

# TEEAC Providers 2022-23

## 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 Liz Baker by e-mail at [Liz.Baker@tea.texas.gov](mailto:Liz.Baker@tea.texas.gov).

## TEEAC Providers

### Alamo Area Master Naturalist, Starting Out Wild Advanced Training

Alamo Area Master Naturalist (AAMN) provides a two-hour workshop for early childhood educators that teach toddlers (1-3 years old). Each nature based workshop provides access to online resources and curriculum for the Starting Out Wild program created in San Antonio, Texas educators will be provided resources online to learn and apply strategies for leading toddlers in using their senses to conduct indoor and outdoor investigations safely. At the end of the training, the educator participants will be able to demonstrate toddler activities that facilitate children's experiences through movement and using all their senses. In addition, vocabulary, literacy and nature concepts with analogs for learning with this age group and engage parents as well as toddlers in indoor and outdoor nature activities. Healthy snacks and educational based crafts are also included. Participants will be able to introduce nature song and movement to children. Contact: Phil Hardberger Park Conservancy at 210-492-7472, [www.philhardbergerpark.org](http://www.philhardbergerpark.org) , <http://txmn.org/alamo>

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

The Edwards Aquifer Research and Data Center at Texas State University offers summer camps for students ages 9-15. The program emphasizes the principles of 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, 512-245-3541, [eardc\\_education@txstate.edu](mailto:eardc_education@txstate.edu), <http://www.eardc.txstate.edu/>, <http://www.eardc.txstate.edu/education-center/camp.htm>

### 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 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

### Artist Boat

Artist Boat offers field lab activities 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. A model of the Galveston Bay Coastal Waters Institute curriculum, which consists of 24 pre- and post-interdisciplinary classroom lessons. In addition, students can engage in service learning at Artist Boat's Coastal Heritage Preserve, which is over 600 acres of prairie, saltwater, and freshwater wetlands on West Galveston Island. Students will learn about the importance of preserving and restoring the threatened Texas Coastal Prairie habitat while working in our nursery or green house, planting native plants or removing invasive species. Contact: Amanda Rinehart, 409-740-0722, [arinehart@artistboat.org](mailto:arinehart@artistboat.org), [www.artistboat.org](http://www.artistboat.org)

### 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 administers professional development for Project WILD (focusing on wildlife), Aquatic WILD (aquatic species and habitats), Growing Up WILD (early childhood), and Flying WILD (focusing on birds). Partners in various cities in Texas also provide additional support for Flying WILD, including Houston Audubon and Dallas Arboretum and Botanical Garden. These cross-curricular programs range in grade levels from Pre-K through 12th grade and include topics in wildlife, habitat, water, migratory birds, and learning outdoors. Contact: [projectwild@fishwildlife.org](mailto:projectwild@fishwildlife.org), or see [www.fishwildlife.org/projectwild](http://www.fishwildlife.org/projectwild).

### Audubon Texas

Audubon Texas is the lead, driving force in the state for bird conservation. By integrating science, conservation, advocacy, and education, Audubon's mission is to conserve and restore natural ecosystems, while connecting people to nature in Dallas, San Antonio, and the Texas Gulf Coast. Our coastal science team and four Texas nature centers based in Cedar Hill, Dallas, San Antonio and Brownsville offer diverse programming including field trips and outreach for school and youth groups, birding and hiking, outdoor leadership programs, kayaking, family festivals, adult events and workshops, and much more. Audubon Academy brings STEM-based classroom lessons to life in the field, taking a fun, hands-on approach to developing future conservationists, while reinforcing knowledge essential to student success in school. Plan your next nature-based adventure and visit [tx.audubon.org](http://tx.audubon.org) to find the center or program closest to you.

Contact: Email [audubontexas@audubon.org](mailto:audubontexas@audubon.org); <https://tx.audubon.org/programs/studentprograms>

### 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. ANSC offers TEKS aligned Science programming both virtually and in-person (at your school or on our site). Our programs are designed to help teachers meet the science standards for their students in a natural, fun, hands-on learning environment. For program descriptions and registration information, visit [www.austintexas.gov/ansc](http://www.austintexas.gov/ansc) and select the School Programs tab.

### 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@austintexas.gov](mailto:Sara.Heilman@austintexas.gov); [susan.wall@austintexas.gov](mailto:susan.wall@austintexas.gov); [jessica.gordon@austintexas.gov](mailto:jessica.gordon@austintexas.gov); <http://www.austintexas.gov/Watershed/YouthEd>

### Austin Youth River Watch

Austin Youth River Watch is an after-school and summer program that transforms and inspires youth through environmental education, community engagement, and adventure. Our students, the River Watchers, collect, analyze, and publish water-quality data from Austin-area streams and rivers, and report their data to local and statewide agencies. Additionally, River Watchers are guided through learning experiences with community partners to design and implement service projects that improve water quality and quantity through ecological and hydrological enhancement activities. Finally, River Watchers experience adventures such as camping, canoeing, and caving. Contact: Melinda Chow, 512-767-4719, [melinda@riverwatchers.org](mailto:melinda@riverwatchers.org), <http://riverwatchers.org/>

### Bayou Preservation Association

The Bayou Preservation Association concentrates its efforts on the 22 bayou systems and waterways in the greater Houston region by providing classroom presentations on various watershed-related topics, volunteer service-learning opportunities, adult lectures, and an annual symposium. Contact: 713-529-6443 or [info@bayoupreservation.org](mailto:info@bayoupreservation.org); <http://www.bayoupreservation.org>

### BRIT Education

The "GROW" collaborative between the Fort Worth Botanic Garden and the Botanical Research Institute of Texas offers meaningful education experiences through 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, GROW 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: Kimberly Whitlock, [kwhitlock@brit.org](mailto:kwhitlock@brit.org) or 817-546-1958 [www.brit.org/GROW](http://www.brit.org/GROW)

### 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. CRASR connects researchers, college students and K-12 audiences through offerings such as "Meet an Aquatic Scientist" virtual classroom visits, weekly after-school girls science clubs, summer teacher workshops, and support for citizen science water monitoring. Contact: Melissa Mullins 254-710-2382, [melissa\\_mullins@baylor.edu](mailto:melissa_mullins@baylor.edu), <http://www.baylor.edu/crasr/>

