



Environmental  
Education  
Advisory  
Council of  
New York City

# EEAC

Fall Winter 2016



## Climate & Urban Systems Partnership

BY MICHAELA LABRIOLE

The Climate and Urban Systems Partnership (CUSP) is a National Science Foundation funded project that has worked to build a network of individuals, institutions and organizations all focused on climate change education. CUSP looks to support partners' current work, providing best practices for presenting climate messaging to a wide variety of audiences. We have worked alongside climate scientists at Columbia University's Center for Climate Systems Research to develop our unique, research-based approach. We present climate science that is local, relevant to New Yorkers' lives, and solutions-focused. CUSP helps partners integrate climate science into their work through the use of activity kits, an online tool, mini-grants, and building a community of practice.

### Educational Kits

CUSP has created a series of kits that have been successfully used with children and adults in both festival and programmatic settings. Each kit includes a fun hands-on activity that addresses some aspect of climate change relevant to New York. Topics include the carbon cost of our food choices, combined sewer overflows (CSOs) and extreme weather, the carbon cost of transportation and purchases, the Urban Heat Island Effect, and comparing light bulb efficiency and renewable energy sources. Many of our kits



Michaela facilitating a CUSP activity

take a more general environmental science message and incorporate a climate change component into it. For instance, our Extreme Events kit addresses the environmental issue of wastewater management and CSOs during heavy rain events. This kit then ties in a climate change message, and solutions focused prompt: Climate change is projected to bring more frequent, strong precipitation events to NYC. What adaptations will our city need to prepare for a wetter NYC? Kit participants go on to explore types of green infrastructure, and how they can reduce the instance of CSOs. CUSP kits are available for loan for free, and include a facilitation guide as well as all necessary materials.

### CUSP Map

The CUSP Map is an interactive digital tool that helps users to visualize climate change and its impacts on city living. Map users are able to upload stories, videos, data and pictures related to climate change impacts or programs in their neighborhoods, and can see what their friends and neighbors are sharing. The map also features two stories that walk users through an explanation of how climate change will impact NYC's wastewater and its energy use and production. The CUSP Map allows New Yorkers to visualize data sets



Exploring the CUSP map

*continued on page 7*

## EEAC NEWS

### Steering Committee Meetings

Please visit the EEAC website at [www.eeac-nyc.org](http://www.eeac-nyc.org) for meeting locations or contact an EEAC Steering Committee member. Steering committee meetings are open to anyone interested in learning about environmental education in New York City and sharing information about special programs and projects.

### Newsletter Deadlines

If you would like to submit an article for the newsletter, please email it as a Microsoft Word attachment to [KimE@dep.nyc.gov](mailto:KimE@dep.nyc.gov).

The newsletter deadline is the first Monday of Feb., May, and September. We would love your ideas!

### Newsletter Committee

Lynn Cole  
Kim Estes-Fradis  
Joy Garland

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The Environmental Education Advisory Council of New York City, EEAC-NYC, is the only nonprofit organization with the sole purpose of promoting and supporting outstanding environmental education in New York City Schools and other centers for learning.

## ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION ADVISORY COUNCIL

Judith Hutton  
The New York Botanical Garden  
Teacher Training  
2900 Southern Boulevard  
Bronx, NY 10458  
[www.eeac-nyc.org](http://www.eeac-nyc.org)

This newsletter is a publication of the Environmental Education Advisory Council (EEAC), a voluntary organization of educators, classroom teachers, administrators and other professionals in active support of quality environmental education.

### EEAC OFFICERS

Judith Hutton, Chairperson  
Brittany DiLeo, Treasurer and Membership Secretary  
Shig Matsukawa, Secretary  
Jacqueline Pilati, Program Chairperson

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Lynn Cole, Children's Library Discovery Center  
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Judith Hutton, New York Botanical Garden  
Mary Leou, New York University  
Shig Matsukawa, Food Waste Recycler  
Jacqueline Pilati, Teachers College, Columbia University  
Mike Zamm, T.E.E.P.

