

# National Environmental Education Foundation



[www.neefusa.org](http://www.neefusa.org)



# Statement of Purpose

*We provide knowledge to trusted professionals who, with their credibility, amplify messages to national audiences to solve everyday environmental problems. Together, we generate lasting positive change.*



# Reaching the Public

EE Content  
Information  
Training

Primary Audience  
Trusted Professionals

Teachers

TV Meteorologists

Public Land Managers

Health Care Providers

Business Managers

Secondary Audiences

Students

School Administrators; EE/education leaders & organizations; parents; local communities

Viewers

Station manager/news directors; meteorologist professional organizations; meteorologist community; academic institutions

Volunteers

Public land organizations; Federal, state & local government agencies; youth natural resource organization

Patients

Families, doctors, nurses, academic institutions/faculty; public/environmental health communities; underserved communities

Employees

Management, families, local communities



Classroom Earth



Earth Gauge



Public Lands Program



Health & Environment



Business & Environment



# Audience Reach



Classroom Earth

More than 220,000 individuals visited the suite of Classroom Earth websites in 2011; many of these visitors are teachers who use Classroom Earth materials to educate dozens of students.



Earth Gauge

Since Earth Gauge launched in 2005, the program has grown to 215 weathercasters in 2011, with a presence in 117 cities and 46 of the top 50 media markets, covering 230 million viewers.



Public Lands Program

In September 2011, over 170,000 volunteers participated at nearly 2,100 public land sites spread across the 50 states, Washington, DC and the US territories, providing an estimated \$18 million in contributed services.



Health & Environment

The 40 Nature Champions trained in 2010 are each charged with training an additional 40 pediatric health care providers, who will in turn reach tens of thousands of families and children within two years.



Business & Environment

20 companies representing four million employees participated in the Business Sustainability Education Roundtable to share best practices on employee engagement in environment and sustainability education.



*Advance the environmental and climate knowledge of broadcast meteorologists in order to increase the public's knowledge so they can make environmentally informed decisions.*



# Earth Gauge



**July**  
**Lightning!**  
Take a quiz and test your knowledge.  
[Click here!](#)

**Earth Gauge Kids**




**Earth Gauge**

**Climate Fact**

In North Cascades National Park, the total area covered by glaciers has shrunk by 40 percent since 1850. Glacial retreat has been particularly noticeable since about 1980.

A National Environmental Education Foundation Program

"The Climate Facts have been a great addition to my science journal online, and I get frequent feedback from viewers about the science I mention."

*Meteorologist Dan Satterfield at WHNT-TV in Huntsville, Alabama.*

Weather and the Built Environment

**Weather and the Built Environment**

Weather & Health

**Weather and Health**



# Online Courses



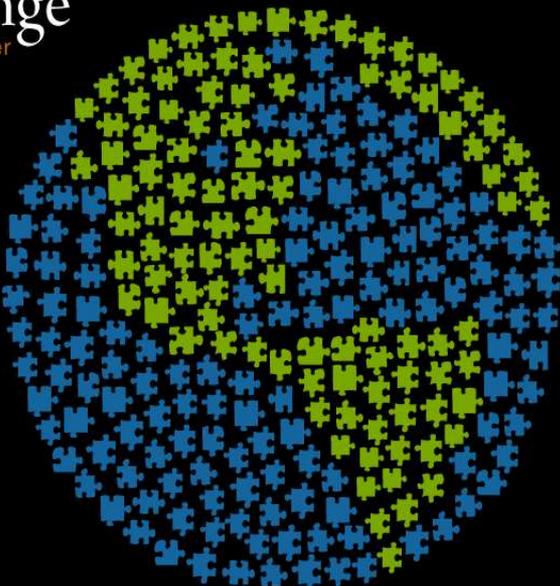
METED HOME   COMET HOME   DOWNLOAD   RESOURCES   TECH NOTES   USER SURVEY   QUIZ   CONTRIBUTORS

*produced by* The COMET Program

## Climate Change

Fitting the Pieces Together

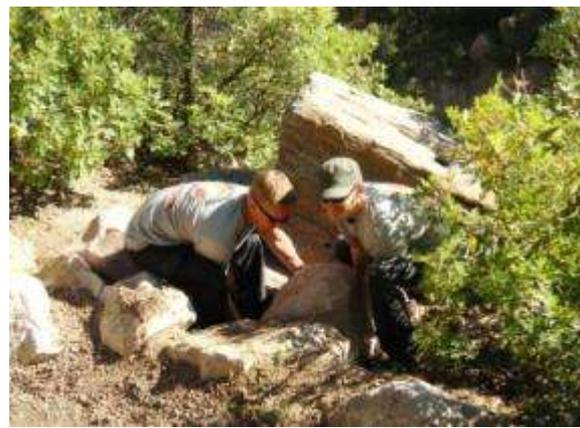
-  Introduction
-  What Changes Climate?
-  Is It Real?
-  How Do We Know?
-  Why Should We Care?
-  How Sure Are Scientists?
-  What Next?
-  FAQ





*Increase the capacity of public lands stewards to engage local communities to help care for our public lands.*

*The nation's largest volunteer effort to improve America's public lands*





# Public Lands Program

## Public Lands Every Day



### Every Day Capacity Building Grants

SHARE:

The Every Day Grants provide "Friends Groups" with grant funds of up to \$5,000 to help the Friends Group build their capacity to serve public lands.

Friends groups are invaluable to the public lands they serve. While dedicated and passionate, they are often underfunded and understaffed. The [National Environmental Education Foundation \(NEEF\)](#) wants to unleash their potential and help strengthen these organizations to enable them to do more to connect their communities to the land.

The latest Every Day Grant cycle closed on January 31, 2011. [Learn more about the application](#) and eligibility requirements.

#### 2011 Grant Winners

[Branch Brook Park Alliance](#)  
Newark, N.J.

[Carson Valley Trails Association](#)  
Minden, Nev.

[Discover Your Northwest](#)  
Seattle, Wash.





*Advance environmental knowledge among health professionals to improve the public's health with a special emphasis on children and underserved populations.*



### Rx for Outdoor Activity

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Date: \_\_\_\_\_

My Schedule (when and where will you play outside this season?)  
 Weekdays: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Weekends: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Child signature: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Health Care Provider signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Go Outside and:

- Play!
- Visit a national wildlife refuge, national fish hatchery, park, playground, or nature center
- Take a walk around the block
- Ride bikes (near a helmet), go bird watching, or just explore.

