

## Resources for Edible School Gardens

(These resources have been categorized in what we consider the most useful category, but many of them are multi-faceted in their information. Resources mentioned previously in this guide are not repeated in this section.)

### Don't Miss Kids Garden News!!!

Sign up for the online updates of events, resources, grants, discounts, etc. Some resources from this site are mentioned below, but many more are available on the website ([www.kidsgardening.com](http://www.kidsgardening.com))

## PLANNING A GARDEN

- **Backyard Gardener:** <http://www.backyardgardener.com/veg/>
- **"The Chicago School Garden Initiative: A Collaborative Model for Developing School Gardens that Work,"** by Katherine Johnson and Marti Ross Bjornson ([www.kidsgardening.com](http://www.kidsgardening.com))
- **Children's Gardens: A Field Guide for Teachers, Parents, and Volunteers.** This field manual includes step-by-step instructions for developing school gardens. Hands-on activities for beginning gardeners of all ages. Discussion and activity sections on Process (mulch, controlling insects, harvesting, food preservation, over the summer), Activities (weeds, mulch, controlling insects, harvesting, food preservation, flower dissection, worm culture, manure tea, homemade insect sprays, cold frames, hotbeds, greenhouses, scarecrows, gopher chasers, bean tipis, sundials, other activities, and skills evaluation) (K-8/\$15.50/<http://www.cerp.cornell.edu/newstore/Product.asp?pid=829>)
- **Container Gardening for Vegetables:** <http://aggie-horticulture.tamu.edu/extension/container/container.html> or <http://www.ces.ncsu.edu/depts/hort/hil/hil-8105.html>
- **Do It Yourself Hydroponics:** <http://www.hydroponicvegetablegardening.com/>
- **The Edible Schoolyard:** <http://www.edibleschoolyard.org/howto.html>
- **Gardening for Beginners - Free Gardening and Plant Encyclopedia:** <http://www.thegardenhelper.com/guide1.html>
- **Green Roofs** (aka vegetated rooftops or ecoroofs): <http://www.greenroofs.com/>; <http://www.greenroofs.org/>; <http://rainbarrelguide.com/>; [www.gardengatemagazine.com/tips](http://www.gardengatemagazine.com/tips)
- **Greening School Grounds - Creating Habitats for Learning** edited by Tom Grant and Gail Littlejohn. Prepares teachers to take full advantage of their schoolyards by offering advice from successful habitats for learning around North America. (\$16.95/<http://www.greenteacher.com>)
- **Growing Organic Vegetables:** <http://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/BODY-VH019>
- **How to/Tips for Vegetable Gardening:** <http://doityourself.com/vegetables/>
- **A-Z Gardening Guide/Pest & Diseases:** [www.organicgardening.com](http://www.organicgardening.com) (See *organic gardening section in this guide for additional information.*)
- **The Organic Vegetable Gardening Guru's Vegetable Bios:** <http://members.aol.com/ovgguru/vegbios.htm>
- **Planning and Planting A Successful Vegetable Garden:** <http://www.helpfulgardener.com/vegetable/2003/vegetable.html>
- **Regional Food Bank of Oklahoma:** ([www.regionalfoodbank.org](http://www.regionalfoodbank.org)) Bruce Edwards, Urban Harvest Director (405/972-1111, Ext 108 or [bedwards@regionalfoodbank.org](mailto:bedwards@regionalfoodbank.org)). Urban Harvest is an Urban Agriculture Program of the Regional Food Bank of Oklahoma. The program is designed to make garden fresh produce more readily available to hungry Oklahomans. The program does this through growing organic produce at the Food Bank facility, crop gleaning excess produce from local farmers and growers, and assisting neighborhoods, churches, schools and other organizations in starting community gardens. Urban Harvest offers assistance with plants, seeds, consulting, coordinating and looking for grants that programs can apply for. Urban Harvest also teaches and assists individuals and groups how to grow and harvest their own produce through presentations and workshops.
- **Schoolyard Mosaics - Designing Gardens and Habitats** from the National Gardening Association. Sections include *Building A Vision, Edible Environments, Multipurpose Schoolyards, Thematic Garden Snapshots and Resources* ([www.kidsgardening.com](http://www.kidsgardening.com))
- **Sowing the Seeds of Success - How to Start and Sustain A Kids' Gardening Project in Your Community** by Marcia Eames-Sheavley from the National Gardening Association.
- **Square Foot Gardening** by Mel Bartholomew (<http://www.squarefootgardening.com/>)
- **Step-by-step on how to build a vertical vegetable garden:** <http://www.gardensup.com/>
- **Step by Step Secrets of Master Gardeners:** <http://www.outrageousgardeningtips.com/>
- **Steps to A Bountiful Kids' Garden** published by the National Gardening Association ([www.kidsgardening.com](http://www.kidsgardening.com))
- **10 Terrific Vegetables** (copy included in May 2006 teacher tour packets) and everything you need to grow and know them, from the National Gardening Association ([www.garden.org/edu](http://www.garden.org/edu))

