science. The museum also offers workshops themed around select exhibits and programs, and in partnership with area school districts.

Contact: Allison Burney, 214-756-5824, [www.perotmuseum.org](http://www.perotmuseum.org), [teacherworkshops@perotmuseum.org](mailto:teacherworkshops@perotmuseum.org)

## **Phil Hardberger Park**

Phil Hardberger Park offers family and student-friendly programs on the 1<sup>st</sup>-4<sup>th</sup> Saturday of every month. Various environmental education classes are offered during the week such as Starting Out Wild, Growing Up WILD, Explorer Elementary and Middle School classes. School field trip opportunities are available by request. Starting Out Wild and Growing Up WILD workshops are available annually for educators. Summer half-day camps are also offered.

Contact: Susan Campbell, Education Coordinator, 210-207-3280, [Susan.Campbell@sanantonio.gov](mailto:Susan.Campbell@sanantonio.gov), [www.philhardbergerpark.org](http://www.philhardbergerpark.org)

## **Plano Environmental Education Center and Nature Explore Classroom**

The Environmental Education Center educates and involves children, adults, families, community leaders, and educators in environmental activities and demonstrate sustainability concepts and practices. The certified Nature Explore® Classroom reconnects young children with nature through activities engaging skills in science, math, music, movement, language, literacy, and art. The gardens engage children and adults in exploring and interacting with the natural world as part of their daily lives, helping to develop a lifelong sense of wonder.

Contact: Heather Merchant, 972-769-4111, [www.livegreeninplano.com](http://www.livegreeninplano.com), <http://www.plano.gov/706/Locations-Gardens>

## **Project E<sup>3</sup>- Expanding Energy Education Workshops**

Project E<sup>3</sup> workshops provide cross-curricular, hands-on activities related to earth science/energy focusing on STEM activities which are correlated to state and national standards. Professional development is offered in Galveston at the *Ocean Star* Museum, in Houston, and arranged in partnership with area school districts.

Contact: Doris Tomas at 281-544-2435 or [dtomas@oceanstaroec.com](mailto:dtomas@oceanstaroec.com)

## **Project WILD, a Texas Parks and Wildlife Department Program**

Texas Parks and Wildlife Department (TPWD) sponsors a suite of Project WILD programs; Project WILD (K-12), Aquatic WILD (K-12) and Growing Up WILD (3-7 yr. olds). Each offers a special iteration of this hands-on approach to learning. The Texas Project WILD Suite 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 hands-on workshops for educators. Contact Kiki Corry, 512-389-4369, [Kiki.Corry@TPWD.Texas.gov](mailto:Kiki.Corry@TPWD.Texas.gov), [http://www.tpwd.state.tx.us/learning/project\\_wild/](http://www.tpwd.state.tx.us/learning/project_wild/)

### **REAL School Gardens**

REAL School Gardens is a not-for-profit organization that creates learning gardens that grow successful students. For a teacher, a garden is more than a beautiful place or a veggie patch. It is a powerful learning tool, as critical to a student's academic success as a computer or a microscope. To help students succeed, REAL School Gardens creates learning gardens at elementary schools and trains teachers how to use them to improve student engagement and academic outcomes. Programs also serve schools that already have outdoor classrooms/gardens. The Texas staff can serve schools in North Texas, Austin, San Antonio, and Houston.

Contact Scott Feille, Executive Director of the Texas Region, 817-348-8102, [sfeille@realschoolgardens.org](mailto:sfeille@realschoolgardens.org), [www.realschoolgardens.org](http://www.realschoolgardens.org)

### **San Antonio River Authority**

The San Antonio River Authority provides educational and recreational opportunities to increase awareness of and appreciation for the San Antonio River's Watershed. SARA aims to inspire action for healthy creeks and rivers. Teachers can request a free presentation or field trip regarding any of these topics or any earth, environmental, or life science topic. Professional development for teachers is offered as teacher workshops.

Contact: The Education Specialist, 1-866-345-7272, [www.sara-tx.org](http://www.sara-tx.org)

### **Santa Ana National Wildlife Refuge**

Santa Ana National Wildlife Refuge's mission is to conserve, protect, and enhance fish, plants, and wildlife, and their habitats for the continuing benefit of the American people. Santa Ana National Wildlife Refuge offers year-round educational and interpretive programs for K-Adults. We also offer educator workshops like Flying WILD, Project WILD, Aquatic WILD, Growing up WILD, the Leopold Education Project, and more. Contact Christine Donald, Outdoor Recreation Planner South Texas Refuges, 956-784-7575, [Christine\\_Donald@fws.gov](mailto:Christine_Donald@fws.gov), [www.fws.gov/refuge/Santa\\_Ana](http://www.fws.gov/refuge/Santa_Ana)

### **Stephen F. Austin State University Gardens**

SFA Gardens offer hands-on science learning excursions for K-12 grade students, weekly after-school programs for elementary students, outdoor weekend family adventure programs, and summer day camps for 4-15 year olds. Adult programming includes garden tours, hands-on seminars, lectures and biannual plant sales.