Comments: \_\_\_\_\_



★ Children and Nature Initiative Pilot Sites

### Rx para la Actividad al Aire Libre

Nombre: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Fecha: \_\_\_\_\_

Mi horario (¿cuándo y dónde jugará al aire libre esta temporada?)  
 Los días de la semana: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Los fines de semana: \_\_\_\_\_

Firma de madre/padre o hijo(a): \_\_\_\_\_  
 Firma del Proveedor de Cuidado Médico: \_\_\_\_\_

Vaya afuera y:

- Juegue!
- Visite un refugio nacional de vida silvestre, un hatchery nacional de peces, un parque, un patio de recreo, o un centro de naturaleza
- Dé un paseo por el vecindario
- Junte en bosques (use un casaca), observe las aves o simplemente explore.

Comentarios: \_\_\_\_\_

### Health & Environment

#### Children and Nature Initiative

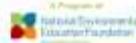
Our children are suffering from a variety of chronic health conditions such as obesity and asthma. Research indicates that unstructured outdoor activities may improve children's health by increasing physical activity, reducing stress, and serving as a support mechanism for attention disorders. The National Environmental Education Foundation's (NEEF) Children and Nature Initiative is taking action on health by addressing the issues:

- Addressing pediatric health conditions like asthma and diabetes
- Encouraging children to nature
- Training pediatric health care providers on prescribing outdoor activities
- Connecting health care providers with local nature sites so that they are able to safely and easily refer their patients.

#### Nature Champions

- NEEF is building capacity among pediatric health care providers by training Nature Champions who then refer other health care providers about prescribing nature.
- The health care providers refer families to parks or nature centers in their communities where NEEF's partners provide active nature programming.
- NEEF's nature partners include:
  - o U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
  - o National Audubon Society
  - o U.S. Department of Agriculture Forest Service
  - o National Park Service









*Advance the ability of K-12 teachers to work across disciplines, equipping students to contribute to environmental solutions.*



# Classroom Earth *is...*

**National Environmental Education Week**



Students participating in a Florida Oceanographic Society program investigate estuary wildlife during EE Week.

**Planet Connect**



Planet Connect project grantee Lisa Junta of Springfield, VA displays her school's new reusable lunch trays.

**Be Water Wise**



A *Be Water Wise* student shows her flow meter bag measurement.

**Richard C. Bartlett Award**



Outstanding environmental educator John Schmied of Bothell, WA received the 2011 Bartlett Award.



Classroom Earth

*Strategies*

**Awards**

**Professional  
Development**

**Online  
Resources**

**National  
Events**



**Grants**

**Demonstration  
Projects**



# Classroom Earth



The screenshot shows the top navigation bar of the Classroom Earth website. It includes the Classroom Earth logo, the National Environmental Education Foundation logo, and logos for The Weather Channel and National Partner. Navigation links include Home Page, Resources, Grants, Teaching About the Environment, Professional Development, and Success Stories. There is also a search bar and a 'Our Programs' dropdown menu.

## Welcome to Classroom Earth!



Classroom Earth is an online resource designed to help high school teachers include environmental content in their daily lesson plans. Useful resources on the site include:

[read more ...](#)

## TEACHING ABOUT THE ENVIRONMENT

Learn how to teach high school students about the environment.

## JOIN THE CLASSROOM EARTH COMMUNITY

By becoming a member of Classroom Earth you become part of a nationwide community of high school educators teaching about the environment. [Join Now!](#)

## FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

[Connect Grants for Culturally Diverse Communities](#)  
August 1, 2011

[President's Environmental Youth Awards](#)  
December 31, 2011

[Schoolyard Habitat Program](#)  
December 31, 2011

[View All Grants](#)

## GREEN TV



## FOLLOW US



## BROWSE BY SUBJECT

- Foreign Languages
- Language Arts
- Mathematics
- Science
- Social Studies
- The Arts

## IN THE NEWS

### Hundreds feel sting of jellyfish on Florida's east coast

ST. PETERSBURG, Fla. - Thousands of jellyfish washed up on Florida's east coast over the Memorial holiday weekend, stinging swimmers and thwarting beachgoers. [Learn more](#)



[Archive](#)

## SUCCESS STORIES

### John Schmied, 2011 Bartlett Award Winner

*"I would like to thank the National Environmental Education Foundation for naming me as the 2011 Richard C. Bartlett Environmental Education Award winner."*



## Wildlife Conservation Resources



Check out Classroom Earth's wildlife conservation resources, including lesson plans, curricula, professional development opportunities, news, fact sheets, funding opportunities, videos and more!

[read more ...](#)





## Classroom Earth Resources

### Resource Library

#### Analyzing Tree Rings

*In Subject: Environmental Science, Biology, Algebra I*

*Key Term: Correlated to Standards, Forests, Botany*

*Level: General*

*Resource Type: Activities/Lesson Plans*

*Topic: Biodiversity, Water, Climate*



In this lesson plan students become dendrochronologists - tree ring scientists. The lesson introduces Methuselah, an ancient bristlecone pine that has lived more than 4,600 years.

[Access the Lesson Plan](#)

[Add new comment](#) [Read more](#)

#### Mountain of Ice and its History

*In Subject: Environmental Science, Earth Science, Chemistry, Statistics, Algebra I*

*Key Term: Correlated to Standards, Oceanography*

*Level: General*

*Resource Type: Activities/Lesson Plans*

*Topic: Water, Climate, Geography*



In this lesson, students analyze the chemical concentrations in ice core field data from the U.S.

[View the Lesson Plan](#)

[Add new comment](#) [Read more](#)

#### Continuously Changing Plant Growth

*In Subject: Algebra I*

*Key Term: Correlated to Standards, Botany*

*Level: General*

*Resource Type: Activities/Lesson Plans*

*Topic: Agriculture*

Plant growth rates are influenced by many factors including rainfall, climate, soil nutrients, and others. In this activity, students will develop a mathematical model for a growing plant.

*This activity is correlated to National Mathematics content standards.*

[View the Lesson Plan](#)

[Add new comment](#)

- [Classroomearth.org](http://Classroomearth.org)
- Highly searchable database of resources;
- Search terms include:
  - Type of resource (ex: video, curricula, or lesson plan)
  - Topic (ex: Energy)
  - Subject (ex: Math)
  - Course (ex: Algebra)
  - Level (ex: AP)



# Classroom Earth

## Teacher Wildlife Conservation Professional Development Grants

### Synopsis:

- Grant courses available for middle and high school teachers
- Courses provided by the Wildlife Conservation Society
- Graduate level credits available via Adams State College
- Courses available: Conservation Biology for Educators, Habitat Ecology for Educators
- Access to Classroom Earth's online wildlife conservation resources

"I really enjoyed my course, *Conservation Biology for Educators*. I found everything relevant to what I teach, and can use it in many different classes."