## CURRICULUM CONNECTIONS

- **Ag in the Classroom:** <http://www.agclassroom.org/ok>. Oklahoma Ag in the Classroom is a joint project of Oklahoma Cooperative Extension Service, 4-H Youth Development, the Oklahoma Department of Agriculture, Food and Forestry, and the Oklahoma State Department of Education. The purpose of Oklahoma Ag in the Classroom is to help familiarize Oklahoma school children with Oklahoma's number one industry - the food and fiber industry. The lessons included in this package are hands-on and fun, making use of a subject and a substance that is very familiar and dear to most students - food.
- **"Digging Deeper - Integrating Youth Gardens Into Schools & Communities - A Comprehensive Guide"** by Joseph Kiefer & Martin Kemple
- **Food is Elementary**© (FIE) is a unique and vibrant curriculum introduced into schools and communities that teach children about food, nutrition, culture, and healthy living. Food is Elementary is published by Food Studies Institute: <http://www.foodstudies.org/>
- **The Edible Schoolyard:** lessons, recipes, and more: [www.edibleschoolyard.org/about.html](http://www.edibleschoolyard.org/about.html)
- **"Garden Detectives - A guide to using your powers of observation to solve the mystery of creating a healthy garden,"** by Tahara Ezrahti and illustrated by Joal Morris and James F. Hodgson (from the Community Environmental Council B.U.G.S. program  
**Green Teacher Magazine:** *Two activities ("Glorious Weeds" and "Permaculture School Garden") in this guide were reprinted with permission from Green Teacher #78, Spring 2006. Subscriptions are \$28/year for four issues from: Green Teacher, PO Box 452, Niagara Falls NY 14304, (888) 804-1486, [www.greenteacher.com](http://www.greenteacher.com).*
- **Harvest of History.** The history of New York State agriculture is the story of our collective past. Harvest of History makes this story come alive. Explore the Village to find out where your food comes from, how and where it grows, and compare life in 1845 with our modern world. Then produce your own movie with the Village Videomaker. Our interdisciplinary curriculum for fourth-grade teachers explores how agriculture has been, and still is, an integral part of our lives in New York State. <http://www.harvestofhistory.org/>
- **The Interactive Garden** provides a web-based resource for educators and students about gardening and the food system: <http://cerp.cornell.edu/ig/enter.asp>
- **JMG, the Junior Master Gardener** Web site: <http://jmgkids.com/>
- **The Leafy Greens Council:** <http://www.leafy-greens.org/lessonplans.html> (lesson plans and free materials such as book covers)
- **Making Field Journals** - A binding experience: [www.kidsgardening.com/growingideas/projects](http://www.kidsgardening.com/growingideas/projects)
- **Roots, Shoots, Buckets and Boots** - Activities to do in the classroom by Sharon Lovejoy (See Children's Literature section below for more information.)
- **Produce for Better Health Foundation:** [http://www.5aday.com/html/educators/educators\\_home.php](http://www.5aday.com/html/educators/educators_home.php). Offers "There's a Rainbow on My Plate," a free nutrition education curriculum that encourages kindergarten through sixth grade students to develop healthy eating habits. It is all about the importance of eating five or more servings of colorful, nutrient-rich fruits and vegetables every day. Activities and lessons are tailored for the K-3 audiences and fourth, fifth, and sixth grade audiences. An informative teacher's guide corresponds with fun and interactive activities, coloring pages, and take home literature.
- **School Market Program** - The Food Trust: <http://www.thefoodtrust.org/php/programs/school.market.program.php>
- **Sustainable Food in Schools** ([www.sustainabletable.com](http://www.sustainabletable.com)) - Teacher lesson plans, ideas and resources for agriculture/food education; information for cafeterias and dining halls in getting connected to local foods and improving nutrition of school lunches; school gardens and food projects.

## CHILDREN'S LITERATURE

- **And the Good Brown Earth:** Author and illustrator Kathy Henderson's mixed media artwork adds humor and charm to this picture book for three- to six-year-olds. Joe and Gram plant and cultivate a garden. Gram works methodically while Joe explores and learns, each helped by "the good brown earth." They dig in the fall, plan in the winter, plant in the spring, weed and water in summer, and gather produce and feast in late summer. The repetition in the text adds to the book's appeal. (Candlewick Press/\$15.00)
- **Blue Potatoes, Orange Tomatoes.** Colorful book how to grow a rainbow garden and recipes to boot by Rosalind Creasy with illustrations by Ruth Heller (Sierra Club Books/\$7.95/<http://www.sierraclub.org/books/catalog/>)
- **The Carrot Seed.** Ruth Kraus's classic little picture book for two- to five-year-olds is a delight. The spare and simple line drawings are by Crockett Johnson of "Harold and the Purple Crayon" fame. A little boy plants a carrot seed. Despite being told by his entire family that the seed won't grow, the boy perseveres. Every

day, he carefully weeds and waters the area where he planted the seed. A plant grows, and one day, the boy is rewarded with a big orange carrot. (HarperCollins/\$7.00)

