

EEAC NEWSLETTER

MISSION STATEMENT

AUTUMN 1990

The purpose of the Environmental Education Advisory Council (EEAC) is to provide a forum for the exchange of ideas and methods among professionals in the environmental field.

The Goals of EEAC are:

- * To disseminate environmental education information in order to advance ecological and environmental ideals,
- * To assist and consult community and other non-pecuniary groups in furthering environmental causes,
- * To assist and coordinate governmental units in setting and implementing sound environmental policies so as to lessen the burdens of government,
- * To act as a clearing house for environmental information,
- * To conduct public discussion groups, forums, panels, lectures or other similar programs,
- * To advise various public educational institutions and others,
- * To bring together and support existing programs for cooperative and complementary efforts,
- * To act as an advocate for the establishment of 'environmental education programs and
- * To be a catalyst for positive change in environmental education and environmental management.

Environmental Education Advisory Council

c/o The Brooklyn Center for Urban Environment The Tennis House Prospect Park Brooklyn, New York 11215

Chairman:
Talbert Spence
Director of Education
New York Academy of
Sciences
2 East 63rd St.
New York, NY 10021
(212) 838-0230

Vice-Chairman Issues: Kenneth Kowald

Vice-Chairman Member Programs: Mike Mann Brooklyn Clearwater /Environmental Quest

Secretary: Millard Clements New York University

Treasurer: Bernard Kirschenbaum 12 Gregory Road Springfield, NJ 07081

Membership Secretary: Saundra R. S. Jones

Honorary and Ex-Offico Members:

Rose Blaustein (H)
Fireboat House
Environmental Center

Kim Estes-Fradis (E)
N Y C D e p t . o f
Environmental Protection

Dr. Eugene Ezersky (H)

Sam Holmes (H)

John C. Muir (H) Brooklyn Center for Urban Environment

Ray Pfortner (H) Peter Arnold, Inc. Helen Ross Russell (H) American Nature Study Society

Nancy Wolf (H) Environmental Action Coalition

Therese Braddick (E) NYC Parks Department

Steering Committee Members:

Class of '90

Elaine Alberts P.S. 1200, Queens

Patricia A. Campbell Bronx Green-up Program New York Botanical Garden

Carol Franken Comm. School Dist. #4

Marcia Kaplan-Mann Environmental Quest /UFT

Barbara Miller P.S. 207 Mahattan

John J. Padalino
Pocono Environmental
Education Center

Class of '91

- Dick Buegler
 Protectors of Pine Oaks
- Jean Gardner Environment 90
- & Gina McCarthy Comm. School Dict. 27
- MarianaMiller-D'Alessandro Inwood Heights Park Alliance
- Frediswinda Pantoja P.S. 251, Brooklyn

Mike Zamm
Council On The
Environmental of NYC

Class of '92

David Cohen P.S. 90 Queens

Ruth Eilenberg Gateway Environmental Study Center

John Kominski N.Y.C. Board of Education

Charles Mazza
Cornell University
Cooperative Extension

Lenore Miller

Barry Weinbrom JHS 51, Brooklyn

This newsletter is a publication of the Environmental Education Advisory Council (EEAC), a city-wide not-for-profit voluntary organization of educators, classroom teachers, administrators and other professionals in active support of environmental education. This newsletter is published quarterly and available upon request.

Please send material (articles, drawings, letters, program information) for inclusion in the EEAC newsletter to:

Therese Braddick
NYC Parks & Rec. Dept.
The Overlook, Forest Park
Kew Gardens, New York
11415
This Newsletter is printed
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CHAIRMENS 'S MESSEAGE:

by Talbert B. Spence, EEAC Chairman

Dear Colleagues:

The Environmental Education Advisory Council is a membership organization established 15 years ago to promote and effectuate environmental education in New York City.

