

EEAA News

The latest news, events and announcements from the
Environmental Education Association of Alabama

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EEAA Conference

Feb 2-4, 2023

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Logo**

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**Professional Development
Scholarships are Available for the
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Environmental Education Association
of Alabama

EEAA: DECEMBER 2022



**2023 EEAA Conference
February 2-4
Lakepoint State Park**

EEAA 2023 Conference Registration:

<https://conta.cc/3YO1Why>





BEEP Award Nominations

The BEEP Awards are given by the Environmental Educators Association of Alabama to recognize the Best Environmental Education Programs (BEEP) in Alabama. BEEP awards are given in an award ceremony Friday night at the yearly EEAA conference.

Submit your nominee form ([**click here**](#)) with the summary narrative and supporting evidence to Jimmy Stiles at jrstiles75@gmail.com or 5687 US Hwy 29 Andalusia, AL. 36420 no later than January 9, 2023.

If you have questions, please contact Jimmy Stiles jrstiles75@gmail.com or 205-533-1407.

Conference Scholarships

*Deadline extended! Apply for a GRANT to attend the 2023 EEAA Conference!

EEAA's Professional Development Fund was established to assist professionals who wish to continue to develop their knowledge in the field of environmental education. Grant funding is available to MEMBERS (even new members, so join today and apply tomorrow!) for financial assistance (max \$250 each year) to attend professional conferences/workshops.

Awards will presented quarterly.

Applications must be postmarked by January 8, 2023 (extended from December 1). Please email eeaalabama@gmail.com for more information or to let us know you mailed an application.

[Click here for more details on the BEEP Awards and scholarships on our website.](#)



EEAA Board Meeting at Lake Point State Park 12/11/2022



EEAA Call for Board Nominations

Interested in working with a group of fun, passionate individuals to support and advance the field of environmental education in Alabama? Know anyone else who might fit this description? Then please consider nominating yourself or a friend for the EEAA board! Nominations are due January 11th, 2023, the membership will vote on the board slate during our Annual Conference (Feb 2-4 at Lakepoint State Park) – please email Susan Caplow at scaplow@montevallo.edu to receive more details on how to nominate.





Environmental Education Association of Alabama

Teachers and School Administrators: Make Your Voices Heard through Our Landscape Analysis Phase 2 Survey!

We at EEAA, in partnership with the Southeastern Environmental Education Alliance, are excited to announce the launch of Phase 2 of our landscape analysis of environmental education efforts in eight southeastern states. And we want to hear from you!

Our Phase 2 survey, which should take you less than 20 minutes to complete, will allow us to assess the scope, strategies, and resources being used in schools across the southeast to build environmental literacy in students. It will help us – and you! – determine gaps and barriers to EE implementation in schools, and it will enable us to make recommendations that can help you infuse EE into formal education settings.

Furthermore, the project can benefit you and your school by helping to build partnerships between individual formal and nonformal educators at the community level to support ongoing active and social learning, networking, and idea exchange. AND it can bolster collective impact at the state-level while helping your school district advance the environmental literacy of your students.

Take the Survey



Oak Mountain State Park

Join us for our winter field trip to the Wheeler National Wildlife Refuge to see amazing waterfowl including Sandhill Cranes and the endangered Whooping Cranes! We will caravan to the refuge together as a group. Directions will be given if needed at the beginning of the trip. Once we reach the refuge and after exploring, the field trip is over, and you are free to go.

Meet at Oak Mountain State Park Main Office Parking Lot at 9am! After a quick intro and refuge rules we will drive as a group (in your own vehicle) to the refuge. Allow 2 hours for travel.

DATE: January 7th, 2023

TIME: 9am

LOCATION: OMSP Main Office and WNWR

Free with paid admission into Oak Mountain State Park and



Field Trip



The Great Backyard Bird Count 2023

Be a citizen scientist and join in the Great Backyard Bird Count! We will go birding on the way to the Alabama Wildlife Center where we will then count as many birds as we can in the observation room at the feeders for an hour! Our data will be used by scientists to better understand and help our avian friends! Stroller/wheelchair friendly! No dogs please.