Currently accepting applications until **April 30, 2012**:  
<http://ClassroomEarth.org/2012wcgrants>

**Classroom Earth**  
A National Environmental Education Foundation Program

**The Weather Channel**  
National Partner  
weather.com

### Announcing Classroom Earth Professional Development Grants

Interested in enhancing your understanding of the living world and learning to teach about **wildlife conservation** in your subject area? Classroom Earth is supporting middle and high school teachers around the country who want to make wildlife conservation part of their curriculum.

**Classroom Earth's 2012 Professional Development Grants** will enable applicants to take one six-week online course offered by the Wildlife Conservation Society to create a strong foundation in wildlife conservation. Participating teachers will be better equipped to bring wildlife conservation education into the classroom, facilitate scientific learning and to connect students with their natural surroundings. The Classroom Earth grant opportunity will also support teachers to earn graduate level credit.

**Deadline is April 30, 2012**

Apply for a Classroom Earth Professional Development Grant today!

Visit [www.classroomearth.org/2012wcgrants](http://www.classroomearth.org/2012wcgrants) for more information.

"I really enjoyed my course, *Conservation Biology for Educators*. I found everything relevant to what I teach, and can use it in many different classes."  
- 2011 Professional Development Grantee



In partnership with:



# planet connect

**RECYCLE**

**REUSE**

**AND  
CONTRIBUTE !!**



## GET GREEN VIDEO CONTEST

Show us how you can Green Your City

Deadline to Enter:  
December 8, 2011

PlanetConnect.org/getgreenvideocontest

planet connect

STAPLES

that was easy



### Planet Connect TV

Green Career Interview with Jean Fennycook - she is an Einstein Fellow who has worked with penguins in Antarctica!



# Be water wise

*Engages public, private and nonprofit sectors to raise awareness of local water issues and improve water conservation in school buildings and grounds.*



*Be Water Wise students in Miami and Atlanta conduct school water audits (far left), and later, present their water conservation plans to city officials, including Miami Mayor Manny Diaz and Superintendent Alberto Carvalho (upper left), as well as Atlanta City Council Chair Ceasar Mitchell (above).*



John Schmied, Skyview Junior High School, Bothell, Washington.  
Winner of 2011 Richard C. Bartlett Environmental Education Award

## Announcing the 2012 Richard C. Bartlett Environmental Education Award

Do you know a teacher who stands out among the rest? Someone who takes their passion for the environment and brings it into the classroom, inspiring students to learn and engage in environmental issues? Consider nominating an outstanding teacher for the **2012 Richard C. Bartlett Environmental Education Award**.

The 2012 Richard C. Bartlett Environmental Education Award will go to an outstanding **high school teacher (grades 9-12)** who successfully integrates environmental education into the curriculum and engages students in interdisciplinary solutions to environmental challenges. The award is given to an educator who can serve as an inspiration and model for others.

The winner of the Richard C. Bartlett Environmental Education Award will receive **\$5,000** to support their work in environmental education. The award and merit winners will be announced in August 2012.

The application deadline for the Richard C. Bartlett Environmental Education Award is **June 8, 2012**. Nominate yourself or a teacher you know today!

To learn more, visit: <http://neefusa.org/bartlettaward.htm>

*The Richard C. Bartlett Environmental Education Award is made possible through the generous support of Baxter Healthcare Corporation.*



**Hands on the Land (HOL) is supported by a collaboration of:**

- Partners in Resource Education (PRE), a collaboration of seven Federal agencies**
- The National Environmental Education Foundation (NEEF)**
- The Keystone Center (TKC) and Keystone Science School (KSS)**

**America's Largest Classroom**



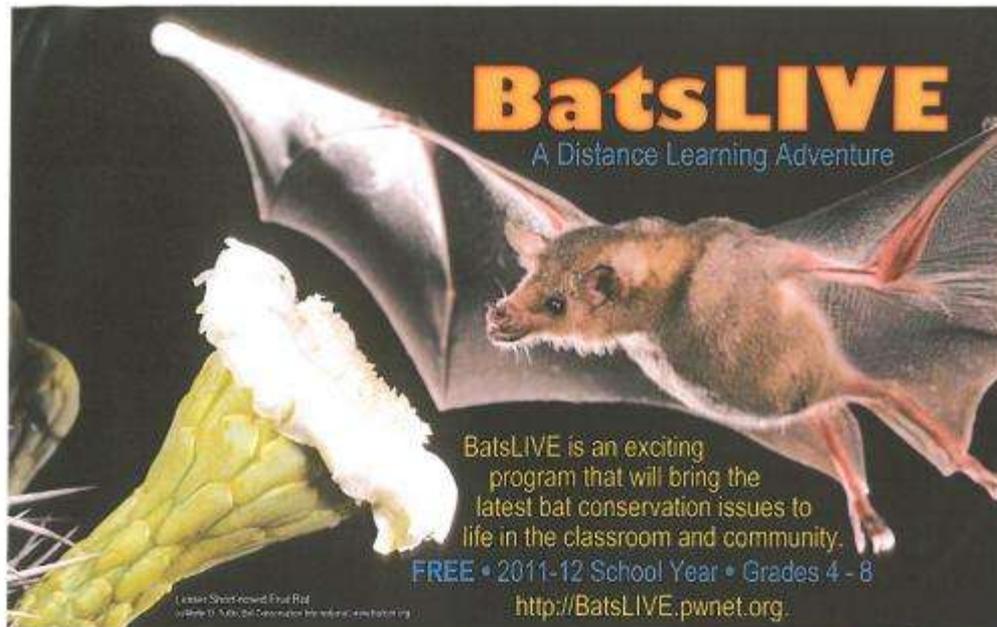


# HANDS ON THE LAND

The screenshot shows the website's main navigation and content area. At the top left is the 'HANDS ON THE LAND' logo. To its right are four feature boxes: 'Site Profiles' (with a globe icon), 'HOL Games' (with a blue whale icon), 'Hot Topics' (with a fire icon), and 'Environmental Monitoring' (with a green frog icon). A search bar and 'Admin Menu' are in the top right. The left sidebar contains a 'MAIN MENU' with links to Site Profiles, Blog, Program Providers, Educator Resources, Contact Directory, Environmental Monitoring, About Us, Feedback, and Home. Below this is a 'MEMBERSHIP' section with links for sign-up, joining, and application, and a 'LOG OUT' button. The main content area features a 'TERRA COGNITA SPRING 2012' banner with a photo of students Loren Henry and Jessica Betts investigating marine debris on West Elwha Beach. Below the banner is a 'Welcome to Hands on the Land' section with a photo of a group of people and text about Fort Ord of Hollister, CA. To the right is a 'Highlights' section with a 'Hot Topics' sub-section about federal land managers and classroom materials, and a 'Children and Nature' sub-section.