### Children's Environmental Literacy Foundation (CELf)

Children's Environmental Literacy Foundation (CELf) is an educational nonprofit working to integrate sustainability into the K-12 learning experience. Our programs offer a multitude of ways to bring sustainability education into the classroom and school communities. CELf's integrated approach transforms learning into an authentic exploration of real-world problems, centered in and around the school community. Using sustainability as a guiding framework, we help schools embed place- and

project-based learning into existing curriculum, across all subject areas through engaging professional development with year-round support, workshops, summer institutes, and innovative programming to develop the next generation of environmental problem-solvers. Contact: Lisa Gianukos, 832- 477-4583; [lisagianukos@celfeducation.org](mailto:lisagianukos@celfeducation.org); <https://celfeducation.org/>

### 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: Alleigh Stewart, 713-535-7251, [astewart@cmhouston.org](mailto:astewart@cmhouston.org), [www.cmhouston.org](http://www.cmhouston.org)

### Cibolo Nature Center & Herff Farm

Cibolo Nature Center and Herff Farm, located in Boerne, Texas, is a 162 acre nature preserve and historic homestead providing science and agriculture oriented education for school groups with our Outdoor Classroom and Farm Classroom programming. Attend adult education and teacher workshops, family and children's programs, summer camps, field trips, citizen science research, volunteer opportunities, a farmers market, and hike our trails while exploring forests, prairies, a marsh, and the Cibolo Creek.

Contact: Jennifer Wyle, 830-249-4616, [www.cibolo.org](http://www.cibolo.org)

### City of Houston Public Works Department, Water Conservation and Outreach Programs

The City of Houston, Public Works Department, Water Conservation and Outreach Programs are designed to inspire citizens to conserve water resources and protect the environment. Our mission is to promote water education, conservation and environmental stewardship. The goal is action-oriented education, enabling everyone to understand and value water, ensuring a sustainable future – water is what connects us all. The City provides educational presentations and outreach at special events, schools and businesses, including interactive exhibits, demonstrations, and hands-on activities.

City staff are also certified to teach Project WET workshops to educators at all levels, formal and non-formal, on diverse topics of water so that those educators can reach children with objective, experiential, science-based water education. Contact: [Gail.Kaufman@houstontx.gov](mailto:Gail.Kaufman@houstontx.gov) or 832- 395-3784 <https://www.publicworks.houstontx.gov/waterworks>,

### Coastal Bend Bays and Estuaries Program

The Coastal Bend Bays & Estuaries Program (CBBEP) bases its Delta Discovery Education Program at the 11,000+ acre Nueces Delta Preserve in Odem, TX. We offer engaging, TEKS aligned field experiences for area students as well as a wide variety of workshops for K-12 teachers and informal educators. Our 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. School wide in-services are available at a site of your choice upon request. Please visit our website for a full list of workshops.

Contact: Education Department Staff at 361-673-6830 or [education@cbbep.org](mailto:education@cbbep.org), <http://www.nuecesdeltapreserve.org>

## The Collins Academy

The Collins Academy in Jefferson, TX offers professional development and educational programs to public schools and communities in Northeast Texas. Utilizing project-based learning opportunities emanating from local environmental science and cultural history issues, professional educators, industry experts, and trained volunteers work with teachers and their classes to conduct TEKS aligned natural science investigations and conservation projects, history and preservation projects, and career and community development. The Collins Academy works in cooperation with public and private landowners and agency scientists to solve problems which are important to students and their communities. Curriculum resources include Project WILD; Junior Master Gardeners, Texas Junior Historians, the Big Cypress Bayou Restoration Project, the Paddlefish Reintroduction Education Initiative, and the Monarch Joint Venture.

Contact: Gary Endsley at 903-665-2900 or [info@collinsacademy.com](mailto:info@collinsacademy.com) <http://www.collinsacademy.com/>

## Colorado River Alliance

With a mission to champion the long-term vitality of the Texas Colorado River, our education programs serve about 9,000 elementary and middle-school students each year. Our Redbud Program has been called one of the best field trips in Central Texas, engaging young water scientists (primarily grades 3-5) in a 4-hour program focused on the water cycle, river stewardship, water conservation, and understanding the Colorado River and its Highland Lakes. Our Mobile River Program, which won 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 just an unforgettable museum experience on-site 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, current water issues, and beyond, our ultimate goal is to change how citizens across the state think about both their water and their community's lifeblood, the Texas Colorado River. Contact: Brent Lyles, 512-498-1587, [brent@coloradoriver.org](mailto:brent@coloradoriver.org), [www.coloradoriver.org](http://www.coloradoriver.org)

## Community Outdoor Outreach Program Grant, a Texas Parks and Wildlife Department Program

Looking for a way to fund your off-site field investigation trips? We may have the answer. The Community Outdoor Outreach Program (CO-OP) is a Texas Parks and Wildlife Department (TPWD) grant program. CO-OP's mission is to engage underserved populations in TPWD activities and programs. CO-OP grant funding is available to schools and any tax-exempt organization to provide community outdoor recreation, conservation and environmental education experiences. Grant funds can be used to for programming expenses such as transportation, staff, food, scientific or outdoor recreation equipment and program materials. Application deadline is February 1 annually. Visit the website for more information and the application. <https://tpwd.texas.gov/business/grants/recreation-grants/community-outdoor-outreach-program-co-op-grants>

Contact: Carly Blankenship, 512-389-8254, [carly.blankenship@tpwd.texas.gov](mailto:carly.blankenship@tpwd.texas.gov)

## Cypress Historical Society

The Cypress Historical Society (CHS) is located at Harris County's Cypress Top Historic Park. The society offers a variety of workshops for teachers and learning experiences for students and youth groups. Programs such as "Between Two Creeks" focus on the local geography including watersheds, water resources and the changing human environment. The society offers a week-long summer camp for youngsters ages 9-12 as well as guided tours at Cypress Top Historic Park and Kleb Woods Historic Farm. 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 museum complex has eight historic buildings, including a general store, dance hall, family house, service station, and barbershop. We offer guided tours, hands-on examination of historical artifacts, genealogical exhibits, and opportunities to learn about the history of the local area. Students are encouraged to compare and contrast their lives and community today with those of Cypress families a hundred years ago. The park is also available for history-related workshops for teachers. Contact: Linda Martin-Rust or Kaitlin Will, 281-357-5324, [cypressstop@Pct3.com](mailto:cypressstop@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/newsletter/cypress-top>

### The Dallas Arboretum

The Dallas Arboretum is a 66 acre garden located on White Rock Lake and includes the 8 acre Rory Meyers Children's Adventure Garden. The mission of the Dallas Arboretum's education team is to cultivate a connection to nature and inspire environmental stewardship through garden-based experiences. The Arboretum offers a variety of professional learning opportunities both at the garden and at your campus to support Earth and Life TEKS. Visit our website to see current offerings. Custom workshops available on request. Contact: [education@dallasarboretum.org](mailto:education@dallasarboretum.org)  
<https://www.dallasarboretum.org/pd>

