



Check out the new SEEA logo!



Newsletter

February

2021

AFFILIATE NETWORK 2.0 DRAFT GOALS LISTENING SESSIONS

Join Sarah, Katie, and Bruce to learn about
and share feedback on our new Affiliate
Network draft goals

Session 1

**Feb 18, 7:30- 8:30
PM ET**

Session 2

**Feb 23rd, 3pm-
4pm ET**



During the listening sessions, we will:

- 1) present the draft NAAEE Affiliate Network goals
- 2) answer any questions that may emerge
- 3) provide ample opportunities for community feedback.

Session 1: [Register here](#)

February 18th from 7:30-8:30 PM EST

Session 2: [Register here](#)

February 23rd from 3:00-4:00pm EST

Can't attend a listening session? Consider taking part in the [online survey](#). More information in the NAAEE Updates section of the newsletter. Please share this information with anyone in your affiliate leadership that you think may be interested!

Environmental Education Association of Alabama

Adapting to a Changing World

Virtual Conference February 25-27, 2021

[Conference Brochure](#)
[Registration Information](#)

Environmental Education Alliance of Georgia

Virtual and Visionary

Virtual Conference March 12-13, 2021

[Registration Information](#)

The Southeastern Environmental Education Alliance (SEEA) is a network of state affiliates of the North American Association for Environmental Education (NAAEE) located in the southeastern United States. Member states include AL, FL, GA, KY, MS, NC, SC, and TN. SEEA offers a regional conference and provides networking and professional development opportunities for the southeastern states.

SEEA Project Updates

Don't Waste It

Now that we are nearly finished with the state-specific versions of the *Don't Waste It!* guide, we're moving to our next phases:

- Planning for Train-the-Trainer (T3) workshops (preparing a team from your state to host local educator workshops in 2022)
- Creating an online training course (for those who can't attend an in-person workshop)

We'll be sending dates/details about the T3 workshops once we finalize a few more details, but we're ready for our participating states to **start recruiting one person per state to serve as a paid member of our [Online Training Steering Committee](#)** (*link opens the position description with all the details*).

Please send the name and email of your state's Steering Committee Member by Sunday, March 14 to Lauren Pyle (director@eenc.org). It can be the same person you chose for the Content Specialist position or someone different.

If you have any questions about this position, any challenges with the timeline, want to know where we are in the entire grant project, or any other questions, please reach out to Lauren.

Landscape Analysis

The plan is still to launch on February 22, but recent weather events may push that back a bit. Ashley will be sending out communication templates to state coordinators to assist with roll-out and marketing within individual states. One consideration to help drive survey completion is in the form of incentives, and Ashley is encouraging this at the individual state level. For example, North Carolina is providing \$20 "credits" to 15 randomly selected NC entries. The credits can be used towards membership, EENC sponsored professional development, or EENC conference registration. This can all be handled internally, through email, and will help build interest in the organization for those that are not familiar.

The survey will be open for six weeks total, but the initial communication will state two weeks, which will allow for an extension and targeted outreach and asks for survey completion as needed. KAEE is also ready to receive invoices from states for their Landscape Analysis coordination. As a reminder, each state will receive \$7500 for their work on this project. If you have any questions, reach out to Ashley (director@kaee.org).

SEEA Yearly Support

KAEE will be sending all SEEA states an invoice for \$1000 to support Ashley Hoffman as the director of the regional affiliate, regional affiliate membership fees to NAAEE, and other support and materials including the webinar platform and outreach materials.

NAAEE Updates

Affiliate Network 2.0 Working Group Updates

The Affiliate Network 2.0 Working Group wrapped up our visioning work with a facilitation team on the January Working Group Call. With that work completed, the working group has quickly moved into the next phase of our work which includes soliciting network-wide feedback (more on this below) and recruiting for our new advisory and working groups (more details on this soon)

Please take a few moments to [read this executive summary detailing the work completed by the Affiliate Network 2.0 Working Group](#) this fall as well as brief plans for the next steps this year. We encourage you to take part in the listening sessions (listed on page 1) or submit your comments using this [simple survey](#). Please feel free to reach out to Affiliate Network Coordinator, [Bruce Young](#), with any questions you may have.