\* affiliation for identification purposes only

### STAY IN TOUCH!

Members, keep up with the latest EEAC news on [EEAC-NYC@googlegroups.com](mailto:EEAC-NYC@googlegroups.com)  
If you would like to join the listserv contact Carol Franken at [carolfranken@gmail.com](mailto:carolfranken@gmail.com)



## CHAIR'S MESSAGE

As autumn progresses and winter peeks over the horizon, be sure to join us for the EEAC Annual meeting at the [New York Hall of Science](#) on Wednesday, November 16 between 5:30-7:30pm. Learn more about the Climate and Urban Systems Partnership (CUSP), an important initiative to explore innovative ways to educate city residents about climate change. See complete details on [page 4](#). Register at [Eventbrite](#).

We also hope you made it to our recent programs including a Meet and Greet at El Sol Brillante Community Garden and our recent workshop, Building Teachers' Capacity in Environmental and Sustainability Education, at Teachers College. If you missed these opportunities please connect with us! Join our Google Group, like EEAC-NYC on Facebook or follow us on Twitter.

We are actively seeking volunteers in the upcoming year as many of our longstanding Steering Committee members plan on moving into other service opportunities within the organization. Feel free to reach out at the Annual Meeting to learn more about how to volunteer, or come to our next business meeting on January 18<sup>th</sup> at New York University. We would love to learn more about you and the work you do to support environmental and sustainability education!

We are also a member-supported organization. Please consider donating funds to support the important work of EEAC including our website, newsletter, networking opportunities and advocacy work. Just fill out the membership form on the last page of the newsletter and submit your information with your donation. Don't forget that you also have the convenience of donating online when you register for a program! Check out our [Eventbrite](#) link ([bit.ly/2eDVCDn](http://bit.ly/2eDVCDn))

I look forward to working with you in 2017!

*Judith Hutton*

**Welcome Bruce  
Russell Spierer!**



I am an intern with EEAC this fall to complete requirements for my graduate degree in the Environmental Conservation Education program at NYU. My work with EEAC is to gather information and develop a plan for organizational strategic planning. I am collecting information about EEAC history and feedback from members and other stakeholders about how well EEAC is serving its mission. With your input, I will put together a snapshot of EEAC as it is currently and suggested next steps for the organization. To contribute your thoughts on EEAC, please answer four simple questions on this google form: [goo.gl/Z9uMMm](http://goo.gl/Z9uMMm). We value your critical and honest feedback.

After completing my undergraduate degree in 2009, I began working in urban agriculture with various organizations. I observed that many people felt disconnected from the natural world, and urban agriculture was one of many tools to provide that connection. Over time, my interests and passion shifted towards environmental education. After a number of temporary, part-time, or low-paying positions I began asking two questions: How can I continue doing this crucial work while also building a future for myself? and What institutions are working to develop a strong, sustainable future for the environmental education field? These questions led me to enroll in the Environmental Conservation Education program and now my internship with EEAC. I am drawn to EEAC because I see it as an organization that is well-positioned to develop answers for the two questions that I have been asking.

The Environmental Education Advisory  
Council of New York City presents its

# ANNUAL MEETING

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 16



New York Hall of Science, 5:30-7:30pm

Learn about The Climate and Urban Systems Partnership (CUSP), a National Science Foundation funded project that has worked to build a network of individuals, institutions and organizations all focused on climate change education. CUSP looks to support partners' current work, providing best practices for presenting climate messaging to a wide variety of audiences. Working alongside climate scientists at Columbia University's Center for Climate Systems Research, our unique, research-based approach presents climate science that's local, relevant to New Yorkers' lives, and solutions-focused. Learn more about this initiative and network! Light refreshments will be provided.

Register: [bit.ly/1LhFGPQ](http://bit.ly/1LhFGPQ)

# ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION EXPO

EXPLORE NEW YORK CITY OUTDOORS!



## LEARN ABOUT IN-CLASS PROGRAMS & FIELD TRIPS

Composting | Growing Oysters | Overnight field trips  
Fishing & seining | Gardening | Harvesting solar power  
Using the city's parks as a classroom  
Citizen science programs | Professional development

**& MORE**

**THIS EVENT IS BROUGHT TO YOU BY:**



**NYU**

Office of  
Sustainability



NEW YORK CITY  
SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT



**THE RIVER PROJECT**

In partnership with EEAC & NYSOEA

PLEASE RSVP

[https://nyc-outdoors\\_expo.eventbrite.com](https://nyc-outdoors_expo.eventbrite.com)

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 29, 2016

NYU KIMMEL CENTER, 10th fl

4:30-6:30PM



# EEAC and TEEP

by Mike Zamm

EEAC's Teacher Environmental Education Preparation (TEEP) committee held a very successful workshop, "Building Teacher Capacity in Environmental and Sustainability Education," in cooperation with Teachers College on October 6th, 2016.

