



## OUR MISSION

Bluegrass PRIDE will provide resources that educate and empower the communities and individuals of Central Kentucky to improve their quality of life by improving the quality of their environment.

## SPRING INTO ACTION

Bluegrass PRIDE kept busy this spring with our second annual PRIDE in the Schools Month and first annual PRIDE Spring Cleanup. Both events were a huge success thanks to our fabulous PRIDE Teachers, PRIDE coordinators and PRIDE volunteers.

In keeping with our goal of educating Central Kentucky’s students about their local environment and their impact upon it, PRIDE in the Schools Month is designed to encourage schools and organizations throughout the region to participate in environmental education activities. Packets are mailed to the PRIDE Teacher at each school as well as Conservation Districts, Extension Offices and other interested parties. These packets include information on local field trips, suggested reading lists, lesson plans and more. Over 7,000 students participated in either an educational activity or a school wide cleanup during the month of May. Activities for PISM ranged from mulching and planting in outdoor classrooms to peer teaching and water testing.

This year also marked the first Bluegrass PRIDE Spring Cleanup. Schools and communities were encouraged to cleanup their school grounds, neighborhoods and parks. The Early Childhood Center in Anderson County involved the whole community in a PRIDE event that included a stream cleanup, a recycling relay, prizes, and pizza. The student and teacher volunteers were able to get a couch, a shopping cart, a grill, an exercise bike, a bike, a mattress, lots of glass tile, and Christmas lights out of the stream next to the school.

Overall in the Bluegrass PRIDE region, 2,328.4 tons of trash were collected. A blue whale, the biggest animal that has ever lived, weighs 120 tons. This means that the amount of trash collected this spring is equivalent to the weight of nineteen blue whales! Students from throughout the region contributed to this effort by collecting 3,591 bags of trash from roadsides and school grounds.

Schools and organizations that report participation in either PRIDE in the Schools Month (May) or in the Spring Cleanup (Mid-March through May) will receive extra points on the next PRIDE Education Grant round. PRIDE Education Grants are mailed out in April, due at the end of June and announced at the end of August. These grants are for projects up to \$3,000.

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# LETTER FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



Welcome back!

The beginning of the school year can be tough for students and educators alike. Students have spent the summer staying up late, sleeping in, and playing outside. Hopefully, your summer was similar, at least some of the time. We can't help you with the sleep, but maybe PRIDE can help bring some play to the school day. As you start off this new

school year, we at PRIDE encourage you to take advantage of your outdoor learning environment. It's not exactly playing, but it can make learning fun. Even if you don't have a landscaped outdoor classroom or much green space, there's a whole new classroom waiting for you beyond the school doors. You and your students can cling to summer by taking advantage of your school's surroundings.

Studies have shown that educators who use the outdoors as an integrating context for their lessons find teaching more rewarding. This is probably linked to the fact that students' retention tends to be higher and discipline problems often decrease. It is important that students learn to be good stewards of their environment, but, in learning about their impact and role, students can also learn math, science, art, social studies, language arts, and practical living. It's a win, win situation!

If you aren't sure how to best make use of your outdoor environment, and it can be an intimidating prospect, call PRIDE. We can:

- Make suggestions or provide useful tips on integrating your current lesson plans into an outdoor setting
- Connect you with other resource folks
- Fund projects that will enhance the outdoor learning experience at your school through our Education Grant Program
- Recommend workshops that will help with what you want to accomplish
- Provide you with easy to use resources from our library.

Don't be shy. Call 866.222.1648 or e-mail [prideinfo@kentuckypride.com](mailto:prideinfo@kentuckypride.com) with questions, concerns or recommendations.

Happy exploring!

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Angela Jossell".

