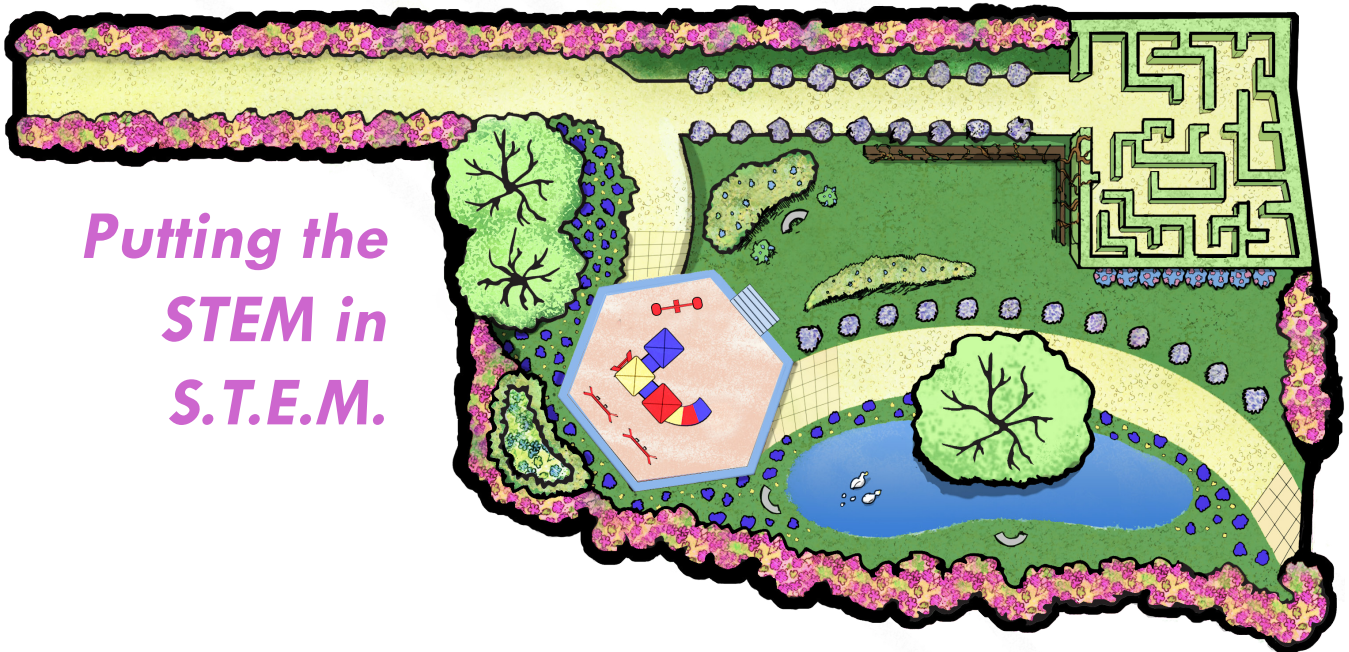


20th Annual

2017 Oklahoma Environmental Education Expo

*Putting the
STEM in
S.T.E.M.*



Friday, February 3, 2017

**Oklahoma City University
Sarkey's Science and Math Center**

Hosted by Oklahoma Association for Environmental Education

The 20th Oklahoma Environmental Education Expo

Conference Agenda

8:30 a.m. Registration and Exhibits

9 a.m. Opening Session

Announcements and Introductions by Sara Ivey, OKAEE President

*Conference Welcome by Dr. Helen Gaudin, Associate Dean of Petree College,
Professor of Biology, Oklahoma City University*

Keynote Address – Casey Hentges, Oklahoma Gardening

9:35 a.m. Visit Exhibits

9:45 a.m. Concurrent Session 1

10:45 a.m. Break and Exhibits

11 a.m. Concurrent Session 2

Noon Lunch | Networking | Exhibits

1 p.m. Concurrent Session 3

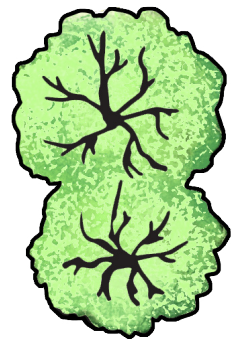
2 p.m. Break and Exhibits

2:15 p.m. Concurrent Session 4

3:15 p.m. Closing Session

Drawings for Door Prizes

Certificates of Attendance and Swag Bags




Keynote Speaker

Casey Hentges | Oklahoma Gardening

Casey Hentges is the face you see when tuning in to “Oklahoma Gardening” every Saturday morning at 11 a.m. and Sunday afternoon at 3:30 p.m. on OETA. Casey has a wealth of gardening and horticultural experience under her belt. Before joining forces with the Oklahoma Gardening team, she served as director of horticulture at the Myriad Botanical Gardens in Oklahoma City. She also worked for ValleyCrest Landscaping Companies, where she was responsible for the management of the landscape at the Gaylord Texan Resort and Convention Center. In addition, she served as the Canadian County horticulture/4-H youth development educator for the OSU Cooperative Extension for five years.



