



Registration Packet 2023 Annual Conference April 13-16, 2023

Environmental Education for



The codes that follow each session description indicate which strand the session addresses as follows: NH=Natural History; TC=Technology in Careers & Nature; SG=Strategic Growth for Organizations; PC=Population, Climate, and Outdoor Education; IW=Inclusive World of EE in the Outdoors;

Graduate Credit and Contact Hours are Available!

Thursday, April 13

9:00 am. - 4:00 pm **Ohio Student Wildlife Research Symposium**

Join high school students and teachers from around Ohio as they present their wildlife and habitat research projects in this symposium for high school students. \$40 for adults, free for students, includes lunch. Please see the agenda online at <http://eeco.wildapricot.org>

Friday, April 14

8:30 am. - 4:30 pm **Full Day Field Trip**

F1- Battelle Darby Creek Metro Park - Flora, Fauna and More! (\$10)

Battelle Darby Creek is the largest Metro Park in Ohio, with more than 7,500 acres of prairies, fields, and forests, and more than 20 miles of riparian forest along the Big and Little Darby Creeks. The Darby Creeks are noted nationally for their tremendous diversity and abundance of both aquatic and terrestrial plants and animals and are designated as state and national scenic rivers. The park has over 1,600 acres of restored wetlands and prairies. Once on site, we'll take a tour of the nature center and 50' living stream inside, visit with a hellbender, learn about the wildlife tunnel and how the park naturalists tie all these together with educational programs. Afterward, we'll hike to see and learn about the park's resident bison, visit the prairie seed collection area, and tour a few prairie and reforestation sites with the Resource Management staff to discuss local flora, endangered species, and prescribed burns. Weather pending, aquatic activities such as seining may be on the agenda (participants are welcome to bring waders and boots.)

Please bring money for lunch at a local pizza restaurant. Transportation will be by carpool. Field Trip Leaders: Metro Park Naturalists and Resource Management Staff

Outdoors, with some indoor stops

8:30 am. - 4:30 pm **Full Day Field Trip**

F2- Ohio Native American Earthworks and Natural History Tour (\$10)

Join us on this full-day tour of notable prehistoric Native American earthworks and gorgeous landscapes in southern Ohio. We'll tour Hopewell Culture and Seip Mound, walking approximately 1 mile on grass trails. The advance of spring and early spring wildflowers along with Ohio caves will be the focus of hikes at the Highlands Nature Sanctuary. This area of the Arc of Appalachia is ecologically diverse and has stunning views of the Rocky Fork Gorge. We will be walking 1.5 miles on uneven ground at this site. Please bring CASH for lunch at Country Crust Bakery. Transportation will be by carpool. This field trip will be led by Ohio State Park Naturalist and Shawnee State University Instructor Matthew Minter.

Outdoors

9:00 am. - noon

Friday Morning Workshop

W1- Landscape for Life (\$5)

NH/PC

Denise Natoli Brooks, Agriculture & Natural Resources Educator, Central State University Extension

Harness nature's power to create a healthy, beautiful landscape at school, nature center, farm or home. Landscape for Life curriculum offers climate resilient and sustainable landscape education for any setting.

9:00 am. - noon

Friday Morning Workshop

W2- Loose Parts and the Environment (\$5)

NH

Annette Calhoun, Lead PreK Teacher Independent School, Aspen Academy

Benefits of loose parts and the collaboration that extends to races, genders and cultures. Hands-on lessons as well as group activities.

Noon - 1:00 pm

Lunch Break

An optional box lunch is available for \$20. Otherwise, participants should make plans to provide their own lunch, either by ordering from the lodge restaurant, or packing their own.

1:00 pm - 4:30 pm

Friday Afternoon Field Trip

FT3- Pickaway County Park District - Old and New (\$5)

Celebrating its 21st year, Pickaway County Park District is a newer park district with big plans for the future, all while preserving and managing the land and interpreting the rich history of the area. This trip includes a visit to two sites - Metzger Preserve and Canal Park. At Metzger, we'll take a 1-mile walk through native prairies and along Deer Creek to learn about the recreation opportunities, view unique geological formations, and learn about the park's Storybook Trail. At Canal Park, we will learn about canal history, see scenic views of the Scioto River, and take a short walk mile walk along the historic Ohio Erie Canal and the Scioto River. This field trip will be led by Deputy Director Arista Hartzler. Transportation will be by carpool.

