

SEEA Newsletter: 2020



Technical Assistance for NAAEE Affiliates Applying for COVID Emergency Relief

In response to conversations with many of you over the last week, **NAAEE would like to offer technical assistance to those Affiliates who are in a position to take advantage of the emergency relief funds available through the CARES Act.** We have contracted with Vicki Pozzebon, whom many of you will remember as the facilitator of our 2019 Affiliate Workshop, to offer individual support as you prepare to submit your applications. We hope many of you will be able to take advantage of this service and the opportunity to access relief funds for your Affiliate organization.

As a first step, Vicki and her team have prepared a self-assessment tool (link is external) to help you determine your readiness and eligibility to apply for the payroll loans. The assessment will also help us to establish the number of Affiliates who need assistance and create a queue for advancing your applications.

<https://naaee.org/eepr/blog/technical-assistance-naaee-affiliates>

SEEA 2020 Conference



The 2020 SEEA/EEASC Conference will be held in Columbia, SC September 24-26, 2020. The conference theme is "Environmental

Legacy: It's Our Story. Past, Present, and Future." Session Proposals are now being accepted for the [General Conference Sessions](#) and the [Research Symposium](#).

You may [reserve your lodging](#) at any of three conference hotels now; conference registration will open in April, 2020. Early bird registration will be \$180, with a student and SEEA Leadership Team price of \$150. To sponsor the conference and/or have a vendor table during the event, [click here](#). To submit information about items you will provide for the silent auction fundraiser, [click here](#). To watch a promotional video about the event, [click here](#). We have a [conference promo video](#) for the upcoming SEEA conference in September...we can't wait to see all of you in Columbia!



South Carolina is looking for favorite online resources for diversity, inclusion, and universal design in environmental education to share with a colleague who is interested in gaining skills in this area. Do you have any favorite tip sheets, webinars, YouTube videos, etc.? If anyone would like to present on this topic at the fall conference in Columbia, that would be FANTASTIC! Session proposals can be submitted at <https://eeasc.org/CFP-General>

SEEA Conference South Carolina 2020 Updates

The **Environmental Education Association of South Carolina (EEASC)** will be hosting the **Southeastern Environmental Education Alliance (SEEA)** Conference, "*Environmental Legacy: It's Our Story. Past, Present, and Future*", September 24 – 26, 2020 in Columbia, SC! Please consider submitting proposals for the **Research Symposium** will be held on Thursday and/or **General Sessions** held on Friday and Saturday. Please keep the following strands in mind when submitting your proposals:

- **Pages of the Past:** Research projects that capture information about our environmental past in the fields of geosciences, natural history, or socio-cultural perspectives. Proposals submitted for this strand should include research efforts that align with one or more of the following guiding questions: What does the natural landscape tell us about our environmental past? How do historical environmental

science data inform our present-day lives and/or future directions? How have cultural connections to the environment changed over time?

- **Present-Day Plotlines:** Explores our present-day environmental heritage by featuring research efforts that highlight current geosciences research, science education research, evaluation and assessment efforts, and social science research. Proposals submitted for this strand should consider one or more of the following guiding questions: Are you researching exploring a new environmental educational program or project? Are you involved with environmental education research that is investigating current trends? Are you involved in assessment or evaluation efforts?

- **Foreshadowing the Future:** Captures chapters of our environmental legacy yet to be written and encourages proposal submissions from all applicable fields. Proposals submitted for this strand are encouraged to consider research that align with one or more of the following guiding questions: What does environmental education look like in the future? What are some sustainable, innovative, and forward-thinking projects, ideas, and strategies that are on the horizon and how might these impact society? What does our environment look like in the future?

The SEEA Research Symposium provides a regional platform from which to share your research through a poster, oral presentation, or café format to those who work within the fields of environmental sciences and education. Please forward this opportunity to any staff, students, and colleagues who might be interested. For more information and to apply, please visit the [Research Symposium Session Application](#) page.