DATE: February 18th, 2023

TIME: 10am

LOCATION: Oak Mountain Interpretive Center and AWC

Free with paid admission into Oak Mountain State Park and overnight guests

Vernal Pool Night Hike

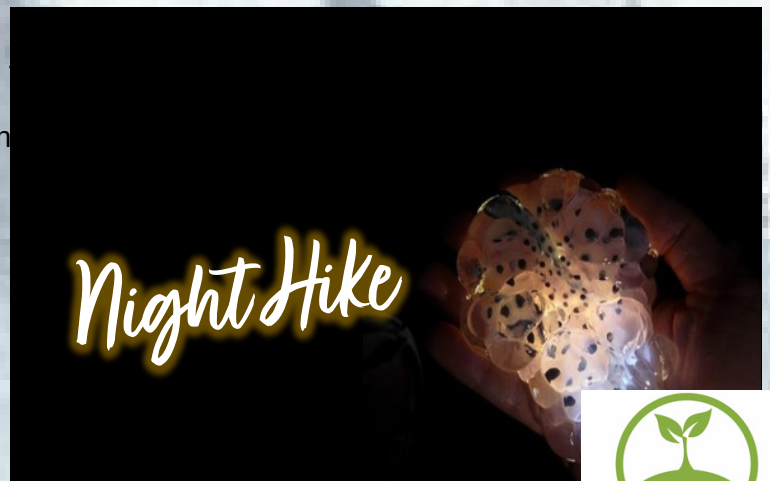
Explore OMSP's famous Vernal Pool in a whole new way! Park Naturalist Lauren on a nighttime exploration of the Vernal Pool and look for salamanders, see egg masses and baby salamanders! Hike is easy/beginner level and very short. Bring a headlamp/flashlight!

DATE: March 4th, 2023

TIME: 6pm

LOCATION: Oak Mountain Interpretive Center and Vernal Pool

Free with paid admission into Oak Mountain State Park and overnight guests



Earthscope with EEAA Board Member Mike Ezell

10/17/2022 was the date Earthscope of Huntsville City Schools spent quality time in PD with Mike Ezell learning to identify trees and plants at Monte Sano State Park. Thanks to Laura Fallon for setting up this important PD!



Habitat Restoration at Audubon-Datnow Forest Preserve, W. E. Putnam Middle School with EEAA Board Member Claire Datnow

On a chilly November morning members of the Alabama Audubon Society and the Red Mountain Garden Club came out to plant wildflowers that will bloom in the spring. Volunteers are most welcome to join workdays to tend the wildflower garden and repair the adjacent outdoor classroom. For more information visit the website:

<https://alaudubon.org/event/2021-11-13/>



EEAA: DECEMBER 2022





Dauphin Island Sea Lab
DISCOVERY HALL PROGRAMS

Discovery Hall will be offering 2 multiday workshops for educators this summer. *Time Traveling* is where science meets art. T.E.A.C.H. focuses on charismatic coastal animals. Read more about our summer workshops [here](#). Registration opens Jan 16.

Discovery Hall at the Dauphin Island opens registration for their summer camps on Feb 1. Registrations are handled in the order in which they are received. Registration and additional information [here](#).

Discovery Hall's traveling marine science classroom, the BayMobile, will be on the road in January. Programs are free to Title 1 schools. Send us an email (askdhp@disl.org), give us a ring (251-861-2141, 7515) for more information or request a visit [here](#).

The Southern Association of Marine Educators (SAME) is holding their winter meeting in collaboration with GOMA Education & Engagement team on Jan 20-21 at Fontainebleau State Park in Mandeville, LA. For more information or to register, visit their webpage [here](#).

Subject: Invitation to Participate in Gulf Coast Collaborative - an ACESSE Sponsored Event

Local formal, non-formal, and higher ed science educators supporting K-12 science education are invited to apply to participate in the Gulf Coast Collaborative, a regional convening which aims to build standards-aligned OER lessons or units that support place-based learning around gulf coast phenomena. These lessons will be shared with K-12 educators across the gulf coast region.

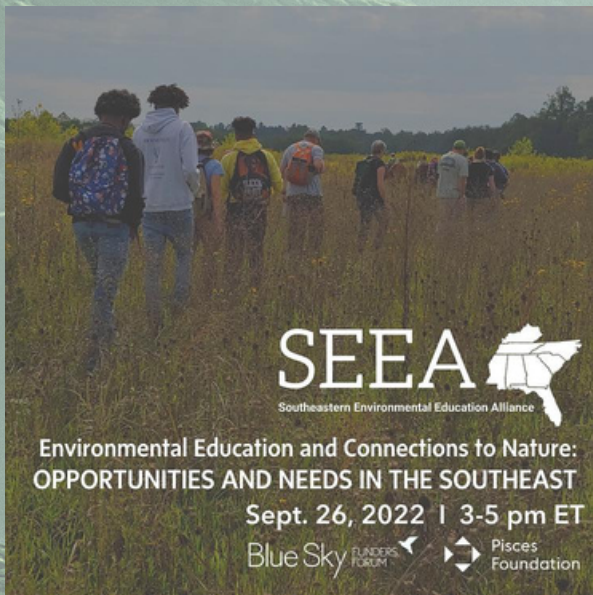
The in-person event will take place at the Dauphin Island Sea Lab (<https://www.disl.edu/>) from February 10-11, 2023 and will encompass two days of in-person learning, including immersive place-based experiences for teachers, professional learning sessions, and the opportunity to connect with other regional science educators and education agency partners around shared interests and content. This event will be followed up by some asynchronous work and monthly meetings through June 2023. If you have any questions, please contact Jeanne Norris at uwjeanne@uw.edu.