Outdoors

1:00 pm - 4:00 pm

Friday Afternoon Workshop

W3- Climate Water and Resilience- Project WET's Climate Curriculum (\$5)

PC

Dennis Clement, EPIO 1, Ohio EPA, Office of EE

Participants will receive the curriculum guide and instruction/peer teaching on 9 climate related activities for middle/high school and adult learners. Other resources (e.g., palm cards and grant information) the Office of EE has will also be provided.

1:00 pm - 4:00 pm

Friday Afternoon Workshop

W4- Using Phenology to Teach Students About Climate Change (\$5)

PC

Jeffrey Baker, Science Teacher at Alpha & Lindsay Rist, ODNR Division of Wildlife

Lindsay and I recently got a paper published in the American Biology Teacher with this title. Our goal is to introduce participants to phenology and discuss ways of teaching it that makes the subject of climate change more observational, as opposed to conceptual.

Silent Auction

The silent auction raises money to help EECO grow. The silent auction will be open on Friday and Saturday. Hours will be posted at the conference.

All bids end at 6pm on Saturday.

If you would like to donate to the silent auction, we will really appreciate it.

6:00 pm - 7:00 pm

Friday Night Welcome Dinner & Keynote

Join us on Friday evening as we officially kick-off the 2023 EECO Annual Conference. We'll inform you of some of the latest successes of EECO and introduce the Board of Directors and Regional Directors.

Marci Lininger

More information coming soon!!

7:00 pm - 8:30 pm

Open Space

Have you ever had a topic that you would like to discuss at an EECO Conference? Great! Bring your topic ideas and your expertise to the EECO Open Space! During the Open Space we will have attendees put up topics they would like to discuss around Environmental Education, Outdoor Education, and Nonprofit/small organizations. Once the topics have been specified we will break up into small groups to discuss the topics. If the group you start out in is not your cup of tea please, feel free to join another group, or feel free to float to various groups. We are excited to see what "Aha" moments are formed from this Friday evening activity.

Evening Activities

9:00 pm - 10:00 pm

Night Hike, Fire Pit (weather permitting) & Hospitality Room

Saturday, April 15, 2023

Concurrent Sessions, Keynotes, Exhibits

7:00 am - 8:00 pm	Bird Hike (weather permitting)
8:00 am - 9:00 am	Breakfast—Join your EECO Regions and network while enjoying your breakfast
9:00 am - 9:15 am	Welcome and Conference Opening—Brenda Metcalf, EECO Executive Director

EECO Kids Conference 2023

On Saturday, while you are attending EECO conference sessions, your child/children can, too! EECO is offering a Mini Kids Conference! Kids will LEARN about Environmental Education and gain an appreciation for nature and environmental stewardship. Like our adult attendees, they will CONNECT with new friends in a positive and supportive setting. This is a fabulous opportunity to enjoy the conference and begin a family tradition for your children to GROW into our future EECO Leaders, all while enjoying the amenities of the state park!

Ages 6 and up are welcome!

Activities will include: Spirit Animal Connections, Wetland Hike, Invertebrate Microscopy, Nature Poetry & Art Making. There is time between sessions to check in with your child.

\$15 fee per child will be charged for the full 4 session kids conference. This is payable at the registration table.

Lunch is not provided. Children's meal tickets will be available at the registration table. Other options include ordering from the restaurant, or packing your own.

9:30 am - 10:30 am **Concurrent Session 1**

A1- Here Today, Gone Tomorrow NH Learn about the life of Ohio animals that have disappeared, are endangered or threatened. Trace population changes from the 1770s to the present. Incorporates concepts from the Ohio Division of Wildlife's Wildlife Timeline. *Melissa Proffitt, Education & Communications Specialist, Warren County SWCD.*

A2- Making Old Woman Creek NERR a More Accessible Place IW OWC NERR partnered with the Erie County Board of Developmental Disabilities to find new ways to make our programming more accessible to people with disabilities. Join us to discuss what we learned and how you might apply it to your organization. *Jennifer Bucheit, Education Coordinator, Old Woman Creek National Estuarine Research Reserve.*

9:30 am - 10:30 am

Concurrent Session 1 (continued)

A3- Loose Parts and the Environment NH Benefits of loose parts and the collaboration that extends to races, genders and cultures. Hands-on lessons as well as group activities. *Annette Calhoun, Lead PreK Teacher Independent School, Aspen Academy.*

A4- Believe in Ohio- A STEM & Entrepreneur Program for Ohio Youth TC Believe in Ohio program overview, sample lessons for program implementation, and ways to implement in your school. *Kasey Harris, STEM Advocate, Ohio Academy of Science.*