### Dallas ISD STEM Environmental Education Center

The STEM Environmental Education Center is a 500-acre academic facility located in Seagoville, TX. The center offers urban teachers and students the opportunity to connect with nature while learning important science content and skills. The center includes more than four miles of nature trails, a 26,000-sq. ft. facility with interactive exhibits, a 70-seat ecology theater, four science laboratories, a live animals laboratory, an outdoor classroom, a fossil pavilion, a working barn with a variety of livestock, vegetable, flower, and herb gardens, and a recently added astronomical observatory. The center's instructional programs, led by experienced teachers and naturalists, are fully aligned to the Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills for Science and designed to help teachers at all grade levels meet the Texas Education Agency's requirement that students plan and implement both laboratory and field investigations during science instruction. The mission of the STEM Environmental Education Center is to help diverse learners develop an awareness, appreciation, and concern for the environment and use 21st-century knowledge and skills to make informed, responsible decisions  
Contact: Mark Broughton, 972-749-6900, [mbroughton@dallasisd.org](mailto:mbroughton@dallasisd.org)  
<https://www.dallasisd.org/Domain/96>

### The Delores Fenwick Nature Center, The City of Pearland

The Delores Fenwick Nature Center (DFNC) is Pearland's newest environmental education facility. The Nature Center aims to provide hands-on educational opportunities to the community through programs, workshops, and field trips. A state-of-the-art classroom easily accommodates 50 guests for an indoor learning experience. An outdoor pavilion provides opportunities for outdoor learning and the attached picnic tables overlooking the ponds make for a nice sitting area. The Great Room features live animal exhibits, touchable bio-facts, and a craft table. The DFNC is surrounded by the John Hargrove Environmental Complex which is home to many native and migratory bird species, has 2 onsite rookeries, and 2 miles of gravel walking trails. Admission to the Nature Center and the surrounding trails is FREE. Programs and workshops are subject to additional fees. We offer a variety of TEK aligned field trip, outreach and distance learning programs for K-12 grade levels. Contact: Katie Boughal, 281-652-1960, [kboughal@pearlandtx.gov](mailto:kboughal@pearlandtx.gov), <https://www.parks.pearlandtx.gov/facilities/delores-fenwick-nature-center>

## 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);

## EcoRise

EcoRise is an educational non-profit. EcoRise develops the next generation of creative problem solvers by enlivening conventional classrooms with academically aligned K–12 curriculum, leading-edge professional development and wrap-around support, and grant funds to bring student innovations to life. EcoRise resources are focused on enhancing STEM education, promoting sustainability, introducing students to green careers, and helping students develop 21st-century skills.

Contact: [support@ecorise.org](mailto:support@ecorise.org), <https://ecorise.org>

## 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. The Education Outreach Center is the EAA's first permanent facility dedicated exclusively to offering educational instruction and activities. The permanent location for exhibits and programs at the Education Outreach Center is at Morgan's Wonderland Camp. The EOC features unique learning experiences that will broaden imaginations through participation in innovative and inclusive STEAM opportunities. Additionally, the EAA has geologists, hydrologists, biologists, mathematicians, and engineers who can discuss STEAM careers and how they are vital to the EAA's mission of managing, enhancing, and protecting our aquifer. All presentations, materials, and resources are provided free of charge to schools and organizations within our jurisdiction.

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 summer camps for students ages 9-15. The program emphasizes the principles of 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, 512-245-3541, [eardc\\_education@txstate.edu](mailto:eardc_education@txstate.edu), <http://www.eardc.txstate.edu/>, <http://www.eardc.txstate.edu/education-center/camp.html>

## Edinburg Scenic Wetlands and World Birding Center

A 40-acre wetlands oasis in the midst of a lively urban landscape, the Edinburg Scenic Wetlands offers watchable wildlife year-round in a setting friendly to birds, butterflies and other water-loving creatures. We offer programs for PreK-12 students in a diverse array of topics in the environmental and natural resource sciences. The Center offers a 3.5-acre native butterfly garden, a variety of wetlands and outdoor classrooms, an interpretive center and more. Trained staff can offer introductory and advanced birding courses, wetland courses, insect and reptiles courses, plant courses and more. We also offer professional development courses for educators. Contact: Veronica Guzman. 956-381-9922

[vguzman@cityofedinburg.com](mailto:vguzman@cityofedinburg.com) [www.Edinburgwbc.org](http://www.Edinburgwbc.org)

### 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), <https://efec.unt.edu/>

### Environmental Institute of Houston (EIH)

The Environmental Institute of Houston offers a variety of workshops for educators and members of the community. We focus on a wide array of environmental programs including the development, use and upkeep of school habitat gardens; Wonders Of Wetlands (WOW) , Project Wild , and Project Learning Tree curricula; and Rain Water harvesting and Rain Garden workshops. We offer summer camps; programs and field trips for scouting, school, and church groups; and a monthly Youth Birding Program. Our site, with demonstration Habitat Gardens, indoor and outdoor classrooms, and 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](mailto:eih@uhcl.edu) , <https://www.uhcl.edu/environmental-institute/education/>

### 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 2 fishing and kayaking ponds. Teachers may opt to receive TEEAC credit while their students are on an environmental education interpreter led field trip. Teachers will participate in onsite TEKS aligned activities that can be expanded on back in the classroom. Activity options include fishing, kayaking, furs & skulls, pond exploration, insect catching, nature hikes, and more.

Contact: [smlenar@nbtexas.org](mailto:smlenar@nbtexas.org) or 830-221-4378; <https://www.nbtexas.org/2592/Fischer-Park>

### 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. We offer a wide range of activities for students and teachers, from field trips to virtual classrooms. Explore our website and discover what the Zoo can do for you.

Contact: Kathy Dorris, Education Director, Billy Martin Assistant Director of Education, 817-759- 7200, [education@fortworthzoo.org](mailto:education@fortworthzoo.org), <https://www.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), or [education@gilmont.org](mailto:education@gilmont.org) <http://gilmontoutdoorschool.weebly.com/>

### Guadalupe-Blanco River Authority (GBRA)

The Guadalupe-Blanco River Authority offers a wide variety of educational resources for the students and educators of the Guadalupe River Basin. Curricula supplements, online modules, posters, maps are all provided free of charge within the statutory district. GBRA also provides a wide variety of outdoor learning opportunities, based on the current standards (TEKS). We have water quality specialists, engineers, water and waste-water treatment plant operators and many more professionals that can conduct outreach to students through virtual interfaces.

