

The Texas Environmental Education Advisory Committee

The Texas Environmental Education Advisory Committee (TEEAC) collaborates with a network of providers focused on environmental education for educators and students. The network includes organizations and institutions such as non-profits, universities, local and state agencies, museums, and nature centers. The TEEAC Providers Network ensures that student environmental experiences and teacher professional development are educationally sound and aligned with the Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills (TEKS).

Teachers and other educators can participate in approved programs or workshops offered by TEEAC Providers. For programs or workshops to be approved for hours toward the TEEAC Certificate of Recognition, TEEAC Providers must complete a [Program Description Form](#). Once an educator has participated in 45 hours of professional development from TEEAC-approved providers, they should complete the [Coursework Verification Form](#) to obtain their TEEAC Certificate of Recognition.

For details about programs or workshops, please contact the provider directly. Any other questions should be directed through the [Curriculum Division Help Desk](#).

TEEAC Providers:

Academics Outdoors - Region 10 ESC

Academics Outdoors through Region 10 ESC supports all forms of outdoor learning, including partnerships with camps to host schools for field trips, creating a network for district-owned Outdoor Learning Centers in the DFW area, and offering professional development for teachers on using the outdoors as an extension of their classrooms. We also provide TEKS-based Teacher Guides and Student Journals with activities specifically designed for outdoor learning.

Contact: Holly Bishop at Holly.Bishop@Region10.org, 972-348-1482

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

This free 4–6-hour workshop is open to anyone 18 or older interested in teaching fishing skills in their communities. The program provides the curriculum, materials, equipment (where available), and support to help volunteers successfully introduce youth and adults to fishing. Topics include fish identification and habitats, stewardship of aquatic resources, equipment, knots, and tackle assembly, casting techniques, and fishing safety, ethics, and regulations. Ideal for teachers, youth group leaders, after-school or camp staff, and community volunteers.

Contact: angleredu@tpwd.texas.gov

Association of Fish & Wildlife Agencies

The Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies serves as the national office for Project WILD and related programs. Texas Parks and Wildlife oversees professional development for Project WILD (focusing on wildlife), Aquatic WILD (focusing on aquatic species and habitats), Growing Up WILD (early childhood), Flying WILD (focusing on birds), and Climate & Wildlife (climate adaptation). These cross-curricular programs span grades pre-K through 12 and cover topics such as wildlife, habitats, water, migratory birds, and outdoor learning.

Contact: projectwild@fishwildlife.org

Audubon Texas

Audubon Texas serves as a hub for conservation action and engagement. Audubon fosters sustainable, resilient communities for birds and people. We operate three urban Audubon Centers in Cedar Hill, Dallas, and San Antonio, and we own the Sabal Palm Sanctuary in Brownsville, operated by the Gorgas Science Foundation. Each year, all our urban centers welcome thousands of students and visitors to experience the outdoors, enjoy birdwatching, and participate in conservation education programs. Audubon brings STEM-based classroom lessons to life in the field, taking a fun, hands-on approach to developing future conservationists while reinforcing essential knowledge for student success in school. Plan your next nature-based adventure and visit tx.audubon.org to find the center or program closest to you.

Contact: audubontexas@audubon.org

Austin Nature and Science Center

The Austin Nature & Science Center (ANSC) offers educational and recreational opportunities to enhance awareness and appreciation for science and nature in an informal setting. ANSC provides TEKS-aligned, in-person science programming at your school or on our site. Our programs aim to help teachers meet the science standards for their students in a natural, fun, and hands-on learning environment.

Contact: anscprograms@austintexas.gov, 512-974-3888

Austin Watershed Protection Department

The City of Austin's Watershed Protection Department offers school outreach for Grades 5–12, focusing on informed decision-making about choices that impact Austin's water quality, unique habitats and species, and flood safety. Education-related offerings are TEKS-aligned and include field trips, presentations, kits, curricula, and teacher training in the Austin area.

Contact: Amanda.Braziel@austintexas.gov or Jessica.Gordon@austintexas.gov, 737-825-1216

Austin Youth River Watch

Austin Youth River Watch (AYRW) is an environmental education and youth development nonprofit that engages high school students from ten campuses in Austin ISD and Del Valle ISD through after-school and summer programs. Our students, known as River Watchers, participate in hands-on environmental activities such as water quality monitoring, habitat restoration, and outdoor adventures, all grounded in TEKS-aligned, place-based science education. Our programs build environmental literacy, confidence, and leadership skills while fostering a deep connection to nature and a sense of belonging.

Contact: Fidel Campuzano Gonzalez, fidel@riverwatchers.org, 512-665-5428

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, outreach experiences, and teacher professional development through various activities and workshops. CRASR connects researchers, college students, community members, and K-12 audiences around the critical topic of water.

Contact: Melissa Mullins 254-710-2382, melissa_mullins@baylor.edu

Children's Environmental Literacy Foundation (CELF)

The mission of the Children's Environmental Literacy Foundation is to establish sustainability as an integral part of every child's K–12 learning experience. CELF has reached over 1.5 million students by training more than 16,000 teachers in more than 5,000 schools.

Contact: Lisa Gianukos, 832-477-4583; lisagianukos@celfeducation.org

Choose Energy K–12 Outreach Program at the University of Texas at Austin

The Choose Energy K–12 outreach program provides diverse professional development opportunities for Texas secondary STEM teachers to improve their understanding of petroleum and geosystems engineering and how energy careers serve society. Relationships with teachers provide an opportunity to impact students' awareness of society's energy needs, energy careers, and programs of study in the Hildebrand Department of Petroleum and Geosystems Engineering.