Contact: Elyce Rodewald, 936-468-1832, [erodewald@sfasu.edu](mailto:erodewald@sfasu.edu), <http://sfagardens.sfasu.edu>

### **Teacher Enrichment Initiatives (TEI)**

TEI provides free, TEKS-aligned curriculum written by teachers with support from University of Texas Health Science Center at San Antonio (UTHSCSA) scientists. These health-related activities engage students with real-world applications of science standards. Lessons are complete and downloadable and contain teacher and student background information, learning objectives, and all necessary handouts. The TEI provides free Teacher Professional Development workshops for K-12 teachers, featuring scientists, educational researchers, and master teachers. Workshops for teachers offered year-round in San Antonio at the UTHSCSA.

Contact: Rosemary Riggs, 210-567-4477, [riggsr@uthscsa.edu](mailto:riggsr@uthscsa.edu)

## **Texas A&M University**

The Partnership for Environmental Education and Rural health (PEER) in the College of Veterinary Medicine and Biomedical Sciences offers professional development for middle and high school teachers statewide on how to use STEM curriculum related to animals to address learning standards that are difficult to cover. Teachers learn technology as they are exposed to resources directed at hands-on learning and engaging activities. This includes a Teacher-Requested Resource opportunity for teachers to obtain free customized lessons directed at STEM learning standards and a complete science curriculum for 6-8 grades. Contact: Larry Johnson, [Ljohnson1@tamu.edu](mailto:Ljohnson1@tamu.edu), 979-845-9279, <http://peer.tamu.edu>

## **Texas Aquatic Science, a Texas Parks and Wildlife Program**

Texas Aquatic Science is a comprehensive aquatic science curriculum, from molecules to ecosystems, and headwaters to ocean, for middle school and high school students. The curriculum consists of an online student textbook, a teacher guide, specially produced videos, and supplementary materials. All activities are aligned with the state curriculum standards, the Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills for sixth through eighth grad, and for Aquatic Science and Environmental Science courses for high school. Texas Aquatic Science Certified Field Sites provide field experiences for visiting school groups at 58 sites around the state.

Contact: [Johnnie Smith@tpwd.texas.gov](mailto:Johnnie.Smith@tpwd.texas.gov), 512-389-8060, <http://tpwd.texas.gov/education/resources/aquatic-science>

## **Texas Brigades**

Texas Brigades leadership development program is for youth ages 13-17 and adults 21+. Established in 1993, there are now six varieties of programs: Bobwhite, Buckskin, Bass, Waterfowl, Ranch, and Coastal. Each five-day camp introduces habitat management and develops life skills for a future in any field. College scholarship opportunities are available. The state's leading wildlife and fisheries biologists and land managers serve as the camps' instructors.

Contact Aimee Carrasco, [acarrasco@texasbrigades.org](mailto:acarrasco@texasbrigades.org), 210-556-1371, [www.texasbrigades.org](http://www.texasbrigades.org).

## **Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ)**

*Take Care of Texas* offers free educational publications for students and teachers on the topics of energy and water conservation, air and water quality, recycling, and waste reduction. The website offers animated games and videos for students to learn more about helping the environment they live in.

Contact: Dana Macomb, 512-239-3143, [educate@tceq.texas.gov](mailto:educate@tceq.texas.gov), [TakeCareOfTexas.org](http://TakeCareOfTexas.org)

## **Texas Discovery Gardens**

Texas' first certified public organic garden has education opportunities for all ages, with 7½ acres of gardens and a two-story tropical butterfly conservatory. From 'Stories and More' for the preschool set, to the EarthKeepers curriculum for PreK through 8<sup>th</sup> grade, all the way to professional development for teachers, our students will discover and learn to sustain the natural world.

Contact: Erin Shields, [EShields@texasdiscoverygardens.org](mailto:EShields@texasdiscoverygardens.org), 214-428-7476 ext. 270, [www.texasdiscoverygardens.org/education.php](http://www.texasdiscoverygardens.org/education.php)

## **Texas Forestry Association (TFA)**

As co-sponsor of Texas Project Learning Tree (PLT), TFA offers the entire suite of PLT programs. PLT is an award-winning environmental education curriculum resource that can be integrated into lesson plans for all grades and subject areas. Curriculum materials can be received by attending an online or in-person

professional development workshop. TFA also offers the 45-hour Teacher Conservation Institute, a summer professional development workshop focusing on sustainable forest management. Contact: Misty Bowie 936-632-8733, [plttexas@texasforestry.org](mailto:plttexas@texasforestry.org), [www.plttexas.org](http://www.plttexas.org)

### **The Texas Freshwater Fisheries Center**

The Texas Freshwater Fisheries Center (TFFC) encourages exploration of aquatic ecosystems of Texas. Field trips for student groups and teacher workshops are available. TFFC includes a visitor center with aquaria and museum, wetlands trail, fishing ponds, working freshwater fish hatchery, classroom and meeting facilities.