Contact: Cinde Thomas-Jimenez [cthomas-jimenez@gbra.org](mailto:cthomas-jimenez@gbra.org); 830-379-5822, <http://www.gbra.org/education>

### 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 including monthly seasonal bird walks, TEKS-aligned "field investigations," Magic Planet digital projection globe programs, 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

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, 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 located in Sugar Land. HMNS also owns the George Observatory located in 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 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 values creating meaningful relationships with educators and students in our community. Our Saving Wildlife School Partner Program focuses on building long-term relationships with K-12 campuses. Embedded within these partnerships are opportunities for the educators at each partner school to receive professional development from our nature and wildlife experts at the Zoo. Saving Wildlife School Partner Program forms relationships between Houston-area schools and the Zoo to empower students to save animals in the wild. Whether it's focusing the relationship on the school's mascot species or creating wildlife-friendly habitats on school grounds, we connect the students to

actions they can take to help reduce threats to animals in the wild. Examples can include encouraging and supporting students to reduce their single use plastic use by using reusable water bottles to save sea turtles or facilitating a paper reduction and recycling campaign to help protect bobcat and Houston Toad habitat. Each action campaign is unique and taps into student's interest and passions. If you're interested in learning more about this program, visit our website here. Contact: Houston Zoo Conservation Education, 713-533-6739, [education@houstonzoo.org](mailto:education@houstonzoo.org), <https://www.houstonzoo.org/>

### HummerBird Celebration in Rockport and 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. School groups are welcome. Contact: Rockport-Fulton Chamber of Commerce, 800-242-0071 [tourism@1rockport.org](mailto:tourism@1rockport.org), [www.rockporthummingbird.com](http://www.rockporthummingbird.com)

### Irma Lewis Seguin Outdoor Learning Center

The Seguin Outdoor Learning Center Education and Recreation STEAM programs are available to visitors. Over 10,000 visitors a year from 16 different ISDs and 12 counties come for our unique programs delivered through our talented team of nature mentors to students on field trips, 4H, Seguin Youth Services, Seguin Youth Leadership Academy, youth groups, scout groups, birthday parties, private groups and others.

Contact: Lenny Scott, Operations Manager the Seguin Outdoor Learning Center, 1865 E HWY 90 Seguin TX 78155, 830-379-7652 [info@seguinolc.org](mailto:info@seguinolc.org), [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. All our classes are TEKS aligned. 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) [www.wetlandcenter.com](http://www.wetlandcenter.com)

### Keep Austin Beautiful

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: [education@keepaustinbeautiful.org](mailto:education@keepaustinbeautiful.org), [www.keepaustinbeautiful.org](http://www.keepaustinbeautiful.org)

### Kleb Woods Nature Preserve and Historic Farm

The 133-acre Harris County Precinct 3 Kleb Woods Nature Preserve and Historic Farm includes trails, a nature center, and a historic homestead. We offer guided nature walks, history tours, and nature journaling classes. We have regularly scheduled A Closer Look at Nature and A Closer Look at History classes for school-aged children. These opportunities improve observation skills, encourage students to take a closer look at the natural world, and enhance their appreciation of local history. The nature center is also available for history and science-related workshops for teachers. Contact: Megan Ahlgren or Kendra Kocab, 281-357-5324, [klebwoods@Pct3.com](mailto:klebwoods@Pct3.com),

<http://www.pct3.com/parks/kleb-park/>. The website for the monthly newsletter is <http://www.pct3.com/publications/newsletter/kleb-woods>.

### 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 conduct professional development classes that provide CPE hours. Contact: Julie Graham, 512-232-0249, [jgraham@wildflower.org](mailto:jgraham@wildflower.org) <https://www.wildflower.org/learn>

### Laguna Atascosa National Wildlife Refuge

Outreach programs for Cameron and Willacy County schools, field trip opportunities (tours on your bus or custom programs). Contact: 956-748-3607 x119, [George\\_garcia@fws.gov](mailto:George_garcia@fws.gov) [https://www.fws.gov/refuge/Laguna\\_Atascosa/visit/for\\_educators.html](https://www.fws.gov/refuge/Laguna_Atascosa/visit/for_educators.html)

### 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: Shelly Robinson, Environmental Learning Administrator, 469.496.7442 or [lisdola@lisd.net](mailto:lisdola@lisd.net) [www.lisd.net/environmentallearning](http://www.lisd.net/environmentallearning)

### Lubbock Lake Landmark

Lubbock Lake Landmark is an active archaeological site and nature preserve. Archeological evidence reveals 12,000 years of continuous human occupation. Through environmental education curriculum, the natural world is explored promoting environmental literacy and providing 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.ttu.edu](http://www.lubbocklake.ttu.edu); email: [landmark.education@ttu.edu](mailto: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, but all include hands-on TEKS-aligned activities, night-sky observing, and visits to research-class telescopes. 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, email: [erin.holley@lcra.org](mailto:erin.holley@lcra.org) or [outdoorprograms@lcra.org](mailto:outdoorprograms@lcra.org), <https://www.lcra.org/parks/Pages/mckinney-roughs-nature-park.aspx>;

<https://www.lcra.org/parks/Pages/default.aspx>

**Middle Trinity Groundwater Conservation District Groundwater Education Program**  
Middle Trinity Groundwater Conservation District Groundwater Education Program Middle Trinity Groundwater Conservation District provides tailored presentations and lessons for students in grades pre-kindergarten through 12. The learning experience will provide students with an environmental education experience focused on groundwater. All presentations and lessons are TEKS-based. Middle Trinity GCD also provides educator training opportunities to enhance groundwater knowledge in the classroom. Contact: Stephanie Keith, 254-485-8498, [stephanie@middletrinitygcd.org](mailto:stephanie@middletrinitygcd.org), [www.middletrinitygcd.org](http://www.middletrinitygcd.org)

**The Meadows Center for Water and the Environment-Texas State University**  
Spring Lake Educational Field Trips -Students have the chance to explore the beauty of historic Spring Lake and learn about the importance of preserving our natural resources through a glass- bottom boat tour, wetlands boardwalk, discovery hall aquarium exhibit, and hands-on TEKS aligned activities. We specialize in interpreter-led tours that can be modified to meet your specific learning goals. Teachers may opt to receive TEEAC credit while their students are on an environmental education interpreter led field trip at The Meadows Center. Contact: Phone: 512-245-7540; Email: [springlaketours@txstate.edu](mailto:springlaketours@txstate.edu); Website: <http://www.meadowscenter.txstate.edu/Education/EducationalTours.html>