Through its activities, EEAC encourages the analysis and understanding of environmental issues and questions as the basis for effective education, policy-making, and environmental management. The Council also seeks to foster the education of a skilled citizenry conscious of the scope of current and emerging environmental issues facing our community, possessing the motivation and expertise to devise effective solutions to them.

During Sam Holmes masterful and productive tenure EEAC has become a creditable advocate for change in New York City. Under his leadership EEAC has evolved into a comprehensive environmental education voluntary organization working to inspire professionals, teachers, students and the public. The Steering Committee organizational structure has been changed to reflect the complex and diverse issues facing our future work. This important adjustment in the operational format will greatly enhance my ability to uphold the vision and achievements gained by Sam and the Steering Committee. Thank you Sam Holmes for your support, vision, astuteness and humanity.

The following list of new Vice Chairperson positions will enable EEAC to become a more interactive organization with each component conducting specialized activities responsive to our membership and attaining our future goals and objectives.

Vice-Chairperson Issues: Kenneth Kowald

<u>Vice-Chairperson</u> <u>Member Programs</u>: Mike Mann Brooklyn Clearwater/Environment Quest

SAVE THIS DATE!!!!!!

MEMBERS MEETING

NOVEMBER 15, 1990

CENTRAL PARK ZOO

4:30 p.m. TO 6:30 p.m.

Items: * Presentation by Zoo Curator

- * Election of New Officers & Steering Committee Class
- * Discuss Plans for 1991

R.S.V.P. By November 13, 1990, To:

Talbert B. Spence 212-838-0230, ext. 223 The New York Academy of Sciences

If you are a Environmental Education Professional

- * Newsletter containing book reviews, curriculum ideas calendar of events, recent EE news
- * Networking
- * Conferences and or special workshops/seminars
- * Technical meetings and seminars
- * Legislative update

EEAC MEMBERSHIP

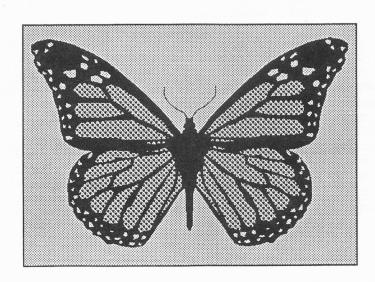
BENEFITS:

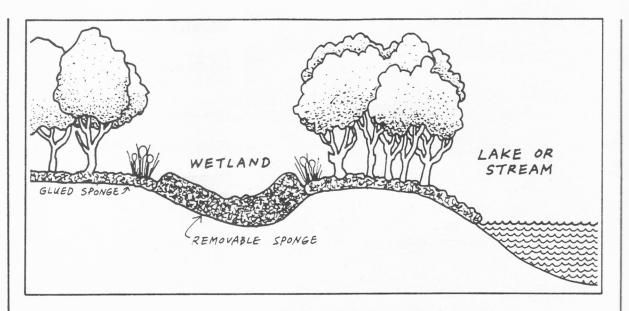
Life Membership \$100 \$150.00 January 1991

Dues \$10.00 ---- Increase to \$15.00 January 1991

IF you are a Teacher/ School Administrators:

- *Technical assistance on -
- a. Curriculum Development
- b. Fieldtrips to local environmental educaiton facilities
- * 3 Members Meetings
- * Newsletter
- * Supporting youth and awards programs





NATURE'S SPONGES

Objective: Students will perceive the importance of wetlands in controlling flooding and purifying and replenishing water supplies.

Materials: Modeling clay, sponges, sticks, Q-tips, glue, scissors, brown paint.

Time: Two to three hours.

Our wetlands are nature's sponges. Unfortunately, their importance in controlling flooding, replenishing and purifying our water, and providing habitat has not been widely recognized.

Ask your students to think about the condition of a grassy field after a rain or when the snow melts in the spring. They will recall the soggy ground beneath their feet. See if they can think of any reasons why wetlands should be left to their natural state. Do they have suggestions on how we should "use" these lands?