10:30 am - 10:45 am

Morning Break / Visit the Silent Auction

10:45 am - 11:45 am

Concurrent Session 2

B1- Population & Climate Change: Activities for any EE Setting PC Discover hands-on lessons (games, simulations and group problem solving) to help middle school students connect wildlife and human population trends to resource use and climate change. *Cathy Knoop, Environmental Educator, Population Education.*

B2- An Overnight in the Woods SG/PC/IW A summation of an original, place-based, student driven curriculum and experience centered around spending 24 hours outdoors. Curricular topics will support Leave No Trace ethics, trail etiquette and practical wilderness skills that will build both competence and confidence for this culminating grade level event. This program is highly replicable and can be adapted to your students age and location. Tips on available grants and funding provided. *Erin J McNamara, Old Trail School,*

B3- Building a Wigwam NH Native Americans relied on the land's natural resources for survival. Working as a team we'll construct a conical wigwam while learning about the Native American culture of the 1790's. *Jennifer Elsworth, Manager of Requested Programs, Metroparks Toledo and EECO Region 2 Director, EECO. Indoors*

B4- Career Chats: We've Got A Hit on Our Hands! TC More than 75 environmental professionals around the state were interviewed by EECO for online recordings about what attracted them to their careers. Learn how high school students are using them and how you can be involved. *Carolyn Watkins, Chief, Office of Environmental Education, Ohio EPA Office of Environmental Education.*

12:00pm - 2:00pm

Lunch, Business Meeting, & Keynote Speaker

Join us for a lunch and find out what EECO's been up to in the past year. This will include an opportunity to meet your current Board of Directors and review the annual budget.



Marijke Hecht

As environmental educators, we confront eco-anxiety daily. We also experience wonder and awe in the persistent beauty of the world. How can we foster eco-hope within ourselves and the learners we work with through a practice of radical imagining and community action that helps to create new possible futures?

2:15 pm - 3:15 pm

Concurrent Session 3

C1- Into the Wild: Urban High School Students Experience Midwestern Geology **NH/PC/IW** I plan to present my experiences taking my urban high school students on camping trips to explore Midwestern geology first hand. Over the years I have taken students camping to Hocking Hills State Park and Cuyahoga Valley National Park in Ohio, as well as Sleeping Bear Dunes National Lakeshore in Michigan, and Mammoth Cave National Park, KY. The presentation will focus on the benefits of inquiry and hands-on learning. *Pamela Haywood-Imbrogno, Teacher/adjunct instructor of Biology/Geology, Toledo School for the Arts.*

C2- Integrating Project WET, Wetlands & H2Ohio into 7th grade **TC/PC** This multidisciplinary project was funded by an Ohio EPA OEEF mini grant for the benefit of St. Brigid of Kildare School in Dublin and sought to integrate 14 Project WET lessons into the 7th grade curriculum with the goal of fostering a deeper understanding of both science concepts related to fresh water and the social context in which they occur. Project concurrently meets Ohio Learning Standards 7.ESS.1, 7.ESS.2, 7.LS.2, and 7.W.1, and introduced both H2Ohio efforts to preserve water quality and Geographic Information Systems technology. *Laura Manns, Board Member, Ohio Wetlands Association.*

C3- Kids Town: Let Your Students Lead & Learn **PC** Learn how you can let kids create their own town and incorporate different topics such as economics, government, natural history, problem solving, community building and more. *Mary Gordon, Site Supervisor and Environmental Educator, Greenacres Foundation.*

C4- Making it Fun! Collaboration and Education Through Fishing **SG** The Ohio & Erie Canalway Fishing Derby aligns perfectly with our mission of educating and cultivating new stewards for the natural, historical and recreational resources along the Ohio & Erie Canal. *Amber Genet Barkoukis, Vice President and COO, Ohio & Erie Canalway Coalition and George Ebey, Strategic Initiatives Coordinator, Ohio & Erie Canalway Coalition.* *Indoors*

3:15 am - 3:30 pm

Afternoon Break / Visit the Silent Auction

3:30pm - 4:30pm

Concurrent Session 4

D1- Invisible Disabilities: How SPD, ACES & PTSD Impact Activities **IW** 1 out of 6 children have invisible disabilities: SPD, Sensory Processing Disorder, ACES, Adverse Childhood Experiences, or PTSD, trauma. Creating educational activities for inclusion of all learning styles is possible! *Joanie Calem, Educational Inclusion Advocate First Do No Harm.*

D2- Ice Age Mammals of Ohio **NH/PC** Learn about the variety of interesting and amazing mammals that lived in Ohio at the end of the Pleistocene, and how climate change at that time was different than today. *David Dyer, Ohio History Connection.*