*"A child's world is fresh and new and beautiful, full of wonder and excitement. It is our misfortune that for most of us that clear-sysed vision, that true instinct for what is beautiful and awe-inspiring, is dimmed and even lost before we reach adulthood. If I had influence with the good fairy who is supposed to preside over the christening of all children I should ask that her gift to each child in the world be a sense of wonder so indestructible that it would last throughout life, as an unfailing antidote against the boredom and disenchantments of later years, the sterile preoccupation with things that are artificial, the alienation from the sources of our strength." - Rachel Carson*

# A SOURCE FOR RESOURCES

Bluegrass PRIDE's Resource Library has grown by leaps and bounds since the last *Truffula Times*! PRIDE (with special thanks to our star volunteer, Amy Orlando) has developed nine topic-related buckets that may include lesson plans, books, activities, interactive CDs, videos and other resources to help make environmental education more fun and rewarding for both educators and students. We also have other books, videos, and resources available that are not included in buckets, but may be appropriate to check out with the buckets. The following is a list of the topics covered by the buckets. PRIDE will constantly add to the buckets and will develop new ones, so please let us know if you have any suggestions.

## Bucket Topics:

- A Sand County ALMANAC/Aldo Leopold
- Composting
- Recycling
- Stream Walk
- Tree Identification
- Tree
- Water Quality and Conservation
- Wetland
- Wildlife

## Other Resources Available:

- Books
- Videos
- Clean Stream Kits (water testing)
- Erosion models
- Macroinvertebrate Mayhem -  
Activity from *Project WET*
- Macroinvertebrate Kits
- The Blue Traveler Dice -  
Activity from *Conserve Water*
- Tree Factory Material -  
Activity from *PLT*

The library is available to formal and non-formal educators and is an excellent resource year round. In addition to use in a formal classroom setting, we hope that other groups such as PRIDE coordinators, scout troop leaders, and camp counselors will use the buckets.

For a full list of the current contents and to reserve the buckets, call the PRIDE office at 866.222.1648.

## SUPPORT BLUEGRASS PRIDE WITHOUT SPENDING AN EXTRA DIME (OR NICKEL)

### A Cleaner Environment For Just A Nickel?

Wild Oats, a natural and organic foods grocery chain, has just opened a store in Lexington Green next to Joseph Beth, and has selected Bluegrass PRIDE to participate in their Wooden Nickel Program. This unique program encourages customers and employees to recycle and reuse—which makes it an especially great fit for PRIDE—while allowing Bluegrass PRIDE to benefit financially.

The program is very simple. Every time you shop at Wild Oats and bring your own shopping bag(s), Wild Oats will give you one wooden nickel per bag. As you exit the store, you can deposit the wooden nickel into Bluegrass PRIDE's container. This wooden nickel will then be converted to a real nickel and donated to Bluegrass PRIDE. By participating, you will not only help the environment through the reuse of shopping bags but also through your donation to Bluegrass PRIDE.

### For the Greater Good

With the holiday season fast approaching, why not do all of your shopping online and support Bluegrass PRIDE at the same time? By clicking on the GreaterGood.com icon on the opening page of PRIDE's website ([www.kentuckypride.com](http://www.kentuckypride.com)), up to 15% of your purchases will go directly to Bluegrass PRIDE at no extra cost to you.

Over 100 businesses are listed on the GreaterGood.com website; everything from Office Depot to Gateway, Barnes and Nobel to Avon and The Disney Store to The Gap—even E-Bay! When you go through the GreaterGood.com website and click on your favorite store, you will be sent to that store's regular website. This means that you will pay the same prices and get the same deals as everyone else while donating up to 15% of your total purchase to Bluegrass PRIDE.



Thank you for your support!

# BLUEGRASS PRIDE AWARDS OVER \$42,000 IN GRANTS

On August 25th Congressman Ernie Fletcher and Natural Resource and Environmental Protection Cabinet Secretary Hank List announced the second round of Bluegrass PRIDE Education Grants at the UK/LFUCG Arboretum. A total of \$42,220.65 was awarded for environmental education projects throughout the Bluegrass Region. The grant recipients include:

## EDUCATIONS GRANTS

- Saffell Street Elementary School, in Anderson County, to create an outdoor classroom.
- Centre College for the creation of a recycling system as part of the Eco-house Project.
- Shearer Elementary, in Clark County, to create an outdoor classroom focused on four constructed ecological systems.
- Estill County Fiscal Court to purchase recycling booklets for distribution to local elementary schools.
- Stonewall Elementary School, in Fayette County, to conduct stream monitoring on a creek that runs along school property.
- Lexington Community College to develop a PRIDE Clean Streams Program pilot, which will encourage teachers to conduct water testing with their students.
- Lexington Children's Museum to create Enviro Trunk, a hands-on, traveling environmental science discovery exhibit.
- Lansdowne Elementary, in Fayette County, to create an outdoor classroom for school wide use
- Living Arts and Science Center to design and install an educational hands-on exhibit entitled "Caves In My Back Yard".
- U.K./LFUCG Arboretum to restore and interpret a natural wetland on the arboretum grounds.
- KY Department of Fish and Wildlife resources to create a wetlands exhibit at Salato Wildlife Education Center.
- Garrard County High School to expand the existing outdoor classroom.
- West Jessamine Middle School to expand the existing outdoor classroom.
- West Jessamine High School to expand the outdoor classroom and restore a prairie ecosystem.
- McKinney Elementary School, in Lincoln County, to expand the outdoor classroom.
- Foley Middle School, in Madison County, to transform the garden plots in the outdoor classroom to native plants and grasses.
- Madison County Fiscal Court to create a litter calendar using student artwork.
- The Nature Conservancy to create a mobile lab/classroom focusing on the Muddy Creek Watershed in Madison County.
- The Scott County Education and Community Foundation to continue and expand upon the school focused aspects of the Yuko-En Earth Day Celebration.

For more information on Bluegrass PRIDE or the Education Grant awards, contact Bluegrass PRIDE at 866.222.1648 or visit the website at [www.kentuckypride.com](http://www.kentuckypride.com).

## WORKSHOP WAMPUM

Are you a facilitator for Project WILD, WET or PLT? Is your knowledge of Food Land and People or the Leopold Education Project bursting out at the seams? For the first time, Bluegrass PRIDE will offer Educator Workshop Grants of up to \$2,000 to help you share your expertise with others in Central Kentucky.

On August 15, Educator Workshop Grant applications were mailed out to PRIDE Teachers, Extension agents, Conservations Districts and other potentially interested groups. Applications may be for any education workshop, not just those listed above. This new competitive grant will allow facilitators to purchase materials, curricula guides, giveaways and lunch for up to 30 teachers. It will also allow money for meeting space. The workshops funded through this program must be open to any formal or non-formal educator in Bluegrass PRIDE's service region.

The official announcement of the Educator Workshop Grant recipients will be in early November so that the workshops can be scheduled for the spring, summer or early fall of 2004.

If you did not receive an application, but would like one, call Bluegrass PRIDE at 866.222.1648 or visit [www.kentuckypride.com](http://www.kentuckypride.com) and click on grants.

## MONEY TREES

**The Captain Planet Foundation** has grants available to fund hands-on environmental projects for children. The foundation's objective is to encourage innovative programs that empower children and youth around the world to work individually and collectively to solve environmental problems in their communities. Upcoming application deadlines are September 30<sup>th</sup> & December 31<sup>st</sup>. For more information visit [www.captainplanetfdn.org](http://www.captainplanetfdn.org).



**The Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife Resources** has free teacher resource packets available on Stream, Small Stream, Big River, Upland Reservoir, and Wetland Slough ecosystems. The packets include a teacher guide and a poster. To request any or all of the teacher resource kits, visit [www.fw.ky.gov](http://www.fw.ky.gov) or call 800.858.1549.

**Bluegrass PRIDE** still has bags and gloves available for any school or group interested in conducting a cleanup. PRIDE also has classroom sets of Trash Basher sticker books. These booklets are appropriate for elementary students, and would complement a lesson on recycling and/or composting. Call 866.222.1648 or e-mail [Brenda@kentuckypride.com](mailto:Brenda@kentuckypride.com) to make your request.

## WONDERFUL WEBSITE

This issue's wonderful website is <http://www.epa.gov/grtlakes/seahome/housewaste/house/house.htm>.

You can explore a virtual house to see what household hazardous waste lurks in each room. The rooms included are the attic, the bedroom, the hallway with a closet of general supplies, the bathroom, the kitchen, the living room, the garage with automotive and garden supplies, and the laundry room/basement.

As you locate the hazardous materials, you can click on each one to find out what it is made of and what affects it can have. To find out about non-hazardous alternatives, visit [www.kentuckypride.com](http://www.kentuckypride.com) or call 866.222.1648 to request a HHW brochure.