Contact: Sabrina Ewald, sabrina.ewald@austin.utexas.edu, 214-952-9687

Coastal Bend Bays & Estuaries Program

The Coastal Bend Bays & Estuaries Program (CBBEP) bases its Delta Discovery education program at the 11,500+ acre Nueces Delta Preserve in Odem, TX. We offer discovery-based, TEKS-aligned field experiences for area students to explore while immersed in our restored and conserved South Texas ecosystems. We also fulfill outreach requests from schools and community partners through engaging presentations. Our program provides a variety of workshops for K-12 teachers and informal educators. These collaborative opportunities give educators added insight into the local ecology of our bays and estuaries, including supplies and curriculum to successfully implement meaningful science experiences with their students. Educators may choose from one-day workshops in the fall or spring, or summer intensives. Schoolwide in-service is available upon request.

Contact: Education Department Staff at 361-673-6829 or education@cbbep.org

Colorado River Alliance

With a mission to champion the long-term vitality of the Texas Colorado River, our education programs serve approximately 9,000 elementary and middle school students each year. Our Redbud Program has been recognized as one of the best field trips in Central Texas, engaging young water scientists (primarily in grades 3-5) in a 4-hour program that focuses on the water cycle, river stewardship, water conservation, and understanding the Colorado River and its Highland Lakes. Our Mobile River Program, which received TCEQ's Environmental Excellence Award in 2017, features a high-tech water science center on wheels (housed inside a 42' trailer) that travels to middle school campuses, delivering not only an unforgettable on-site museum experience but also classroom models, TEKS-aligned curriculum units, and teacher-created STEM lesson plans. With content covering everything from STEM careers in water, pollution, and conservation, to current water issues and beyond, our goal is to change how citizens across the state think about their water and their community's lifeblood, the Texas Colorado River.

Contact: Adrienne Longnecker, 512-983-5979, adrienne@coloradoriver.org

Cultiv8Community

Cultiv8Camp connects children, primarily in rural areas, with safe and free experiences in nature. It is designed for students to embrace the outdoors while learning about ecology, land management, planting, and connecting with nature. Each field trip and day camp experience builds on the previous year's learning, encouraging schools and organizations to return annually. This progressive approach reinforces environmental education and fosters a deeper connection with nature over time.

Contact: Ashlea Mattoon, ashlea@cultiv8community.org, 214-686-4785

Dallas Arboretum

The Dallas Arboretum is a 66-acre garden located on White Rock Lake, which includes the 8-acre Rory Meyers Children's Adventure Garden. The Dallas Arboretum is a garden for all, enriching life through beauty, learning, and connection. The education team supports this mission by cultivating a connection to nature and inspiring environmental stewardship through science and garden-based experiences. The Arboretum offers a variety of professional learning opportunities both in the garden and on your campus to support science TEKS. Visit our website to see current programs. Custom workshops are available upon request.

Contact: education@dallasarboretum.org

Dallas ISD Environmental Education Center

The Dallas ISD Environmental Education Center is a 500-acre academic facility located in Seagoville, TX. The center features more than four miles of nature trails, a museum with interactive exhibits, a theater, four science laboratories, a live animals laboratory, an outdoor classroom, a fossil pavilion, a working barn with various livestock, as well as vegetable, flower, and herb gardens, and an astronomical observatory. The instructional programs at the center, led by experienced teachers and naturalists, are fully aligned with the Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills for Science and are designed to assist teachers at all grade levels in meeting the Texas Education Agency's requirement that students plan and conduct laboratory and field investigations during science instruction.

Contact: Mark Broughton, 972-749-6900, mbroughton@dallasisd.org

Dallas Zoo

The Dallas Zoo is committed to creating a better world for animals. Located just south of downtown Dallas, it is the largest zoological experience in Texas. The Zoo has been continuously accredited by the Association of Zoos & Aquariums since 1985. It features a 106-acre park, thousands of animals, and an education department that offers programs for all ages. School groups can register for a Wild Walk, a 45-minute Science TEKS-aligned tour led by a Dallas Zoo educator.

Contact: 469-554-7300, Education@DallasZoo.com

Delores Fenwick Nature Center, City of Pearland

The Delores Fenwick Nature Center (DFNC) is Pearland's premier environmental education facility. It aims to provide hands-on educational opportunities through programs, workshops, field trips, and outreach to teach Pearland about the native plants and animals found in our own backyards. Visitors to the DFNC will have the opportunity to view various live native animals, touch and examine different biofacts at our touch table, play with our interactive exhibits, and participate in nature crafts. The John Hargrove Environmental Complex, home to many native and migratory bird species, surrounds the DFNC. It features two onsite rookeries and two miles of gravel walking trails. We offer a variety of field trips, outreach, and distance learning programs for K–12.

Contact: Katie Boughal, 281-652-1960, kboughal@pearlandtx.gov

EcoRise

EcoRise offers a range of curricula and programs designed to advance environmental literacy, sustainable schools, and access to green career pathways. You can access the open-source EcoRise course catalog to explore their standards-aligned curriculum and join a teacher training, either virtually or in-person. Students who complete a student innovation project grant application can apply for up to \$700 to support green student innovations and initiatives. Explore the EcoRise project Gen:Thrive, a collaborative initiative that provides schools with shared data and technology tools.

Contact: Elizabeth Harper, support@ecorise.org, (281) 216-2116

Edwards Aquifer Research and Data Center's Aquatic Science Adventure Camp

The Edwards Aquifer Research and Data Center at Texas State University offers summer camps for students ages 6–14. The program emphasizes the principles and field experiences in aquatic biology and water chemistry. Day camps and overnight sessions are available. Professional development is offered to teachers who assist Texas State University staff with camp activities.

Contact: EARDC Education Office, 512-245-6176, eardc_education@txstate.edu

Edinburg Scenic Wetlands and World Birding Center

A 40-acre wetlands oasis amid a lively urban landscape, the Edinburg Scenic Wetlands hosts watchable wildlife year-round in a setting that is friendly to birds, butterflies, and other water-loving creatures. We provide programs for PreK-12 students on a diverse array of topics in environmental and natural resource sciences. The Center includes a 3.5-acre native butterfly garden, wetlands, outdoor classrooms, and an interpretive center. Our trained staff offers introductory and advanced birding courses, wetland courses, insect and reptile courses, plant courses, and professional development for educators.

