

SWIFT

Soil and Water Information for Teachers

Spotlight on Standards



Fun Things to Do	2
Educator Workshops	3
Calendar	4
Kudos and Congratulations	4

Clear as Mud

Today's teachers are under so many new and ever increasing pressures. Incomplete and incorrect information adds layers to already heightened stress levels. So in an attempt to clarify a few misconceptions, definitions are below for a few terms that are commonly confused. Links to newly created science education resources are also included below. ~Tracy Cindric, Ohio Resource Center Science Specialist

Common Core (<http://education.ohio.gov/Topics/Academic-Content-Standards/>)

Mathematics and English Language Arts standards were adopted by Ohio in 2010. There is no Common Core for science or social studies. PARCC is developing the assessments Ohio will use to test Math and ELA content.

(<http://education.ohio.gov/Topics/Testing/Next-Generation-Assessments/Partnership-for-Assessment-of-Readiness-for-Colleg>)

Ohio's New Science Learning Standards/Science Model Curriculum/2010 (or 2011) Science Standards /Ohio's Revised Science Standards

All these terms refer to the same documents. The science Content Statements were adopted in 2010 and the Science Model Curricula were adopted in 2011. State assessments beginning in 2014-2015 will be based solely on this content.

(<http://education.ohio.gov/Topics/Testing/Next-Generation-Assessments/State-Developed-Assessments-%E2%80%93-Science-and-Social-S>)

Ohio's New Learning Standards

This term refers to the Common Core and to the science and social studies standards.

2002 Standards

These standards were adopted in 2002. The book containing science standards has a green cover. The OAA and OGT assess content in these standards.

Next Generation Assessments

Ohio will develop assessments for science and social studies for online administration. These will assess content in Ohio's New Learning Standards. In science, fifth graders and eighth graders will take grade-level (not grade-band like the OAA) tests. An online end-of-course exam will be offered in Physical Science and Biology.

<http://education.ohio.gov/Topics/Testing/Next-Generation-Assessments/End-of-Course-Exams>

Next Generation Science Standards (www.nextgenscience.org)

Nationwide science standards were developed by Achieve and released in 2013. Ohio is not at this time adopting these standards. State assessments beginning in 2014-2015 will be based on Ohio's New Learning Standards in Science, not NGSS.

Resources to Help You Implement Ohio's New Learning Standards

Science Model Curriculum examples: <http://www.thinglink.com/scene/436899513404227584>

Ohio Resource Center (ORC)'s Science WINDOW blog: <http://ohiorc.org/for/science/>

ORC on Cognitive Demands—<http://ohiorc.org/orcon/cognitivedemands>

Twitter: @OhioRC_Science and @TracyCindric

All of Franklin Soil and Water's educational programs and items for loan have been correlated with the new Ohio Science Standards. This information can be viewed at <http://www.franklinswcd.org/programs-and-services/youth-education/>

To schedule a program contact Sherry Collins at 614-486-9613 ext. 110 or sherry-collins@franklinswcd.org.



Fun Projects and Places to Visit



The Columbus Zoo and Aquarium will be holding an **Electronics Recycling Drive** November 2 and 3, 2013 from 10AM-5PM both days

All electronics will be accepted free of charge, including computer and IT equipment, consumer e-waste, and household equipment, including small appliances. Please note that CRT televisions will also be accepted for a fee of \$20/unit.

For a complete list of equipment that will be accepted, visit www.ait-recycle.com.

To thank our guests who bring in their electronics, the Zoo is offering each car a Buy-One-Get-One-Free Admission Coupon to be used that week-end. Offer is good for up to six (6) Discounts.



ODNR Welcomes the Fall Color Season



For many Ohioans, autumn represents pumpkin-carving, the harvest season, bonfires and corn mazes. Spotting the first glimpse of fall color – seeing the leaves changing to strong reds, vivid yellows and bold oranges – is a favorite fall activity. The Ohio Department of Natural Resources (ODNR) will be featuring several opportunities to help people find the best locations to see fall color this year.

“Autumn is a great time to explore the outdoors and experience everything Ohio has to offer,” said ODNR Director James Zehringer. “Fall provides the perfect opportunity for everyone to explore our beautiful state while enjoying the colors of the season.”

Ohio is expected to once again enjoy a beautifully colored fall season. Currently, ODNR Fall Color Forester Casey Burdick expects northern Ohio leaves to reach their peak color the second week of October, central Ohio the third week and southern Ohio the fourth week.

People interested in finding out where the most captivating leaves will be throughout the upcoming fall color season should check out fallcolor.ohiodnr.gov, ODNR’s premier guide to Ohio’s fall color season.

This website includes:

- Weekly color updates and information to help plan a fall color adventure.
- Weekly videos from Burdick that will highlight color hot spots around the state and provide information about some of Ohio’s 100-plus tree species.

Links for fall activities, scenic road trips and more, including unique overnight accommodations at [Ohio State Parks](#).