Twenty-eight educators from the government, non-profit, university and public school based sectors met at Teachers College and enthusiastically and diligently participated.

After reviewing TEEP's history, definitions of Environmental Education (EE) and Sustainability Education (SE), and global and local perspectives on Environmental/Sustainability Education (ESE), participants delved into their visions and perceived opportunities for expansion of ESE in teacher preparation and schools in general. We then heard from attendees about success stories in the field, and identified challenges and barriers in implementing ESE in all venues. The workshop then generated a number of prioritized next steps.

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Please contact Mike Zamm at [cenyctso@hotmail.com](mailto:cenyctso@hotmail.com) if you want to join the conversation on expanding our work on Environmental and Sustainability Education.

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What is most exciting is that two major working groups emerged from the workshop: one to establish a clearinghouse in ESE which will provide information on grants, professional development, programs in ESE, etc.; the other to pursue the creation of a full time paid sustainability coordinator in every NYC public school.

Integrated with the latter effort will be the attempt to communicate with key elected officials to gain their support for ESE, which actually represented a third working group at the workshop.

A fourth working group on research in the ESE field may do further investigation of successful means of expanding ESE.

Overall TEEP's mission was broadened to include teacher preparation in ESE and other strategies to enrich the field for teachers.





Creating CUSP activities  
Reaching the next generation



Aftermath of  
Hurricane Sandy

Photos from Wiki-  
media Commons

Top: [goo.gl/qIV5B9](http://goo.gl/qIV5B9)

Below:  
[goo.gl/XKW2PQ](http://goo.gl/XKW2PQ)



*continued from page 1*

in an accessible way by providing a variety of map layers to manipulate. Partners have used the map as a teaching tool, a platform to display student work or promote upcoming events, as well as a place to share their own data sets. Explore the map, and add your own point, at [www.cuspmmap.org/NYC](http://www.cuspmmap.org/NYC).

### Mini-Grants

CUSP also helps to support partners in integrating climate change messaging into their current work through mini-grant funding. Our mini-grant recipients have developed projects to help inspire their audiences to become more engaged in issues related to climate change in New York City, or even their immediate neighborhood. CUSP not only provides funding for these projects, but also lends the expertise of CUSP climate scientists, as well as other CUSP partners.

### Community of Practice

All of the aforementioned CUSP resources allow partners to build on and improve their current programming, and look for ways to integrate local climate change discussions into their work. Our partners are continually building connections within the CUSP network through workshops, networking events, "Ask a Climate Scientist" webinars, mini-grants, the CUSP email newsletter, and more.

CUSP NYC is based at the New York Hall of Science (NYSCI). We are partner-driven, and we are always looking to expand our network of individuals and organizations. For more information on ways CUSP could support the work you do or to join our newsletter list, contact Michaela Labriole at [mlabriole@nysci.org](mailto:mlabriole@nysci.org) or visit [cuspproject.org](http://cuspproject.org).

# Book Buzz

Review by  
Mary Blika,  
Children's  
Librarian,  
Queens Library

## *Wild Ones - Observing City Critters.*

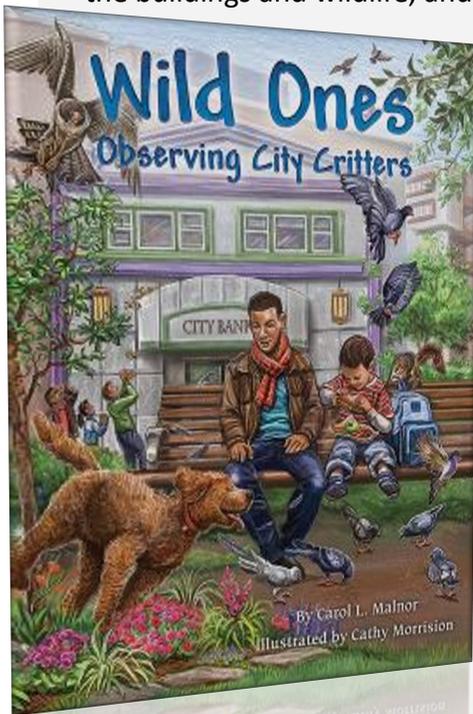
By Carol L. Malnor

*Wild Ones* is a picture book that explores the wide array of creatures that inhabit our urban environments. Scooter, a mischievous dog, sneaks away from his back porch early one morning and begins a great adventure, using his senses to “discover city critters.” On each page, there are some animals Scooter notices and others he does not; and it is fun for the reader to see what Scooter has missed. As the day winds down, Scooter’s wanderings lead him back home into the arms of his loving family and all returns to normal.