To help them discover the important role of wetlands, have them build a mini-environment modeled on the drawing above. Use modeling clay to build the terrain. Then have them cut and glue a thin layer of sponges onto the surface of the land, except on the wetland. They could use sticks and pieces of green sponge to make trees, and Q-tips colored brown for cattails. Have them

make a "removable marsh" out of a thick piece of sponge to be inserted into the wetland depression. Be sure they don't glue this in place.

When they have completed the model, have them place the removable marsh in the depression and pour water onto the model at the point furthest from the lake. Watch how the "ground" absorbs the water and how the lake or stream slowly fills in. Now "drain" the wetland by removing the sponge. What happens when water is poured onto the model? How fast does the lake fill in? Pour on a good volume of water. Does the lake or stream "flood?" Is any water stored in the wetland depression for release later on? Now place the "wetland" back in the depression. Pour muddy water onto the model. What color is the water coming out into the lake? What happens when the wetland is removed? Should wetlands in nature be protected?

Nature's Sponges is taken from LIVING LIGHTLY IN THE CITY, an interdisciplinary environmental and conservation education program. There are volumes for K-2, 3-6 and grades 7-9. For more information write to the Schlitz Audubon Center, 1111 East Brown Deer Rd., Milwaukee, Wis. 53217.

EEAC News

NEWS AND NOTES ABOUT ISSUES CONCERNING THE ENVIRONMENT

The big issue this fall for all those concerned about the environment is the 21st Century Environmental Quality Bond Act, which will be on the ballot on Election Day, Tuesday, November 6. This \$1.975 billion bond act would fund, through the year 2000, land acquisition, muncipal park and historic preservation efforts, as well as an intense muncipal recycling program and a matching grant program for muncipal government to assist in the closure of non-hazardous muncipal land-fills. It deserves your support and that of your colleagues.

Since its been a long time between "Newsletters", here in no special order of priority, are some things that you might wish to know about:

The National Arbor Day Foundation, 100 Arbor Avenue, Nebraska City, Nebraska 68410, has information about "Conservation Trees" and other subjects you will find of interest.

Want to "Keep Tropical Forests Alive"? That's the subject of a booklet from the World Resources Institute, 1709 New York N.W., Washington, D.C. 2006.

The Center for Plant Conservation, 125 Arborway, Jamaica Plain, Massachusetts 02130-3520, has information you will find of value about the problem of plant losses in this country. A book you may wish to buy is 50 Simple Things You Can Do To Save The Earth, published by The Earth Works Group, Earthworks Press, Box 25, 1400 Shattuck Avenue, Berkeley, California 94709. Bulk rates are available.

If you don't know about Global Releaf, you should. Learn about this program of the American Forestry Association by writing to P.O. Box 2000, Washington, D.C. 20013.

The Council on the Environment of New York City has an information sheet on "Mail-Order Catalogues Promoting Environmentally Friendly Products". Write to the Council at Room 228, 51 Chambers Street, New York, New York 10007.

Green Seal describes itself as "the first national, independent, non-profit environmental labeling program for consumer products". To learn more, write to 1733 Connecticut Avenue N.W., Washigton, D.C. 20009.

EEAC News

If you are interested in the future of Flushing Meadows Corona Park in Queens, you may obtain a copy of the June, 1990, "Concept Plan", by writing to the Flushing Meadows Corona Park Corporation, 120-55 Queens Boulevard, Kew Gardens 11424.

The Regional Plan Association has just published, as part of its "The Region's Agenda" series "The Greening of The Apple: Greenway Opportunities in New York City". The Association is on the 16th Floor, 1040 Avenue of the Americas, New York, New York 10018-3707.

The Izaak Walton League has an SOS (Save Our Streams) program. For a "Citizen Monitoring Packet" and more information, write to the League at 1401 Wilson Boulevard, Level B, Arlington, Virginia 22209.