- **City Green.** What happens when a diverse group of city neighbors works together to rid their street of a litter-filled vacant lot? How young Mary, Miss Rosa, and their neighbors transform the vacant lot into a community garden of flowers and vegetables makes an interesting and realistic story. Author and illustrator DyAnne DiSalvo-Ryan's artwork in watercolor, pencils, and crayons captures the transformation of the lot. Recommended for six- to 10-year-olds. (HarperCollins/\$17)
- **Growing Vegetable Soup.** Author and illustrator Lois Ehlert's cut-paper collages are bold and colorful. The story of a father and child's vegetable garden project is told in rhyme. While the text of the story is brief, each of the plants, seeds, and gardening tools illustrated is labeled, making this a book that's fun to read aloud and then read through again identifying everything. The story begins with the planting of seeds and sprouts *and ends with delicious vegetable soup.* (Voyager Books/\$6.00)
- **The Humble Potato: Underground Gold** by Marcia Eames-Sheavly and Tracy Farrell. Join 3 imaginary children from different parts of the world (the Inca Empire, Ireland and Long Island) as they reveal their relationship with the potato through their history, celebrations, cultivation techniques and recipes. Hands-on activities and potato factoids add color to general information about botany and nutrition. 6 recipes are included - like how to bake a chocolate potato cake! (Grades 4-7/\$5.95/Cornell University)
- **In the Three Sisters Garden:** *Native American stories and seasonal activities for the curious child.* Sister Corn, Sister Squash and Sister Bean introduce children to gardening in a year-long adventure that explores the ancient wisdom of the land. Recommended for PreK-5th grades. (\$28.50/www.kidsgardening.com)
- **Roots, Shoots, Buckets and Boots.** Sharon Lovejoy wrote this compact treasury of gardening lore, tips, and ideas for adults to share with children in grades K-4. What sets it apart from other how-to books on the subject is Lovejoy's artistic, whimsical, holistic approach. She gives guidelines and instructions for a backyard moon garden that attracts night creatures, thematic suggestions for a pizza garden and a pumpkin patch, and includes the smallest of gardens in a discarded glove or boot. The author's list of top 20 plants for kids will get youngsters and their parents raring to dig. While some of the recommended plants are unusual, a generous resource list complete with addresses, phone numbers, and Web sites should make ordering easy. Other novel, thrifty advice includes how to harvest seeds and how to make your own seed tape with toilet paper, flour paste, and seeds. (Workman Publishing/\$14.00)
- **The Surprise Garden.** Three young children plant a "surprise garden," using seeds of varying shapes, sizes, and colors. Since they don't know what kinds of seeds they have planted, they have no idea what kinds of plants will grow in their garden. Carefully watering and weeding the seeds, they create a lush vegetable garden and enjoy a bountiful harvest. Shari Halpern's cut-paper collages of the children cultivating the garden and Zoe Hall's story will appeal to 3-6 year olds. (Scholastic/\$10.00)

## RECIPES AND MORE

- **Ag in the Classroom: Be a Food Explorer,** Oklahoma Department of Agriculture, Food and Forestry: <http://www.agclassroom.org/ok> (See Appendix for sample recipes.)
- **The Edible Schoolyard:** lessons, recipes, and more: [www.edibleschoolyard.org/about.html](http://www.edibleschoolyard.org/about.html)
- **Food is Elementary Recipes** (Recipes accompany Food is Elementary curriculum) <http://www.healthylunches.org/foodre.htm>
- **The Sustainable Table:** A new way to learn about healthy food: [www.SustainableTable.com](http://www.SustainableTable.com)
- **Great recipes for vegetables (good site for vegetarians):** <http://vegweb.com/>
- **Saveur Cooks: Authentic American** by the Editors of Saveur Magazine. Gorgeous photographs showcase food and the people who cook, raise, and eat it. A 320 page journey through the heart of America, complete with recipes, techniques, and the stories of famous chef and backyard barbecuer alike. A must have. Hardback, list \$40.00.
- **Kitchen Herbs: The Art and Enjoyment of Growing Herbs and Cooking with Them** by Sal Gilbertie. Out of print, but well worth the trouble to find used. Photographs of each herb, how to grow, propagation, **harvesting, and recipes. Hardback, list \$29.50.**
- **Organic Gardening's recipes** for appetizers, bread, breakfast, dessert, dips, main dishes, salads, sauces and side dishes: [www.organicgardening.com/recipes](http://www.organicgardening.com/recipes)
- **Produce for Better Health Foundation recipes:** [http://www.5aday.com/html/recipes/recipes\\_home.php](http://www.5aday.com/html/recipes/recipes_home.php)
- **There's a Rainbow on My Plate.** Produce for Better Health Foundation is offering a free nutrition education curriculum that encourages kindergarten through sixth grade students to develop healthy eating habits. "There's a Rainbow on My Plate" is all about the importance of eating five or more servings of colorful, nutrient-rich fruits and vegetables every day. Activities and lessons are tailored for the K-3 audiences and

fourth, fifth, and sixth grade audiences. An informative teacher's guide corresponds with fun and interactive activities, coloring pages, and take home literature to help students remember to put a rainbow of color on their plates every day.