Affiliate Network Equity & Inclusion Working Group

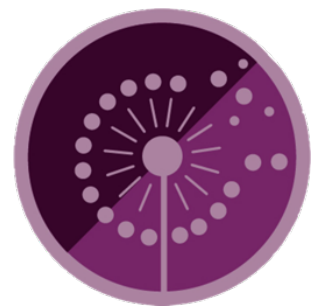
In 2021 the monthly Affiliate Network Equity and Inclusion calls will be shifting from a sharing space (which will now take place on quarterly equity and inclusion focused community calls) into a monthly working group.

If you have someone within your Affiliate who would be interested in this equity working group, please invite them to join us! The goal of the working group is to co-create a shared vision for equity and inclusion for the Affiliate Network by convening a monthly workgroup focused on identifying the what, why, and how of a more equitable and inclusive Affiliate Network utilizing a process from the Frameworks Institute.

Check out the [Affiliate Network Equity and Inclusion Working Group document](#) or contact group leader [Oliva Griset](#) with questions or for more details.

Young & Emerging Professionals eePRO Group

Announcing the launch of our [new eePRO Group: Young and Emerging Professionals](#)! Set in motion by environmental educators like you, this group connects and supports people who are new to the field. Engage in discussions on timely topics related to the unique opportunities and challenges of being a young or emerging EE professional, and gain access to the wonderful resources and opportunities that our eePRO platform offers. Say hello and introduce yourself!



What is eePRO? eePRO is an online platform hosted by NAAEE to provide environmental education professionals and students from around the world with opportunities to network, discuss important issues, and access high-quality professional development resources. By being part of eePRO, you can post resources, events, jobs, join groups, and share your profile with the community.

Other Events

Opportunities, Barriers, Strategies Towards Inclusion

Green Teacher Webinar
Thursday, February 18, 2021
7:00 PM - 8:30 PM (EST)

[Click here for webinar registration](#)

Inclusion is a complex word and it is filled with different layers and meanings. This webinar will focus on the implementation of inclusion, including strategies for working with the complexity of inclusion as well as the challenges and the opportunities it presents. The speaker, **Karen Lai**, is the Accessibility Planner for the City of Vancouver, as well as an Inclusion and Accessibility Consultant through which she facilitates inclusion training for companies, educators, organizations, and other special interest groups. Karen will create the space for people to be vulnerable and curious to share with one another. There will also be opportunities for people to enter into breakout room groups and share their voices through the chatbox.

Taking Nature Black

Virtual Conference
February 23 – 27, 2021

[Registration and More Information](#)

TNB 2021 will run for FIVE DAYS, primarily virtually, from Tuesday, February 23rd through Saturday, February 27th, with some select outdoor events that follow governmental guidelines for social distancing. Our theme is *Call and Response: Elevating our Stories, Naturally!*

Critical Questions for Program Design During Covid-19

NAAEE Webinar
Thursday, February 25, 2021
3:00 PM - 4:00 PM (EST)

[Click here for webinar registration](#)

Join [Youth Outside](#) and NAAEE for this eeINSPIRE webinar to discuss the questions we should be asking ourselves as we continue to envision programming that connects people to the environment during these truly uncertain and evolving times. Participants will explore the importance of asking critical questions related to race, equity, and inclusion, and learn about a tool to start their own programmatic exploration.

Southeasterly Winds



Alabama

Environmental Education Association of Alabama (EEAA)

<https://www.eeaa.us/>

Alabama is gearing up for their 2021 Virtual Conference, *Adapting to a Changing World*, February 25-27, 2021. The conference kicks off with a virtual social hour, Keynote Speaker, and detailed information about the un-conference field trips on Friday and Saturday held around the state. Everyone will gather virtually again on Saturday evening for a live auction and a rousing game of Environmental Trivia to wrap up the virtual conference. All field trips and online events are for conference registrants only ([registration information](#)). For more details, [follow this link to view the conference brochure](#).