Concurrent Session Schedule

Session Room	Session 1 9:45-10:45 a.m.	Session 2 11 a.m. - Noon	Session 3 1 – 2 p.m.	Session 4 2:15 - 3:15 p.m.
Auditorium	Pre-K Sweet Potato Gardeners	Growing Up Composting	Aquaponics For All	Classroom Composting with Worms
Room 104	Getting Past Common Obstacles in School Gardening	Building a School Garden to Last	Getting Past Common Obstacles in School Gardening	Building a School Garden to Last
Room 111		Benefits of Schoolyard Trees		Junior Master Gardener
Room 114	A Gardening We Will Go	Growing Healthy Kids and Communities	Plant your STEM Here!	A Gardening We Will Go
Off-site Montessori Garden			Gardening with Children Year-Round	

Concurrent Session 1 (9:45 - 10:45 a.m.)

Pre-K Sweet Potato Gardeners

Amy Young, Founder and Executive Director and Paul Mays, Director of Permaculture | SixTwelve | Oklahoma City

This session will introduce participants to SixTwelve, a community education center that focuses on creativity and sustainable living. We will highlight our Pre-K Sweet Potato Gardener Program and you will get to experience part of the lesson and hear about this seed to table program that incorporates Art, Literature, Science, Math, and Nutrition.

Notes:

Getting Past Common Obstacles in School Gardening

Dr. Shelley Mitchell, Assistant Extension Specialist | Oklahoma State University | Stillwater

The most common barriers to developing and maintaining school gardens are the lack of funding, time, space, and experience. Come learn how you can get past those obstacles and get the school garden you have always wanted. This session will also include a brief introduction to the Junior Master Gardner Program.

Notes:

A Gardening We Will Go: With Oklahoma Ag in the Classroom

Cheri Long, Ag in the Classroom Coordinator | OK Dept. of Agriculture, Food and Forestry | Oklahoma City

In this workshop participants will experience hands-on learning experiences utilizing gardening lessons from Ag in the Classroom. Participants will learn how to incorporate these lessons and activities into their already existing curriculum and help promote agriculture literacy using Science, Math, Reading, Social Studies, English Language Arts, Music and Physical Education. Participants will receive lessons and resources that can be taken back to their classrooms and immediately be put into action.

Notes:

Concurrent Session 2 (11 a.m. - Noon)

Growing Up Composting

Donna Mackiewicz and students: Drue Molenda, Rhodes Molenda and Boston Carter | Beyond the Classroom Teacher | St. Mary’s Episcopal School | Edmond

Hear how the Beyond the Classroom program has been a Keep Oklahoma Beautiful Environmental Excellence Award finalist for five years and were awarded the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency’s Presidential Environmental Youth Award. First grader Rhodes Molenda and classmates will talk about the success and failures of composting at school. Students will do a live demonstration and provide tips on composting. Attendees will make a compostable food web chain. Participants will receive lesson plans and activities.

Notes:

Building a School Garden to Last

Robert Gibbs, Education Coordinator | Rogers County Conservation District | Claremore

It’s easy to get excited in the planning stages of building a school garden – but situations change over time, teachers and parents come and go, and what was once a flourishing garden can end up a neglected mass of weeds. This presentation will help you think about all the factors that will affect your garden when making decisions such as location, sun exposure, water resources, and plant selection. Hear how to incorporate S.T.E.M. skills such as research, design, measurement, mapping, data collection, record keeping and more.

Notes:

Benefits of Schoolyard Trees

Jerí Irby, Education and Project Learning Tree State Coordinator | Oklahoma Forestry Services | Oklahoma City

Attendees will learn how students can determine what benefits current and potential schoolyard trees have with a combination of online tools and hands-on mapping programs. Correlated 3rd-8th grade lessons and tree planting program options will be provided.

Notes:

Growing Healthy Kids and Communities

Andrew Sartain, Founder and President | Earth Rebirth | Norman

In this session we'll share strategies for building a school gardening program that can impact the whole school as well as students' families and community. School gardens can be utilized to encourage policy and environmental changes in schools, contributing toward healthier options in the cafeteria, at school functions, and at home. We will discuss the perception of sustainability and you will learn how Earth Rebirth is helping schools around the OKC-Metro build healthy gardens and school communities.

Notes:

Concurrent Session 3 (1 - 2 p.m.)