SEEA General Sessions are available in many types of formats from "walks to workshops" (the more creative the better--just keep in mind our theme is "Environmental Legacy: It's Our Story. Past, Present, and Future". Visit the [general session proposal page](#) for details.

SEEA is the network of eight southeastern affiliates (AL, MS, KY, TN, SC, NC, GA, FL) of the North American Association for Environmental Education (NAAEE) located within the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region IV. To learn more, visit [NAAEE](#) (international organization), [SEEA](#) (regional affiliate), and [EEASC](#) (state affiliate/local chapter) websites.

Thank you and please let me know if you have questions! You can contact me at amyumb@gmail.com

Amy Umberger (SEEA Conference Chair)



Southeasterly Winds:

Thank you NC Executive Director, Lauren Pyle for sharing the following article. It's a great summary of recent research related to age-based trends in membership

https://personifycorp.com/resources/ebooks/young-members?mkt_tok=eyJpIjoiTnpRMFlqSTJZbVpsT1RWaCIsInQiOiJiXC9sb0RpeGo5NFdvSDB1aTBcL3JrcU9maHFKNTRCdW5ncVRxVG5ydEFBOUNsaDJMeVHSDNCUFwvY210eVwvVWwvSjYzczJpVHhJaFwvSVRXR2tUTktNbkrQaXpFem5PbytKYW9OQTZTImx3ck5lV2N3d1pcL2ZPdXc0cTQ0bIBHZ1c0WmMifQ%3D%3D

South Carolina:

The EEASC listservs have been busy with members sharing virtual resources and webinar invitations to help our community adapt to COVID-19. Our board is brainstorming ways we can best support our community during this season, and we plan to conduct a needs assessment of members later this month to help guide our response. The deadline for SEEA 2020 conference session proposals is next Wednesday (April 15), and at the moment, we are still planning to hold our in-person conference in Columbia, SC September 24-26. HOWEVER, we are closely monitoring the COVID-19 situation and are aware travel restrictions, budgetary constraints, and other factors may necessitate changes to our plans. We will provide updates as they become available.

Kentucky

We are progressing nicely with the development of our new online eeCredentials and hope to announce the series and all the details in late April or May. We are also excited to be moving forward with the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation grant that centers around EE in the SEEA states.

For our 2020 Annual Conference, we've extended the deadline for proposal submissions to May 17 to give those needing extra time due to COVID-19 working-from-home life an extra month. Though we did have to postpone our in-person facilitator training (which had been scheduled for late April), we hope that our September conference will go on as planned.

Like many of you, we have been sharing lots of resources for educators who are adjusting to virtual work-life during the pandemic. We have enjoyed seeing the activities and ideas several of you have been sharing as well!

Georgia:



April News from Environmental Education Alliance of Georgia (EEA)