**The 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, interactive format and feature the TEKS-aligned, easy-to- implement and evidence-based JMG school gardening curricula. Trainings events focus on one or more of the JMG elementary and middle school curricula and cover a broad range of horticultural/environmental education topics. Popular topic areas include: student-led gardening projects, literature connections, garden-based STEM learning experiences, family engagement, and creating successful, sustainable school gardens. Contact: Randy Seagraves, JMG Curriculum Director [Seagraves@tamu.edu](mailto:Seagraves@tamu.edu) or visit JMG Training Calendar at <http://JMGkids.us/Trainings>

### **National Microscale Chemistry Center, NMCC**

The National Microscale Chemistry Center (NMCC) promotes the use of microscale chemistry as a means of eliminating toxic waste at the source. One way we do this is by promoting hands-on environmentally friendly experiments and professional development for educators to share with them the advantages of using microscale techniques in the classroom. This is accomplished by offering workshops on site, conference presentations, and online presentations. Our goal is to help schools see that students learn more by doing instead of through demonstrations and that microscale makes that possible through safe, environmentally green experiments that are also user friendly for the teacher. We have also provided training on stockroom and classroom safety. Contact: Dr. Byron Howell; 903-510-2528; [bhow@tjc.edu](mailto:bhow@tjc.edu), <http://www.nationalmicroscalecc.org/>

### **Nature Discovery Center**

Nature Discovery Center provides scientific investigations for elementary students through its field trips using the curriculum from Nature At Your Doorstep. Outreach programs such as Scales and Tails and Join the Insect Club are brought to schools and educator workshops are given including Project WILD, Growing Up WILD and Project Learning Tree. Located in a 4-acre park, the Center offers children's classes and camps, family nature nights, and other programs. All can be found on the website,

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

### The National Energy Education Development (NEED) Project

The NEED Project is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit education association providing educational materials, evaluation tools, recognition of student leadership, and professional development for educators. NEED's curriculum materials and training programs provide comprehensive, objective information about the scientific concepts of energy and the sources of energy – their use and their impact on the environment, the economy and society.

During professional development workshops, participants use hands-on materials to learn about the forms of energy and energy transformations, renewable and nonrenewable sources of energy, and energy efficiency and energy conservation. Our K-12 curriculum is TEKS-aligned and free to download. Individual guides include background information for teachers and informational 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. Modelling electricity generation, pulling “oil” from a well, designing wind turbine blades, building a solar oven, exploring careers in the energy industry, and auditing your school's energy use are just a few things you can do with The NEED Project. To access NEED's free curriculum or register for upcoming professional development, go to [www.need.org](http://www.need.org).

Contact: Wendi Moss, 1-800-875-5029, [info@need.org](mailto:info@need.org) [www.need.org](http://www.need.org)

### NOAA's Ocean Guardian School Program

An Ocean Guardian School makes a commitment to the protection and conservation of its local watersheds, the world's ocean, and special ocean areas, like national marine sanctuaries. The school makes this commitment by proposing and then implementing a school- or community- based conservation project. Example projects include schoolyard habitat/garden, watershed restoration (e.g., re-vegetation of wetlands), marine debris (e.g., reducing single-use plastics on school campus), and recycling efforts.

Contact: Leslie Clift; [Leslie.Clift@noaa.gov](mailto:Leslie.Clift@noaa.gov); 409-356-0386  
[https://sanctuaries.noaa.gov/education/ocean\\_guardian/](https://sanctuaries.noaa.gov/education/ocean_guardian/)

### North Plains Groundwater Conservation District

North Plains Groundwater Conservation District is a regional conservation entity authorized by the Texas Legislature, and dedicated to maintaining our way of life through conservation, protection, and preservation of groundwater resources in all or parts of 8 counties in the northern Texas Panhandle – Dallam, Sherman, Hansford, Ochiltree, Lipscomb, Hartley, Moore, and Hutchinson. North Plains GCD is a Project WET host institution, offering professional development to teachers and informal educators. Classroom and civic group presentations are available on a variety of topics, from aquifer science to residential conservation to rainwater harvesting. Valuable environmental education information can also be found on North Plains GCD's social media pages - @NorthPlainsGCD on Twitter and Instagram, and North Plains Groundwater Conservation District on Facebook. Contact: Julia Stanford, Conservation Outreach Specialist, [jstanford@northplainsgcd.org](mailto:jstanford@northplainsgcd.org) (806) 935-6401, [www.northplainsgcd.org](http://www.northplainsgcd.org)

### Northwest ISD Outdoor Learning Center

Northwest ISD Outdoor Learning Center (NISD OLC) provides NISD students experiential and nature-based learning to promote curiosity, critical thinking, problem solving and collaboration. Our inclusive curriculum design is TEK aligned for interdisciplinary experiences for PreK – 12th grades, as well targeted social and emotional learning (SEL) competencies. Field experiences are 4 to 6 hours on our 200-acre site featuring three large pavilions, walking trails, prairie, ponds, seasonal wetlands, and creek access,

and indoor classrooms. We are a BEETLES Leadership Institute participant, and model BEETLES instructional practices on site, as well as lead BEETLES learning routines on any of our 31 campuses within NISD. Curious to know more? Contact Amy Hollenshead, NISD Outdoor Learning Center Coordinator, at 817.215.0892 or [ahollenshead@nisdtx.org](mailto:ahollenshead@nisdtx.org)  
<https://www.nisdtx.org/departments/academics/core-curriculum/outdoor-learning>

### Oso Bay Wetlands Preserve

We offer a wide range of field trip options for schools as well as teacher training opportunities. Our mission is to enhance community understanding for the need to preserve the natural resources of coastal ecosystems for future generations through access and education. Specifically, we focus on the south Texas coastal environment. Contact: Miranda Lopez 361-826-3947; [MirandaL3@cctexas.com](mailto:MirandaL3@cctexas.com)  
<http://www.cctexas.com/services/general-government/oso-bay-wetlands-preserve-learning-center>

### The Outdoor Education Center at Camp Olympia

Camp Olympia is situated on 101 acres in the piney woods of East Texas on Lake Livingston. This picturesque location is an ideal environment for experiencing nature first-hand for its Outdoor Education Center at Camp Olympia. Groups can choose from one day to a three day, 2 night experience. Our curriculum is aligned with the TEKS and our state certified educators and staff use best practices based on the UC Berkley's BEETLES Leadership science institute. Contact Kimberley Williams or Brian McDaniel at 936.594.7074 or [outdoored@campolympia.com](mailto:outdoored@campolympia.com),  
<https://www.campolympiaretreats.com/outdoor-education-center/>