America's Largest Classroom





# BatsLIVE

A Distance Learning Adventure

BatsLIVE is an exciting program that will bring the latest bat conservation issues to life in the classroom and community.

FREE • 2011-12 School Year • Grades 4 - 8

<http://BatsLIVE.pwnet.org>

Lesser Short-eared Fruit Bat  
© 2011 PWN, All Conservation Organizations Worldwide

Bats are vital to healthy of ecosystems and human economies worldwide. As primary predators of night-flying insects, bats consume enormous quantities of agricultural and forest pests reducing the need for chemical pesticides. Some bats are critical pollinators and seed dispersers for plants.

Yet these wonderfully diverse and beneficial creatures are among the least studied and most misunderstood of animals. Bats are threatened worldwide, and their colonies and habitats are destroyed – both intentionally and inadvertently – because of myths, misinformation, and lack of scientific knowledge and understanding.

Bat populations are declining almost everywhere, especially due to the devastating White-nose Syndrome disease. Losing bats has far-reaching consequences for natural ecosystems and human economies. Knowledge is the key to their survival and protection.

### Join us for BatsLIVE:

- **FREE** to all schools.
- Log on for a **LIVE WEBCAST** on May 17, 2012.
- Join us for in-depth **WEB SEMINARS** about bats.
- Participate in **CITIZEN SCIENCE** activities.
- Find **LESSON PLANS** about bats for the classroom.
- Connect with bat conservation **ORGANIZATIONS** worldwide.



### Supporting Partners:

USDA Forest Service • Partners in Resource Education • US Fish and Wildlife Service  
 Bat Conservation International • National Environmental Education Foundation  
 Organization for Bat Conservation • National Wildlife Federation • UN Year of the Bat  
 Lubee Bat Conservancy • Virginia Department of Conservation & Resources  
 National Cave and Karst Resources Institute • Prince William County Public Schools

Check out the resource web site at:  
<http://BatsLIVE.pwnet.org>  
 For more information: 800-603-2680





# National Environmental Education Week



National Environmental Education Week

EE Week is April 15-21, 2012 Register at [EEWeek.org](http://EEWeek.org)

## Greening STEM: The Environment as Inspiration for 21st Century Learning

Benefits of registration include:

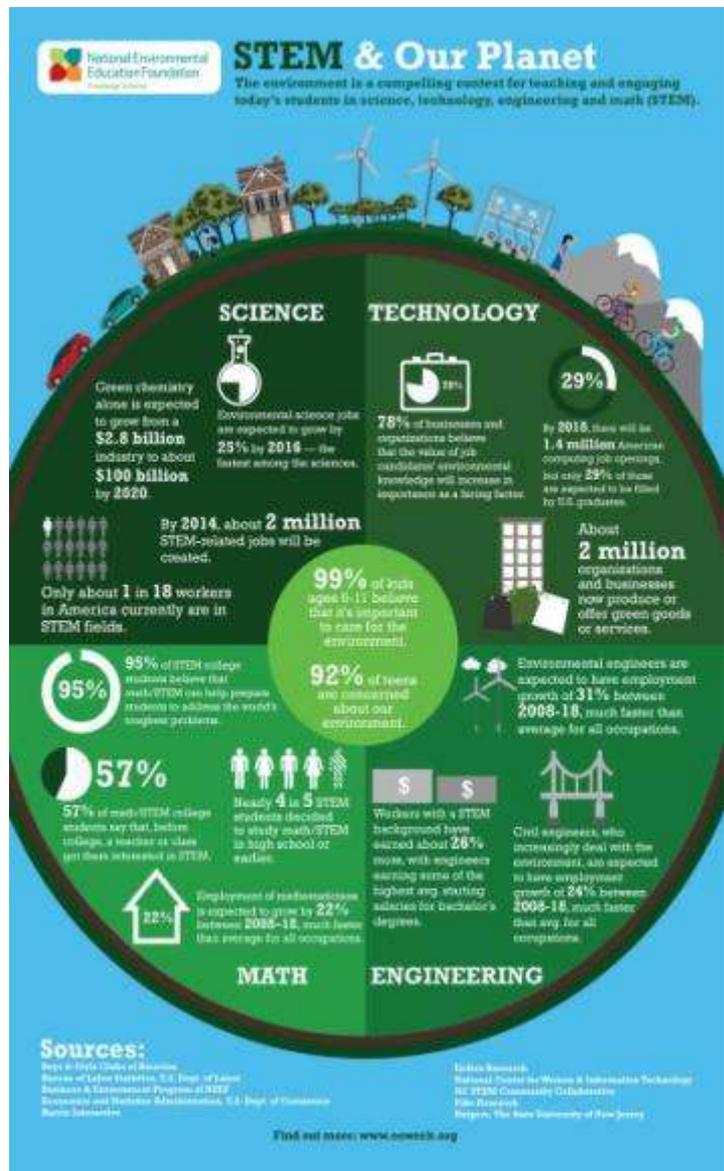
- Free educator webinar on integrating STEM and environmental education
- Planning toolkits on popular environmental topics
- Discounts, giveaways and special offers



National Environmental Education Foundation

## STEM & Our Planet

The environment is a compelling context for teaching and engaging today's students in science, technology, engineering and math (STEM).



### SCIENCE

Green chemistry alone is expected to grow from a **\$2.8 billion** industry to about **\$100 billion** by 2020.

Environmental science jobs are expected to grow by **25% by 2018** — the fastest among the sciences.

### TECHNOLOGY

**78%** of businesses and organizations believe that the value of job candidates' environmental knowledge will increase in importance as a hiring factor.

By 2018, there will be **1.4 million** American computing jobs open, but only **29%** of these are expected to be filled by U.S. graduates.