	CELEBRATING EARTH DAY ANYWAY on WED, APRIL 22 50 years after the first Earth Day was celebrated, EEA of Georgia is not letting the virus postpone our celebrations. As EEA members shift their focus from hosting events to engaging children with nature at home, EEA has curated 50 outdoor activities, explorations and lessons for virtual or backyard investigations. Other affiliates are welcome to tap EEA's resources when they drop on Sunday, April 18 and post or link to them. https://www.eealliance.org/
	NATURE CHALLENGE BIOBLITZ APRIL 24 - 27 The second half of Earth Week promises to be as exciting as the first. EEA is partnering with Fernbank Natural History Museum to host City Nature Challenge. It's not just for cities anymore! Anyone can participate by downloading the iNaturalist app and taking pictures of nature on April 24 – 27. Then identify species April 28 – May 3rd.
	WFH? A month ago, before we knew what WFH meant, it was hard to imagine how the world would change. EEA investigated the impact of covid-19 and the quarantine on its members by conducting an online survey and learned that 67% are working or teaching from home; 59% need resources for outdoor activities and field investigations; 56% want virtual labs; and 60% say they would like to increase their capacity through professional learning while Working From Home (WFH). For a copy of a survey template that you can adapt and use with your members, contact: KWood@EEAlliance.org . (Art by Rick DeLuco)
	28th ANNUAL EEA CONFERENCE EEA was lucky to hold its annual conference face-to-face, just days before the first covid-19 cases were confirmed in GA. Participants engaged in outings and adventures, toured SuperFund sites and explored tide pools on the southeast GA coast. Presentations ranged from a Monarchs Across Georgia workshop to sessions on conducting ecological restoration work, STEM gardening and nature journaling. Eight former Presidents of EEA attended the festivities.
	TRACKING TRASH After the annual conference on Jekyll Island, GA, members of EEA and partner organization 100 Miles decamped to the beach to serve as citizen scientists, while cleaning up the coast. Using the Marine Debris Tracker app, they photographed, geo-tagged and categorized types of litter, submitting the data to an ongoing research project. Not near the beach? Any clean-up projects can use the Litterati app to track trash by type and brand. The data collected is effective in changing the practices of litter producers and inspiring change among citizens.

Alabama:

Three examples of how Alabama is using technology to share information:

1. Thank you EEAA Board Member Claire Datnow for sharing the following **podcast**:

https://doc-0g-5g-docs.googleusercontent.com/docs/securesc/gg470r79racrbsops0t779ufccoov71o/fpp0ccu8d5c58dloh3nqc46sdnj6jlbe/1586799450000/06007990798794975252/01956371103157857582/1U_-GIHFs9LdTfeOUUYXHqEFaLetltNM2?h=05350640335611284920&e=download&authuser=0

2. Camp McDowell has been having great success with our daily Facebook 10:00 am videos and live streams! Go check it out. Lots of teachers are sharing the **YouTube** versions with their students at home! Go to YouTube and subscribe to the Camp McDowell Channel (there are two and so go to the one with all the new exciting videos!) Everything from making Sourdough Starter, Milking Goats, all about Chickens, Art in Nature, and more!

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC9wpCYkP9ImJfHoYTF5ZGRA>

3. University of Alabama Museums From Your Home:

<https://museums.ua.edu/museumsfromyourhome/>

Starting on Friday, March 27, 2020, UA Museums will begin live streaming educational content from the **Facebook** pages of the Alabama Museum of Natural History, The Gorgas House Museum, the Mildred Westervelt Warner Transportation Museum, and Moundville Archaeological Park.

Due to concerns regarding the COVID-19 Coronavirus, the museums of the University of Alabama have had to close their doors, but that isn't stopping them from providing educational outreach. They will have daily programming (Mondays through Fridays) at 10:00 AM Central that will include experts in various fields, offering Q&A time for those watching at home.

Since their audience is unable to visit the museums during this effort to prevent the spread of COVID-19, UA Museums' Executive Director, Dr. William Bomar, understands that people are looking for quality online content that is both educational and entertaining.

"While our four public museums are closed, we will be using a variety of platforms such as daily live streams by scientists, historians, archaeologists, and naturalists from UA Museums. It is my hope that during this difficult time, our audiences across Alabama and beyond will take advantage of our educational resources and see our museums as a source of enrichment and comfort", Dr. Bomar said.



Florida:

Executive Director for Florida!

We are proud to announce that we have hired Terran McGinnis as our new executive director and super excited to build our capacity and support the great work that all of our members are doing in environmental education.

Terran McGinnis is a passionate environmental educator and has been for as long as she can remember. Personally, it began as a child when she would talk about animals to anyone who would listen. Professionally it began during college when she worked as park ranger in her home state of California: starting in the regional parks and ending up as an Interpretive Ranger at Yosemite National Park. After graduating from the University of California at Santa Cruz (Go Banana Slugs!), Terran entered the world of zoo and aquarium education, and there she has remained for 26 years. Grateful to be able to tell the most fanciful, inspiring, mesmerizing, and true stories about the planet, Terran has watched in awe as this career has taken her from the mountains to the coast of California and from the First Coast to the Keys and back again in Florida.



