



## 2002 GREEN Teachers Institute: Hands-on Environmental Education

Sponsored by Miami University, Mason City Schools, the Lakota School District, the RPDC, the Procter & Gamble Fund, and the Cinergy Foundation



*"I like the fact that not all the participants were science teachers, but a variety of educators."  
-1998 participant*



*"I will recommend it (the workshop) to all the teachers I know!"  
-1999 participant*



**WHAT:** The 2002 GREEN Teachers Institute (**GR**owing **EN**vironmental **E**ducation **N**ow) is an enhancement program for 60 teachers of grades K-8. Participants will receive five graduate credits through Miami University (three for the summer and two for the school year) and \$300 worth of books and materials. In return, they will be required to attend daily sessions of a two-week summer workshop, meet certain performance objectives (do assigned reading and keep a journal notebook, for example), and develop hands-on activities. **Participants are also required to attend two follow-up Saturday seminars during the academic year.**

**WHEN & WHERE:** **Monday, July 22 to Friday, August 2.** We will meet every weekday from 9:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. at Cherokee Elementary School (Lakota School District) in Butler County.

**WHO:** The Institute is open to **all** teachers of grades K-8 from Mason City Schools, Lakota Schools, and other participating schools. **Applicants from both public and private schools are welcome.**

**WHY:** By using environmental themes, the Institute will provide teachers with an in-depth knowledge of ecology: air, water, soil and land interactions, population growth, energy, food production, and biological resources. Additionally, teachers will develop skills in inquiry-based learning. Science concepts are stressed throughout the workshop; one focus of the workshop will involve using literature to investigate science. The knowledge and skills participants gain address proficiency standards and are applicable to all subject areas. A field trip will be planned to a site in Butler County.

**STAFF:** The Institute is co-directed by Mike Wright and Cecilia Franz, Department of Zoology, Miami University. A biologist with a particular interest in natural history and ecology, and a former Naturalist at Hueston Woods State Park, Mike has previously assisted Dr. Don Kaufman with numerous hands-on and inquiry workshops. Cecilia has a background in literature and the humanities and has an advanced degree in the communication of scientific and technical information. Cecilia and Dr. Kaufman are co-authors of **Biosphere 2000: Protecting Our Global Environment** (Kendall/Hunt, 2000).

**COST:** The workshop is free to teachers in the Mason or Lakota School Districts. All other participants are asked to contribute \$100.00 to defray workshop expenses. In the past participants have received reimbursement from their school or district. If you are unable to pay, or if your school or district will not reimburse you, we have scholarships available – contact us. Please send your check, made out to Miami University, with your application.

*"It (the workshop) has really impacted my teaching and made it more inquiry based."*

*-1999 participant*



*"Thanks for helping me become a better teacher, not only a better science teacher, but a more confident teacher."*

*-1997 participant*



*"What a wonderful class! So much practical application and wonderful, knowledgeable staff. This class helped (me) to take students outside where discovery can begin."*

*-1998 participant*

**APPLICATION:** Apply to the **2002 GREEN Teachers Institute: Hands-on Environmental Education** by filling out the attached application form. The deadline for applications is April 5, 2002; **we encourage you to apply now!** Send your application to: **Mike Wright, Department of Zoology, Miami University, Oxford, Ohio 45056.** If you have any questions, please call (513) 529-6084, fax (513) 529-6900, or email [wrightmf@muohio.edu](mailto:wrightmf@muohio.edu).

**PARTICIPANT BENEFITS:** Teachers who participate in the 2002 GREEN Teachers Institute: Hands-On Environmental Education and academic year follow-up will receive:

- Five semester hours of graduate credit through the Department of Zoology, Miami University (3 for the summer, 2 for the academic year follow-up)
- Waiver of tuition and enrollment fees
- \$300 worth of books and materials
- Support and assistance from workshop staff
- Opportunities for professional growth

**PARTICIPANT RESPONSIBILITIES:** Participants will be required to:

- Attend and participate in all workshop sessions (summer)
- Complete 2 long-term observations (summer)
- Develop a notebook (summer)
- Complete a quiz (summer)
- Develop hands-on activities (summer)
- **Attend and actively participate in 2 follow-up Saturday seminars during the academic year** and report on the use of the hands-on activities in their classrooms (academic year)

**PARTICIPANT SELECTION:** The project co-directors are seeking 60 teachers who will commit to implementing GREEN Teacher Institute materials and activities during the school year. Each participant must be an elementary or junior high school teacher (grades K-8) for 2002-03. Preference will be given to Mason and Lakota teachers **and early applicants.** We will also attempt to have an equal number of teachers in each grade level.

This is the first in a series of workshops that we offer. Our advanced- and master-level workshops build upon and extend the knowledge and skills gained in this first-level workshop. Graduates of both the first-level and the advanced-level workshops may apply for the master-level program – two weeks spent in Costa Rica studying the natural and cultural history of this incredible country.



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## Application

Deadline: April 5, 2002

Name \_\_\_\_\_ School \_\_\_\_\_

Social Security Number \_\_\_\_\_

School Address \_\_\_\_\_

(street)

(city, state)

(zip)

School Phone ( \_\_\_\_\_ ) \_\_\_\_\_

Home Address \_\_\_\_\_

(street)

(city, state)

(zip)

Home Phone ( \_\_\_\_\_ ) \_\_\_\_\_

Expected teaching grade level and/or subjects 2002-03 \_\_\_\_\_

Years of teaching experience \_\_\_\_\_

Education: Degree(s), University or College, Graduation Year(s)

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Please provide any additional information that will assist in participant selection. You could include information about yourself, your school, your students, reasons for wanting to participate, interests, experiences, projects, conferences, inservice, etc. Also indicate how you will take a leadership role in implementing inquiry based instruction for your students/school.

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