Contact: Veronica Guzman. 956-381-9922 vguzman@cityofedinburg.com

Energy Education Foundation

The Energy Education Foundation (EEF) is a nonprofit organization dedicated to inspiring the next generation of energy leaders through innovative, hands-on STEM education. EEF connects students, educators, and communities to real-world energy concepts, careers, and technologies—empowering learners to explore the future of energy.

Contact: Fernando Hinojosa, 346-409-7137, fhinojosa@energyeducation.org

Environmental Institute of Houston (EIH)

The Environmental Institute of Houston offers a variety of workshops for educators and community members. We offer a diverse range of environmental programs, including the development, implementation, and maintenance of school habitat gardens, as well as the use of Wonders of Wetlands (WOW), Project Wild, and Project Learning Tree curricula. Additionally, we provide workshops on rainwater harvesting and rain gardens. Additionally, we host summer camps, programs, and field trips for scouting, school, and church groups, as well as a monthly Youth Birding Program. Our site, featuring habitat demonstration gardens, indoor and outdoor classrooms, and a large nature preserve campus, is ideal for hiking and birding. EIH also administers the Texas Envirothon program, a state-wide environmental education competition for high school students.

Contact: Wendy Reistle, 281- 283-3045; email: eih@uhcl.edu, Reistle@uhcl.edu

Families in Nature

Families in Nature offers a 2-hour nature-based Guide Development Program for parents, teachers, and community leaders who are interested in helping their communities engage with nature more frequently to learn, play, and volunteer together. Upon completing the training program, teachers will gain access to Families in Nature's exclusive Ecologist School curriculum, including the Families in Nature Guide version of our original Guidebook before publication. The Ecologist School Guidebook offers an informal science curriculum featuring over 1,000 hands-on STEAM lessons across 16 branches of science relevant to ecology, enabling participants to earn badges and potentially certification as a Junior Ecologist. By completing our Guide Development Program, teachers in Central Texas gain access to our Gear Library, allowing them to borrow camping and science teaching equipment. Furthermore, guides will learn how to organize a campus campout at their school to enhance families' comfort in nature and foster a sense of community.

Contact: Jordan Joly, jordan@familiesinnature.org

Fischer Park

The City of New Braunfels – Explore the City of New Braunfels' largest park with 62 acres of Blackland prairie restoration, a monarch waystation, and a fishing/kayaking pond. Teachers may receive TEEAC credit while accompanying their students on an environmental education field trip. Students participate in onsite TEKS-aligned activities that can be expanded upon back in the classroom. Activity options include fishing, kayaking, furs & skulls, pond exploration, insect catching, nature hikes, and more.

Contact: hplatz@newbraunfels.gov or 830-221-4378

Fort Worth Botanic Garden

Fort Worth Botanic Garden Education Department provides meaningful educational experiences through a variety of programs for students, teachers, and families, helping children and adults rediscover their sense of wonder and explore the natural world around them. Located in Fort Worth's Cultural District, FWBG offers field trips that connect students to the environment through STEM, family story times, unique teacher professional development, exploratory summer camps, adult education, and much more.

Contact: Sheryl Schickedanz: sschickedanz@fwbg.org or 817-681-7641

Fort Worth Zoo

Education is a crucial component of conservation at Fort Worth Zoo. We aim for the Zoo to serve as a valuable resource for educators and provide an enriching learning experience for students. The Fort Worth Zoo offers valuable resources that align with the TEKS. We offer a diverse range of activities for students and teachers, including field trips and virtual classrooms. Explore our website to discover what the Fort Worth Zoo offers.

Contact: Kathy Dorris, Education Director, or Billy Martin, Assistant Director of Education, 817-759-7200, education@fortworthzoo.org

Galveston Bay Foundation

The Galveston Bay Foundation's Environmental STEM Education programs offer classroom and place-based STEM environmental education centered on Galveston Bay to students and teachers statewide. The Galveston Bay Foundation's Professional Development workshops occur throughout the year and align with the Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills (TEKS).

Contact: Cindy Wilems, 281-332-3381

Gilmont Outdoor School

Located in East Texas, just north of Tyler and Longview, Gilmont Outdoor School (ODS) offers a residential program (3 days and 2 nights) for fifth graders, as well as day programs for K—12 students. Nature is the classroom, and Gilmont ODS teachers facilitate workshops on topics such as aquatic biology, forestry, earth science, and orienteering, among others. Skills practiced include data collection, team building, problem-solving, and drawing conclusions.

Contact: Andy Hackett, 903-797-6400, andy@gilmont.org

Guadalupe-Blanco River Authority (GBRA)

Guadalupe-Blanco River Authority (GBRA) The Guadalupe-Blanco River Authority offers a wide variety of educational resources for students and educators in the Guadalupe River Basin. Curricula supplements, online modules, posters, and maps are all provided free of charge within GBRA's statutory ten-county district of Kendall, Comal, Hays, Guadalupe, Caldwell, Gonzales, DeWitt, Victoria, Calhoun, and Refugio counties. GBRA also provides various outdoor learning opportunities based on the current TEKS. We have water quality specialists, engineers, water- and wastewater treatment plant operators, and many more professionals who can conduct outreach to students through virtual interfaces.

Contact: Stephanie Regets, sregets@gbra.org, 210-274-6297

H. E. Butt Foundation Outdoor School

The H.E. Butt Foundation Outdoor School partners with schools in the San Antonio area to help teachers, students, and communities connect with their natural spaces. Located on the headwaters of the Frio River, school-led, in-canyon programming focuses on providing opportunities for schools to develop outdoor programs that best serve their students. Lessons for students are focused on student learning and aligned with the TEKS. In San Antonio, we provide opportunities for teachers to engage in new learning opportunities that will equip them to take their students outdoors in their own space.