Among her favorite aspects of this field are the partnerships and camaraderie that she finds with her colleagues. As the Manager of Education and Community Development at Marineland Dolphin Adventure, the Membership Chair for the Florida Marine Science Educators Association, and the Education Committee Chair for the Alliance of Marine Mammal Parks and Aquariums, Terran looks forward to pulling the best of all she's seen and learned into her new role as the Executive Director of the League of Environmental Educators in Florida. Florida has so much nature to protect, learn about, and connect with, and environmental educators make that happen, so let's get to work!

Please join me in welcoming her to LEEF!

Sarah Davis

LEEF President

North Carolina:

From Dr. Brad Daniel: Last week while working with some parents and teachers, we shared an example of how the COVID-19 situation can be used as a case study for interdisciplinary education. The description, diagram, and sample questions for each subject are in the attached document. There is also a list of useful websites with links at the end. There are, of course, many additional questions that could and should be asked but this was meant to start the process with one goal being for the students to develop new questions and later on, hypotheses.

Please feel free to share this with any teachers and parents that might be interested in this approach. We hope you find this helpful. It is also posted as a jpeg on our 2nd Nature TREC Facebook page.

On a personal note, I hope that you all are safe and healthy. Nature always reminds us that things will change. They always do. There will be better days ahead as we travel down the trail. In the meantime, may you find joy in the small things and something to laugh about every day.

865 Blue Ridge Rd
Black Mountain, NC 28711

2nd Nature TREC

828.357.5411
2ndNatureTREC.com

COVID-19 Offers an Opportunity for Interdisciplinary Education
Brad Daniel, March 24th, 2020

COVID-19 has created challenging situations for both educators and parents. Although there are many negative aspects of what is happening right now and it is easy to be afraid, there are also numerous learning opportunities. In fact, the COVID-19 pandemic provides a useful case study from which we can learn and teach while at home over the next weeks.

Last week I worked with several parents that were interested in learning how to focus lessons around the COVID-19 pandemic. Since many of the fields in which I work, including environmental education, adventure education, and outdoor education, value learning from experience, I suggested using COVID-19 and its impact as a case study for cross subject learning. At their request, I created a single diagram illustrating some of the potential subjects that could be taught and then provided a series of sample questions that could be researched and discussed. I have listed them below in case they are of use to other parents and/or teachers. Of course, the depth, methods, and approach will depend on the age of the students.

History

- What other pandemics have occurred in the world? In the U.S. specifically?

- Why are some people taking the virus seriously while others are not? What factors might be influencing each group?
- Communications**
- How are various print and electronic media outlets sharing information and discussing COVID-19?
 - How does the way something gets communicated affect how people respond? Can you think of examples?
 - How does social media help or complicate communication about a topic such as COVID-19?
 - How can you tell if information is authoritative? Accurate? False?
- Psychology**
- What is the relationship between anxiety, fear, and panic?
 - What effect does panic, fear, and anxiety have on the brain's ability to think rationally and process information?
 - Is panic contagious? Why or why not?
 - What is resilience and how does it relate to situations like the pandemic?
- Leadership**
- What are the characteristics of good leadership in a crisis?
 - How does a leader act in the time and context for a team or group?
 - What are some key differences between autocratic, democratic, and abdicative leadership styles?
- Some Useful Websites:**
- <https://www.cdc.gov/>
 - <https://www.cdc.gov/media/releases/2020/s0319-covid-19-qa.html>
 - <https://www.epidemiolink.com/epidemiolink/covid19/covid19.htm>
 - <https://www.epidemiolink.com/epidemiolink/covid19/covid19.htm>
 - <https://www.cdc.gov/media/releases/2020/s0319-covid-19-qa.html>
 - <https://www.cdc.gov/media/releases/2020/s0319-covid-19-qa.html>
 - <https://www.cdc.gov/media/releases/2020/s0319-covid-19-qa.html>
 - <https://www.cdc.gov/media/releases/2020/s0319-covid-19-qa.html>