### The Outdoor School

The Outdoor School is the premier outdoor education opportunity for schools across Texas offering programming Monday-Friday during the spring and fall semesters. Serving grades 4-12, The Outdoor School has a program that is right for you. For grades 4-7 the Outdoor School offers academic, adventure-based, and teambuilding programming that can be mixed and matched to meet the needs of all schools. All academic courses correlate with the TEKS. For grades 8-12, The Outdoor School Leadership Program offers students a progression-based leadership program that is customizable based on the goals of each individual school. At The Outdoor School, our mission is to use the outdoors to awaken others to the potential within and around them. Contact: Rob Letendre, 512-676-0032, [rletendre@outdoorschool.com](mailto:rletendre@outdoorschool.com), [www.outdoorschool.com](http://www.outdoorschool.com)

### Out Teach, formerly known as REAL School Gardens

Out Teach, formerly known as, REAL School Gardens, in 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, Out Teach 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: Mary Freeman, Executive Director - Texas, 817-348-8102, [mfreeman@out-teach.org](mailto:mfreeman@out-teach.org), [www.out-teach.org](http://www.out-teach.org)

### Perot Museum of Nature and Science

The Perot Museum offers innovative learning experiences, including workshops and the Kosmos Energy STEM Teacher Institute, that focus on equipping K-12 teachers with tools and skills to ignite student enthusiasm for STEM. Our workshops include highly interactive, TEKS-aligned activities that inspire

educators to take their classrooms to new heights in learning. [teacherworkshops@perotmuseum.org](mailto:teacherworkshops@perotmuseum.org)  
Contact: [Jassmon.Fan@perotmuseum.org](mailto:Jassmon.Fan@perotmuseum.org); [Karin.Foronda@perotmuseum.org](mailto:Karin.Foronda@perotmuseum.org) [www.perotmuseum.org](http://www.perotmuseum.org)

### Phil Hardberger Park

Phil Hardberger Park offers family and student-friendly programs on most Saturdays of the month. Various environmental and nature-based 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. A Children's Vegetable Garden is offered for homeschooled children during the week in spring and fall.

Contact: David Jimenez [david.jimenez@sanantonio.gov](mailto:david.jimenez@sanantonio.gov), [www.philhardbergerpark.org](http://www.philhardbergerpark.org)

### Pines and Prairies Land Trust

Pines and Prairies Land Trust (PPLT) is a nonprofit land trust working throughout Central Texas to protect open space through land conservation, stewardship and community engagement. 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: Courtney Young, [courtney@pplt.org](mailto:courtney@pplt.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 demonstrates 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 GT 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 832-587-1753 or [dtomas@oceanstaroec.com](mailto:dtomas@oceanstaroec.com), [www.oceanstaroec.com](http://www.oceanstaroec.com).

### Project Learning Tree, a program of the Texas Forestry Association

Project Learning Tree, a program of the Texas Forestry Association Description: Project Learning Tree 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](mailto:plttexas@texasforestry.org) Website: <http://www.plttexas.org/>

### 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 (ages 3-7). 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/)

### Region 10's Learning on Location Program

Region 10's Learning on Location (LOL) program provides K-12 educators an experiential environment that supports learning and content development. Sessions such as Outdoor Inquiry, Innovative Expeditions, Academics Outdoors, and Kids Can Come, Too are some of the past, current, and future sessions that have gotten rave reviews from teachers as being relevant, engaging, and extremely beneficial for teachers and their students.

We offer these sessions on site as all-day guided learning in some cases or as a mixture of half-day on-site with the other half of the day on-line. The on-line portion may include answering reflection questions and developing and submitting a lesson plan based on what teachers learned from the session, or it may include an on-line platform such as Goosechase or Padlet to bring the on-site learning to a tangible, useful resource(s). Contact: Holly Bishop at [Holly.Bishop@Region10.org](mailto:Holly.Bishop@Region10.org) or <https://www.region10.org/programs/learning-on-location/overview/>

### San Antonio River Authority

The San Antonio River Authority (SARA) 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 watersheds and river ecology. Professional development for teachers is offered as well as teacher workshops. Contact: The Education Specialist, 1-866-345-7272, [www.sara-tx.org](http://www.sara-tx.org)

### The San Antonio Zoo

The San Antonio Zoo is the perfect experience for students of all ages. Whether you choose to explore the zoo on your own or enhance your field trip with a Real.Wild.Classroom. program, your students are sure to stay engaged during an experience of a lifetime. Zoo visits complement your curriculum and TEKS initiatives with hands-on learning in a nature-based environment, full of adaptations, habitats, and food webs, as well as opportunities for observation, story-telling, new vocabulary, geography and career exploration.

Contact: School Visits Coordinator, Kathryn Takow [Kathryn.takow@sazoo.org](mailto:Kathryn.takow@sazoo.org), <http://sazoo.org/education/teachers-and-schools/>

### 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 (SFA) 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 scientists at the University of Texas Health San Antonio (UTHSA). These activities connect classroom science with real-world applications using health-related topics. Lessons are complete and downloadable, including foundational information for teachers and students. The TEI also provides professional development programs for K-12 teachers and pre-service teachers. Professional development workshops feature scientists, educational researchers, and master teachers. To access the free curriculum or to register for upcoming professional development, go to the TEI website: <http://teiteachers.org/>.

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>; peer at tamu YouTube

### 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 portal, student textbook, online teacher guide, specially produced videos, and supplementary materials. All activities are aligned with the Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills for sixth through eighth grade, and for Aquatic Science and Environmental System courses for high school. Texas Aquatic Science Certified Field Sites provide field experiences for visiting school groups at 60 sites around the state.

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

### Texas Association for Environmental Education (TAEЕ)

The Texas Association for Environmental Education is a professional organization that supports and promotes a community of Texas' environmental educators by providing content, connections, certification, and communication. TAEЕ offers certification for environmental educators. TAEЕ is dedicated to supporting and promoting quality environmental education opportunities by facilitating communications, coordination and professional development among the varied EE programs in the state. TAEЕ organizes an annual conference for environmental educators.

Contact: Kristi Peirce at [info@taee.org](mailto:info@taee.org), [www.taee.org](http://www.taee.org)

## Texas Brigades

Texas Brigades offers 8 summer leadership development programs for youth, ages 13-17. With over 25 years of experience, our Summer Camps Program develops life skills for a future in any field, while featuring various topics of wildlife and natural resources. With one application, choose from our Bobwhite, Buckskin, Bass, Waterfowl, Ranch, and Coastal Brigade programs. Each five-day camp introduces science-based concepts (i.e. ecology, biology, and technology), conservation fundamentals, as well as public speaking and teamwork challenges. The state's leading wildlife and fisheries biologists, producers and land managers serve as instructors.

Avenues for continued education are accessible. Come join us outdoors!