Contact: Kim Williams, kwilliams@hebfdn.org or Chris Richardson, Crichardson@hebfdn.org, 830-315-9250

Houston Museum of Natural Science

Generate a love of learning at the HMNS. We offer TEKS-aligned curriculum for each of our 12 permanent Exhibit Halls, including the largest Hall of Paleontology in the U.S., a Butterfly Center, a Giant Screen Theatre, and a Planetarium, along with frequent world-class Special Exhibits. The main location is adjacent to Hermann Park, with a satellite venue in Sugar Land. HMNS also owns the George Observatory located in the wildlife-friendly Brazos Bend State Park. Field trips to any of the venues are heavily discounted when booked in advance for a minimum of 10 or more students and/or educators. HMNS offers numerous development opportunities throughout the year, including Shell Educators' Previews, Maker Labs, GT workshops, Adult Education programs, annual Educators Events, and Sensory-Friendly events.

Contact: Cathy Parsons Walton, 713-639-4629, cwalton@hmns.org

Houston Zoo

The Houston Zoo values fostering meaningful relationships with educators and students in our community. Our Saving Wildlife School Partner Program focuses on building long-term partnerships with K-12 campuses. Embedded within these collaborations are opportunities for educators at each partner school to receive professional development from our nature and wildlife experts at the Zoo. The Saving Wildlife School Partner Program forges connections between Houston-area schools and the Houston Zoo. Each action campaign is unique and taps into students' interests and passions.

Contact: Houston Zoo Conservation Education, 713-533-6739, education@houstonzoo.org

Inner-NATURALIST

Inner-NATURALIST offers CPE training designed to empower educators with innovative tools to bring nature connection into the classroom. Our programs combine evidence-based techniques and hands-on activities, helping teachers reduce burnout while fostering student creativity and engagement. By integrating the cycles and seasons of nature into lessons, educators can create meaningful, real-world learning experiences that support emotional well-being and academic success. Our training equips teachers to inspire curiosity, helping students develop a deeper connection to the natural world. Join us to enhance your teaching practices, cultivate joy, and make a lasting impact in your classroom.

Contact: Lari Jo Wallace Edwards, (361) 315-5511, yourinnernaturalist@gmail.com

John Bunker Sands Wetland Center

The John Bunker Sands Wetland Center is in the middle of a 2000-acre constructed wetland, 30 minutes from downtown Dallas. Our nature center offers immersive, in-depth field study experiences to elementary, middle, and high school students. All our classes are TEKS-aligned. We also offer teacher development workshops such as Project WET, Wonders of Wetlands, and Project WILD.

Contact: Catriona Glazebrook, Education Coordinator, 972-474-9100, contact@wetlandcenter.com

John Paul Landing Environmental Education Center

John Paul Landing Environmental Education Center is located in Harris County Precinct 4, within John Paul Landing Park. The 865-acre park occupies land that was historically part of the Katy Prairie. It features a lake designed to support both terrestrial and aquatic wildlife, as well as flood retention. We offer guided bird and nature walks, presentations, and scheduled "A Closer Look at Nature" classes for school-aged children. These opportunities enhance observation skills, encourage students to examine the natural world more closely, and deepen their appreciation of science. The center is also available for science-related workshops for teachers.

Contact: Bayard Nicklow, 713-274-3131, johnpaullanding@hcp4.net

Keep Austin Beautiful

Keep Austin Beautiful leads hands-on educational activities focusing on recycling, composting, waste reduction practices, and protecting watersheds. The organization provides lesson plans, supplies for service projects, and educational resources on sustainability. Keep Austin Beautiful's mission is to inspire and educate all Austinites to volunteer together, beautify green spaces, clean waterways, and reduce waste every day.

Contact: education@keepaustinbeautiful.org

Kleb Woods Nature Preserve and Historic Farm

The 133-acre Harris County Precinct 4 Kleb Woods Nature Preserve and Center includes trails, a nature center, and a historic homestead. We offer guided nature walks, history tours, and educational activities for all ages. We offer regularly scheduled "A Closer Look at Nature" and "A Closer Look at History" classes for school-aged children, which improve observation skills, encourage students to take a closer look at the natural world, and enhance their appreciation for science and local history. We provide active and engaging field trip opportunities for schools, and the nature center is also available for history and science-related workshops for teachers.

Contact: Megan Ahlgren or Kendra Kocab, 281-357-5324, klebwoods@hcp4.net

Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center

The Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center is located in southwest Austin and serves as an organized research unit of the University of Texas at Austin. It offers educational programs for both children and adults, teaching them about their natural surroundings and how to cultivate native plants in their own backyards. We also provide professional development classes that offer CPE hours.

Contact: Julie Graham, 512-232-0249, jgraham@wildflower.org

Long Acres Ranch

Long Acres Ranch is approximately 800 acres of open green space located in the heart of Fort Bend County, surrounded by residential neighborhoods. With collaboration from Texas A&M, TPWD, Fishing's Future, and more, this property offers the local schools a unique opportunity for an outdoor, nature-inspired educational experience. When schools are not visiting, we host Hunter Education and Angler Education regularly on the property and participate in 4H, NASP, and SAR. Long Acres Ranch is private property and requires reservations or an appointment to visit.

Contact: October Smith, manager at 281-239-7998; osmith@longacresranch.org

Lower Rio Grande Valley Nature Center

The mission of the Valley Nature Center (VNC) is to provide educational opportunities and foster understanding and appreciation of the Lower Rio Grande Valley's unique natural communities of flora and fauna. We utilize fun, hands-on learning and guided exploration. Our outdoor classrooms and facilities introduce students to natural science concepts. Educators benefit from accredited teacher in-service training and support, along with local curriculum and materials in both English and Spanish. Families will find a six-acre nature park with winding trails to explore, as well as the Adventure Thicket play area. Children benefit from Science, Technology, Reading, Engineering, Art, and Math (S.T.R.E.A.M.) activities and connections to nature through our environmental education summer camps, school field trips, family-oriented Nature Days events, and after-school and weekend programs. Inclusive and accessible camp and weekend opportunities are available.