- How many people died in the previous pandemic?
 - How were previous pandemics similar and different to this one?
 - How does increased global transportation affect the development of a pandemic?
- Geography:** Excellent graphics are available online related to the pandemic that also allows tracking geography (continents, nations, countries, states) in the context of this experience.
- Where did the virus originate?
 - What countries are currently reporting cases? Where can you track the number of cases reported?
 - What factors are contributing to the spread of COVID-19 around the world and in local communities?
 - Are certain areas of the world seemingly not/less effected by COVID-19? If so, what factors might be responsible?
- Sciences**
- What do scientists do?
 - What is the scientific method? What steps are involved?
 - What is a pandemic? What factors lead to this classification?
 - Why is scientific research important before, during, and after major events such as the pandemic?
 - What is the CDC? Where are they located? What do they do? How do they work with scientists and political leaders?
 - What is the World Health Organization? What do they do? How do they work with scientists?
 - What is the precautionary principle? How does it apply to scientific or environmental issues?
- Viruses and COVID-19 specifically:**
- What are viruses? Why are they not described as "living"?
 - How do viruses reproduce?
 - What is the difference between an RNA Virus and a DNA virus?
 - How do viruses "jump" from one species to another?
 - How do viruses spread?
 - What causes viruses to mutate?
 - How do viruses actually cause symptoms?
 - Why isn't there a vaccine for COVID-19 when there is one for the Flu?
 - How does washing your hands really affect the virus?
 - Why aren't antibodies effective against COVID-19?
- Social Behavior**
- What is social distancing? Why is it important right now?
 - What is "group think"? How does it influence beliefs and behaviors?

NAAEE Updates

Check out two important topics—the second one involves money!

(1) Certification Planning

With NAAEE's recently completed overhaul of the [accreditation requirements](#) for state certification programs, we hope to see an increased number of accredited certification programs. A key element of the revisions is that certification is now recognized nationally as long as individuals are certified through an accredited program.

To best determine how to move forward with certification, we need a better picture of the certification landscape. We would appreciate it if all states—**especially those currently without a certification program**—would answer this short survey: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/Q3CLP62> and help direct future plans for certification and accreditation of individual environmental educators.

(2) ee360: Year 4 Incubator Grants

Through ee360, we have funding for a limited number of incubator grants for NAAEE Affiliates. States that participated in the Year 1 and Year 3 ee360 Leadership Clinics are not eligible; priority will be placed on all-volunteer-led Affiliates.

Affiliates are invited to submit proposals for specific projects that will give your organization a needed jump-start as well as position you for additional leadership development.

To apply, read the attached RFP carefully, and complete the attached application by **Friday, April 17, 2020**. Projects must be completed by early December 2020.

<https://naaee.org/ee360/blog/ee360-small-grant-opportunities>



NAAEE 2020 in Tucson, Arizona!

Research Symposium: October 13–14, 2020

Conference: October 14–17, 2020

EE: Inspire Change!

30 Under 30

NAAEE has once again opened the global search for 30 game-changing leaders under 30 years of age who are using environmental education to build a sustainable future for all!