D3- Building Lasting Connections & Knowledge with Native Reptiles **NH/PC** Discover the underrated roles of native reptiles, such as box turtles and snakes, along with tools to help students connect with them in an engaging, hands-on way. *Emily Horne, Environment Educator, Greenacres Foundation.*

D4- Fears to Cheers: Employing Fear for Conservation Values **NH/PC** When exploring the outdoors, encountering Poison Ivy, snakes, spiders, and other "scary nature" is inevitable. Explore how to get audiences celebrating their fears through this hands-on session with live specimens *Joshua York, Naturalist Five Rivers MetroParks & Erin Rowekamp, Naturalist Five Rivers MetroParks.*

4:00 pm - 6:00 pm

Networking, Silent Auction, EECO EE Certification Alumni Meetup

This is your chance to chat with new and old friends and get your bids in on all the fantastic silent auction items.

Ohio Environmental Education Certification

Ohio Environmental Education Certification Program is accepting applications. Just as electricians, doctors, teachers, and most professions require their professionals to be and maintain licenses and certifications, Environmental Education has a professional certification program. It was developed nationally by the North American Association of Environmental Education (NAAEE), and state affiliates have designed courses specifically for their state.

EECO is no exception. Our professional certification ensures that individuals are fully prepared for work within our field in Ohio. There are stringent requirements for proficiency in the national standards. Certification distinguishes highly qualified professionals and enhances the resumes of those who have attained it. This year's program will be a combination of an online course and a week-long field experience during the summer. If you have questions about the program, there is information on the EECO website. While at the conference, find someone with an EE Cert ribbon on their lanyard and ask them about their experience, or attend the EE Certification Alumni Meet-Up Reception and EE Certification Poster Session!!

5:00 pm - 6:00 pm

Environmental Education Certification Poster Session

Check out all of the hard work accomplished by the EE Certification class during their poster session within the Fireside Room.

6:00 pm - 9:00 pm

Awards Banquet and Live Auction

Join us as we close out the conference with a dinner buffet and stay to congratulate this year's award recipients. We will also have some fantastic items for you to bid on at the Live Auction. All proceeds go to the EECO Endowment Fund.

Sunday, April 16, 2023

7:00 am - 8:00 pm

Bird Hike tentative

8:00 am - 9:00 am

Breakfast

Tour

9:00 am- 3:00 pm

Deer's Eye View of Deer Creek Tour

We hope you find this conference to be an exciting and beneficial professional development opportunity.

If you have any questions about the program, the registration process, or any other topics or issues, please contact Brenda Metcalf, EECO Executive Director, at 740-653-2649 or director@eeco-online.org.

We look forward to seeing you at Deer Creek State Park!



Environmental Education for





2023 Annual Conference Registration

April 13-16, 2023

Deer Creek State Park

Environmental Education for



Early Bird Deadline: March 13th

Registration online at <http://eeco.wildapricot.org/>

Registration Details (please print)

Name: (last)	(first)
Name as it should appear on name tag:	
Do you have an Ohio EE certification (Yes or No)	
Organization	
Address	
City	State
Zip Code	County
Phone ()	Cell ()
Email	
Emergency contact (name)	Phone ()

_____ I will bring a silent auction item Special Needs _____ (mobility, vegetarian, food allergies, etc.)

Presenters: _____ I plan to attend the full conference (\$25 discount) _____ I plan to attend my presentation session only

Join or renew your EECO Membership and save money on your conference registration!

\$35 Individual	\$20 Student/Senior	\$50 Professional	\$70 Non-Profit	\$100 Sustaining	\$150 Business	\$250 Champion
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See additional information on the next page to join one of EECO's special interest sections.

Please indicate registration choices	Full conference (Includes Fri. dinner, all Sat. meals, Sun breakfast)	Saturday Only (Includes all Sat meals)
Member	\$185 Early Bird/\$210 Regular	\$115 Early Bird/\$130 Regular
Non-member	\$240 Early Bird/\$265 Regular	\$160 Early Bird/\$175 Regular
Student (Must show ID upon arrival)	\$150 Early Bird/\$180 Regular	\$105 Early Bird/\$120 Regular
Presenter (use Code)	\$160/member \$215/non-member	\$105 Early Bird/\$120 Regular

_____ My child/children plans to attend the Saturday Children's Conference. _____ Number of children planning to attend.

Field Trips and Workshops

Note: No lunch provided on Friday. Participants can order from the lodge restaurant, pre-purchase a box lunch for \$15, or pack a lunch.