## RESOURCE BOOKS & PERIODICALS

- **All About Apples** - *Classroom Activities & Resources*. "All About Apples" teaching kit includes a large full color poster and master copies of learning activities and general information about apples which can be duplicated. The focus is on the seasonal life cycle of apple growing, and the ways in which apples come to market. Included are tips for use of the materials and on visiting an apple orchard near your home. (Kit \$10/Cornell: <http://www.cerp.cornell.edu/newstore/>)
- **Dig, Plant, Grow**. This imaginative, kid-friendly book of garden activity ideas includes 33 fun projects kids can make with economical, everyday materials, whether it's a milk jug bird feeder or a vine tepee, a tire sculpture or a global garden. *Dig, Plant, Grow* also includes 75 plants that are easy for kids to grow, and suggestions for how to use a number of the projects alongside related classroom units. 160 pages; gr K-6. ([www.kidsgardening.com](http://www.kidsgardening.com))
- **From Seed to Seed: Plant Science for K-8 Educators** online course for teachers: <http://www.kidsgardening.com/onlinecourse/Intro1.htm>
- **Gardening Wizardry for Children** by L. Patricia Kite. A history and folklore of common fruits and vegetables.
- **Great Garden Companions: A Companion-Planting System for a Beautiful, Chemical-Free Vegetable Garden** by Sally Jean Cunningham (Paperback/\$11)
- **Healthy Foods from Healthy Soils**. This book invites you and your students to discover where food comes from, how our bodies use food, and what happens to food waste. You'll participate in the ecological cycle of food production, compost formation, and recycling back to the soil, while helping children understand how their food choices affect not only their own health, but also farmers, the environment, and your local community. Includes background information and a guide for integrating activities into the classroom. 256 pages; gr K-6. ([www.kidsgardening.com](http://www.kidsgardening.com))
- **Jeff Ball's 60-Minute Vegetable Garden** - Just one hour a week for the most productive vegetable garden possible. (Rodale Press, 1985)
- **Organic Pest & Disease Control** by Barbara W. Ellis (Editor), Frances Tenenbaum (Editor). This is a great basic primer with drop-dead gorgeous illustrations of insects and diseases. Who ever thought a mole cricket could look this good? (One of Taylor's Weekend Gardening Guides, paperback/\$12.95)
- **Rodale's All New Encyclopedia of Organic Gardening: The Indispensable Resource for Every Gardener** by Marshall Bradley, Barbara W. Ellis (Editor), Fern Marshall Bradley. This is the bible of organic gardening...everything (well, almost) that you could possibly want to know in 690 pages of gardening nirvana. (Paperback, list \$19.95.)
- **Taunton's Kitchen Gardener** If you only subscribe to one vegetable gardening magazine, this should be the one. The articles are fresh, beautifully illustrated, and informative without getting bogged down in too many technical details. It includes tips, projects, cultivation, and cooking information. The only downside is that you'll be waiting by the mailbox for awhile in anticipation of the next issue... it's only published bimonthly. (Subscription \$24/ year (6 issues); \$4.95 each at the newsstand)
- **Where Can You Find Corn After It Leaves the Field?** This 4-color poster has small windows showing places where corn products are used. It is geared for elementary students and contains many surprises. Corn is used in food, shoestrings, firecrackers and many other products. The poster helps children become aware of the varied uses of corn as the windows are opened. (\$2.00/  
<http://www.cerp.cornell.edu/newstore/default.asp>)

## SCHOOL COMPOSTING AND WORM COMPOSTING RESOURCES

- **Ask the Answer Worm:** <http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/feature/education/squirm/skworm.html>
- **Scraps to Soil: A How to Guide for School Composting** (Developed by Ivy Zeller, School Education Coordinator, Montpelier, VT) Provides information on the natural science of the compost process, as well as step-by-step instructions for implementing a program at your school. The guide provides teachers with classroom activities, resource information, and the script to *Chef Suzette's Feedbag Restaurant*, an original compost assembly program. Copies are available from Susie Shields, [susie.shields@deq.state.ok.us](mailto:susie.shields@deq.state.ok.us) or (405) 702-5166.
- **Stan Slaughter**, Eco-Troubadour, Tel: 1-888-484-4477, Web Site: [www.stanslaughter.com](http://www.stanslaughter.com). Award winning teacher and seasoned performer, Stan has traveled throughout the country since 1987 performing a repertoire of original and old favorite Earth Songs at schools, museums, libraries and festivals. He is a

proven crowd pleaser with both children and adults.