Leadership comes in all shapes and sizes, and recognizing this diversity is more important than ever as we work to build a better future. Through EE 30 Under 30, we strive to build the next generation of leaders that are using environmental education to meet the sustainability needs of their own communities. This could mean bringing the SDGs into classrooms, addressing human-wildlife conflict, empowering youth to take action on water quality. [Nominate yourself or someone else by May 8!](https://naaee.org/our-work/programs/ee-30-under-30)
<https://naaee.org/our-work/programs/ee-30-under-30>

Message from NAAEE Executive Director Judy Braus

Dear Friends and Colleagues:

Our world has turned upside down in the past two weeks. We have all been struggling to figure out what this virus and its aftermath will mean for ourselves, our families and friends, our colleagues, our partners, our organizations, our neighborhoods, and the world. But, wonderfully, for every heartbreaking instance of fear, uncertainty, and loss, there has also been an outpouring of caring and compassion for each other that has been uplifting and transcendent.

This gives me hope. Hope that our lives are going to be OK sooner rather than later. Hope that by all of us being in this together, we'll get *through* this together. Hope in a bunch of incredibly smart people, steeped in science and many other disciplines, who are working every second to find solutions and help those who are sick. And hope that during this incredibly stressful time, we will have a million moments of insight, creativity, and new ways to innovate and collaborate.

Our network of environmental educators is strong, as is our spirit. We are problem solvers to our core. Much as we love working together in person, we also thrive together virtually. The last two weeks have shown how well modern technology and personal determination can support imaginative learning any time, anywhere. If we can't hold a conference or a meeting, we continue to connect via ZOOM, phone, email, WhatsApp, Slack, snail mail, or something else we haven't invented yet.

Right now, we at NAAEE are spending much of our time listening: to our Affiliate leaders, our non-profit leaders, our federal agency partners, and our members. We are committed to collaboration and figuring out together what we do in the short-, middle-, and long-term. We want to know your needs and how you and others are responding. Our Affiliates are also holding listening sessions with their state and local partners, so we can all understand how we can help support everyone who needs help, especially focusing in on the inequities in our systems that have made this crisis even harder and more painful for so many. Together, NAAEE and its Affiliate Network have hosted 22 "community check-ins" for the environmental education community, with several more planned over the next few days. Most states are convening weekly virtual meetings to provide an ongoing opportunity for EE professionals and

organizational leaders a chance to connect with others and share information over the course of this crisis.

We are also taking active steps to inform and provide resources for our community. Here are a few examples of what we're working on:



Webinars: Wednesday, more than 1,400 participants joined Spitfire Strategies President Kristen Grimm online to discuss how we can communicate more effectively during the COVID-19 crisis. She vividly explained how to blend the personal with the practical, how to connect with audiences facing fears and challenges, and how to move the world forward. You can access a recording of the webinar [here](#). We will continue to sponsor webinars in the upcoming months on topics related to the crisis and bringing new ideas and learning to the field at this unique time.

Blog Posts: Sarah Bodor, our Director of Policy and Affiliate Relations, put together an update on the new stimulus package and how it might help many of us in this network, as well as some other tips for educators and advocates. You can access it [here](#). We'll continue to post updates as we get them. We'd also love to post a blog from you!

Resources, Tips, and Support: Environmental education is more important than ever. We are launching a new section on our site full of ideas and resources for educators and parents through the shutdown. The site will also include a discussion forum, and we'll post uplifting stories about what all of you are doing to make a difference. And you can always visit [eePRO](#) for thousands of searchable resources that might help fill just the gap you're looking for.

Conference: As I mentioned last week, our Natural Start conference will now be virtual. It will be an amazing learning opportunity (stay tuned). Many of you have also asked about our annual conference in Tucson, which is currently moving forward, full-speed ahead, with the expectation that it will be held in person in October. But safety is crucial. We will make a final decision about the conference when we have more information about the long-term prospects for the pandemic.

Just know, no matter what you're feeling, it's OK, even if it changes day to day. As my sister-in-law Marcia, a therapist, always tells me: concentrate on what you can control rather than what you can't. This virus seems to be teaching us to focus on what really matters, and what we can actually influence.