Contact: Hollie Johnston, 956-969-2475, hjohnston@valleynaturecenter.org

Lubbock Lake Landmark

Lubbock Lake Landmark is an active archaeological site and nature preserve. Archaeological evidence reveals 12,000 years of continuous human occupation. Through an environmental education curriculum, the natural world is explored, providing K—12 and higher education students and educators with tools that encourage lifelong learning, scientific inquiry in a natural environment, and a greater understanding of the Southern High Plains.

Contact: Susan Rowe, 806-742-1116, landmark.education@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 and include hands-on TEKS-aligned activities, night-sky observing, and visits to research telescopes. For K-12 students, the McDonald Observatory offers on-site Astronomy Field Trips, where students can explore the observatory and view research telescopes. Additionally, we offer a variety of distance learning programs.

Contact: Judy Meyer, 432-426-4153, teachers@mcdonaldobservatory.org

Meadows Center for Water and the Environment at Texas State University

Through educational field trips, students explore the beauty of historic Spring Lake and learn about our natural resources through a glass-bottom boat tour, a wetlands boardwalk, an aquarium exhibit, and hands-on TEKS-aligned activities. We specialize in interpreter-led tours that can be tailored to meet your specific learning goals. Teachers may choose to receive TEEAC credit while their students participate in an environmental education interpreter-led field trip at The Meadows Center.

Contact: Bess Price, 512-245-7540, bessprice@txstate.edu

National Junior Master Gardener (JMG) Program of Texas A&M AgriLife Extension

The National Junior Master Gardener (JMG) Program of Texas A&M AgriLife Extension offers teacher training workshops throughout the year. These dynamic professional development workshops are presented in a fun and interactive format, featuring TEKS-aligned, easy-to-implement, evidence-based JMG school gardening curricula. Training events focus on one or more of the JMG elementary, middle school, or the newest early childhood curricula, covering a broad range of horticultural and environmental education topics. Popular topic areas include student-led gardening projects, literature connections, garden-based STEM learning experiences, family engagement, and creating successful school gardens. Local teacher training workshops are regularly hosted at the county level throughout the state. Check the JMG website, social media, or your local county Extension office for more info.

Contact: Randy Seagraves and Lisa Whittlesey, 979-845-8565, juniormastergardener@gmail.com

Nature Discovery Center

Nature Discovery Center offers outdoor investigations and experiential learning opportunities for elementary and preschool students through its school field trips, day camps, homeschool programs, and other classes. Outreach programs such as Scales and Tails, Furry Friends, and Join the Insect Club visit schools, libraries, and other locations with live animals and specimens. Situated within a 4-acre park, the Center provides a variety of science and nature programs for children and adults.

Contact: Eric Duran, eduran@naturediscoverycenter.org, 713-667-6550

National Energy Education Development (NEED) Project

The NEED Project provides educational materials, evaluation tools, recognition of student leadership, and professional development for educators. Topics include energy sources, usage, forms of energy, energy transformations, and energy efficiency. Our TEKS-aligned K-12 curriculum is available for free download. Individual guides provide background information for teachers and text for students, hands-on experiments and engineering design projects, critical thinking activities and assessments, as well as language arts, social studies, and creative arts activities. Examples of NEED projects include modeling electricity generation, extracting “oil” from a well, designing wind turbine blades, building a solar oven, and exploring careers in the energy industry.

Contact: Wendi Moss, 800-875-5029, info@need.org

Native Prairies Association of Texas

The Native Prairies Association of Texas (NPAT) provides educational programs that focus on native prairie plant communities, grassland birds, and wildlife. NPAT provides workshops, field trips, presentations, and volunteer opportunities that build awareness and appreciation for our prairie heritage.

Contact: Rachel Weaver - Education & Volunteer Coordinator, rachel_weaver@texasprairie.org

Northwest ISD Outdoor Learning Center

The Northwest ISD Outdoor Learning Center (NISD OLC) offers NISD students experiential, nature-based learning experiences to foster curiosity, critical thinking, problem-solving skills, and collaboration. Our inclusive curriculum design is TEKS-aligned, offering interdisciplinary experiences for PreK through 12th grades. Field experiences last 4 to 6 hours on our 200-acre site, which features three large pavilions, walking trails, prairies, ponds, seasonal wetlands, creek access, and indoor classrooms. We participate in the BEETLES Leadership Institute, model BEETLES instructional practices on-site, and lead BEETLES learning routines across all 31 of our campuses within NISD.

Contact: Amy Hollenshead, NISD OLC Coordinator, at 817.698.1820 or ahollenshead@nisdtx.org

Oso Bay Wetlands Preserve

We offer various field trip options for schools and teacher training opportunities. Our mission is to enhance community understanding of the coastal ecosystems of South Texas.

Contact: Leslie Albrecht 361-826-3947 or 361-826-3335; LeslieA@cctexas.com

Perot Museum of Nature and Science

The Perot Museum of Nature and Science is a valuable resource and a catalyst for science learning through innovative, highly accessible experiences. Spark curiosity and wonder in your students as you explore our permanent exhibit halls. Discover engaging, TEKS-aligned programming that enhances your K-12 classroom curriculum. Teachers and students can benefit from a wide range of programming available at the museum or at your campus, including hands-on labs, science-on-stage shows, and family science nights. Financial aid support from the museum is often available for schools that qualify.

Contact: education@perotmuseum.org

Phil Hardberger Park

Phil Hardberger Park is part of the City of San Antonio's Parks & Recreation Department's Natural Areas Division. It offers a variety of free adult, family, and student-friendly programs on most Saturdays each month, including guided hikes, presentations, and take-away lessons. The Natural Areas Division connects our communities to nature through education and volunteer opportunities. Environmental and nature-based education programming is offered during the week, including Starting Out WILD, Growing Up WILD, and Project WILD, as well as family and adult nature classes, a children's vegetable garden, and semi-annual educator workshops for the WILD programs. WILD educator workshops provide age-appropriate strategies and tools for curriculum writing. Facilitators introduce content vocabulary, literacy, and nature concepts while engaging teachers, parents, and children in indoor and outdoor nature activities. Small group guided hikes, school field trips, and campus visits are available by request.