Contact Zoe Ann Stinchcomb, 903-676-2238, [zoeann.stinchcomb@tpwd.texas.gov](mailto:zoeann.stinchcomb@tpwd.texas.gov)  
[www.tpwd.texas.gov/tffc](http://www.tpwd.texas.gov/tffc)

### **Texas Memorial Museum (TMM)**

Texas Memorial Museum's mission is to inspire a life-long interest in science in learners of all ages. TMM provides a variety of opportunities for both educators and students, including field trips, curriculum guides and exhibit-based activities, loaner kits, and educator professional development programs.

Contact Pamela R. Owen, 512-232-5511, email: [p.owen@austin.utexas.edu](mailto:p.owen@austin.utexas.edu); <http://tmm.utexas.edu/>

### **Texas Mining and Reclamation Association Summer Workshops for Educators**

Educators may participate in free summer workshops which consist of a week full of classroom activities to stimulate students' thinking skills with hands-on labs that are TEKS and STAAR correlated. Educators may learn about renewable and non-renewable energy sources and the environmental issues surrounding their use. Educators may attend the Industrial Minerals Workshop, a 4 ½ day workshop which focuses on how natural resources are mined and used today.

Contact Francye Hutchins, Director of Education, [geowiz@tmra.com](mailto:geowiz@tmra.com), <http://www.tmra.com/>

### **Texas Nature Trackers, a Texas Parks and Wildlife Department Program**

Texas Nature Trackers, part of the Wildlife Diversity Program, tracks the status of wild populations of plants and animals throughout Texas with the help of local citizen scientists. Workshops and events which highlight skills and tools are available and posted on the Texas Nature Tracker website.

Contact: Marsha May, 512-389-8062, <http://www.tpwd.texas.gov/trackers>

### **Texas Outdoor Education Association**

The Texas Outdoor Education Association's purpose is to come together to further our appreciation for, and understanding of the environment. Educators may attend educational professional development sessions and earn hours toward a TEEAC certificate for a fun and exciting workshop at the HEB Foundation Campsite in Leakey, Texas on the first weekend of every October.

Contact: [www.toea.org](http://www.toea.org)

### **Texas Recyclers Association, Inc.**

Texas Recyclers Association, Inc., a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization, provides TEKS-aligned on-site and virtual hands-on environmental education through workshops, professional development, dramatic skits, and more for K-12 students, teachers and family members. Our Reduce Reuse Recycle and Repurpose strategies promote learning and character education that creates lifelong skills environmentally friendly habits to promote natural stewardship in daily living.

Contact: Ruenette "Maggie" Bolden, 409-728-5465, [ruenetteb@yahoo.com](mailto:ruenetteb@yahoo.com), [www.texasrecyclers.com](http://www.texasrecyclers.com)

### **Texas State Aquarium**

The Aquarium introduces visitors to the aquatic wonders of the Gulf of Mexico. Students and teachers participating in programs will be immersed in hands-on, learner-centered STEM activities that promote investigation, critical thinking, and creativity. Aquarium programs are age-appropriate, TEKS-aligned (K-12), and conducted within the aquarium's own diverse habitats, classrooms, and nearby marine environments. Programs include classes, tours, camps, workshops, and overnights.

Contact: Kristin Evans, Dean of Curriculum & Instructor (363) 654-1452, [kevans@txstateaq.org](mailto:kevans@txstateaq.org), <https://texasstateaquarium.org/>

### **Texas Stream Team**

Texas Stream Team (TST) trains volunteers, including teachers and students, to collect water quality data on lakes, rivers, streams, wetlands, bays, bayous, and estuaries in Texas. TST also offers education and outreach to schools, families, organizations, and other groups on water quality.

Contact: 877-506-1401, <http://txstreamteam.meadowscenter.txstate.edu/>

### **Texas Tech University Outdoor School:**

Texas Tech University's Outdoor School provides K-12 teacher professional development workshops for educators in STEM, Science, and environment-related Every Student Succeeds Act Pedagogy and content. Workshops are intended to help teachers develop place-based curriculum at their home site and incorporate hands-on, TEKS-aligned activities. The Outdoor School also offers STEM-based field experiences to K-12 students at the Llano River Field Station in Junction, TX.