Friday Field Trips

___ FT-1—(full day) Battelle Darby Creek Metro Park - Flora, Fauna and More! —\$10

___ FT-2—(full day) Ohio Native American Earthworks and Natural History Tour —\$10

___ FT-3—(pm) Pickaway County Park District - Old and New—\$5

Friday Workshops

___ W1—(am) Landscape for Life—\$5

___ W2—(am) Loose Parts and the Environment—\$5

___ W3—(pm) Climate Water and Resilience-Project WET's Climate —\$5

___ W4—(pm) Using Phenology to Teach Students About Climate Change—\$5

Sunday Tour

Lunch is not provided, please plan accordingly.

___ ET-1—(pam) Deer's Eye View of Deer Creek tour—\$5

Saturday Concurrent Sessions—Circle one choice in each column

Session 1 9:30 am	Session 2 10:45 am	Session 3 2:15 pm	Session 4 3:30 pm
A1-Here Today, Gone Tomorrow	B1- Population & Climate Change: Activities for any EE Setting	C1- Into the Wild: Urban High School Students Experience Midwestern Geology	D1-Invisible Disabilities: How SPD, ACES & PTSD Impact Activities
A2-Making Old Woman Creek NERR a More Accessible Place	B2- An Overnight in the Woods	C2- Integrating Project WET, Wetlands & H2Ohio into 7th grade	D2- Ice Age Mammals of Ohio
A3-Loose Parts and the Environment	B3- Building a Wigwam	C3- Kids Town: Let Your Students Lead & Learn	D3- Building Lasting Connections & Knowledge with Native Reptiles
A4- Believe in Ohio- A STEM & Entrepreneur Program for Ohio Youth	B4-Career Chats: We've Got A Hit on Our Hands!	C4- Making it Fun! Collaboration and Education Through Fishing	D4- Fears to Cheers: Employing Fear for Conservation Values

Early Bird Registration Deadline March 13, 2023

Register online at <http://eeco.wildapricot.org> with a credit card or make checks payable to EECO and mail with this completed form to:

Brenda Metcalf
EECO Executive Director
PO Box 1004
Lancaster, OH 43130
(740) 653-2649

If you wish to bring a guest who will be attending meals, contact Brenda directly to have them registered at a reduced rate.

Total Registration Cost

Conference Registration Fee	\$_____
Friday Field Trip/Workshop	\$_____
Friday Boxed Lunch	\$_____
EECO Special Section Fee(s) The first section is the free-additional sections are \$5	\$_____
EECO Membership	\$_____
Additional donation to EECO Endowment Fund	\$_____
Total	\$_____

_____ I am interested in receiving Graduate Credit from Ashland University. The cost is \$210 for one credit hour. Please contact Linda Pettit, EECO Region 1 Director, at linda-pettit@franklinswcd.org

Certificates with contact hours are available upon request.

Please select all meals you will be attending:

Friday Dinner Saturday Breakfast Saturday Lunch Saturday Awards Banquet Sunday Breakfast

Lodging Information – Deer Creek State Park Lodge

22300 State Park Road 20, Mt Sterling, OH 43143

Room Block will be held until March 13, 2023

Reservations—(740) 867-2020. Ask for the “EECO Conference” room rates.

Room Rates for Queen, King: \$116.00 per night per room Cabin rate is \$179 per night per cabin

Join one of EECO’s special interest sections!

EECO offers special interest sections to its members to promote networking among peers and groups with similar interests. EECO members may join one section at no additional cost to regular membership dues. Each additional section joined is \$5 per section. Please check which section(s) you would like to join.

___ *Business, Industry and Trade Associations*

___ *Higher Education*

___ *Environmental Education and Outdoor Education Organizations*

___ *Government Agency*

___ *Environmental and Community-based Organizations*

___ *Preschool, Elementary and Secondary Education*

Cancellation Policy

All participant cancellations require written notice (U. S. Mail or electronic) to be sent to Brenda Metcalf, EECO Executive Director, P.O. Box 1004, Lancaster, Ohio 43130-1004, director@eeco-online.org and will be refunded according to the following schedule:

— full refund - at least 30 days before the conference — 50% - at least 16 days before the conference — no refunds within 15 days of the conference —

Please read and sign the notice below:

Please be aware that activities during this conference may carry risks which may not always be obvious.

I am aware of the risks inherent in these activities and assume all responsibility to myself whatever the cause. I agree to hold EECO, all conference personnel, and all participating agencies/organizations harmless for any injury that I may sustain in the course of participating in the conference.

Signature: _____ Date: _____