

**PCEE Director Presents Workshop at
Pennsylvania Association of Environmental Educators Conference**

***“Virtual Tools for Educators at PCEE.ORG” Familiarizes Educators with
Source of Useful Resources***

SLIPPERY ROCK, PA – April 3, 2009 – Staff of the Pennsylvania Center for Environmental Education (PCEE) were highly visible at the recent annual conference of the Pennsylvania Association of Environmental Educators in Entriiken. Slippery Rock University graduate students presented projects at the student summit and Kathleen Paul, PCEE Director, offered an animated workshop on current and upcoming resources.

The PCEE workshop, “Virtual Tools for Educators at PCEE.ORG” presented an overview of the educational resources available on the PCEE website, as well as information about how to publicize environmental events and facilities through the site.

“One of the Center’s primary missions is to link anyone engaged in environmental education to the resources they need to teach the Environment & Ecology standards. We don’t think teachers need to ‘reinvent the wheel’ when it comes to development of lesson plans and educational tools. At www.PCEE.org, they can find links to all of the resources they need,” noted Ms. Paul. “Our purpose at the conference was to make educators aware of the free resources they will find at our website, and to invite nature centers and other environmental organizations to publicize their facilities and events through us.”

Ms. Paul also served on a panel of veteran environmental educators that discussed environmental education in the new millennium. The panel met in a town meeting format with conference attendees and addressed where environmental education in Pennsylvania had been and where it was going. Topics that were discussed included ways to leverage the recent interest in “green” and the possible impact of the children's back-to-nature movement.

Student poster sessions presented both current and upcoming online environmental activities found at the PCEE website, including “Critter Quest PA,” the “Question of the Week” and the “Outdoor Classroom Resource Guide” (currently under development). The website and educational programs are available online at www.pcee.org.

About PCEE: The Pennsylvania Center for Environmental Education (PCEE) was created by Executive Order of the Governor in 1997 to “provide an avenue for increased participation by educators, local officials, citizen and non-profit groups, business and industry as partners in the implementation of quality environmental education on a state-wide basis.” Administered by the PA State System of Higher Education, PCEE is housed at Slippery Rock University.

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Contact:
Kathleen Paul, PCEE
(724) 738-9020 ext. 2
<http://www.pcee.org>