By 2014, about **2 million** STEM-related jobs will be created.

Only about **1 in 18** workers in America currently are in STEM fields.

**99%** of high school seniors believe that it's important to care for the environment.

**92%** of teens are concerned about our environment.

About **2 million** organizations and businesses now produce or offer green goods or services.

Environmental engineers are expected to have employment growth of **31%** between 2008-16, much faster than average for all occupations.

**95%** of STEM college students say that having a teacher role helps prepare students to address the world's toughest problems.

**57%** of math/STEM college students say that having a teacher role helps prepare them interested in STEM.

Ready **4 in 5** STEM students decided to study math/STEM in high school or earlier.

Workers with a STEM background have earned about **28%** more, with engineers earning some of the highest avg. starting salaries for bachelor's degrees.

Employment of mathematicians is expected to grow by **22%** between 2008-16, much faster than average for all occupations.

Civil engineers, who increasingly deal with the environment, are expected to have employment growth of **24%** between 2008-16, much faster than avg. for all occupations.

### MATH

### ENGINEERING

**Sources:**  
 Page 21-24: Union of Concerned Scientists  
 Bureau of Labor Statistics, U.S. Dept. of Labor  
 Business & Economics Programs at NIST  
 Economics and Statistics Administration, U.S. Dept. of Commerce  
 Public Information  
 Bureau of Economic Analysis, U.S. Dept. of Commerce  
 National Center for Science & Technological Education  
 NSF STEM Commission: Outcomes  
 Public Research  
 Program, The State University of New Jersey

Find out more: [www.eeweb.org](http://www.eeweb.org)



- ### 10 Ways to Participate in EE Week
1. Incorporate environmental themes into daily lesson plans.
  2. Help students identify and investigate their watershed.
  3. Use GPS technology to enable students to map and inventory invasive plant species.
  4. Set up a nature scavenger hunt on your school grounds.
  5. Organize a field trip to a local aquarium or zoo.
  6. Partner with a business or community group to host a clean-up or water quality monitoring event.
  7. Construct a wildlife habitat, schoolyard garden or outdoor classroom on your campus.
  8. Help students launch a school recycling campaign.
  9. Encourage students to research and propose ways to green their school building with water and energy conservation technology.
  10. Help students develop a service-learning project around improving the environment in their community.



# National Environmental Education Week



National Environmental Education Week (EE Week), the nation's largest environmental education event held each year the week before Earth Day, inspires environmental learning and stewardship among K-12 students. EE Week connects educators with environmental resources to promote K-12 students' understanding of the environment. EE Week is a program of the [National Environmental Education Foundation](#).

- ▶ [Spread the Word About EE Week](#)
- ▶ [Promotional Toolkit](#)
- ▶ [Subscribe to EE Week News](#)

**Resources**

**Success Stories**

**Curricula Library**

**Nature Center Map**

**Photo Blog Contest**



## Resources

- > [Children & Nature](#)
- > [Climate Change](#)
- > [Curricula Library](#)
- > [Energy](#)
- > [Grants and Awards](#)
- > [Green Reading](#)
- > [Health Care Providers](#)
- > [Oceans](#)
- > [Oil Spill](#)
- > [Professional Development](#)
- > [Quizzes](#)
- > [Service-Learning](#)
- > [Water](#)
- > [Water-Energy Connection](#)
- > [Webinars](#)

## Environmental Education Curricula Library

Using environmental topics in the classroom provides an opportunity for students to learn math, science, social studies, language arts and more while exploring interesting issues and sharpening critical thinking skills. The curricula listed in EE Week's Curricula Library are correlated to state, national or NAAEE education standards and have been evaluated for their quality and objectivity. Click on a topic below to view lesson plans.

[Air Quality](#)

[Amphibians and Reptiles](#)

[Birds](#)

[Climate Change](#)

> [Access the EE Week Carbon Footprint Calculator](#)

[Endangered Species](#)

[Energy](#)

[Environmental Health](#)

[Forests and Trees](#)



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## Water Resources

Visit the [Curricula Library](#) for lesson plans on water and the [Water Quality Testing](#) page for resources on conducting water quality tests with your students.

### Bay Backpack

Bay Backpack is an online resource for teachers and environmental educators to engage students in hands-on learning about the Chesapeake Bay and its local waterways. The site also houses resources on forests, farming, development and many other environmental topics that affect the Bay. Bay Backpack resources include books, multimedia tools, curriculum guides and individual lesson plans. In addition, visitors can search for professional development and funding opportunities on the Web site. The goal of Bay Backpack is to provide educators with the necessary resources to give their students a Meaningful Watershed Educational Experience (MWEE) – extensive projects that allow students to gain a deep understanding of environmental issues in the Chesapeake Bay and its local streams and rivers.

### California Center for the Book

The California Center for the Book, in partnership with the Water Education Foundation, supplies resources to help public libraries host programming about water. Resources are available online and include a Water Issues Guide, a Water Book List, web resources, and more.

### Climate Change and Water: Perspectives from the Forest Service

Climate Change and Water: Perspectives from the Forest Service is a summary of a forthcoming report by the Forest Service and U.S. Department of Agriculture which will detail the likely impacts of climate change on the Nation's forested watersheds and highlight the importance of managing forests to provide clean, abundant water.



**Resources**

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**EE Week Educator Webinars**

The mission of National Environmental Education Week (EE Week) is to connect educators with environmental resources to promote K-12 students' understanding of the environment. One way that we support educators is by providing professional development opportunities, including webinars.

Learn more about our webinars by following the links below.

**Upcoming Webinars**

- > [EPA Environmental Education in Action webinars](#) - the EPA's Office of Environmental Education (OEE) will host three webinars for educators during EE Week 2012. The webinars will kick off a new initiative called Environmental Education in Action that will showcase environmental education programs and resources. The webinar **Greening STEM: Environmental Resources and Tools for Inspiring 21st Century Learning on April 19 at 4:00 p.m. EDT** will showcase EE Week and other NEEF programs. [Register for the webinar](#).