Looking for some great fall getaway ideas? TourismOhio has numerous itinerary ideas and a listing of attractions at discoverohio.com under their Autumn Adventures feature.



Bring the Farm to You has over 15 different programs that come right to your school, bringing fun and educational farm experiences to all grade levels. Fall is perfect for apple cidering, beekeeping and farm animal visits. Winter treasures include maple sugaring and wool spinning. Spring treats include chick hatching and worm composting. Contact Christa Hein at christa@bringthefarmtoyou.com or at 614-560-5583 to find out how they can Bring the Farm to You! www.bringthefarmtoyou.com

Upcoming Events for Educators



Exploring our Natural Resources

(A workshop series for educators)

Join naturalists, environmental educators and teachers as we explore, explain and experience the value, variety and vulnerability of our natural resources through a series of interactive workshops.

PROJECT UNDERGROUND



Saturday, November 16, 2013 8:30 a.m. - 4 p.m.



Come tour an underground cave and visit sinkholes. In the morning, each participant will receive a 150-page Project Underground Education Guide, full of hands-on activities that teach an understanding of the underground environment, presented by a facilitator from ODNR: Division of Soil and Water Resources. In the afternoon, we will travel to Olentangy Caverns for more information and a tour of the landscape features underground including aquifers, caves, sinkholes, and springs. \$30 workshop fee.

HANDS-ON POLYMER (PLASTICS) AND THE ENVIRONMENT

Saturday, December 14, 2013 8:30 a.m. - 4 p.m.



Engaging presenters from Ohio EPA and the Environmental Education Council of Ohio will provide the knowledge and the tools necessary to connect the creation, manufacturing, and use of polymer plastics to the environmental issues of recycling and resource deletion. This workshop will allow participants to make bouncing balls, polymer bracelets, shrinking plastic, instant snow, and work with other polymers. Receive copies of lesson plans, a bag of sample materials including resins, sink/float demonstrations, preforms, and other related materials to take back to the classroom. Topics will include an introduction to polymers, characteristics of polymers, packaging, recycling numbers, science safety, and hands-on activities. \$5 workshop fee.

For more information or to register contact:

Linda Pettit at Franklin Soil and Water Conservation District, (614) 486-9613, ext. 115 or linda-pettit@franklinswcd.org or check our website at www.franklinswcd.org.



Integrate sustainability into every day classroom life with the **GreenKids** program developed to support existing first grade curriculum while empowering students to help the environment. Students learn to make simple choices like recycling, turning off lights, conserving water and more. For more information about the Green Kids program and the available resources check out: www.GreenKids.Columbus.gov.

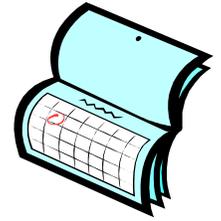
The resources include:

- Copies of the Columbus based children's book, "*GreenSpot and the Dots*".
- A laminated, reusable chart for classrooms to track their daily green accomplishments.
- Activities including an audio walking tour of green features common on all school grounds.
- A website built specifically for kids at GreenKids.Columbus.Gov.
- Opportunity to schedule a guest presentation from program partners.
- A guide of suggested ways to integrate GreenSpot into daily classroom life.
- A resource guide highlighting programs, grants, materials and more to further inform teachers of the many environmental resources available to classrooms in central Ohio.



October: National Pretzel Month

October 28: National Chocolate Day



November: National Fun with Fondue Month

November 4: National Candy Day

November 15: America Recycles Day

November 17-23: National Children's Book Week



December: safe Toys and Gifts Month

December 16: National Chocolate Covered Anything Day

December 18: International Clown Day



Kudos and Congratulations!

Welcoming Carol

Franklin Soil and Water welcomed Carol Loopstra to the Education Team in July. Carol holds a MS degree in agronomy from the University of Maryland. She has four years of previous experience as a soil conservation planner with Charles Soil Conservation District in southern Maryland where she also became involved with instructing high school students in their Envirothon program. Throughout her career, she has taught undergraduates through teaching assistantships, instructed young children how to grow vegetables, and presented soil basics to professionals, college students, and schoolchildren through workshops and seminars. She is excited to be working with a team of fellow conservationists and glad to be in a place where she can help children see and understand the world under our feet.



Congratulations to our Conservation Educator of the Year

Franklin Soil and Water recognizes an educator each year that goes above and beyond the requirements to promote awareness of our natural resources. This year Amy Mastroianni is the recipient of this award for her ability to “think outside the box” to help others make the connection of human impact on our natural resources. Amy taught third grade for many years in South-Western City Schools where she would introduce her students to stream monitoring, soils and erosion. She is always looking for new experiences and ways to help those around her and recently received certification as a Teacher of English to Speakers of Other Languages (TESOL). Amy currently is a TESOL educator at Harmon Elementary. Amy’s interest and enthusiasm is contagious, spilling onto her co-workers and students. I am sure she will find a way to introduce her new students to the natural resources around them. Congratulations Amy!