The New York Department of City Planning has a new pamphlet, "Waterfront Walks in New York City". Write to the Department's Waterfront and Open Space Division, Room 6W, 22 Reade Street, New York, New York 10007-1216.

EEAC Steering Committee member, Frediswinda (Wendy) Pantoja and some of her students from P.S. 251 in Brooklyn are featured in a new half-hour video, "The Brooklyn/Queens Greenway: A Sign of the Times", created by the Neighberhood Open Space Coalition and WNYE-Channel 25. For information, call Anne McClellan at the Coalition, (212) 513-7555.

The New York City Department of Transportation has published a brochure on "Highway Beautifiers of New York City:, which may be obtained from the Arterial Highways Division, Room 1037, 40 Worth Street, New York, New York 10013.

"New York City is a Recycling City" is a publication of the New York City Department of Sanitation and may be obtained by writing to the Recycling Program and Planning Division, 8th Floor, 253 Broadway, New York, New York, 10007, or call (212) 240-4842.

As of now, our information is that the Children's Environments Research Group of the Center for Human Environments, Graduate School and Unversity Center of the City University of New York will hold a "Schoolyards Conference" in Manhattan on Thursday, October 11. For complete information, call Sandy Gaster, Conference Coordinator, or Roger Hart, Project Director, at (212) 642-2970.

--Kenneth Kowald

EEAC News



ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION ADVISORY COUNCIL YOUTH CONGRESS

Building on the enthusiastic participation of 71 high school juniors during the EEAC Youth Congress in April, a follow-up meeting was held at the New York Academy of Sciences on June 16. A smaller working group crafted the recommendations made in the five workgroups at the Congress into a preliminary outline of an Agenda for Action. After review by members of the EEAC Steering Committee, we now have a suggested standardized format which our writers are using to consolidate their recommendations in dealing with solid waste, water pollution, water supply air pollution and protection of habitat. It is expected that we will have a complete document by early October. We are planning to distribute the Agenda to schools and elected officials in the communities represented by students at the Congress.

In order to support the interested student leaders who attend the Congress in their action projeccts, EEAC is planning a how-to session at The New York Academy of Sciences on Saturday, October 20. All Congress participants will be invited and will also receive invitations to all EEAC meetings as members of EEAC. Other recommendations for follow-up will be pursued during this school year. Interested EEAC members are urged to contact Ruth Eilenberg at (718) 252-7307.

Council on the Environment of New York City's Environmental Education Program:

The revised Training Student Organizers (TSO) Cirrriculum will be available by October, 1990. The new TSO manual provides teachers, youth leaders, student organizers and community activists with much more information on environmental issues than the old version, and lays out in detailthe steps involved in organizing over 20 environmental action projects. This 239 page work will be available for \$10. Contact CENYC, 51 Chambers Street, Room 228, New York, New York 10007, (212) 566-0990 if interested in being placed on the mailing list of those who will receive notification when the manual is ready for distribution.

The Council's education staff will be involved in an exciting project this fall. We will be preparing a feasibility study for a high school for environmental studies in New York City. We will be communicating with many of the environmentalists and environmental educators in the city about this project. For more information call Mike Zamm at (212) 566-0990.

A recent review done by our staff of the Regents and Regents Competency Exams in the sciences and social studies indicates a fair/satisfactory amount of environmental concepts on the science exams (with room for improvement) but a totally inadequate inclusion in the social studies tests. This significant reflection of EEAC's statewide syllabus infusion effort indicates that we have made strides but much more needs to be done.

Things To Do:

By Sam Holmes, Past Chairperson

CALL FOR ACTION

- * Get information about EEAC and its members's programs into the materials the Board of Education gives to new teachers in the fall.
- * Prepare a folder about job opportunities in environmental fields.
- * Revise previous EEAC publications, and publish resource guides based in the 1987 New York, Naturally conference.
- * Explore the computerization of environmental education information.
- * Create an Environmental Exemplar award for schools and school custodians.
- * Encourage preservation of historic structures, and foster school programs which interpret the historic and built environment.