Apply online at: [www.texasbrigades.org](http://www.texasbrigades.org) Contact Us: [info@texasbrigades.org](mailto:info@texasbrigades.org), 210-556-1391, Facebook, and Instagram

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

Take Care of Texas offers free educational publications for families, students, and teachers on the topics of air, water, and waste. The Take Care of Texas YouTube page has several educational videos, including virtual field trips. The website offers free publications, both physical and digital, that range from posters and lesson plans to stickers and bookmarks.

Contact: [educate@tceq.texas.gov](mailto:educate@tceq.texas.gov), [TakeCareOfTexas.org](http://TakeCareOfTexas.org)

## 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 that results from the scientific management and stewardship of Texas' forest resources. Educators are provided with TEKS-correlated curriculum that will 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, family-owned tree farm, and forest product manufacturing facilities. Participants receive Project Learning Tree educator certification and up to 40 CPE hours.

Contact: Misty Bowie, 936-632-8733, [educationintexas@texasforestry.org](mailto:educationintexas@texasforestry.org), [plttexas@texasforestry.org](mailto:plttexas@texasforestry.org), <https://www.texasforestry.org/educators/teacher-conservation-institute>

## 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. With our TEKS-based EarthKeepers curriculum for PreK through 8th grade, Girl and Boy Scout program opportunities, and spontaneous family-oriented programming during open hours, our students will discover and learn to sustain the natural world.

Contact: Scout Woodward, [swoodward@txdg.org](mailto:swoodward@txdg.org). 214-428-7476 ext. 270

<https://txdg.org/field-trips/>

## The Texas Freshwater Fisheries Center, a Texas Parks and Wildlife Department Program

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, and working freshwater fish hatchery.

Contact: Craig Brooks, 903-676-2222, email: [Craig.brooks@tpwd.texas.gov](mailto:Craig.brooks@tpwd.texas.gov) [www.tpwd.texas.gov/tffc](http://www.tpwd.texas.gov/tffc)

## The Texas General Land Office (GLO) Archives

The Texas GLO Archives is the repository of the original land grants of Texas dating back to the Spanish era, and also includes personal correspondence from Texas soldiers, sailors, settlers from the Texas Revolution through the Civil War. The collection is rich in historical, TEKS- connected primary source

material, encompassing over 35 million documents and 45 thousand historical maps. To ensure teachers and students have access to the collection, the education staff offers primary source workshops across the state offering ways to effectively teach primary sources in the classroom. The education staff also conducts tours of the Archives for teachers and students, and sponsors an annual student Save Texas History Essay contest, and learning symposium. The education staff also provides archives-based curriculum.

Contact: Buck Cole, [buck.cole@glo.texas.gov](mailto:buck.cole@glo.texas.gov)

### Texas Memorial Museum (TMM)

Texas Memorial Museum (TMM) is the natural science museum on the main campus of The University of Texas at Austin. Our mission is to inspire a life-long interest in science and nature. The museum is open to the public (including school groups) for self-guided tours Tuesday-Saturday, 9 am to 1 pm, and 2 to 5 pm. A free audio tour is available, with podcasts and transcripts available on our website. TMM provides a variety of resources and opportunities for learning, including: free downloadable curriculum guides and TEKS-aligned exhibit-based activities, loaner kits, and educator professional development programs and workshops (including the Project WILD suite). PreK programs such as Amped for Amphibians, Fish Tales, and Marvelous Mammals include hands-on activities, story time, and a craft. Each year we bring scientists and the public together at several exciting and engaging museum events – Identification Day, National Fossil Day, Texas Wildlife Day, and Explore UT.

Contact: Pamela R. Owen, 512-232-5511, [p.owen@austin.utexas.edu](mailto:p.owen@austin.utexas.edu), [www.texasmemorialmuseum.org](http://www.texasmemorialmuseum.org)

### Texas Mining and Reclamation Association's Resources and the Environment Workshops

TMRA offers free professional development summer workshops for educators which consist of a week full of classroom activities to stimulate students' thinking skills with hands-on labs that are TEKS-correlated. Educators will learn about renewable and non-renewable energy sources and the environmental issues surrounding their usage. Tours of operating mines and areas of restored land and tours of power plants are part of the 5-day workshops. There is a workshop for coal mining, one for uranium mining and one for industrial minerals which focuses on how natural resources are mined and used today. Contact: Charitie Whitman, 512.431.2610, [tmraeducation@gmail.com](mailto:tmraeducation@gmail.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 community scientists. Workshops and events which highlight skills and tools are available. For more information, contact: Craig Hensley, 512-547-9730, or email [tracker@tpwd.texas.gov](mailto:tracker@tpwd.texas.gov), <http://www.tpwd.texas.gov/trackers>

### Texas Outdoor Education Association

The Texas Outdoor Education Association's (TOEA) purpose is to include the outdoors in lessons whenever possible. We want to get people outside. We approach this mission by offering short classes for both core and elective subject areas, that build an appreciation for nature, and generate curiosity for outdoor environments. Classes give ideas to educators on what to teach and how to teach it, inside or outside their classrooms. Formal and informal instructors alike can participate in accredited professional development sessions and earn hours toward a TEEAC certificate at a fun and exciting workshop at the HEB Foundation Camp near Leakey, Texas. Contact: Chris Peurifoy [chris@toea.org](mailto:chris@toea.org)

### The Texas Space Grant Consortium

The Texas Space Grant Consortium (TSGC) is a group of 59 institutions that are joined to ensure that the benefits of space research and STEM education at all levels are available to all Texans. TSGC provides opportunities for Higher Education and K-12 Education educators and students, within a formal and an informal environment. The main objective of TSGC's Higher Education Programs is to enhance understanding and appreciation of the benefits of space exploration and space based research. The main objective of the K-12 Education Programs is to enhance students and teachers in Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM) fields and/or provide understanding of the benefits of space exploration and space based research. The 3 flagship programs are the biannual Design Challenge, NASA STEM Enhancement for Earth Science (SEES) and LiftOff, PD at NASA for teachers.

Contact: Margaret Baguio, Program Manager for Education and Outreach, [baguio@tsgc.utexas.edu](mailto:baguio@tsgc.utexas.edu), 512-471-6922 : <http://www.tsgc.utexas.edu/>

### Texas State Aquarium

Texas State Aquarium brings together best practices and innovation from the fields of education, research and industry to advance STEM education and learning, in and out of the classroom, in south Texas and beyond. Flint Hills Resources has also been our longtime presenting partner for our Aquavision Distance Learning program.