The Environmental Education Association of Alabama has a diverse board of individuals who bring a passion for teaching Environmental Education to their careers and the work they do for EEAA. This month, we would like to highlight Brooke McMinn, our Vice-President of EEAA. A graduate of Rutgers University's Department of Plant Science, Brooke's specialties are medicinal and economic botany, ethnobotany, sustainable agriculture, and conservation. In 2014, following several years with the Rutgers University Extension and New Jersey Agricultural Experiment Station as a horticultural agent, Master Gardener Program Coordinator, and plant breeding researcher, Brooke returned to her birthplace of Birmingham, AL as a Plant Adventures Program Specialist for the Friends of the [Birmingham Botanical Gardens](#). In 2018, Brooke became the Friends' 'Director of Education and Visitor Experience. Brooke designs and delivers educational programs and garden experiences to better connect the greater Birmingham community to the plants that power their lives. Here are just a few of the programs offered at the Birmingham Botanical Gardens. Thank you, Brooke, for your hard work and commitment to EE in Alabama!

Florida

League of Environmental Educators in Florida (LEEF)

<https://leef-florida.org/>

In March, the LEEF Speaker series presents [Currents & Crossroads: A Vision for Florida's Ocean and Coasts](#) with Jon Paul "J.P." Brooker, lawyer and Director of Florida Conservation for Ocean Conservancy. Florida is at an all-hands-on deck moment. Harmful algal blooms are fouling our waterways with increasing frequency and severity. Tropical weather is becoming more extreme and more regular. Rising oceans are destroying municipal infrastructure and decimating critical wildlife habitat. But we as Floridians get to decide what the future holds. Join in a discussion of the greatest threats that Florida iconic marine environment is facing,

and what we as Floridians need to be doing to find solutions for our maritime state. This is a “pay what you can” event.

LEEF will celebrate our roots in EE as we grow forward; 40 years since our first meeting during [our annual conference](#), April 22-24, 2021! Learn about the amazing work across the state showcasing longer term EE projects or programs, innovative environmental education during the pandemic, and efforts emphasizing justice, equity, diversity, and inclusion. Dr. Marty Main from the University of Florida will be our keynote. He is best known for developing the Florida Master Naturalist Program, which includes a suite of natural history and conservation education courses taught by a statewide network of certified instructors celebrating 20 years this year. We have a few sponsors that have stuck with us from last spring when we cancelled the face-to-face conference, but we are looking for more. ***If you have had success in attracting sponsors for your virtual events, we would appreciate tips from you!***

LEEF has recently added two young, enthusiastic members to the board. In addition to their regular duties as board directors, one will take over membership duties, and the other will be a major player in our upcoming virtual conference. We are fortunate and excited to welcome these two ladies to the board.

Georgia

Environmental Education Alliance of Georgia (EEA)

<https://www.eealliance.org/>



[Registration is now open for EEA's 2021 conference](#), being held virtually March 12-13, 2021. Conference Strands include: Powerful Practices, Exemplary Resources, and Culturally Responsive EE. Conference attendees will have access to keynote speakers, presentations, “cracker-barrel” discussions, workshops, film screenings, social events and networking, a higher education summit, and the annual meeting and awards presentation. [Participants from other states can join EEA for free](#) by using the code: eeacovid19. Then register for the conference at the \$35 COVID hardship rate; the \$20 volunteer rate; or request free access.

Our first conference sponsor is Lucy Campbell, artist of this beautiful painting called *Every Day the World is Created*.

Kentucky

Kentucky Association for Environmental Education (KAEE)

<https://www.kaee.org/>

As we begin 2021 with fresh ideas and initiatives, KAEE welcomes new board members and member action teams. To align with our strategic plan, these member/board teams will work on the following topics: Cultivating Collective Impact, Advancing Environmental Literacy, Building Our Audience, Organizational Effectiveness, Financial Resiliency, and Conference. You can [read more about KAEE's 2019-2021 strategic plan](#) and the goals associated with each of these action teams.

KAEE is gearing up for our winter/spring eeCredential cohort of Professional Learning Leaders and individual course participants. eeCourses are also being offered as a stand-alone course for those interested in building key competencies in a specific topic area. We are looking forward to gleaning more valuable feedback from this sophomore program launch. Explore more here: [kaee.org/eecourses](https://www.kaee.org/eecourses).

This spring KAEE is also hosting virtual curriculum training in not one, but three award-winning environmental education activity guides: Project Learning Tree, Project WET, and Project WILD. We are also pleased to include in this training the NAAEE Guidelines for Excellence. Learn more about the guidelines at [kaee.org/guidelines](https://www.kaee.org/guidelines). This will be a virtual, synchronous training that will take place on March 22nd, 24th, and 26th from 12-2pm. In addition, and to encourage our state curriculum facilitators to host virtual workshops, KAEE is also hosting tech-webinars to iron out any technical kinks prior to presentations.