- √ Rot "N Roll—The Greatest Hits of Recycling and Composting (tape and songbook, \$20)
- √ Unintended Consequences (CD with songs, \$15 about household pollutants/water protection)
- √ Compost Gin card game (\$12)
- √ Instructional Compost Cycle Poster (\$4.00)
- √ The Composters Learning Guide (\$6.00)
- √ The Composters Color Workbook (\$4.00)
- **Vermicomposting Lesson Plans** (PROP-Professional Recyclers of Pennsylvania) Online at: [www.proprecycles.org/Vermicomposting%20Lesson%20Plans.html](http://www.proprecycles.org/Vermicomposting%20Lesson%20Plans.html)
- **The Wonderful World of Wigglers** - *Exploring the Mysteries of the Mighty Earthworm through Stories and Activities for the Curious Child*. Hands-on activities help children ages 5-10 discover the rich and intricate world of earthworms. Often thought of only as bait for fish, earthworms play a key role as recyclers, humidifiers, plowers and air-conditioners of the soil. Filled with hands-on activities designed to challenge children to solve real-life problems utilizing creative thinking skills. Emphasizes interrelationships between earthworms, soil, and ecological sustainability. (\$14.95/[www.AcornNaturalists.com/store](http://www.AcornNaturalists.com/store))
- **www.WormWoman.com - Resources from Mary Appelhof, the worm woman**
  - √ "Worm Acres" Composting Kit for kids (\$34.95); school kit (\$84.95) with or without worms
  - √ "Worm in the Apple" puppet (\$4.95)
  - √ Wormania! video and teaching guide\* (Worms Eat Our Garbage) for ages 8up (\$34.95)
  - √ Worm Bin Creatures Alive Through a Microscope (VHS)  
Video zeroes in on the tiny organisms often seen but rarely identified in a worm bin. Under Warren's microscope, well-lit colorful, and in focus, busy little creatures such as springtails and mites amuse and entertain as they busily go about in search of food or shelter. Level: Middle-school through adult Price: VHS\$25.00/PAL \$50.00
  - √ Worms Eat My Garbage. All about worm composting for the individual. (\$7.95)
  - √ \*Worms Eat Our Garbage. Classroom activities for worm composting. Over 150 activities in science, mathematics, language arts, and creativity. Includes scientific methods, observing, recording data, and more. Grades 4-8. (\$20.95)
  - √ Worm Away classroom worm bins, \$69 or \$80
  - √ The Worm Cafe: Mid-scale Vermicomposting of Lunchroom Wastes  
This manual describes how a teacher and her students developed a system to compost lunchroom waste with worms and save their school \$6000 per year. How they performed a waste audit, garnered support from school personnel. Discusses bins, bedding, maintenance, harvesting and using castings in the school garden. Contains earthworm diagrams, bulletins board materials, quizzes, letter to parents, charts, and dozens of resources. Price: \$29.95
- **Worm Suppliers (Oklahoma)**
  - √ **John Herndon, Norman**, SBMH2@aol.com, (405) 329-4006 (Generally \$20 per pound, but might make a deal). Educational presentations and redworms.
  - √ **Worm Solutions**—Jerald Ashby, Yukon, OK, ashby@wormsolutionsok.com, (405) 417-4989, [www.wormsolutionsok.com](http://www.wormsolutionsok.com), Conducts educational sessions for student visits to pizza and worm farm.
- **"Worm Digest"** (Contact: Edible City Resource Center, P.O. Box 544, Eugene, OR 97440-9998) Worms deepening our connection to food and soil. Great for classroom teachers! Subscription: Individual = \$12.00/10 or more = \$3.50 ea./Back issues = \$3.50 ea.
- **"Worm Composting"** (a "how to" brochure). Department of Environmental Quality, PDF available at: <http://www.deq.state.ok.us/factsheets/local/worms.pdf>
- **The Video Project (films)**
- **Zeke the Sheik and the Ladder of Matter** (ZEK-096-V) Entertaining introduction to composting (29 min., University-adult, \$59.95)
- **Composting for Busy People** (HOM-759-V) Learn how to compost from real people (17 min., all ages, \$65)
- **Additional Websites:**
  - √ [www.wormswrangler.com](http://www.wormswrangler.com)
  - √ [www.composters.com/docs/worms.html](http://www.composters.com/docs/worms.html)

## FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

### STATE SOURCES

**Ag in the Classroom** Oklahoma Ag in the Classroom is pleased to request grant proposals from educators to expand agricultural literacy in Oklahoma schools. Funding for these grants has been made available through the Oklahoma Pork Council. Grants will be awarded in amounts from \$100 to \$300 each. Proposals are received on a perpetual basis and funded based upon project merit and the availability of funds. Grants are available to K-8 educators in Oklahoma working in public or private schools and to educators who work with students, grades K-8, in nonformal educational settings, e.g., after school programs, alternative education programs, 4-H clubs, etc. Website: [www.clover.okstate.edu/fourh/aitc/grants/grantap.doc](http://www.clover.okstate.edu/fourh/aitc/grants/grantap.doc)

**Environmental License Tag Grants.** Sponsored by the Oklahoma Environmental Quality Education Committee. \$500 grants to promote new enthusiasm for the practice of environmental education for Oklahoma teachers or youth leaders and \$200 grants for high school field trips are awarded annually. The program must benefit the youth of Oklahoma through the programs developed or enhanced by the grant. Five \$1000 outdoor classroom grants are also available through the same application. These proposals are generally due the end of October or November, with the winners announced in January. Funds may be used for classroom education materials, supplies for specific lesson plans, films and videos, continuing education, resource trunks, outdoor classroom setup, etc. 22-25 grants have been awarded annually since 1996. Funds are distributed through the DEQ. Website: [www.deq.state.ok.us](http://www.deq.state.ok.us) Contact: Susie Shields (405) 702-5166 or [susie.shields@deq.state.ok.us](mailto:susie.shields@deq.state.ok.us)

**Learn and Serve America Program.** Awards grants to schools for efforts that engage students in environmental and other community activities. School projects meeting specifications may be eligible for grants ranging from \$1,200 to \$15,000. In addition to funding, schools receive access to training and resources and have opportunities to learn from each other at more regular network meetings. Some outdoor classrooms and habitat programs have been started through this program. These funds are appropriated by Congress and amounts awarded may shift from year to year. Contact: Charles Mohr or Robert Bush, Learn and Serve America, Oklahoma State Department of Education, 2500 N. Lincoln, Oklahoma City, OK 73105, (405) 521-4795 or [charles\\_mohr@sde.state.ok.us](mailto:charles_mohr@sde.state.ok.us).

**Urban and Community Forestry Challenge Grants.** Sponsored by the Oklahoma Department of Agriculture Forestry Services in cooperation with the U.S. Forest Service and the Oklahoma Urban and Community Forestry Council, this grant program is designed to establish, expand and promote urban and community forestry in the State of Oklahoma. Grants may be awarded to state and local units of government, approved non-profit organizations, neighborhood associations, civic groups, educational institutions or other tree volunteer groups. All projects must occur in Oklahoma. The amount available ranges from \$1,000 to \$10,000 per grant and is a 50% matching program. However, in-kind matching is acceptable. Contact: Mark Bays (405) 521-3864 to request a grant package.