As a cornerstone of our mission, education brings discovery and experiential learning to each student. Our aquarium is the perfect platform for conservation education and ecosystem understanding for students of all ages. Our educational experiences – from field trips to summer camp to distance learning- are designed to promote inclusive and collaborative learning, foster STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Math) exploration and discovery and empower learners of all ages to reach their full potential.

Offered programming: Overnight Visits, Aquavision Distance Learning, Aquarium Plus Field Trips, Self Guided Visits, Teacher Professional Development, Summer and School year camps, Outreach Homeschool

For more information regarding programming contact Debbie Edwards 361-881-1201 or [dedwards@txstateaq.org](mailto:dedwards@txstateaq.org); <https://www.texasstateaquarium.org/educate/>

### Texas Stream Team

The Texas Stream Team trains citizen scientists, including teachers and students, to collect water quality data on Texas waterways. Teachers may earn up to 5 hours of continuing education credits by completing any Texas Stream Team training. Educators find Texas Stream Team and our vast TEKS-aligned curricula and teaching resources to be valuable tools that lend themselves to cross-disciplinary and even informal instruction. By teaching students how to measure what is happening in the environment around them, Texas Stream Team helps teachers effectively present the abstract concepts of biology, chemistry and ecology, in addition to fostering stewardship for Texas waterways. Texas Stream Team also leads water resource education and outreach activities for schools, families, organizations, and other groups.

Contact: Aspen Navarro, 512-245-1346, [TxStreamTeam@txstate.edu](mailto:TxStreamTeam@txstate.edu) [www.TexasStreamTeam.org](http://www.TexasStreamTeam.org)

### Texas Tech University Outdoor Learning Center

Texas Tech University Outdoor Learning Center is located on 411 acres just outside Junction, Texas. The South Llano River, mesquite thickets, pecan bottoms, open grassland, riparian areas, and a big dark sky provide the perfect classroom for K-12 students and teachers. All curricula units are STEM-based, TEKS aligned, and full of inquiry based field experiences. Professional Development Workshops are available to assist teachers and other environment-related partners to gain knowledge, cultivate place-based

curriculum, and incorporate a variety of hands-on activities to use in their classroom. A 5th grade teacher shared this about her students' Texas Tech Junction Outdoor School experience; "Yes, 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 (806) 834-8027, [outdoorschool.junction@ttu.edu](mailto:outdoorschool.junction@ttu.edu)  
<http://www.depts.ttu.edu/junction/outdoorschool>

### Texas Water Development Board - TWDB Kids

The Texas Water Development Board offers free professional development workshops focused 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 improve classroom instruction while engaging both hands and minds. The "TWDB Kids" website includes flexible TEKS-aligned lessons from Major Rivers (grades 4 & 5), Raising Your Water IQ (6- 8), and Water Exploration (9-12), plus groundwater videos, maps of our water resources, and much more.

Contact: Shae Luther, 512-463-8830, [consedu@twdb.texas.gov](mailto:consedu@twdb.texas.gov),  
<http://www.twdb.texas.gov/conservation/education/kids/index.asp>

### 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, agriculture 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 Science TEKS-aligned and range from grades K-12. TWA also offers professional development workshops held across the state.

Contact: Kassi Scheffer-Geeslin, 210-826-2904, [kscheffer@texas-wildlife.org](mailto:kscheffer@texas-wildlife.org), [www.texas-wildlife.org](http://www.texas-wildlife.org)

### The Texas Zoo- Victoria, TX

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: 361-573-7681, [education@texaszoo.org](mailto:education@texaszoo.org), [www.texaszoo.org](http://www.texaszoo.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 [tfscconservationeducation@gmail.com](mailto:tfscconservationeducation@gmail.com), 979-458-6600, <http://tfsweb.tamu.edu/treetrails/>

### Turtle Island Restoration Network

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. With schools in the Galveston area, we have in-classroom and field trip options. Our fieldwork program involves sampling of water and sand to extract microplastics. A smaller in-classroom portion of this program is available for schools in the greater Houston/Galveston area. Contact: Joanie Steinhaus, 409-795-8426, [joanie@tirn.net](mailto:joanie@tirn.net), <http://www.seaturtles.org>

### 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, having completed presentations in Parker, Hood, Wise, Montague, Tarrant, and Wichita counties. The District offers the following opportunities: certified environmental staff visit for buildable activities and lectures, reservations for the District Education Trailer - housing five interactive and TEKS aligned earth/environmental science exhibits (appropriate ages PreK-12th), educational service center trainings, and field site visits. Contact: Education & PR Coordinator, [jill@uppertrinitygcd.com](mailto:jill@uppertrinitygcd.com), or 817-523-5200; <https://uppertrinitygcd.com/>

### Urban Harvest's Edible Academy

The Edible Academy workshop provides educators, youth garden coordinators and parents with hands-on lessons, techniques and curriculum for using their school gardens and Outdoor Classrooms as exciting educational tools. Summer Edible Academy is a 3-day workshop while the Fall and Spring Edible Academies are 3-hour workshops that focus on seasonal plantings as well as leadership and service activities. Participants will explore lessons in gardening and culinary arts that support TEKS objectives in the core subjects making learning memorable and tasty too! Contact: Carol Burton, Director of Youth Education, [carol@urbanharvest.org](mailto:carol@urbanharvest.org), 713-880-5540, [www.urbanharvest.org](http://www.urbanharvest.org)

### The University of Texas Marine Science Institute and the Mission-Aransas National Estuarine Research Reserve

The University of Texas Marine Science Institute and the Mission-Aransas National Estuarine Research Reserve offer a wide variety of STEM learning experiences for 3rd-12th grade students and teachers. Our TEKS-aligned programs immerse learners in inquiry and place-based activities that inspire curiosity, connect to research, promote stewardship, and refine STEM process skills. Program offerings include R/V Katy excursions, field investigations, classes/labs, presentations, professional development, self-guided tours, and outreach to schools. Contact: Adriana Reza, Education Coordinator, [adriana.reza@austin.utexas.edu](mailto:adriana.reza@austin.utexas.edu) , <https://utmsi.utexas.edu/>

### Welder Wildlife Foundation

The Welder Wildlife Foundation is a 7,800 acre wildlife research and education refuge location 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 learning experiences in the outdoors in an effort to increase environmental awareness and stewardship.

Contact: Angie Arredondo or Mandy Krause, 361-364- 2643, [aarredondo@welderwildlife.org](mailto:aarredondo@welderwildlife.org) or [rangelands@welderwildlife.org](mailto:rangelands@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. "Best field trip ever" is a common phrase said by visiting students. Typical timing is 9:45am arrival, 10am program, 12:30pm Picnic Lunch (on your own) then departure around 1:15pm. Alternative timing is available. 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)