Calling All South Carolina Teachers, Administrators, and Environmental Education Providers to Participate in Regional Landscape Analysis for Environmental Education

Columbia, SC, May 3, 2023 – The Environmental Education Association of South Carolina (EEASC) is encouraging school and district administrators and formal educators who work in the PreK-12 setting, as well as environmental education providers, to participate in a survey as part of a regional landscape analysis conducted by the Southeastern Environmental Education Alliance (SEEA).

This analysis is designed to gain an enhanced understanding of environmental education providers and schools in the southeastern U.S. that are working towards similar goals. It will identify gaps and barriers to access that prevent successful implementation, and provide recommendations and next steps for increasing environmental literacy efforts in the southeast and accelerating the impact of environmental education in PreK-12 schools.

Through surveys, the analysis will gather data from PreK-12 schools and environmental education providers in the eight SEEA states. In fall of 2023, the data collected will be shared in a comprehensive analysis of environmental education offerings in the region, along with the gaps and barriers that exist in both formal and non-formal settings for students of all ages in these areas. These findings will also help provide opportunities for schools to partner with service providers to advance SEEA’s collective efforts toward environmental literacy.

To date, SEEA has surveyed over 500 schools and 600 environmental education providers. Based on findings from the analysis, several recommendations were identified for South Carolina environmental education providers, some of which include increasing the diversity of environmental education staff and leadership to better reflect the demographics of the state, addressing inequities in pay and benefits for environmental education, providing professional learning and resources to classroom teachers, and addressing gaps in services found across the state.
“The findings of this analysis provide insight to the state of environmental education and those who work in the field across South Carolina and the southeast region,” said Keith Willoughby, Executive Director of EEASC. “There is great work being done here and by completing this survey, educators can expand the capacity of that work and help shape the future of environmental education.”

Educators and administrators can take the survey by visiting southeastee.org/survey.

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**About the Environmental Education Association of South Carolina:** Formed in 1977, EEASC (www.eeasc.org) is a non-profit professional organization for environmental educators whose mission is to connect, support and equip South Carolinians to promote environmental stewardship. EEASC is the state affiliate of the North American Association for Environmental Education (www.naee.org). Services we provide include: professional development events for teachers and environmental educators, mini-grants to support local environmental efforts, professional certification for environmental educators (www.peecsc.org), and mentorship and awards for school environmental projects (www.greenstepschools.com).