**U.S. Fish and Wildlife Services Outdoor Classroom Grants.** The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Services' (FWS) Partners for Fish and Wildlife Program provides project development grants up to \$5,000.00 for Outdoor Environmental Classrooms. These Outdoor Classrooms must emphasize wetlands and/or endangered and threatened ecosystems in Oklahoma. Funds are to be used for project development, such as, wetland construction, walkways, gazebos, plant material, etc. For more information on wetland development and how to get a wetland classroom going at your school, call Jontie Aldrich or Ken Williams (918) 581-7458.

**Weyerhaeuser Excellence in Recycling Award.** Ten \$1,000 awards are given in Oklahoma annually. Awards are available to public/private schools (K-12) in Oklahoma. Existing, expanding or start-up recycling and/or composting programs are eligible. Requests for proposals are distributed through the Department of Environmental Quality. Applications will be solicited in the spring, with awards made by Weyerhaeuser in the fall. Contact: Bryce Hulsey (405) 702-5170 or [bryce.hulsey@deq.state.ok.us](mailto:bryce.hulsey@deq.state.ok.us).

### NATIONAL SOURCES

**Best Buy Children's Foundation.** To enhance the quality of life of school-age children in communities where Best Buy Co., Inc. maintains a presence - through support of programs and organizations that offer leadership and educational opportunities. The Foundation invests in organizations and programs committed to making a difference in the lives of children. Emphasis is placed on innovative programs that promote personal achievement, mentor relationships and life skills, and accentuate learning opportunities for school-age children. All grants are given to 501(c)(3) organizations or organizations seeking this nonprofit status. Proposals are accepted on an ongoing basis. Contact: Best Buy Children's Foundation, Community Relations Dept., P.O. Box 9448, Minneapolis, MN 55440-9448, Phone:(952)947-2650, Website: [www.bestbuy.com/about/CommunityRelations.asp](http://www.bestbuy.com/about/CommunityRelations.asp)

**Butterfly Garden Grants.** Available from Hasbro Children's Foundation where the focus is on gardens that have strong educational emphasis at schools located in economically disadvantaged areas. Deadline is in February, but proposals received sooner seem to have better chance. Contact: Jane Englehardt, Executive Director, Hasbro Children's Foundation, 32 West 23rd Street, New York, NY 10010, (212) 645-2400.

**Captain Planet Foundation.** Supports environmental projects for youth with grants from \$250-\$2,500. All projects must: promote understanding of environmental issues; focus on hands-on activities; involve children and teens 6-18 (elementary through high school); help young people develop planning and problem-solving skills; and include adult supervision. Web: [www.turner.com/cpf](http://www.turner.com/cpf) or e-mail: [captain.planet.foundation@turner.com](mailto:captain.planet.foundation@turner.com)

**Coca-Cola Foundation** aims to provide youth with the educational opportunities and support systems they need to become knowledgeable about the world in which they live and better able to give back to their communities. Three main areas include: 1) HIGHER EDUCATION: Pipeline programs connecting various levels of education that encourage students to stay in school and to proceed with confidence to college and graduate school; Scholarship programs in support of graduate and undergraduate students; Minority advancement in the form of scholarships, urban programs and cultural diversity programs; 2) CLASSROOM TEACHING AND LEARNING: Innovative K-12 public school programs, and those outside the "four walls" of the classroom; Teacher development programs; Smaller projects dealing with specific activities in the elementary and secondary classroom; 3) GLOBAL EDUCATION: Programs that encourage international studies, global understanding or student/faculty exchange; Programs outside the United States promoting education: [www2.coca-cola.com/citizenship/foundation\\_guidelines.html](http://www2.coca-cola.com/citizenship/foundation_guidelines.html)

**EPA Environmental Education Grants.** Sponsored by U.S. Environmental Protection Agency to support environmental education efforts at the grassroots level. Local educational institutions, state agencies and non-profit groups are eligible to apply. These grants cannot be used for structure construction and a 25% cash or in-kind matching donation is required. Amount: \$5,000 to \$250,000. The deadline for applications varies from year to year. The RFP (request for proposals) usually comes out sometime during the summer, with the deadline in the fall. Contact: Jo Taylor, EE Coordinator, U.S. EPA Region VI, 1445 Ross Avenue, Dallas, TX 75202 (214) 665-2200 or 1-800-887-6063 or find lots of information on the web: [www.epa.gov/epahome/grants.htm](http://www.epa.gov/epahome/grants.htm).

**Global Releaf Fund.** Sponsored by American Forests for tree planting and care projects and educational efforts which encourage local volunteer efforts and donations. Larger trees in urban settings are preferred to reforestation projects using seedlings. 50% matching cash or in-kind donation required. Amount \$500-\$2,500. Applications due in January with funding awarded in February. Contact: Karen Fedor, Global ReLeaf Fund, 1516 P. Street, NW, Washington, D.C. 20005

**GreenWorks! Community Action Projects.** This Project Learning Tree's (PLT) environmental community action component encourages students to participate in community based partnerships by developing and implementing environmental action projects, such as graffiti paint overs, tree plantings, stream clean-ups and recycling projects. Applicants must be PLT trained, must establish a partnership to implement the project (i.e. school/PTA, school/local business, girl scout troop/local business, etc.) and must raise 50% project matching funds (may be in-kind services/time). Projects must be community/school based and have student/youth participation. The annual deadline is usually in April. A maximum of \$200 per project is available. Contact: Caroline Alston, GreenWorks! Grants, 111 19th Street, NW, #780, Washington, DC 20036, (202) 463-2461, [caroline\\_alston@plt.org](mailto:caroline_alston@plt.org).