**Webinar Archive**

- > [Field Investigations and STEM](#), live broadcast March 28, 2012
- > [Technology Goes Wild: New Tools for Connecting Classrooms with Nature](#), live broadcast March 30, 2011
- > [Teaching Ocean Connections: Watersheds to Reefs](#), live broadcast March 30, 2011
- > [Teaching About the Gulf Oil Spill](#), live broadcast February 23, 2011
- > [Teaching the Water-Energy Connection](#), live broadcast March 31, 2010

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**More About EE Week**

- > EE Week 2012
- > Be Water Wise
- > Photo Blog
- > Newsletter Archives
- > Success Stories

**Register for EE Week 2012**

Join a national network of educators and

**EE Week Educator Webinar: Field Investigations and STEM**

Original broadcast on March 28, 2012

[Back to all webinars](#)

On March 28, 2012, EE Week partnered with the [Association of Fish & Wildlife Agencies \(AFWA\)](#) and the [Pacific Education Institute \(PEI\)](#) to explore how the schoolyard or local public land can provide students with the opportunity to be scientists using the skills and knowledge of inquiry to collect real-world data.

Webinar participants had the opportunity to hear from Margaret Tudor and Pat Otto at PEI about information and tools educators can use to engage students in STEM learning outside, utilizing nature as a laboratory, by planning, conducting, and evaluating a field investigation.

PEI provides professional development for school districts to get teachers and students in the field doing real-world science. Recently, PEI worked with AFWA to provide guides on best practices in conservation education for the AFWA Conservation Education Toolkit. [Download the Field Investigations guide](#).

*Individuals who registered for EE Week 2012 and participated in this and/or our March 14 webinar - Technology Goes Wild - have been entered into a drawing to win a Samsung Galaxy Tab 10.1 16 GB.\**

*\*No purchase necessary. All registrants eligible for the drawing must be at least 18 years old, residents of the U.S., and meet all other eligibility requirements. Void where prohibited. For the complete Rules see [www.tee.org/webinars/webinar\\_drawing\\_rules](#)*



**Webinar Archive**

The entire webinar (1 hour 10 minutes) is available for streaming. Both audio and visual of the live broadcast are available here. Materials referenced during the webinar may be downloaded from the links below. You will need [Adobe Reader](#) to view the PDF files.

- > [Watch the webinar streaming](#) - please allow a few minutes for buffering
- > [Q&A Sheet](#)

**Webinar Materials**

## Topics

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## Environmental Education Success Stories

Educators around the country are engaging students in interesting and exciting activities to promote understanding of the environment. These are just a few of their stories. We'd love to hear your story. Send it to us at [EEweek@noelholts.org](mailto:EEweek@noelholts.org).

### Calvert County Public Schools, Prince Frederick, Md.

Seventh grade students Calvert County Public Schools are collecting data on reptile and amphibian distribution as part of the Maryland Amphibian and Reptile Atlas (MARA) project. [Continue reading...](#)



### The Aldo Leopold Nature Center, Monona, Wis.

The Aldo Leopold Nature Center connects children, their families and teachers with the wonders of the natural world through hands-on, guided experiences. [Continue reading...](#)



### The Peggy Notebaert Museum, Chicago, Ill.

The Peggy Notebaert Museum educates the general public on local Great Lakes ecosystems and their connection to the ocean by hosting a workshop to celebrate EE Week 2011's Ocean Connections. [Continue reading...](#)



### Montgomery School, Chester Springs, Pa.

David Kline, a 4th-5th grade science teacher at Montgomery School, is engaging students in his environmental education curriculum. Programs for Environmental Awareness and Sustainability (PEAS). [Continue reading...](#)



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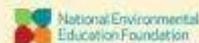
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## Maryland Students Use Science and Technology to Inventory Local Frogs

Calvert County Public Schools located in southern Maryland is launching a new seventh grade STEM initiative in each of the middle schools. Students will be collecting data on reptile and amphibian distribution as a part of the Maryland Amphibian and Reptile Atlas (MARA) project. Students will use tools like Google Earth to identify the specific location of the animals that they observe and will collect recordings of frog and toad vocalizations using the SM2 Automated Recording Unit (more commonly known as a FrogLogger) manufactured by Wildlife Acoustics.

The loggers will collect one minute sound samples throughout the night and are available as .wav files for student analysis and to share with MARA scientists for species verification. Student data will be used to help document the distribution of reptiles and amphibians across the state. Additionally, students will contribute to the Calvert FrogBlog, a site that will include photos, video clips, news stories, and other relevant information. Project teachers have already uploaded some initial observations to [www.calvertfrogblog.blogspot.com](http://www.calvertfrogblog.blogspot.com).

[Listen](#) to an audio recording of Spring Peepers.



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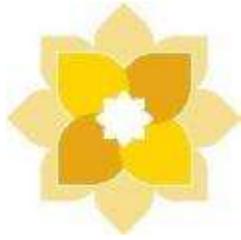
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# EE Week Photo Blog Contest

Opportunity for schools and organizations to share their stories for the chance to win prizes.

Entries are judged on the quality of the photo and blog text, visual appeal and the student learning that took place as a result of the environmental education efforts depicted in the blog.

First, second and third place winners will receive a digital camera and be featured on EEWeek.org.

**Contest runs through May 31**



[www.eeweek.org/photoblog](http://www.eeweek.org/photoblog)

# Nature Center Map



National Environmental Education Week



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## Nature Centers

The [National Environmental Education Foundation](#), in partnership with the [National Association for Interpretation \(NAI\)](#), presents the Environmental Education Week Nature Center Map. The map includes contact information for over 2,000 nature and environmental education centers nationwide, and is a perfect way for educators to find local natural areas for field trips and outdoor study. Questions about the Nature Center Map? [Email us](#).

**New Resource:** Ideas for [planning a nature center visit](#).

 [Lockheed Martin](#) is proud to be a sponsor of National Environmental Education Week.

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## Alaska Botanical Garden

Phone: 907-770-3692

On the Web: [www.alaskabg.org/](http://www.alaskabg.org/)

Address:  
4601 Campbell Airstrip Rd.  
Anchorage, AK 99520



# EE Week 2012

## Greening STEM: The Environment as Inspiration for 21<sup>st</sup> Century Learning

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### Greening STEM: The Environment as Inspiration for 21<sup>st</sup> Century Learning

#### National Environmental Education Week

April 15-21, 2012

Increasing STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math) knowledge and expanding STEM education and career opportunities for students is a national priority. Student achievement in STEM is key to fostering a new wave of innovators who can creatively address complex 21<sup>st</sup> century challenges.

The environment is a compelling context for teaching STEM as it provides teachers with a diverse range of real-world challenges that engage students in meaningful hands-on opportunities to apply and reinforce STEM concepts across multiple subject areas.

Recognizing the role of the environment as a portal for STEM learning, EE Week's 2012 theme is *Greening STEM: The Environment as Inspiration for 21<sup>st</sup> Century Learning*.