Aquaponics for All

Adam Lifscics, Biology and AP Environmental Science Teacher | Norman High School | Norman

In this session, participants will learn how Norman High School, with the help of Earth Rebirth and a Kickstarter campaign, have built a one-of-a-kind aquaponics system which combines growing fish (aquaponics) and plants in the nutrient-rich water (hydroponics). A variety of food grows in the aquaponics system including: basil, sage, dill, okra, peppers, a variety of lettuces and much more. The food we grow is used in our school cafeteria, donated to students in our food pantry program, and sold at the Norman Farmers Market. Multiple classes help monitor the system through weekly water quality tests and after school and weekend garden sessions. Come hear our story and find out how you can do aquaponics at your school too.

Notes:

Getting Past Common Obstacles in School Gardening

Dr. Shelley Mitchell,| Assistant Extension Specialist | Oklahoma State University | Stillwater

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Notes:

Plant your STEM Here!

Lynn Malley, Assistant Extension Specialist, Solid Waste Management | Oklahoma State University | Stillwater

How do you recycle food? Make a plan for your leftovers, giveaway what you can't use, make black gold from the rest! NO, no that black gold....compost! Why make compost with your students? It's fun to play in the dirt. It helps students of all ages learn the connection between soil and food. It provides nutrients for a school garden which can provide food to eat, flowers for pollinators or whatever you want. Join us for an interactive session that you can easily adapt for your students.

Notes:

Gardening with Children Year-Round

Charlotte Wood-Wilson, Director Montessori Teacher | Oklahoma City University | Oklahoma City

Join us for an onsite demonstration at Wesley United Methodist Church, One Day Montessori Preschool. This session will examine activities that can be done year round both inside and outside. The activities are kept simple and follow the children's interest. We will do several make and take activities and participants will receive sample activities and a variety of resources.

Notes:

Concurrent Session 4 (2:15 - 3:15 p.m.)

Classroom Composting with Worms

Mason Weaver, Urban Harvest Director | Regional Food Bank of Oklahoma | Oklahoma City

Bring the compost indoors with a classroom worm bin. Attendees will learn to build a low-cost bin for red wiggler composting worms, as well as tips for worm care and feeding. With a classroom worm colony, your students can watch decomposers turn food scraps into soil before their eyes. Urban Harvest is the gardening program of the Regional Food Bank of Oklahoma. A 3+ acre diversified vegetable operation with greenhouses, beehives, and goats, Urban Harvest offers year-round, no-cost field trips for classrooms, clubs and other student groups.

Notes:

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Rogers County Conservation District | Claremore**

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Notes:

Junior Master Gardener: A Case Study from Santa Fe South Middle School

**Ceci Leonard, Judy Morton and Sue Hart, Master Gardeners |
OK County Junior Master Gardener Program | Oklahoma City**

Learn how the Oklahoma County Extension’s Junior Master Gardener Program has adapted their program to work with several schools each with a unique school setting. Hear about the pollinator and vegetable gardens they have created and see the JMG units that have been covered at each school. Attendees will experience three easy to create lessons that can be adapted for your own classroom or setting.

Notes:

A Gardening We Will Go: With Oklahoma Ag in the Classroom

**Cheri Long, Ag in the Classroom Coordinator |
OK Dept. of Agriculture, Food and Forestry | Oklahoma City**

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Our mission is to support Oklahoma educators and promote, in formal and non-formal settings, environmental literacy through communication, resource sharing, skill building, program sponsorship and recognition of excellence.

The Oklahoma Association for Environmental Education was established in 1993 and is the state affiliate of the North American Association for Environmental Education (NAAEE). OKAEE brings together a variety of environmental educators who share a common goal – excellence in environmental education. OKAEE serves educators of all grade levels, natural resource professionals, students, university faculty, environmental clubs, non-profit educational programs, and corporate environmental interests. OKAEE unites these diverse interests in a forum designed to energize and inspire participants to greater levels of achievement.

OKAEE accomplishes many of its goals by hosting a one-day conference, the Oklahoma Environmental Education Expo (EE Expo). The first EE Expo was held in February 1996, and 2017 marks the twentieth EE Expo.

The activities and day-to-day operations of OKAEE are organized and carried out by a seven member Board of Directors. Board members are all volunteers. As in most not-for-profit organizations, OKAEE is constantly seeking new board members. We would love for you to join us.

For more information about OKAEE, please contact Sara Ivey at:
Sara.Ivey@deq.ok.gov or (405) 702-7122

OKAEE Board of Directors

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Door Prizes

Door prizes will be on display throughout the day and will be awarded during the Closing Session. You must be present to win. There will be numerous opportunities to win door prize tickets throughout the day including:

- With your name badge
- Arriving on time to concurrent sessions
- At lunch time