**The Home Depot.** Offers grants for Sustainable and Green Building Practices, Forestry and Ecology, Clean-up and Recycling, Lead Poisoning Prevention, and Consumer Education has opened where they can do the most good. Environmental proposals are accepted, and must be postmarked, between November 1st and December 15th annually. There is no application form. Rather, The Home Depot prefers you tell them about your project in your own words, describing its scope, budget, and any other details. Announcements of awards will be made in writing between February 15th and 28th and will be paid out between March and July of each year. Organizations requesting a grant are required to have a Federal Tax Exempt nonprofit status and must include a copy of the 501(C)(3) letter/form. <http://www.homedepotfoundation.org/>

**Learn and Serve America** sponsors Service-Learning Grants ranging from \$1,200-15,000 to schools for efforts that engage students in environmental and other community activities. Some outdoor classrooms and habitat programs have been started through this program. See website for information: [http://www.learnandserve.org/for\\_organizations/funding/index.asp](http://www.learnandserve.org/for_organizations/funding/index.asp).

**National Fish and Wildlife Foundation Grants.** Emphasizes innovative and effective wildlife conservation activities in an urban or rural setting. Governmental units, educational or non-profit groups are eligible to apply for amounts of \$10,000 and up. A 50-100% matching cash donation is required. Applications are due in January with funding awarded in May or in March with funding awarded in August. Contact: National Fish and Wildlife Foundation, 1120 Connecticut Ave., NW, Suite 900, Washington, DC 20036, (202) 857-0166, website: [www.nfwf.org/grants.html](http://www.nfwf.org/grants.html).

**National Geographic Society Education Foundation.** The foundation's teacher grants are

awarded to educators to facilitate their work in the classroom, school, district, and/or community. Projects that feature outreach to urban areas are particularly encouraged. In accordance with its mission, the foundation seeks to fund projects in either of two broad categories: 1) promoting geographic knowledge through education, and 2) promoting stewardship of natural and cultural resources. Applications are accepted from any current teacher or administrator in an accredited K-12 school within the United States. Website: [http://www.nationalgeographic.com/education/teacher\\_community/get\\_grant.html](http://www.nationalgeographic.com/education/teacher_community/get_grant.html)

**Newman's Own.** Grants are awarded annually to organizations that focus on children and youth, health, education, the elderly, the environment, the arts, literacy, substance abuse education, and programs for the needy. U.S.-based 501(c)(3) organizations, schools, hospitals, and other public-benefit institutions are eligible to apply. Grant guidelines are available at: [www.newmansown.com/5b1\\_grants.html](http://www.newmansown.com/5b1_grants.html)

**OGE Energy Corp.** Offers K-12 public school teachers grants of up to \$1,000 to teachers at in OG&E and Enogex service territories in Oklahoma and Western Arkansas. Any creative project, which deals with reading, mathematics or science, will be considered. Grants are available to public school teachers of grades K-12. Grant applications for the 2006-2007 school year must be typed and returned not later than 5:00 PM, May 31, 2006. Details online at: <http://www.oge.com/about-us/tg/tg-overview.asp> or by calling 1-877-775-7797.

**Outdoor Classroom Grant Program** is a partnership of the Lowe's Charitable and Educational Foundation, International Paper and the International Paper Foundation, and NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC EXPLORER classroom magazine. As part of Lowe's continued commitment to public education, Lowe's will provide more than \$200,000 in outdoor classroom grants to benefit public schools nationwide. Teachers may apply for grants up to \$2,000 by visiting [www.Lowes.com/outdoorclassroom](http://www.Lowes.com/outdoorclassroom). For school districts with major outdoor classroom projects, grants may be awarded for up to \$20,000. All K-12 public schools in the United States (except Puerto Rico) are eligible to apply for a grant.

**Pathways to Nature.** Grants to enhance environmental education activities and bird/wildlife viewing opportunities at significant nature tourism destinations in the United States and Canada are being offered by the Pathways to Nature Conservation Fund. Projects of interest include, but are not limited to, boardwalks, viewing platforms and blinds, educational displays, and interactive exhibits. Grantees must match Pathways to Nature Conservation Fund awards with a minimum 1:1 ratio of third party cash or contributed goods and services. Wild Birds Unlimited stores in partnership with the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation sponsor the Fund. Application deadline: December 1st. For more information contact Peter Stangel (404) 679-7099 or [stangel@nfwf.org](mailto:stangel@nfwf.org). Website: [www.pathwaystonature.com/](http://www.pathwaystonature.com/)

**PEW Charitable Trusts.** Another large, national charitable foundation with interests in environmental education projects, totaling more than \$1 million. Contact: One Commerce Square, 2005 Market Street, Suite 1700, Philadelphia, PA 19103-7017, (215) 575-9050, website: [www.pewtrusts.com](http://www.pewtrusts.com)

**PG&E National Energy Group Annual Environmental Education Grant program.** Grants ranging from \$5,000 to \$10,000 will be awarded for innovative programs that encourage and support educating young people about the environment. Those eligible to apply for grants include K-12 schools, non-profit organizations engaged in educational projects related to earth science, conservation and the environment, and teacher training programs with hands-on student activities that focus on earth science and environmental education projects. Application guidelines at: [www.neg.pge.com/grantProgram.html](http://www.neg.pge.com/grantProgram.html)