Contact: David Jimenez, david.jimenez@sanantonio.gov, 210-492-7472

Pines and Prairies Land Trust

The Pines and Prairies Land Trust (PPLT) owns three nature preserves in Bastrop County that are open for visitors and programs. Nature classes, birding hikes, and volunteer projects are offered at the Colorado River Refuge, located just outside the town of Bastrop. Class topics include river ecology, wildflowers, observation skills, water quality, and more!

Contact: Laurie Mason, Laurie@pplt.org

Plano Environmental Education Center and Nature Explore Classroom

The Environmental Education Center educates and engages children, adults, families, community leaders, and educators in environmental activities. The certified Nature Explore® Classroom reconnects young children with nature through activities that develop skills in science, math, music, movement, language, literacy, and the arts. Our gardens involve children and adults in exploring and interacting with the natural world as part of their daily lives, fostering a lifelong sense of wonder.

Contact: Sustainability Office, SEED@plano.gov, 972-769-4130

Project ACORN (Area Children Organized to Replant Natives)

The mission of Project ACORN is to enhance environmental literacy for participating PreK—8th-grade students through hands-on, inquiry-based science activities and to boost community involvement in environmental science initiatives by focusing on plant biodiversity in the San Antonio River watershed. The Curriculum and Instruction Science Department at Northside Independent School District operates this program as an out-of-school-time club.

Contact: Amalia Sollars, 210-397-8991, amalia.sollars@nisd.net

Project Learning Tree, a program of the Texas Forestry Association

Project Learning Tree (PLT) is an award-winning supplemental environmental education curriculum designed for teachers who work with youth from preschool through grade 12. PLT activities can be integrated into lesson plans for all grade levels and subject areas, especially STEM, reading, writing, and social studies. PLT's TEKS-aligned activities are hands-on, practical, and fun for both teachers and students. PLT certification is available through in-person or online professional development workshops.

Contact: Ted Stevens, 936-632-8733, plttexas@texasforestry.org

Project WILD, a Texas Parks and Wildlife Department Program

The 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 (ages 3-7). Each program offers a unique iteration of this hands-on approach to learning. The Texas Project WILD Suite is an education program for Pre-Kindergarten through 12th grade, emphasizing awareness, appreciation, and understanding of wildlife and natural resources. It is interdisciplinary and supplementary, and it 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: Sara Jose, 737-354-9033, Sara.Jose@tpwd.texas.gov or ProjectWILD@TPWD.Texas.gov

San Antonio Botanical Gardens

The San Antonio Botanical Gardens is a 38-acre garden in the city that features native trails, a conservatory, a family adventure garden, a children's vegetable garden, and a culinary garden. Educational programs for children and adults are available to enrich lives through connections with the natural world. Teacher professional development workshops, including Project Learning Tree, are offered throughout the year. Visit our website to view current program offerings.

Contact: Jessica Wolanski, 210-536-1425, education@sabot.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 Watershed. The River Authority aims to engage, educate, and empower students and teachers to make informed decisions regarding the San Antonio River Watershed through thought-provoking, hands-on, and inquiry-driven explorations. Teachers in Bexar, Wilson, Karnes, and Goliad Counties can request a free presentation or field trip about watersheds and river ecology. Professional development opportunities are also available for teachers.

Contact: Janine Garcia, Education and Engagement Officer, 210-302-3286, jvgarcia@sariverauthority.org

San Antonio Zoo

The San Antonio Zoo provides the perfect experience for students of all ages. Whether you explore the zoo on your own or enhance your field trip with a Zoo Connection Class or Wild Walk program, your students will remain engaged during this once-in-a-lifetime experience. Zoo visits complement your curriculum and TEKS initiatives through hands-on learning in a nature-based environment, featuring adaptations, habitats, and food webs, along with opportunities for observation, storytelling, new vocabulary acquisition, geography, and career exploration.

Contact: Michael Gates, School & Community Engagement Coordinator, michael.gates@sazoo.org

Southern Ogallala Conservation & Outreach Program (SOCOP)

The Southern Ogallala Conservation & Outreach Program (SOCOP), established in 2007, is an educational cooperative comprising Sandy Land UWCD, South Plains UWCD, and Llano Estacado UWCD in West Texas. The program serves students in Gaines, Terry, and Yoakum counties, with an estimated 8,150 students across eight different school districts. SOCOP's mission: Educating communities today to save water tomorrow! SOCOP's goal is to educate citizens of all ages about the importance of water conservation by providing engaging, interactive lessons and programs free of charge to the public. Using a state-of-the-art mobile classroom, museum-quality exhibits, and hands-on experiences, visitors explore the Ogallala aquifer, rainwater harvesting, water wells, potable versus non-potable water, and many other water-related subjects! Programs are available for groups of any size, age, or interest.

Contact: Michelle H Cooper, Education & Outreach Coordinator, 806-891-0993, savegroundwater@gmail.com

Take Care of Texas — Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ)

Take Care of Texas offers free educational publications on air, water, and waste for families, students, and teachers. The Take Care of Texas YouTube page features several educational videos, including virtual field trips. The website offers a range of free physical and digital publications, including posters, lesson plans, stickers, and bookmarks. Additionally, Take Care of Texas offers an ambassador program for teachers to learn more about the initiative and how to implement it in their classrooms and schools.

Contact: educate@tceq.texas.gov

Teacher Conservation Institute (TCI), a program of the Texas Forestry Association

TCI is a multi-day professional development camp that focuses on the environmental, social, and economic well-being resulting from the scientific management of Texas's forest resources. Educators are provided with TEKS-correlated curricula that empower them to effectively teach about the forest life cycle and forest ecosystems in the classroom. Field trips include the Texas Forestry Museum, a seedling nursery, a family-owned tree farm, and facilities for forest product manufacturing. Participants receive Project Learning Tree educator certification and up to 40 CPE hours.