Mississippi

Mississippi Environmental Education Alliance (MEEA)

<https://www.meeainms.org>

Our website has launched!! Check it out at <https://www.meeainms.org> and let us know what you think! We still have a few bugs to work out, but we are getting there. We have had a few who already who have found the website and subscribed to learn more about us. We are excited to see where this takes us.

Adopt-A-Stream was filmed demonstrating the Enviroscope. It was then shared with a classroom where one student had seen the demonstration at the Natural Science Museum event and enjoyed it, so she wanted it shared with her classroom. After the video was watched Deb answered questions for the kids on Zoom. It is exciting to be able to share with students over a platform even if we can't be there ourselves.

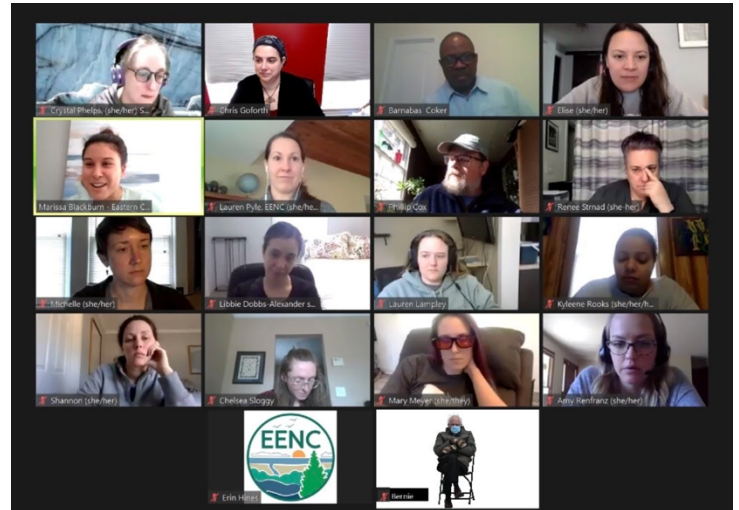
Our Natural Science Museum in Jackson has several teacher workshops scheduled for Mississippi spring breaks which span the month of March. The Mississippi Aquarium in Gulfport, MS is hiring see with position information listed at <https://www.msaquarium.org/careers>.

North Carolina

Environmental Educators of North Carolina (EENC)

<https://eenc.org/>

EENC hosted their virtual Board Retreat to kick off 2021 January 22-24. During this time, the board began work on the 2021-2023 strategic plan with work focusing around four main themes: Advocacy for the Field of EE, Partnerships for Building Capacity to Advance EE, Increase Recognition of EENC as a Resource, and Building Internal Capacity. Woven throughout all four themes is work forwarding inclusion, diversity, and equity, broadening the definition of EE, and creating ways to measure progress.



January was also the month that EENC opened applications for our [mini-grant program](#). In its third year, the goal of this grant program is to provide support to promote excellence in environmental education across North Carolina. EENC will award \$2500 in mini-grants, with awards ranging from \$50 to \$250. Each member can submit one proposal per year, either on their own behalf or on behalf of an organization or school.

EENC is kicking off a series of online Guidelines workshops focusing on the K-12 Learner Guidelines or the Professional Development Guidelines. These workshops require individual work and assignments that are tied together with online sessions during the two-week period. These workshops are open to anyone, so feel free to share the information. More information on each workshop and how to register can be found by following the links below. The registration fee is \$20 for all workshops.

- [March 12 & 26: Online K-12 EE Guidelines for Excellence](#)
- [March 31 & April 14: Online Professional Development Guidelines for Excellence](#)
- [April 7 & April 21: Online K-12 EE Guidelines for Excellence](#)

EENC is also continuing our monthly webinar series. These webinars occur on the third Thursday of the month from 2-3PM EST, are provided free of charge, and are open to anyone. The first webinar will be Thursday, February 18th, and is titled [Creating Interactive Virtual Presentations: Making the Most of Google Slides](#). The March webinar, [Theories of Change for EE Programs](#), will explore how the EE Outcomes course, from Cornell University's Civic Ecology Lab, has impacted the goal setting and strategic planning for the Education Department at The NC Arboretum.