CALL FOR INFORMATION

EEAC is compiling a list of class trips and materials available through our membership organizations for use by calssroom teachers.

Please include levels recommended for each kind of trip, costs, if any, and a contact phone number. For educational materials, include cost, if any, and bulk rate reductions.

Please respond as soon as possible, so your organization will be included.

Send your information to:
Marcia Kaplan-Mann
Steering Committee Member
1715 Newkirk Ave.
Brooklyn, New York 1122



EEAC NEWS

American Museum of Natural History Saturday, Nov. 10-11 10 am - 4:30 pm Kaufmann Theater

From Bedrock to Forest A Confrence on the Metro. Environment

Call: 212-769-5750 Sidney Horenstein for information

Alley Pond Environme ntal Center 718-229-4000

Aldo Leopold Nature Kids-Ranger Thurs., Sept. 27; Oct. 4,11,28,25, Nov. 1,8,15,29,; Dec. 6 3:30-5 pm Fee: \$55 APEC Members \$75 Non-members Ages: grades 4,5,6 Pre-paid Registration Required

This workshop includes special guest, Karen Williams, member of NY Herbotological Society, who will lead interesting discussions about snakes and frogs. (This workshop geared for

grades 4-6.)

Halloween Happening
Wed., Oct. 31
7-8:30pm
Fee:\$4 APEC Members
\$5 Non-members
Ages: 4 and up
Pre-paid Registration
Required

New Name for PPEC to:
Brooklyn Center For The Urban Environme nt.
The Tennis House, Prospect
Brooklyn, NY 11212

New School Programs

Landscape to Cityscape

This program for grades 4 to 10 consists of three field trips, one in-class session and a program orientation with the class teacher.

Conserving Urban Wildlife Habitat

This program for grades 4 to 10 consists of three field trips, one in-class session and a program orientation for the class teacher.

For more information contact:

Tom Oppecker, Director of School Programs, or Charles Monaco

PEEC:

December 7-9 - Understanding How the Weather Works. A weekend work shop for environmental educators.

PEEC Christmas Count December 23,1990

Christmas Bird The Count is a coast-toannual bird coast census, sponsored by the National Audubon Society. The program will coincide with PEEC's Yule Log celebration and conclude with a festive dinner. Contact PEEC at 717-828-2319.

F.Y.I.

Environmental Education Organizations, Programs and Facilities Which Serve New York City Schools

Environmental Study Centers Alley Pond Environmental Center Alexander White Natural Science Center Clay Pit Pond State Park Preserve Fireboat House **Environmental Center** Gateway Environmental **Study Center** Inwood Heights Parks Alliance Magnolia Tree Earth Center Pelham Bay Center Prospect Park Environmental Center High Rock Conservation Center Wave Hill, Inc.

Botanical Gardens

Brooklyn Botanic Garden New York Botanical Garden New York Horticultural Society Queens Botanical Garden Staten Island Botanical Garden

Zoos

New York Zoological Park Central Park Zoo New York Aquarium Staten Island Zoo

Other Programs and **Facilities**

American Museum of **Natural History** Appalachian Mountain Club Audubon Society - National and NYC Chapter Boy Scouts of America, Greater New York Council Brooklyn Chapter, the Clearwater Bronx Council on **Environmental Quality** Cetacean Society **Council on The Environment** of New York City **Training Student Organizers**

Tot Lots Grow Truck and other greening projects America The Beautiful Fund - Free seeds and bulbs program Environmental Action Coalition Woods and Water **Urban Forestry** Arbor Day (with NYS DEC) **Environmental Quest** Girl Scouts of America **Gateway National Recreatio** Jamaica Bay Wildlife Refuge Ft. Tilden Swamp White Oak Forest Green Guerillas Inform NYC Dept. of Parks and Recreation **Natural Resources Group Urban Park Rangers NYS Department of Parks Operation Explore** NYS Department of **Environmental Conservation Project Learning Tree** Adopt-A Beach Arbor Day (with EAC) New York Academy of Sciences