Contact: Ted Stevens, plttexas@texasforestry.org

Texas A&M Forest Service Conservation Education Program

Texas A&M Forest Service Conservation Education offers a variety of free educational resources for PK—12 that reintroduce forests and trees into the classroom. From curricula and STEM applications to career connections and professional development, Texas A&M Forest Service provides something for every grade level and educator to explore the vital roles of trees and forests in our communities. Tree Trails, a standards-aligned STEM curriculum for elementary and secondary classrooms, empowers students to investigate the true value of trees and how to protect them from emerging threats, such as wildfires and biodiversity loss. Using the Tree Trails app, students can calculate the real-dollar value of their trees while mastering essential skills, such as tree identification, measurement, and geospatial mapping. This program can be easily incorporated into any classroom. Educator professional development and in-class presentations are available throughout the state.

Contact: Melanie Portillo, melanie.portillo@tfs.tamu.edu

Texas Aquatic Science, a Texas Parks and Wildlife Program

Texas Aquatic Science is a comprehensive aquatic science curriculum designed for middle and high school students, covering a wide range of topics from molecules to ecosystems and from headwaters to the ocean. The curriculum includes an online student portal, a student textbook, an online teacher guide, specially produced videos, and supplementary materials. All activities are TEKS-aligned for 6th—8th grade, Aquatic Science, and Environmental Systems. Field sites are state-wide and Texas Aquatic Science Certified, providing hands-on field experiences for groups.

Contact: ConservationEdu@tpwd.texas.gov

Texas Brigades

Texas Brigades offers multiple summer leadership development camps for youth ages 13-17. With over 30 years of experience, our Summer Camps Program develops life skills for a future in any field by exploring various wildlife and natural resource topics. Choose from our Bobwhite, Buckskin, Bass, Waterfowl, Ranch, and Coastal Brigade programs. Each five-day camp introduces science-based concepts (e.g., ecology, biology, and technology), conservation fundamentals, and challenges related to public speaking and teamwork. The state's leading wildlife and fisheries biologists, producers, and land managers volunteer and serve as instructors throughout camp. Join us outdoors! We're also on Facebook and Instagram. Apply online, Nov 1-March 15.

Contact: Allie Biedenharn Allcorn, info@texasbrigades.org, 210-889-2116

Texas Children in Nature Network

We support adults in getting children and families engaged in the outdoors, because children who play and learn outdoors are healthier and perform better in school. We host in-person and virtual workshops throughout the year on various topics influencing how children spend time in nature during the school day.

Contact: Sarah Coles, scoles@texaschildreninnature.org, 512-434-0815

Texas Discovery Gardens

Founded in 1936 and nestled in the heart of Fair Park, Texas, Discovery Gardens is home to Texas's first certified public organic garden. With over 7½ acres of lush, sustainable gardens and a year-round, two-story tropical butterfly conservatory, TDG has inspired generations to connect with the natural world. Our TEKS-aligned, nature-focused Explorers curriculum, designed for students in PreK through high school, encourages investigation and wonder. We offer hands-on, garden-based learning experiences for schools, homeschoolers, scouts, and families, as well as custom workshops and educator support throughout the year.

Contact: education@txdg.org

Texas Mining and Reclamation Association

The Texas Mining and Reclamation Association (TMRA) offers free, week-long summer workshops for educators, which include hotel accommodations and meals. These workshops provide experiences to stimulate students' thinking skills through hands-on, TEKS-correlated activities. Educators learn about various energy sources, the environmental issues associated with their use, and the diverse career opportunities available to students. The five-day workshops include tours of operating mines, areas of restored land, power plants, and other industry facilities. Workshops are available for coal, uranium, and industrial minerals, focusing on how resources are mined and used today.

Contact: Charitie Whitman, Director of Education, 903.707.4320, education@tmra.com

Texas Science & Natural History Museum

The Texas Science & Natural History Museum engages, excites, and connects curious minds of all ages to the unique and irreplaceable natural history of the State of Texas. The museum's hours are Tuesday to Saturday, from 10 am to 5 pm, and Sunday from 1 to 5 pm. Exhibits narrate the story of life in Texas—from its beginning, through the age of the dinosaurs, and into our current time. Visitors reflect on their relationships with the environment through engaging exhibits and programs featuring current research at The University of Texas at Austin. Explore our TEKS-aligned educational activity packets, professional development opportunities, and events as the Museum continues to evolve! Our Discovery Center educational space will offer visitors hands-on, paleontology-focused learning experiences. The museum's hours are Tuesday to Saturday, from 10 am to 5 pm, and Sunday from 1 to 5 pm.

Contact: Pamela R. Owen, 512-232-5511, p.owen@austin.utexas.edu, or TMMeducation@austin.utexas.edu

Texas Space Grant Consortium

The Texas Space Grant Consortium (TSGC) comprises 59 institutions that collaborate to ensure the benefits of space research and STEM education are accessible to all Texans. TSGC provides higher education and K-12 educators and students with opportunities in both formal and informal environments. The primary objective of the K-12 Education Programs is to support students and teachers in the fields of Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math (STEM) and to provide insight into the benefits of space exploration and space-based research. Key programs include the biannual Design Challenge, NASA STEM Enhancement for Earth Science (SEES), and LiftOff, a professional development opportunity at NASA for teachers.

Contact: Talia Jurgens, Program Manager, tsgc_admin@tsgc.utexas.edu

Texas State Aquarium

The Texas State Aquarium offers dynamic, educational programs that engage learners of all ages through interactive exhibits, animal encounters, and STEM-based activities that align with state education standards. Programs are available for school groups (both on-site and off-site), teen volunteers, campers, homeschool learners, higher education students, and the public. Our STEM-focused programs make science meaningful and impactful.