One thing I find particularly comforting is thinking about the things I am grateful for: my amazing family and friends, the team here at NAAEE, our incredible Affiliate Network, our members, who have been absolutely wonderful, the fact that my computer hasn't exploded, that ZOOM can handle more than 1,000 participants, that CO2 levels are falling, that I can still bike outside, and that spring has sprung with all its amazing beauty and grace.

Please, go easy on yourselves. Whatever you feel is OK. We will someday be on the other side of the curve. And we will be ready—because we're environmental educators!

Judy Braus
Executive Director

It always seems impossible until it's done.
—Nelson Mandela

Virtual Tours and Field Trips

<https://naaee.org/eepro/resources/virtual-tours-and-field-trips>

Elementary Grades 3-5 Resources

This list of resources includes resource guides, lesson plans, and teaching activities, as well as apps, interactive websites, podcasts, and videos for grades 3-5 appropriate for learning at home.

<https://naaee.org/eepro/resources/elementary-grades-3-5-resources>

Middle School Grades 6-8 Resources

This list of resources includes resource guides, lesson plans, and teaching activities, as well as interactive websites, apps, podcasts, and videos for grades 6-8 appropriate for learning at home.

<https://naaee.org/eepro/resources/middle-school-grades-6-8-resources>

High School Grades 9-12 Resources

This list of resources includes resource guides, lesson plans, and teaching activities, as well as interactive websites, apps, podcasts, and videos for grades 9-12 appropriate for learning at home.

<https://naaee.org/eepro/resources/high-school-grades-9-12-resources>

NOAA science activities that kids and families can do at home

A quick roundup of NOAA's most popular educational resources to help you learn about the ocean and atmosphere

<https://naaee.org/eepro/resources/noaa-science-activities-kids-and-families>

NAAEE Affiliate News

2020 NAAEE Affiliate Strand Call for Presentations

The NAAEE Affiliate Network Professional Development Committee seeks compelling proposals for the Affiliate Network Conference Strand that demonstrate proven practices, push the leading edge of the profession, advance equity and inclusion in the field, and motivate the pursuit of excellence for the growing NAAEE Affiliate Network.

<https://naaee.org/eeepro/groups/affiliates/discussions/2020-affiliate-strand-call-presentations>

SEEA at your Service: Important Links and Resources

- **SEEA Shared Space.** The link to the SEEA shared space is below. Here, you will find the roster, minutes, webinar recordings and other resources.
<https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/0Bz-GEj3kxmd-YkF4VEltZnU2RUk?usp=sharing>.
Please bookmark this link for quick access.
- **SEEA Website (DBM).** Access the [SEEA website](#)!
- **2019 SEEA Leadership Team Roster:**
<https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1RPc-nJZDBCXX6OuBFOz0GDV2hHvdrSlTqMuh9V79Pw/edit?usp=sharing>
- **SEEA Strategic Plan** (discussed and approved on the September conference call). The document is attached via the link below. Please pass it to your respective boards.: <https://docs.google.com/document/d/1PrsEUVFA-2yosIEF75XRxVu6RZT3Uw82-ncr54ZpPRU/edit?usp=sharing>.
- **ZOOM Video Conferencing Available to all SEEA States (DBM).** Please email Ashley (director@kaee.org) if you need the login information and send her the date and time you plan to use it so we can mark it on the calendar to be sure there are no conflicts. Login is director@kaee.org and pw: Seea2018.
- **EE Research Bulletins (EERBs):** <https://naaee.org/eeepro/research/eeerb>
- **eePRO Research & Evaluation group:**
<https://naaee.org/eeepro/groups/research-and-evaluation>
- **NAAEE's Research Programs:** <https://naaee.org/eeepro/research>
- **Children and Nature Network's Research Summaries:**
<https://www.childrenandnature.org/learn/research/>

- **Webinar on Statewide Evaluations for Collective Impact.** The recorded webinar and a PDF of the accompanying PowerPoint are available at: <https://naaee.org/eeopro/learning/webinars/statewide-evaluations-collective-impact>
- **Webinar on Applying Systems Thinking for Our Affiliates.** You can access the recording at: <https://youtu.be/2A6vll3Fthc>.
- **EENC Environmental Education is Essential Document.**
<http://eenc.org/resources/Documents/EE%20is%20Essential%20with%20citation%20page.pdf>.