South Carolina

Environmental Education Association of South Carolina (EEASC)

<https://eeasc.org/>

Planning for the 2021 EEASC Annual Conference is underway! The event will be held June 10-12, 2021. Concurrent sessions will be held via Zoom with one day of face-to-face field trips held around the state. The conference theme is *Environmental Legacy: It's Our Story. Past, Present, and Future* and the three conference themes are Pages of the Past, Present-day Plotlines, and Foreshadowing the Future. [Session proposals are being accepted online](#) until March 15.

EEASC is planning an environmental education workshop on pollinator conservation on March 18, 2021, in partnership with the SC Department of Health and Environmental Control's Champions of the Environment program. Registration is free and [details about the event can be found online](#).

EEASC's [statewide and regional listservs](#) continue to provide a mechanism for environmental educators to connect and share news and announcements with the network. Additionally, the Monthly Meetups continue to be popular among EEASC members with consistently 14-20 participants. These virtual networking round-robins allow each educator 2 minutes to share program updates, event announcements, and support requests. The start time for these events alternates monthly between 8am and 3:30pm and all the [details for the next meetups](#) can be found online.

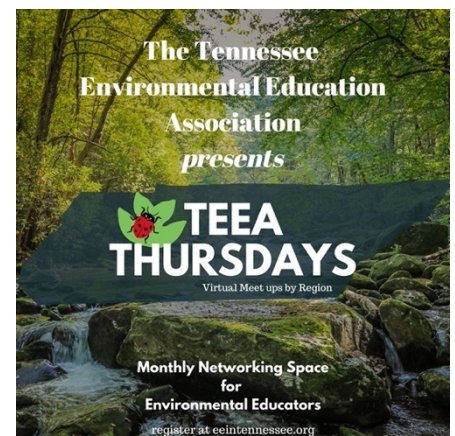
Tennessee

Tennessee Environmental Education Association (TEEA)

<http://eeintennessee.org/>

TEEA did some strategic planning at their January Board Retreat and all committees have new leaders that are excited to get to work on the year ahead!

TEEA is also continuing with their regional TEEA Thursday Regional Meetings, the first Thursday of every month. There will also be quarterly statewide virtual meetings. Information can be found at on the [TEEA Event Calendar](#).



TEEA will also be launching a Book Circle in April. The book they are focusing on is [All We Can Save: Truth Courage, and Solutions for the Climate Crisis](#), Edited by Ayana Elizabeth Johnson and Katharine K. Wilkinson. Signing up to host a Book Circle was really easy with resources on the web site, and anyone is welcome to join TEEA in their book circle. They plan on meeting four times, and will address two sections of the book in each meeting. Reach out to [Ansley](#) if you have any questions!

Lastly, TEEA has decided their September Conference will be a hybrid, with some events offered in person and some virtually. Stay tuned!

SEEA at Your Service



- Access the SEEA website <http://www.southeastee.com/>
- [2021 SEEA Leadership Team Roster](#)
- SEEA Strategic Plan, 2018-2021
 - Will be revised sometime in 2021
 - <https://docs.google.com/document/d/1PrsEUVFA-2yosIEF75XRxVu6RZT3Uw82-ncr54ZpPRU/edit>
- ZOOM Video Conferencing Available to all SEEA States if needed. Please email Ashley (director@kaee.org) to request date/time.

Resources from NAAEE and the Affiliate Network

- eePRO Affiliate Group: <https://naaee.org/eepro/groups/affiliates>
 - NAAEE membership is not required for most eePRO resources
- EE Research Bulletins (EERBs): <https://naaee.org/eepro/research/eeerb>
- eePRO Research & Evaluation group: <https://naaee.org/eepro/groups/research-and-evaluation>
- NAAEE's Research Programs: <https://naaee.org/eepro/research>
- Children and Nature Network's Research: <https://www.childrenandnature.org/learn/research/>
- *Applying Systems Thinking for Our Affiliates* Webinar: <https://youtu.be/2A6vll3Fthc>
- EENC's [Environmental Education is Essential Document](#)

As always, let us know if you have any concerns or questions, as well as suggestions, about how we can structure these updates to serve you better. Please send items for next month (news, updates, pictures) to Renee.

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Ashley Hoffman
SEEA Executive Director
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SEEA Conference 2021

September 10-11, 2021

Hosted by Environmental Educators of North Carolina

Lutheridge
Arden, NC