## IT'S ALMOST WINTER—GET WILD!

Just because winter is fast approaching does not mean that we should forget about our wildlife friends. Though the colder days and frigid nights make living outside hard, winter can actually be a great time for wildlife viewing. For example, many species of birds, such as the white throated sparrow and the dark eyed junco, over winter in Kentucky and then migrate north for the summer. By providing the necessities- food, water, and shelter- you can attract wildlife to your home or school yard by easing the burden of winter for your neighborhood wildlife.

### Food

One of the most limiting factors in winter for wildlife is food. When plants die back and seeds are covered in snow, food sources are hard to find. If you have native plants in your garden, don't cut back or "deadhead" the flowers. This material often provides much needed seeds for winter birds. For example the dead heads of Purple Cone Flower attract goldfinches all winter long. (Make sure you look hard for the goldfinches; they lose their bright yellow color in the winter.)

### Water

The sound of water will bring wildlife from miles away, especially in the winter when most drinking sources are frozen. Providing a heated birdbath will keep wildlife in your backyard all winter long. For a less expensive alternative, try a heated water bowl from a local pet store.

### Shelter

Keeping warm and being protected from predators is very important, especially in the winter. By including tall shrubs and evergreen trees in your yard, wildlife will be able to hide from hungry predators while being sheltered from the elements. Brush piles and tall grass also provide places for rabbits and other animals to burrow for safety and warmth.

To find out what type of animals visit your yard when you are not around, look for animal signs such as tracks in snow, winter burrows and food stashes. Have your class record observations and keep a list of which animals are visiting. If your class sends PRIDE a brief report on how you lured wildlife to your schoolyard and which kinds of wildlife you attracted, you may be featured in our spring Truffula Times newsletter!

## TRASH TALK

Bluegrass PRIDE has developed a wonderful new resource to help teach youngsters (and those young at heart) about the merits of recycling and composting versus throwing everything away.

**BE A BLUEGRASS PRIDE TRASH BASHER** is a sticker book that teaches, in a fun and simple way, that not everything has to end up in a landfill. You can be a "Trash Basher" by placing the stickers of various types of everyday household garbage in either the recycling bin, compost bin or trash bin. Then turn the page, check your answers and read tips on how you can bash trash at home and at school. There are even two colorful "Official" Bluegrass PRIDE Trash Basher stickers that you can wear!

To receive a classroom set of **Be A BLUEGRASS PRIDE TRASH BASHER** sticker books or for more information on recycling and composting, contact Bluegrass PRIDE at 866.222.1648 or visit our website at [www.kentuckypride.com](http://www.kentuckypride.com).



# START A SCHOOL RECYCLING PROGRAM

Starting a recycling program in your school is very simple, but it takes dedication on the part of the students and teachers involved. Start by contacting your local recycling center for information about when, where and how to drop off your school's recyclables. Also inquire as to what can be recycled-Which numbers of plastic? What colors of glass? Will the center take tin cans? Do they accept cardboard?

Don't feel the need to collect every type of recyclable as part of your school program, especially at first. Decide which materials are most utilized at your school, and therefore would have the greatest impact on the amount of waste sent to the landfill. If you don't know how to contact your local recycling center, try contacting you county's PRIDE Coordinator or the PRIDE office. The contact information for your PRIDE Coordinator can be found at [www.kentuckypride.com](http://www.kentuckypride.com), or you can reach the Bluegrass PRIDE office by calling 866.222.1648.



To collect the recyclables, set up designated trash cans or boxes in classrooms and hallways. Use colors or signs to differentiate what goes in each of the boxes. Put up posters to let everyone know about the pickup sites and encourage participation.

Assign a student or group of students to each box to ensure the recyclables are collected in a timely manner. A teacher or another adult volunteer should transport the collected items to the recycling center. Turn this errand into a field trip by taking students along to see how trash is recycled.

Keep track of the amount of waste recycled. Your recycling center may be able to help by weighing what is brought in, or you could simply count the number of bags filled. At the end of the year, have students calculate the total amount of

waste channeled from the landfill. Have them extrapolate this to the amount of landfill space saved in two years, ten years, etc. Discuss this impact.