#### Greening STEM Resources

- > [EE Week Greening STEM Planning Toolkits](#)
- > Webinar: [Technology Goes Wild: New Tools for Connecting Classrooms with Nature](#), March 14 at 7:00 p.m. EDT
- > Webinar: [Field Investigations and STEM](#), March 28 at 7:00 p.m. EDT
- > [Planet Connect Get Green Video Contest: Green Your City](#), student-created videos explaining ways they can green their city or town using STEM. [View the winning videos.](#)
- > [Earth Gauge Meteorologist Videos](#) - meteorologists from across the country explain the role that STEM plays in their work.

# Greening STEM Planning Toolkits

- › [Energy](#)
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- › [Oil Spill](#)
- › [Water](#)
- › [Water-Energy Connection](#)

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### Featured Toolkit: [Schoolyard Bioblitz Planning Toolkit](#)

On March 14, EE Week partnered with [National Geographic Education](#) and [Project Noah](#) to offer educators [Technology Goes Wild: New Tools for Connecting Classrooms with Nature](#). In the webinar, participants learned how to engage students in STEM learning by taking technology outside and conducting a bioblitz in the schoolyard or local nature area.

EE Week and National Geographic Education continued to work together to develop a toolkit, equipping educators with activities and resources to conduct a schoolyard or local bioblitz with their students.



### [Gardens & Schoolyards](#)



### [Energy Efficiency](#)



### [Geography Connections](#)



### [Water Resources](#)



### [Climate & Weather](#)



## Toolkit Key

Materials in the toolkits are labeled with the STEM components and teaching strategies they include.

### STEM Components:

*Sci*—Science

*Tech*—Technology

*Eng*—Engineering

*Math*—Mathematics

### Other Components:

*SL*—Service-Learning

*PBL*—Project-Based Learning

*CS*—Citizen Science

## Gardens &amp; Schoolyards

[Back to all toolkits](#)

There are many educational benefits to school gardens and green schoolyards. These spaces serve as living laboratories that provide a real-world context for lessons across subject areas. They also engage students in hands-on, project-based learning activities.

The opportunities to learn and apply STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math) concepts in school gardens and green schoolyards abound. From analyzing soil samples, plotting plant growth and graphing rainfall to designing greenhouses, STEM activities in the schoolyard garden or habitat empower students of all grade levels to improve their community and take pride in their school environment.

Below, we outline projects and activities organized by grade-level as well as resources that engage students in STEM learning in the school garden or schoolyard.



Students work on their monarch butterfly waystation at Brier Creek Elementary School in Raleigh, N.C.

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## Toolkit Menu

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- › Resources: [Websites](#) | [Books](#) | [Games & Apps](#)

## Projects &amp; Activities

## All Grades

[Growing UP \(and around, and down...\)](#)

Sci, Math

In this project from KidsGardening.org, students build garden structures, giving them a chance to track and experiment with plant tropisms (responses to various environmental stimuli). The three types of garden structures featured in the activity can be adapted to fit budget and climate and include ideas for connecting the project to the curricular focus of the classroom.

[Building Soil Nature's Way](#)

Sci, Math

This classroom project is an exploration of building life-giving humus. Students explore soil health by building a lasagna garden. By marking off a garden area and adding layer after layer of compost, organic matter and high-nitrogen materials students explore the process of decomposition and learn the importance of nutrient-rich soil as a base for a successful garden.



## Featured Partner

KidsGardening offers resources around plant-based education and school gardens, as well as an array of awards programs and products that engage kids in active learning and exploration in the garden.

# EE Week 2012 Educator Webinars



National Environmental Education Week  
A National Environmental Education Foundation Program



NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC  
education



project  
noah

Announcing a Free EE Week Educator Webinar:  
**Technology Goes Wild:  
New Tools for Connecting Classrooms with Nature**  
Wednesday, March 14, 2012 at 7:00 p.m. EST

National Environmental Education Week (EE Week) is partnering with [National Geographic Education](#) and [Project Noah](#) to bring educators the information and tools they need to take technology outside, engaging students in STEM (science, technology, engineering and math) learning in their own schoolyard or local public land.

Webinar participants will learn about National Geographic Education resources, including how to conduct a local BioBlitz—an activity where students and teachers work together to take a snapshot of an area's biodiversity.

Project Noah, a rapidly growing global citizen science effort, will showcase an innovative new tool that can help educators inspire students to explore and document wildlife using easily accessible technology.

REGISTER for an [EE WEEK WEBINAR](#) today and become eligible to win a SAMSUNG GALAXY TAB 10.1 16GB.\*

\*No purchase necessary. All registrants eligible for the drawing must be at least 18 years old, residents of the U.S., and meet all other eligibility requirements. Void where prohibited. For the complete rules see [eeweek.org/webinars/webinar\\_drawing\\_rules](#).



ASSOCIATION of  
FISH & WILDLIFE  
AGENCIES



National Environmental Education Week  
A National Environmental Education Foundation Program



Pacific Education Institute

Announcing a Free EE Week Educator Webinar:  
**Field Investigations and STEM**  
Wednesday, March 28, 2012 at 7:00 p.m. EDT

National Environmental Education Week (EE Week) is partnering with the [Association of Fish & Wildlife Agencies](#) (AFWA) and the [Pacific Education Institute](#) (PEI) to explore how the schoolyard or local public land can provide students with the opportunity to be scientists using the skills and knowledge of inquiry to collect real-world data.

Margaret Tudor and Pat Otto from PEI will provide teachers with information and tools to engage students in STEM learning outside, utilizing nature as a laboratory, by planning, conducting, and evaluating a field investigation.

PEI provides professional development for school districts to get teachers and students in the field doing real-world science. Recently, PEI worked with AFWA to provide guides on best practices in conservation education for the AFWA [Conservation Education Toolkit](#).