Contact: educationservices@txstateaq.org

Texas Stream Team

The Texas Stream Team trains community scientists, including teachers and students, to collect water quality data on Texas waterways. Teachers can earn up to five hours of continuing education credits by completing any Texas Stream Team training. Educators find the Texas Stream Team, along with our extensive TEKS-aligned curricula and teaching resources, to be valuable tools that support cross-disciplinary and informal instruction. By teaching students how to measure the environmental conditions around them, the Texas Stream Team helps teachers effectively convey abstract concepts in biology, chemistry, and ecology while fostering stewardship for Texas waterways. Additionally, the Texas Stream Team conducts water resource education and outreach activities for schools, families, organizations, and other groups.

Contact: Aspen Navarro, 512-245-1346, TxStreamTeam@txstate.edu

Texas Tech Outdoor Learning Center

Texas Tech University Outdoor Learning Center spans 411 acres outside of Junction, Texas. The South Llano River, mesquite thickets, pecan bottoms, open grasslands, riparian areas, and a vast dark sky create the perfect classroom for K-12 students and teachers. All curricula are STEM-based, TEKS-aligned, and rich with inquiry-based field experience. Workshops enable educators to gain knowledge, develop place-based curricula, and develop hands-on activities for classroom use. A 5th-grade teacher shared this about her students' Texas Tech Junction Outdoor School experience: "The children saw, experienced, touched, and learned more than a week in my classroom could provide. More importantly, we saw learning and teaching going on, the way we know it should. The students explored, caught, measured, encouraged, questioned, hypothesized, corrected, ran, walked, whispered, dreamed, and laughed all day long."

Contact: Brett Mosley, 325-215-1224, brett.mosley@ttu.edu

Texas Water Development Board - TWDB Kids

The Texas Water Development Board offers free professional development workshops on water science and conservation. Teachers will leave the course confident in their knowledge of water science and equipped with numerous Texas-specific activities and resources that can enhance classroom instruction while engaging both hands and minds. The TWDB Kids website offers flexible, TEKS-aligned lessons, including Major Rivers (grades 4 & 5), Raising Your Water IQ (grades 6-8), and Water Exploration (grades 9-12), as well as groundwater videos, maps of our water resources, and more.

Contact: Shae Luther, 512-463-8830, shae.luther@twdb.texas.gov

Texas Wildlife Association (TWA)

Texas Wildlife Association's mission is to raise awareness about conservation, water, wildlife, agriculture, and the importance of land management. All youth education programs are free, classroom and field-based, aligned with science TEKS, and focused on natural resources, conservation, and resource management. Programs and resources include:

- Wildlife by Design classroom presentations
- Discovery Trunks (shipped statewide)
- Distance Learning
- Critter Connections magazine (subscriptions available for individuals and classrooms)
- Land, Water & Wildlife Expeditions (classroom lessons and a field day on local private property)
- Teacher Workshops (6 hours of CPE credit)

Contact: Kassi Scheffer-Geeslin, 210-826-2904, kscheffer@texas-wildlife.org

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 the decomposition of litter in the marine environment, point-source and non-point-source pollution, and the effects of plastics on the environment. We offer in-classroom and field trip options for schools in the Galveston area. Our fieldwork program involves sampling water and sand to extract microplastics. A smaller in-class portion of this program is available for schools in the greater Houston/Galveston area.

Contact: Joanie Steinhaus, 409-795-8426, joanie@tirn.net

Upper Trinity Groundwater Conservation District Educational Programs

The Upper Trinity Groundwater Conservation District provides free programs and resources to STEM educators and community leaders throughout North Texas. Staff have presented in Parker, Hood, Wise, Montague, Tarrant, and Wichita counties. The UTGC District offers certified environmental staff visits for hands-on activities and lectures, educational service center training, and field site visits. Reservations can be made for the District Education Trailer, which features five interactive and TEKS-aligned exhibits on earth and environmental science suitable for PreK-12th grade.

Contact: Education & PR Coordinator, 817-523-5200

Urban Harvest, Inc

Urban Harvest provides a curriculum that includes hands-on lessons for learning techniques and using your school garden and Outdoor Classrooms as engaging educational tools. Participants explore gardening and nutrition education lessons that align with TEKS objectives in the core subject areas. Training empowers teachers, parents, students, and schools to engage in outdoor education.

Contact: Kim Perry, Director of Garden Education, kim@urbanharvest.org

Welder Wildlife Foundation

The Welder Wildlife Foundation is a 7,800-acre wildlife research and education refuge located in South Texas. We provide nature-based programming for K-12 students, universities, teachers, landowners, and a variety of adult groups. Rangelands: A Conservation Education Guide is a TEKS-aligned curriculum composed of 27 lessons for grades K-5. The science-based curriculum is distributed through our “Home on the Range” educator workshops. The goal of our programs is to provide participants with positive, hands-on environmental learning experiences in an outdoor setting.

Contact: Angie Arredondo, 361-364-2643, aarredondo@welderwildlife.org or Dr. Sandra Johnson, 512-413-9959

Westcave Outdoor Discovery Center

Westcave Outdoor Discovery Center offers experiential nature hikes on an otherworldly canyon trail (2.5-hour program) located within the Westcave Preserve in Southwest Travis County. Take your students to Westcave, where they will learn firsthand how groundwater turns into surface water at our natural spring-fed, dripping waterfall. All programs are TEKS-aligned and tailored to the age and interests of your group. Each field trip includes a one-mile guided hike. Public tours are available every weekend, weather permitting. Professional development also takes place throughout the year.

Contact: Meagan Whitehouse, Education Director, 830-825-3442, info@westcave.org

If you want your organization included on this list, please complete the [Program Descriptions](#) and the [Providers List Update](#) forms. Providers are invited to the annual TEEAC Meeting, which is held every year in early January. The meeting announcement and other important information are distributed through the TEEAC Newsletter. Contact Liz.Baker@tea.texas.gov for the link to sign up.