In conjunction with encouraging students to recycle, encourage them to reuse, reduce and buy recycled. Use the back of paper to jot down notes. Use mugs or reusable cups instead of the disposable alternatives. Buy items in bulk to avoid having small packages to throw away. Decorate canvas bags to be used instead of plastic grocery bags at the grocery store. Also, be sure to educate students on what materials they can recycle at home, even if they aren't a part of your school program. Little changes will have a significant effect in the long run.

For more information and activities relating to recycling and other solid waste issues, check out Project Food, Land and People, available through the Kentucky Department of Agriculture; Project Learning Tree, available through the Kentucky Division of Forestry; or Be A Solid Waste Survivor, available by contacting the Kentucky Environmental Education Council. Information on these and other environmental education materials can also be obtained by contacting the PRIDE office toll free at 866.222.1648.



**CELEBRATE AMERICA RECYCLES DAY**  
**SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 15, 2003**  
**[WWW.AMERICARECYCLESDAY.ORG](http://WWW.AMERICARECYCLESDAY.ORG)**

# HAZARDOUS WASTE! IN MY HOUSE?!

That's right. Almost every household generates some form of hazardous waste. Everyday items such as shoe polish, oven cleaner, paint, nail polish, nail polish remover, auto batteries, and used motor oil are classified as household hazardous wastes(HHW).

So what is hazardous? In general, if it can catch fire, react, or explode when mixed with other substances, or if it is corrosive or toxic, a substance is considered hazardous. Here's some common vocabulary used when describing hazardous waste:

- *Flammable*- can be ignited under almost any climate conditions.
- *Toxic*- inhalation, ingestion, or absorption of the substance may lead to injury or death.
- *Corrosive*- can cause deterioration or irreversible alteration in body tissues or the surface of a material at the site of contact.
- *Irritant*- a substance causing inflammation of the skin, eyes, respiratory system or mucous membranes.

Proper disposal of Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) is a must. It is too often the case that motor oil is poured in the yard, antifreeze gets flushed down the sink, and leftover paint is dumped down the storm drain. The dangers of such disposal methods might not be immediately obvious, but improper disposal of these wastes can pollute the environment and pose a threat to human health. When oil, antifreeze, paint or other hazardous substances are poured down storm drains or onto the yard, they are released without any sort of treatment into a nearby creek, stream river or they can seep into local groundwater. Even water treatment plants cannot properly treat hazardous wastes, so HHW remains toxic even after going through a treatment plant.

Well then, what should you do to get rid of HHW? Great question! The best option for getting rid of unwanted HHW is to recycle it. Some examples of proper disposal include:

- Paint can be filtered and then remixed into different colors.
- Paint can also be hardened using kitty litter. For water-based paints (latex and acrylic), PRIDE has purchased large quantities of Waste Paint Hardener™, which is available to individuals in our service region. Once paint is hardened, it is no longer considered hazardous and can therefore be disposed of with your other household waste.
- Used oil and antifreeze can sometimes be reused in other, less complex, radiator systems. (Make sure your radiator system has been approved for reusing oil and/or antifreeze before trying it!)
- Oil change places are required to properly dispose of the motor oil and antifreeze they take out of people's cars. If your family does their own auto care, these same places are often willing to accept your used motor oil and antifreeze to dispose with theirs.
- Auto parts stores will take your old car battery to be recycled after you buy a new one.

For more information on HHW, visit [www.kentuckyPRIDE.com](http://www.kentuckyPRIDE.com). Paint hardening crystals can be obtained by calling the PRIDE office at 866.222.1648 or by contacting you county's PRIDE Coordinator.



# HANDS ON

**I** Why is it important to educate students about HHW? Because they can make a difference in how their families and communities dispose of their HHW. Here are some activities that can make learning about HHW fun. Please feel free to call PRIDE at 866.222.1648 for background information or for additional ideas.

## **H** Home Survey

**L** Have students go home and, with the help of their parents, pick out products in their house that are labeled with any of the common HHW vocabulary words defined on the previous page. The students can then discuss proper disposal methods and the importance of not buying these types of products in excess. To take it a step further, students can research non-hazardous alternatives to common HHW products. A similar activity is found on the Missouri Office of Waste Management website, <http://outreach.missouri.edu/owm/students.htm>. This link contains a sample of a letter that could be sent home with students asking for their parent's assistance with such a project. There are also helpful HHW tally sheets- one for the individual students and the other for the class as a whole.