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.

Sarah Davis, 2019-2020 SEEA Chair

Ashley Hoffman, SEEA Executive Director

SEEA at a Glance: Questions and Answers

1. What is SEEA?

The Southeastern Environmental Education Alliance (SEEA) is a network of state affiliates of the North American Association for Environmental Education (NAAEE) located in the southeast region of the U.S. - EPA Region 4. The region is composed of the eight states below.

NAAEE Affiliate Organizations

AL - Environmental Education Association of Alabama

FL - League of Environmental Educators in Florida

GA - Environmental Education Alliance of Georgia

KY - Kentucky Association for Environmental Education

MS - Mississippi Environmental Education Association

NC - Environmental Educators of North Carolina

SC - Environmental Education Association of South Carolina

TN - Tennessee Environmental Education Association

2. What is SEEA's Mission?

The mission of the Southeast Environmental Education Alliance (SEEA) is to provide southeastern state environmental education associations and their members with valuable networking and communication opportunities that lead to greater success for all.

3. How is SEEA structured?

The SEEA Leadership Team includes two representatives from each state, including a Chair-elect, Chair, and Past Chair which are elected from the 16 representatives. SEEA has a part-time Executive Director and part-time Education Director. Funding for these positions comes, in part from contributions from member states. The return on investment for the money paid by each state to support a SEEA Executive Director has been 2-4 times the contribution.

4. How does SEEA help the individual states?

SEEA helps the state NAAEE Affiliates in a variety of ways. SEEA seeks to procure funding through grants and other means to help the state affiliates. SEEA also compiles and provides shared resources so individual states don't have to invent everything from scratch. These resources include:

- o Strategic Plans
- o Policy Manuals
- o Job Descriptions and Personnel Policies
- o Forms
- o Marketing plans
- o Fundraising or Outreach Videos
- o Other documents

States can choose to participate in various opportunities such as grants but they are not obligated to do so. Participation on each initiative is voted on by the state affiliate board/council.

5. Does SEEA hold a conference or regular meetings?

The SEEA Leadership Team holds monthly conference calls and participates in a yearly leadership retreat. SEEA partners with one of the eight SE states each year to co-sponsor a conference, which doubles as the conference for both the state affiliate and SEEA.

6. What is SEEA working on currently?

Current SEEA Projects include:

- Creating and implementing a new SEEA work plan for the next few years.
- Planning a SEEA regional ee360 retreat that will bring teams of up to five from each state affiliate.
- Determining organizational structure and investigating the possibility of becoming a regional affiliate of NAAEE.
- Providing networking opportunities such as a SEEA meeting at the NAAEE Annual Conference.

- Facilitating communication among affiliate groups through various means, including monthly conference calls, periodic email updates, and postings on the SEEA website around various topics of mutual interest.
- Sharing resources such as newsletters, conference attendance opportunities, and general organizational information.



Environmental Education Association of South Carolina



2020 SEEA Conference
Environmental Legacy: It's Our Story.
Past, Present, and Future.
Hosted by EEASC
September 24-26
Columbia, SC

Submit your proposals for general sessions and research symposium presentations
[General Sessions](#)
[Research Symposium](#)

To sponsor the conference and/or have a vendor table at the event, **[click here](#)**.

A silent auction at the conference will raise funds which will be split between SEEA and EEASC for program development. It helps the silent auction organizers to know what items to expect ahead of time, so if you already know what item(s) you will contribute, please [register them online here](#).

*Thank you for reading, more great news coming in May.
Send photos, articles, conference news, and state updates
to kmurray@tcboe.org*

Deadline for May Newsletter: May 8 , 2020