Woods **Queens Farm Museum**

Scholars

The River Project Sierra Club **University Programs**

Citywide Science Fairs

The Junior Academy

Scientists In The Schools

Operation GreenThumb

Young Environmental

Protectors of Pine Oak

City College School of Education City University, Children's Environments Research Center Columbia University **Nutrition Education Project**

Cornell University Cooperat Extension Urban Gardening 4H Clubs

Agriculture in The Classroo **Nutrition Education Project Hunter College** New York University.

Education Program St. Johns University Queens College Center for Environmental Education,

Environmental Conservation

Caumsett

Teacher Organizations

Elementary Science Teachers Association (ESSA) Science Council of NYC **Educators for Gateway** New York State Marine **Educators Association** New York State Outdoor **Education Association**

Out of Town Environmental Centers Which Serve The City (Partial)

Crystal Run Environmental Center Five Rivers Environmental Center Pocono Environmental **Education Center**

F.Y.I.... continued:

This fall the Learning Alliance is offering numerous enviornmental programs including a conference on Radical Action In The Environmental Movement - November 10-11, 1990; a regional gathering addressing Visions & Actions For A Sustainable Region - November 18, 1990; and an Environmental Law Clinic designed for the layperson. Join leading environmentalists from the Rainforest Action Network; Rainforest Alliance; Greenpeace USA; Idigenous Women's Network; Earth First; International Sea Sheperd Conservation Society; Farm Labor Organizing Committee; National Association of African American Environmentalists; Chico Mendez Committee; and the Rainforest Foundation; as they explore the creucial environmental issues of our time.

For more information: Contact Learning Alliance 212-226-7171



SCIENCE FAIR AWARD WINNERS 1990

The following listings are the students who were selected by EEAC Judging Teams during the 52nd New York Academy of Sciences School Science Fair on March 9, 1990.

BOROUGH FAIRS

Award \$50.00 Savings Bond

Manhattan

DELAYING GLOBAL WARMING

Jasmine Wile & Rebecca Motalvo

East Harlem Tech. P.S. 72

Queens

THE GARBAGE CRISIS

Lily Belfi I.S. 74

Bronx

MOTOR OIL'S EFFECT ON C. ALGAE

David Kauvor

J.H.S. 141 - David A. Stein School

Brooklyn

OZONE LAYER DEPLETION

Adam Schwartz J.H.S. 240

Staten Island

RADON Deborah Coppola

St. Patrick School

CITYWIDE FAIR

Brooklyn

SOLAR CELL EFFICIENCY

Andrea Patten Midwood H.S.

Judges:

Brooklyn

Ruth Eilenburg Richard Goldstein

Bronx

Stephen Hiro Charles Levenber

Manhattan

Millard Clements Sam Holmes Raymond Pfortner

Oueens

Therese Braddick Saundra R.S. Jones

Staten Island Diana Hernandez

Nancy Fisk Lorraine Austin

EEAC MEMBERSHIP QUESTIONNAIRE

Name:		
Address:		
City:	ZIP	
Home Tel.:		
Employer/Organizati		
Address:		
Bus. Tel.:		
Do you officially rep	present the above organiza	tion to EEAC?
YESNC)	
1. EEAC Members	as a resource: an inventory	7.
A. What are	your major interests and s	kills?
B. In what fi	elds are you able to give in	nstruction (Circle items)
Architecture Birds Biology Engineering Gardening Nature Photography Survival	Astronomy Built Environmental Computers Environmental Sci. Environmental Hist. Oceanography Orienteering Urban Planning	Art Botany Camping Forestry Energy Plants Space

Other:

2. EEAC Programs preferred:				
What format would you like to see EEAC utilize in its members programs? (Rank order the following 1-9)				
Visits to other EE facilities Teacher training workshops?				
Weekend conferences? Out of town conferences?				
Day long conferences? Nature walks/guided tours?				
Picnic/Social/Recreational activities? Addresses and speeches by experts?				
Visits to environmental control facilities?				
Other?				
3. Vocation/Avocation: Who are you?				
Do you consider yourself an environmental educator? Yes No If no, what else do you do? If yes, are you: Full Time/Part Time/Volunteer? If yes, what kind of institution?				
Government funded? Privately funded				
Youth organization?				
Public or Parochial: Elementary School Junior High or Intermediate School High School				
College or University				
Do you teach a formal EE course? Title:				
Briefly list content:				
Title of textbook:				

4. Geographic and time considerations: (Circle your preferences)

Man Bklyn Bronx Queens SI NJ LI No. Suburbs

Would you attend meetings that required car access?

Would you attend meetings for which car access was impossible?

Do you prefer to attend meetings and events held on:

Weekdays after school? Weekday evenings? Weekends?

5. Environmental conferences:

Would you attend a conference given by EEAC?

Would you participate as a presenter at an EEAC conference?

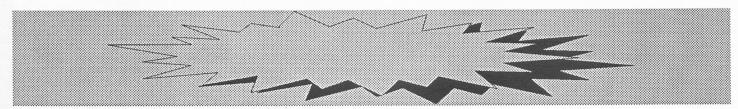
Would you be willing to organize exhibits or an information table?

Would you be willing to work to organize a conference?

Please tear on dotted line and return this survey to: by November 30, 1990

Chairman:

Talbert Spence
Director of Education
New York Academy of Sciences
2 East 63rd St.
New York, NY 10021
(212) 838-0230



RENEW TODAY!!!!

YES NO

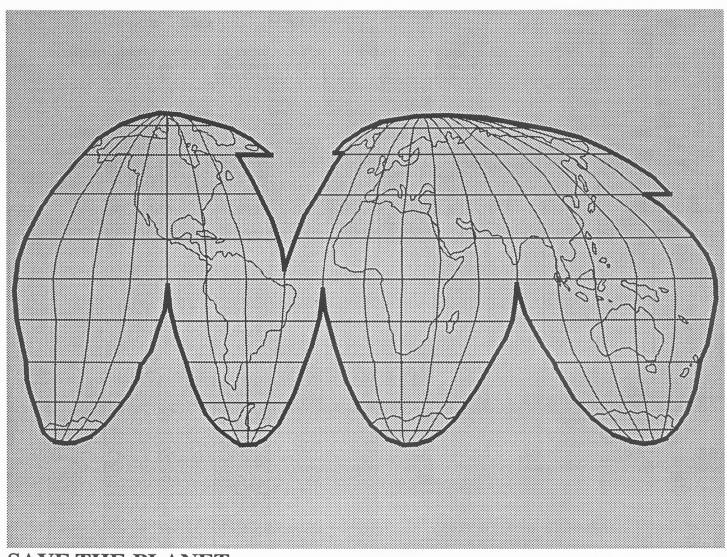
The Environmental Education Advisory Council

A voluntary not-for-profit organization in support of Enviornmental Education in New York

STATE	ZIP	
STATE	ZIP	
WALTELEPHO	NE:	
l December 30, 1990		
ve January 1, 1991_		
EEAC - Mail to:		
n		
	l December 30, 1990 ve January 1, 1991_ o EEAC - Mail to:	l December 30, 1990 ve January 1, 1991_ o EEAC - Mail to:

YOUR MEMBERSHIP DUES ARE TAX DEDUCTABLE

educational organizations, please check yes or no if you want your name included in such future exchanges.



SAVE THE PLANET

ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION ADVISORY COUNCIL

c/o The Brooklyn Center for Urban Environment

The Tennis House Prospect Park Brooklyn, New York 11215 (718) 788-8500