## **T** What Your Home Haz

**S** This Jeopardy-like game, found at <http://outreach.missouri.edu/owm/students.htm>, targets middle and high school students. The site provides you with HHW questions and answers relating to Daily Living, Disposal, Health Effects and Safer Substitutes. The website also provides extension suggestions and information on where to find supporting materials.

## Battery Barn

Younger students can make a battery barn in which to collect used batteries. Visit <http://www.kitsapgov.com/sw/publications.htm#kids> for a worksheet on how to make a battery barn. The Battery Barn worksheet also has information on other common HHWs. For substances marked for disposal at a Moderate Risk Waste Collection Facility, call Bluegrass PRIDE at 866.222.1648 or your county PRIDE Coordinator for information on local disposal options. If your class chooses to participate in the Battery Barn activity, the used batteries can be brought to the PRIDE office for proper disposal.

## Activity Guides

Also on the webpage mentioned above, <http://www.kitsapgov.com/sw/publications.htm#kids>, there is an elementary school appropriate activity guide that includes word searches, a demonstration using a non-hazardous cleaner to shine pennies and lots of good, general HHW information. Have the students go through the guides at school and then share them with their parents at home. That way everyone learns a little something! Please note that the Poison Control number on page 14 is not correct. The number for Poison Control in Kentucky is 800.222.1222. Also, page 16 does not apply to Kentucky.

## PRIDE GRANTS IN ACTION

The Bourbon County Preschool/Head Start was one of the recipients of PRIDE's 2003 Winter Education Grant and has been making great strides towards the completion of their outdoor classroom. Their garden will contain a "Peter Rabbit" vegetable garden, a cutting garden, a sensory herb garden, a sunflower garden and a hummingbird and butterfly garden- all with native plants! Preschool students, parent volunteers and staff are working hard to complete the outdoor classroom.

# KDFWR BACKYARD WILDLIFE HABITAT PROGRAM

Habitat loss is the single most serious problem facing Kentucky wildlife today. Natural lands and farms are being converted into suburban developments at an ever-increasing rate.

Maybe you already feed wild birds, put up nest boxes, or plant flowers for butterflies. If so, your actions have benefited wildlife. Now you can do even more to help wildlife by participating in Backyard Wildlife, a habitat improvement program designed to encourage and recognize the efforts of suburban homeowners and schools who create habitat for wildlife in backyards and on school grounds. Participation in the program provides many benefits.

- Creating habitat needed by a diversity of wildlife
- Attracting more wildlife for observation, enjoyment, and education
- Increased property values
- Reduced landscape maintenance
- Water conservation
- Protecting the environment by minimizing the use of chemical fertilizers and pesticides
- Free plants!



How can you participate? It's easy! Everything you need to get started has been assembled for you in one easy-to-use reference: the Backyard Wildlife Habitat Kit. In the kit you will find fact sheets on:

- How to develop a landscape plan for wildlife
- Native Kentucky food and shelter plants for butterflies, hummingbirds, songbirds, and other wild species
- How to establish wildflowers from seed
- Sample landscape and garden plans
- Wildlife checklists
- A resource inventory form
- Nest box plans
- Water sources for wildlife
- Sources of wildlife plants and materials
- Suggested references



To help you in creating your own habitat garden or outdoor classroom, the Salato Wildlife Education Center offers a variety of scheduled workshops and seminars. Examples include Butterfly Gardening, Gardening for Birds, Native Plant Seminar, Landscaping for Wildlife, and more!

In recognition of your efforts on behalf of wildlife, you can apply to have your backyard or outdoor classroom certified as an official Backyard Wildlife Habitat Site. A committee of experts in wildlife, landscaping, and agriculture reviews each application for Standard, Silver, or Gold certification. Certified habitat sites receive:

- An attractive Backyard Wildlife Certificate, suitable for framing
- A "Going Wild in my Back Yard" sign to proudly display
- **Plus!** The Outstanding Residential Habitat and Outdoor Classroom of the year will receive special recognition at our annual awards ceremony!

For more information on the Backyard Wildlife Program, contact Mary Carol Cooper at 800.858.1549.