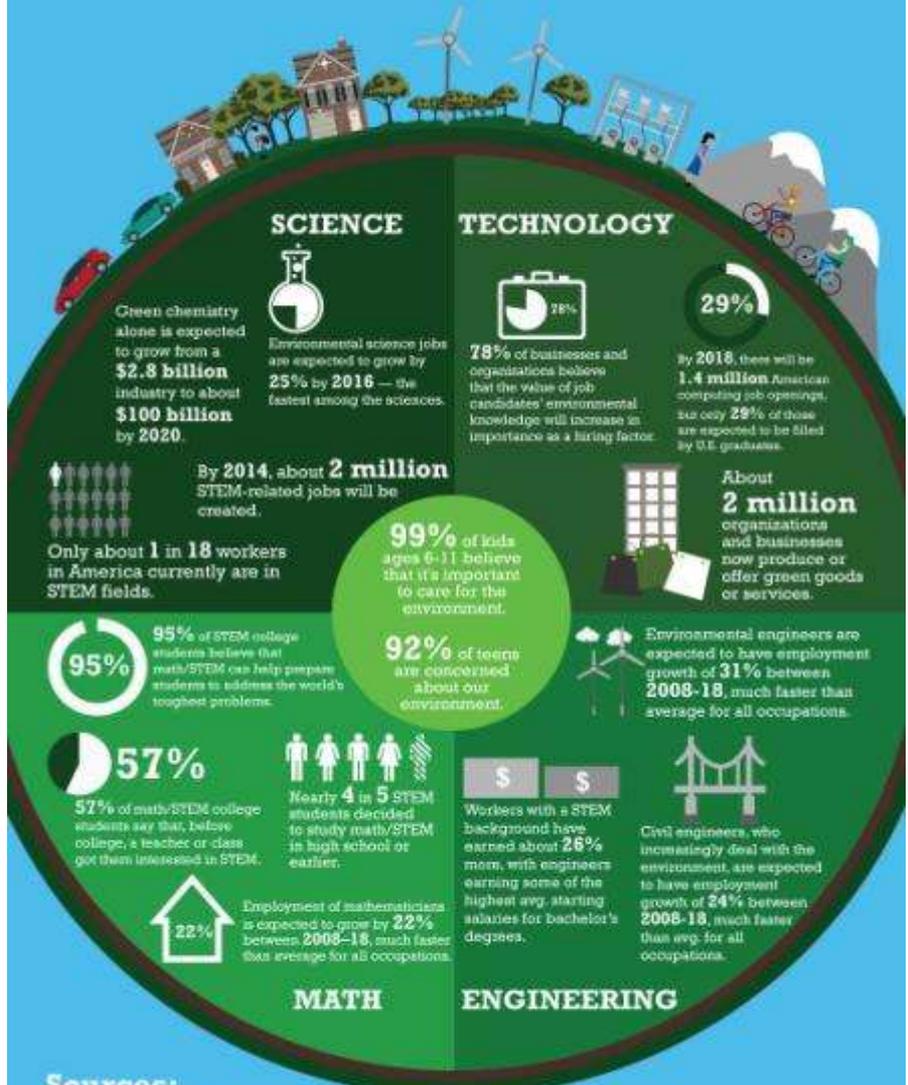
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# STEM & Our Planet

The environment is a compelling context for teaching and engaging today's students in science, technology, engineering and math (STEM).



## SCIENCE



Green chemistry alone is expected to grow from a **\$2.3 billion** industry to about **\$100 billion** by 2020.

Environmental science jobs are expected to grow by **25% by 2016** — the fastest among the sciences.



Only about **1 in 18** workers in America currently are in STEM fields.

By 2014, about **2 million** STEM-related jobs will be created.

## TECHNOLOGY



**78%** of businesses and organizations believe that the value of job candidates' environmental knowledge will increase in importance as a hiring factor.



By 2018, there will be **1.4 million** American computing job openings, but only **29%** of those are expected to be filled by U.S. graduates.



About **2 million** organizations and businesses now produce or offer green goods or services.

**99%** of kids ages 6-11 believe that it's important to care for the environment.

**92%** of teens are concerned about our environment.

Environmental engineers are expected to have employment growth of **31%** between 2008-18, much faster than average for all occupations.



**95%** of STEM college students believe that math/STEM can help prepare students to address the world's toughest problems.



**57%** of math/STEM college students say that, before college, a teacher or class got them interested in STEM.



Nearly **4 in 5** STEM students decided to study math/STEM in high school or earlier.



Workers with a STEM background have earned about **26%** more, with engineers earning some of the highest avg. starting salaries for bachelor's degrees.



Civil engineers, who increasingly deal with the environment, are expected to have employment growth of **24%** between 2008-18, much faster than avg. for all occupations.



Employment of mathematicians is expected to grow by **22%** between 2008-18, much faster than average for all occupations.

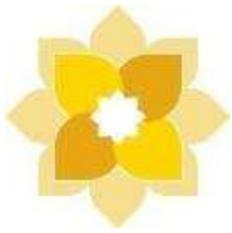
## MATH

## ENGINEERING

### Sources:

Ernst & Young Global of America  
 Bureau of Labor Statistics, U.S. Dept. of Labor  
 Academic & Environment Programs of NEEF  
 Economics and Statistics Administration, U.S. Dept. of Commerce  
 David DeWitt

Kathie Brantley  
 National Center for Women & Innovative Technology  
 NC STEM Community Collaborative  
 Pike Research  
 Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey

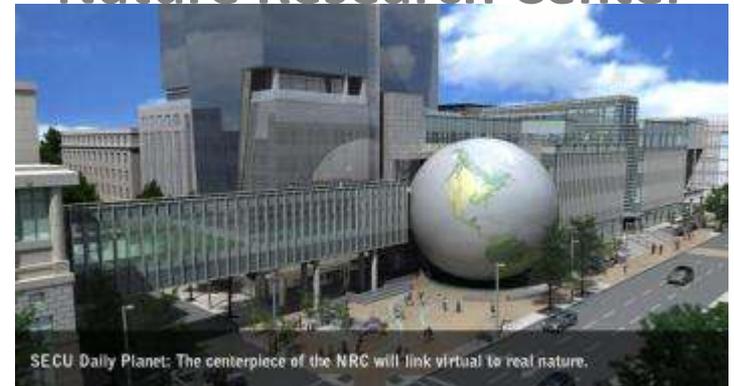


# Green STEM Innovators

EAST<sup>®</sup> INITIATIVE



## Nature Research Center



[http://www.eeweek.org/greening\\_stem/innovators](http://www.eeweek.org/greening_stem/innovators)

# Weather Connections to STEM



**As part of National Environmental Education Week's 2012 theme, Greening STEM: The Environment as Inspiration for 21st Century Learning, broadcast meteorologists from across the United States that participate in Earth Gauge will contribute videos explaining the role STEM plays in their day-to-day work.**

# Connect With Us

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**EE Week: [www.eeweek.org](http://www.eeweek.org)**

**Planet Connect: [www.planetconnect.org](http://www.planetconnect.org)**