Contact: 806-742-2494, [outdoorschool.junction@ttu.edu](mailto:outdoorschool.junction@ttu.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: Sally Alderman, 512-463-5836, [sally.alderman@twdb.texas.gov](mailto:sally.alderman@twdb.texas.gov), <http://www.twdb.texas.gov/kids>

### **Texas Wildlife Association (TWA)**

Texas Wildlife Association believes that today's children are tomorrow's decision makers, therefore have made it their mission to create an awareness of conservation, water, wildlife, and the importance of quality land stewardship. This is done by implementing various programs in the classroom and out in the field that enable educators to meet their goals while fostering a consciousness of the natural world. TWA's programs are all TEKS-aligned and range from grades K-12. TWA also offers professional development workshops and trainings held across the state.

Contact: Kassi Scheffer, 210-826-2904, [kscheffer@texas-wildlife.org](mailto:kscheffer@texas-wildlife.org) or Leslie Wittenburg, 512-680-6000, [lwittenburg@texas-wildlife.org](mailto:lwittenburg@texas-wildlife.org), [www.texas-wildlife.org](http://www.texas-wildlife.org)

### **The Texas Zoo- Victoria, TX**

The Texas Zoo connects people with wildlife from Texas and the rest of the world, and advances conservation through education, recreation, science, and action. Throughout the year we offer K-12 educational programs including field trips, home school programs, outreaches, and summer camps.

Contact: Katie Boughal, 361-573-7681, [kboughal@texaszoo.org](mailto:kboughal@texaszoo.org), [www.texaszoo.org](http://www.texaszoo.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/>

### **Tree Trails, a Texas A&M Forest Service Program**

Tree Trails is a program highlighting the significance of trees in our communities, and includes lesson modules and an online mapping application. Lesson modules using urban forestry education goals, guide educators in creating and incorporating a Tree Trail in their program. By selecting, mapping and identifying trees students create “trails” and investigate topics that help them learn about their local trees and forests. The Tree Trails online application is an open-source project where students enter their identification and measurement data to map their trees. The application then calculates the value of the benefits these trees provide. Tree Trails is aligned with state standards. Professional development training and assistance is available.

Contact Leslie Kessner, Conservation Education Coordinator, [lkessner@tfs.tamu.edu](mailto:lkessner@tfs.tamu.edu), 979-458-6600, <http://tfsweb.tamu.edu/treetrails/>

### **Turtle Island Restoration Network**

Turtle Island Restoration Network leads hands-on educational activities focusing on the Gulf of Mexico, the watershed that sustains it, and the impact of human activity on our ocean. Programs focus on decomposition of litter in the marine environment, point source and non-point source pollution, and the effect of plastics in the environment.

Contact: Joanie Steinhaus, 409-795-8426, [joanie@tirn.net](mailto:joanie@tirn.net), [www.seaturtles.org](http://www.seaturtles.org)

### **Tyler South Central Regional Microscale Chemistry Center (SCRMCC)**

Tyler South Central Regional Microscale Chemistry Center offers professional development for anyone working in a science laboratory environment. Educators may receive help in planning training sessions or select workshops to attend. SCRMCC also provides TEKS-based information for students. SCRMCC specializes in teaching the 3 Rs—Reduce, Reuse, or Recycle.

Contact: Dr. Byron Howell, 903-510-2528 or at [bhow@tjc.edu](mailto:bhow@tjc.edu)

### **University of Texas Marine Science Institute**

Teachers on the Estuary (TOTE) is a teacher professional development program that is offered through the University of Texas Marine Science Institute and the Mission-Aransas National Estuarine Research Reserve (Reserve). TOTE trainings increase the capacity of teachers to use scientific research and data in experiential instruction. TOTE participants practice what they will later teach during hands-on, field-based trainings at Reserve and partner sites in Port Aransas, Texas, and the surrounding area.

Contact: Carolyn Rose, (361) 749-3152, [carolyn.rose@utexas.edu](mailto:carolyn.rose@utexas.edu), <http://missionaransas.org/education/teachers>

### **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 or the Conservation Education Program Coordinator, 361-364-2643, [sglasscock@welderwildlife.org](mailto:sglasscock@welderwildlife.org) or [conservationeducator@welderwildlife.org](mailto:conservationeducator@welderwildlife.org), [www.welderwildlife.org](http://www.welderwildlife.org)

### **Westcave Outdoor Discovery Center**

Westcave Outdoor Discovery Center offers programs at Westcave Preserve in Southwest Travis County. Weekday school programs provide guided hikes into the Preserves' canyon, grotto, and cave areas. Programs focus on geology, conservation, habitat, water, and the history of Westcave. Public tours are available every weekend, weather permitting. Professional development opportunities occur during the year by hosting various workshops.

Contact: 830-825-3442 or email [paul@westcave.org](mailto:paul@westcave.org), [www.westcave.org](http://www.westcave.org)