# PROJECT FOOD, LAND AND PEOPLE

Project Food, Land and People provides educational resources and promotes approaches to learning that help educators and students in grades PreK-12 to better understand the interrelationships among agriculture, the environment and people of the world. The curriculum guide contains over 50 KERA aligned lesson plans, set up in a fashion similar to Project WET, Wild and Learning Tree. This is a great resource for all educators, as the curriculum covers math, science, social studies, practical living and art content. Bluegrass PRIDE will be offering a FREE Project Food, Land and People Workshop at the Powell County Extension Office on Tuesdays September 9<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup> from 4-7 each night. Educators must attend both sessions. Participants will receive the curriculum guide and support materials. For more information or to register, contact Bluegrass PRIDE at 866.222.1648 or via e-mail at [prideinfo@kentuckypride.com](mailto:prideinfo@kentuckypride.com).

## ROOTS AND SHOOTS

*“Roots creep underground everywhere and make a firm foundation. Shoots seem very weak, but to reach the light, they can break open brick walls. Imagine that the brick walls are all the problems we have inflicted on our planet. Hundreds of thousands of roots & shoots, hundreds of thousands of young people around the world, can break through these walls. We CAN change the world.” - Dr. Jane Goodall*

In 1991, sixteen students in Tanzania who were concerned that their classes did not address environmental issues or teach them about animal behavior worked with Dr. Jane Goodall to form the Roots and Shoots Program. Since its inception, this program has grown to include 3,000 Roots and Shoots groups in more than sixty-eight countries around the world.

Roots and Shoots is a program where students can become involved in environmental issues outside of the classroom. Student members will gain knowledge and understanding of the environment while learning to become responsible stewards of not only the land but also animals. Students involved will receive a manual explaining the program and will also receive the Roots and Shoots Network Newsletter (RSNN). The newsletter informs members of activities in their area and also lets them know about what other groups around the world are doing. Up-to-date information about Dr. Goodall's work will also be included in the RSNN. Occasionally, there are even on-line chats with Dr. Goodall. Each Roots and Shoots Club will also be added to the Global Youth Network called “Partnerships in Understanding,” which includes participants from all around the world.

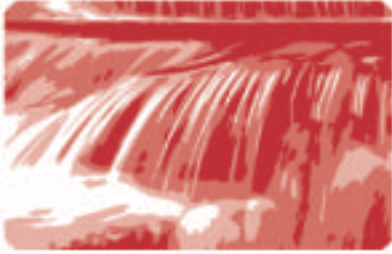
If you would like to help establish a Roots and Shoots program in your community, a membership form, suggested activities and other useful information can be found on the Jane Goodall Institute website at [www.janegoodall.org/rs](http://www.janegoodall.org/rs).

## HELP!!

The Truffula Times would like to print articles or portfolio entries from students. Suggested topics include local environmental concerns, successful solutions, extraordinary students and teachers, or ideas for student involvement in local issues. Entries should be submitted no later than the end of January for publication in our spring newsletter. Send entries to P.O. Box 910384, Lexington, KY 40591 or [prideinfo@kentuckypride.com](mailto:prideinfo@kentuckypride.com). Please note that all submissions will not necessarily be included.

# FIELD TRIP IDEAS!

## WATER WONDERS



*The Living Stream* is now open at the Salato Wildlife Education Center. This outdoor exhibit features a waterfall, an underwater viewing area with Kentucky fish, and a shallow, flowing stream complete with riffles and live critters. A wonderful place for a field trip, students may learn about all types of plants, animals and habitats at the Salato Wildlife Education Center in Frankfort. And best of all, admission is free. Call 800.858.1549 to arrange a special program for your group.

## CALLING ALL CAVERS

The Living Arts and Science Center's Science Discovery Room will feature "Caves in My Back Yard" opening October 15, 2003 and continuing through the 2003-2004 school year. The program includes hands-on learning and cave ecology-related activities. Visitors will have the opportunity to explore a model cave, dress up as a cave explorer, view real cave creatures including blindfish and blind crayfish, and learn more about cave conservation. All activities are age-appropriate and tie in directly to the KERA Core Science Concepts.

A special opening for "Caves in My Back Yard" will be held at the Living Arts and Science Center on Saturday, November 1, 2003 from 10 - 2. Members of the Bluegrass Grotto and KEEP (Karst Environmental Education and Protection) will be on hand for presentations about cave exploration and ecology. The entire event is free and open to all ages.