The illustrations are whimsical and colorful and convey a hunch that there is much happening around us of which we are unaware. They depict the diversity of modern cities - the people, the buildings and wildlife, and acquaint readers with the wonders awaiting them in the natural world beyond their doorstep.

*Wild Ones* includes five pages of enrichment exercises such as *More Animals to Find*, *Is It Really True?* and *How Animals Adapt to the City*, as well as resources for further reading, online activities, and other works by the author and illustrator.

The book is more like a magazine than a book, and it is not paginated. The production quality is mediocre. However, I would recommend this book based on its content and suitability for learning about urban wildlife.



**DAWN PUBLICATIONS**  
specializes in books that  
connect children to nature.  
Nevada City, CA 95959  
32 pp. Age: 4-8  
ISBN 978-1-58469-554-

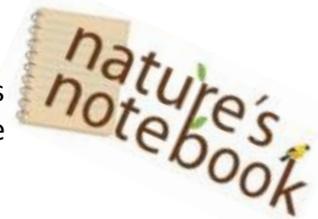


# Citizen Science and Climate Change

Compiled by  
Judith Hutton

**Did** you know that observing plants and animals can help scientists? Tracking changes in plants and animals over time, and sharing this data, helps us understand how species and ecosystems respond to things like climate change or urbanization. Here are some local projects to help you participate in citizen science – projects in which volunteers and scientists work together to answer real-world questions.

**NATIONAL PHENOLOGY NETWORK** – Nature’s Notebook is a free online program to help amateur and professional naturalists record observations of local plants and animals. Visit [usanpn.org/natures\\_notebook](http://usanpn.org/natures_notebook) to explore campaigns and data, and learn how to start a local phenology program.



**PROJECT BUDBURST** helps participants make observations about the timing of leafing, flowering and fruiting phases of local plants throughout the year. Visit [budburst.org](http://budburst.org) to learn how to collect, share and access data.

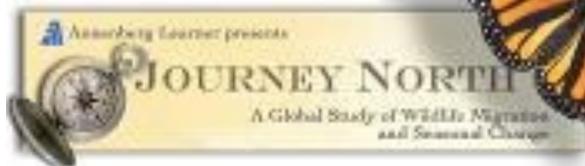


**THE NEW YORK PHENOLOGY PROJECT** is a network of projects focused on the impact of climate and urbanization on plants and pollinators. To locate a local project visit [nyphenologyproject.org](http://nyphenologyproject.org).



**THE CORNELL LAB OF ORNITHOLOGY** has been offering resources to share and explore data since 1966! Visit [birds.cornell.edu](http://birds.cornell.edu) to learn more about multiple projects that connect bird watching and data collection to advocacy.

**JOURNEY NORTH** is a free online program offering educational resources to support understanding about how climate affects wildlife. Visit [learner.org/inorth](http://learner.org/inorth) and join a project!



These are a very few of the Citizen Science programs that call on us to contribute to the collective knowledge about the world. These sites list many more opportunities.

[CitSci.org](http://CitSci.org)  
[zooniverse.org](http://zooniverse.org)  
[citizenscience.org](http://citizenscience.org)

# MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION



New member     Renewal    Date \_\_\_\_\_

MEMBERSHIP CATEGORY

Name \_\_\_\_\_

\$30 Individual     \$75 Organization

Title \_\_\_\_\_

\$250 Individual Life Membership

Organizational Affiliation \_\_\_\_\_

Please make checks payable to "EEAC."

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

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Organization Address \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Home phone \_\_\_\_\_

Business phone \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Mail completed form and check to:  
Attn: Judith Hutton  
The New York Botanical Garden  
Teacher Training  
2900 Southern Boulevard  
Bronx, NY 10458

Members are welcome at EEAC Steering Committee meetings, held every 3rd Wednesday of the month. Check our website for these and other events.

[www.eeac-nyc.org](http://www.eeac-nyc.org)

EEAC is a 501-(c)3 organization.



## ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION ADVISORY COUNCIL

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