[Interest Form](#)



SEEA Updates

As an affiliate of SEEA, EEAA helped cohost the **Funder's Forum** last month to explore the findings of the recent Landscape Analysis. This gathering included Blue Sky Funders Forum, the Pisces Foundation, and other SEEA affiliates. The goals were to help funders learn about current needs and trends within environmental education (EE) across the southeast. Another goal was to discuss solutions and strategies for funders to help advance the field of EE in the southeast.



In the United States, the southeast receives only 8% of the \$116 million in philanthropic investments for environmental literacy, outdoor experiences, and connections to nature. This disparity of funding in the region, unfortunately, mirrors inequities in access to green spaces, education, healthcare, and economic opportunities. With this in mind, the Blue Sky Funders Forum, Pisces Foundation, and Southeastern Environmental Education Alliance (SEEA) recently hosted a forum for peer-funders and experts to explore findings from a recent landscape analysis of environmental literacy in the southeast. With insights into the assets and barriers to furthering environmental literacy in the states of Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina, and Tennessee, the funders briefing also provided a space for attendees to connect with peer-funders to explore opportunities for collaboration. **cont.**



NAAEE Updates

EEAA Board Members Susan Caplow and Kimberly Murray spent several days in Tucson this past October, attending the NAAEE Research Symposium and Conference. They connected with fellow educators and researchers from across North America

EEAA strives to be a leader in the field of environmental education at the state, region, and national levels. Opportunities like this when we can share our experience and expertise with leaders from across North America are just one way we put this goal into action. These efforts were made possible in part due to support from NAAEE's Affiliate Team



Did You Know: Outdoor Learning Store Partnership

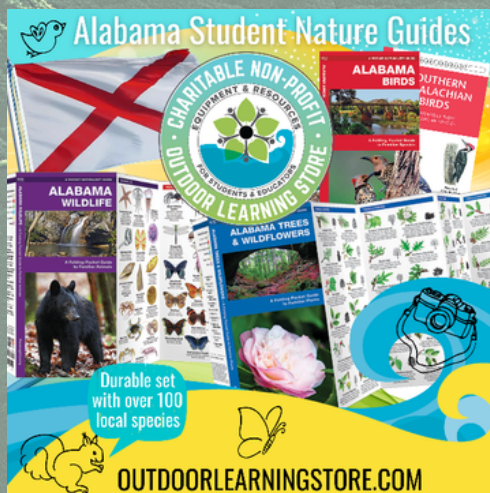
EEAA is proud to be the Alabama for the Outdoor Learning Store. The Outdoor Learning Store provides easy access to excellent outdoor learning equipment and resources to schools and organizations. You can find everything from books and tools, to free webinars. For a list of the Outdoor Learning Virtual Workshop Seasonal Series [Click Here](#)

Top 5 Resources & Tools for Alabama in the season ahead!

1. [Alabama Nature Guides \(select from drop down\)](#)
2. [A Walking Curriculum](#)
3. [Soil Study and Inquiry Kit](#)
4. [Mapmaking with Children](#)
5. [Outdoor Sit Pads for Students](#)

View all resources, equipment, and kits for Alabama
<https://outdoorlearningstore.com/southern-usa/>

[As always, 100% of the proceeds from these go back to supporting outdoor learning non-profit initiatives!](#)



December Climate Generation Education Events

From Claire Cooke, Programs Coordinator: "I am the Teach Climate Network Coordinator at **Climate Generation**, a nationally recognized nonprofit providing interdisciplinary climate change education training and resources for over 17 years. We offer climate change education professional development opportunities for educators in science, humanities, and social studies, and author interdisciplinary **resources**.

This winter we have a series of virtual workshops around the best practices of climate change education. We invite you to join our next virtual workshop focusing on overcoming barriers to teaching about climate change in the classroom.

If you are unable to make these events live, you can find the recordings, related resources, and supporting material on the Teach Climate Network Hub. It is open to any and all educators! You can **sign up** for the Network to get your unique username, password and start exploring. "

Hello, Alabama K-12 teachers! The **NASA Alabama Space Grant Consortium (ASGC)** would like to hear from you to better understand your NASA and space-science needs and wants. Please take ~15-minutes to fill out this survey!

https://uah.co1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_5ywfiDuuz043WTK



Environmental Education Association of Alabama

Email: eeaalabama@gmail.com

Website: eeaa.US

Facebook: Environmental Education Association of
Alabama

**Thank you Mike Ezell for
the winter photography
sprinkled throughout the
December edition of the
EEAA newsletter.**

**Thank you Miles Parsons for
creating our 2023 conference logo
You can learn more about Miles
work at
redmtncreative@gmail.com**

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