Reservations for school field trips can be made in September. Field trips may be scheduled Tuesday through Friday beginning Oct. 15, in the morning or the afternoon. LASC can schedule a maximum of 50 students per field trip visit. The cost is \$1 per student; for more information contact Roberta Burnes at LASC at 859.252.5222.

## WASTE NOT. WANT NOT.

*Waste Not. Want Not.* is the new exhibit at the Lexington Children's Museum. The exhibit was donated to the museum by the University of Kentucky's Superfund Faculty, and was designed with several interactive components to illustrate the environmental impact of human societies and the importance of recycling. One of the components, *Garbage Mania*, is a giant puzzle that teaches the decomposition rates of several common disposable items. In *Recycle City* visitors can explore different parts of a town that practices environmentally sound planning. The *Evolution of Trash* is a series of characters that reveal how human activities and their impact on the environment have increased throughout history. Lexington Children's Museum encourages class and family visits. For more information, visit [www.lexingtonchildrensmuseum.com](http://www.lexingtonchildrensmuseum.com) or call 859.258.3256.



# UPCOMING EVENTS

The following is a list of events of interest in Bluegrass PRIDE's region. For more information about any of the activities, please call 866-222-1648.

## 2003.....



- 6 ..... Native Plant Sale — Salato Wildlife Education Center, Frankfort
- 11 ..... Community Garden Day — UK/LFUCG Arboretum
- 13-14 ..... Autumn Beginners Backpacking — Natural Bridge State Park
- 14 ..... Planting What's Native Workshop — Raven Run, Lexington
- 19 ..... Project Learning Tree/Fire Workshop — Gen. Butler State Park
- 19-21 ..... KAEE Conference — Gen. Butler State Park
- 20 ..... Museum Go Round — Lexington
- 21 ..... Bird Photography Workshop — Natural Bridge State Park
- 27 ..... Fall Festival — Raven Run, Lexington
- 30 ..... Postmark deadline for Educator Workshop Grants

## 2003 - HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE MONTH.....



- 6 ..... Household Hazardous Waste Month Kickoff
- 7-11 ..... NAAEE Conference — Anchorage, AK
- 9 ..... Project Food, Land and People Workshop, Part 1 — Powell Co Extension Office
- 16 ..... Project Food, Land and People Workshop, Part 2 — Powell Co Extension Office
- 17 ..... Postmark deadline for 2004 Community Grants
- 18 ..... Nature Stuff for Kids — Raven Run, Lexington
- 18-19 ..... Amazing Monarchs weekend — Natural Bridge State Park
- 20-23 ..... Non-Point Source Education and Information Conference — Chicago, IL
- 23-24 ..... Facilitator Training for Food, Land and People and Project WET— UK/LFUCG Arboretum
- 25 - ..... Signs of Fall — Raven Run, Lexington
- 31 - Nov.1 . Halloween Walk with the Animals — Salato Wildlife Education Center, Frankfort

## 2003.....



- 1 ..... "Caves in My Backyard" Grand Opening — Living Arts and Science Center, Lexington
- 3 ..... 2003 Educator Workshop Grants announced
- 6-8..... KY Science Teachers Association Annual Conference — Heritage Hall, Lexington
- 13-14 ..... Solid Waste Focus Group Event — Marriott Hotel, Lexington
- 15 ..... Winter Tree ID — Raven Run, Lexington
- 15 ..... America Recycles Day — [www.americarecyclesday.org](http://www.americarecyclesday.org)

## 2003.....



- 6-7..... Beginner Backpacking — Natural Bridge State Parks
- 13 ..... What Animal Left That? — Raven Run, Lexington
- 20 ..... Signs of Winter — Raven Run, Lexington
- 21 ..... Winter Herbs — Raven Run, Lexington

## 2004.....



- 12 ..... 2004 Community Grants Announced
- 22-23 ..... Project Learning Tree/Project WILD/Project NEED Facilitator Training — Jabez, KY

## 2004.....



- 20-27 ..... Commonwealth Cleanup Week
- 20- April 3 PRIDE Spring Cleanup



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Laura Lang, KY Department of Fish and Wildlife Resources

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