**Prudential Spirit of Community Awards.** Recognize outstanding community service by young people in grades 5 -12. To be eligible, a young person must be in grades 5 through 12 as of the last weekday in October during the applying year; have engaged in a volunteer activity that occurred at least partly during the twelve months prior to the date of application; and complete an application form and submit it to a school principal or the head of an officially designated local organization. Website: [www.principals.org/awards/prudential.cfm](http://www.principals.org/awards/prudential.cfm)

**Starbucks Foundation Grants.** Letters of Inquiry are reviewed twice per year during two periods: February 1st - March 1st and August 1st - September 1st. Starbucks Giving Voice Grant funds programs for youth that integrate literacy with personal and civic action in the communities where they live. Grants range from \$5,000-\$20,000. <http://www.starbucks.com/aboutus/grantinfo.asp>

**State Farm Good Neighbor Service-Learning Awards.** Enable youth and educators to bring positive benefits of service-learning to more young people. This grant is for both young people ages 5-25 and teachers to implement service-learning projects for National Youth Service Day 2003. Grants from \$500 to \$1,500 each are available for young people and teachers to engage classes.

The **AT&T CARES Youth Service Action Fund** was created to provide direct assistance to youth and youth organizations to lead signature service or service-learning projects during National Youth Service Day and beyond. Fifty grants of \$500 are available to address unmet needs and problems in their communities. Website: [www.ysa.org/awards/award\\_grant.cfm](http://www.ysa.org/awards/award_grant.cfm)

**Toshiba America Foundation Grants.** The Toshiba America Foundation encourages programs, projects and activities that have the potential to improve classroom teaching and learning of science, mathematics and the science and mathematics of technology. Funding is available for private and public



schools, grades 7 - 12. Applications for small grants (\$5,000 or less) are accepted year round. Applications and guidelines are available online in PDF. Details on website: [www.toshiba.com/taf/apply.html](http://www.toshiba.com/taf/apply.html)

**Town Creek Foundation.** Supports environmental programs that engage citizens in challenging the unsustainable use of natural resources and in protecting biological diversity. Strategies supported are grassroots activism, monitoring the enforcement of environmental laws, public policy advocacy, collaborative opportunities, media outreach, and model or demonstration projects fostering sustainable policies and practices. Website: [www.towncreekfdn.org](http://www.towncreekfdn.org)

**Toyota Tapestry Grant.** A partnership program of Toyota Motor Sales, USA, Inc. and the National Science teachers Association (NSTA), this program offers grants to K-12 science teachers. Grants are given to innovative projects that enhance science education in the school and/or school district. Fifty one-year grants, totaling up to \$500,000 will be awarded this year. The projects must center on either environmental education or physical science applications (applied physics, chemistry and technology). Projects should demonstrate creativity, involve risk-taking, possess a visionary quality, and model a novel way of presenting science. They should also involve hands-on activities, have an interdisciplinary approach and relate science to students' lives. To be eligible, middle and high school science teachers must spend at least 50% of their classroom time teaching science. Elementary teachers must teach some science in the classroom. Proposals must describe a project including its potential impact on students, and a budget up to \$10,000. Contact: NSTA/Toyota Tapestry, 1840 Wilson Blvd., Arlington, VA 22201-3000, (800) 807-9852. You may obtain an application form for next year's grants from NSTA's Fax on Demand service by calling (800) 400-6782 and requesting document number 591 or download it from NSTA's website: [www.nsta.org/programs/tapestry.htm](http://www.nsta.org/programs/tapestry.htm).

**Youth Garden Grants.** Cash is not offered, but tools, seeds and educational materials are provided the National Garden Association for garden programs involving at least 15 children between 3-18 years of age. 300 grants of about \$700 each awarded each year, with the deadline generally November 1. Contact: National Gardening Association Youth Garden Grant, 180 Flynn Avenue, Burlington, VT 05401, 1-800-538-7476, website: [www.garden.org](http://www.garden.org).

**Youth in Action/Community Service Grants.** Community service project grants of \$500 - \$1,500 will be awarded to youth who take leadership roles and work with adult 4-H volunteer leaders and/or county Extension agents. Grants require youth teams to identify critical issues in their communities, develop activities to address these issues, and educate other young people and children on ways to model community service. Youth must be actively involved in writing the proposal and in program implementation. Collaborative efforts reflecting the diversity of the community are encouraged. Deadline usually in September: [www.fourhcouncil.edu/programs/index.asp](http://www.fourhcouncil.edu/programs/index.asp)

#### **LOCAL SOURCES--Oklahoma City Metro Area**

**Kirkpatrick Family Fund.** Primary fields of interest are education, youth, culture, arts, neighborhoods and beautification. The Fund would be supportive of outdoor classroom gardens that have a strong educational component. Grants up to \$1,500 are reviewed monthly. Contact: Marilyn Myers, Kirkpatrick Family Fund, P.O. Box 268822, Oklahoma City, OK 73126, (405) 840-2882.

**Margaret Annis Boys Trust Fund.** Grants for butterfly and outdoor classroom gardens. Fund encourages partnerships between schools, parents, neighborhoods and local businesses. Matching and in-kind contributions are important to successful grant applications. Grants are for perennials, trees, shrubs, soil, mulch and other plant material. Grant size range from \$1,000 to \$1,500 and can be partnered with other local and state funding sources. Contact: Oklahoma City Community Foundation, 1300 N. Broadway, Oklahoma City, OK 73103, (405) 235-5603.

**Wal-Mart Stores (501-277-1905) awards Make a Difference Day Grants.** Contact the local Wal-Mart store manager for information.