2014 ACCOMPLISHMENTS

REAPING NATURE EDUCATIONAL OUTREACH FOUNDATION, INC.
EE PROGRAMS
Our original EE programs edutained students at McGinnis Woods Country Day School, Pinecrest Academy, Free Home Elementary, and Cumming Elementary. Eco-Eagles from Cornerstone Schools (pictured) connected with nature on field trips and through reuse projects. Our red wigglers visited and educated students at Chestatee Elementary, Whitlow Elementary (pictured), and Vickery Creek Middle School.

REUSE & RECYCLING
Throughout the year we strive to get involved with various events and projects to promote reuse and recycling. In 2014 they included our third year at Forsyth County Fire Dept.’s Trunk or Treat event, senior reuse crafts, shoe recycling, and a candy buy/give back program with Malone Orthodontics which benefitted non-profits and Treat the Troops. 295 lbs. collected!

AMERICA RECYCLES DAY CONTEST
This November we received 115 entries from students ages 12 and under in response to our contest theme, “If I were an 800-year-old Douglas Fir” based on the book The Tree by Dana Lyons. Prizes from Reaping Nature, Premier Surplus and the Sawnee Woman’s Club were awarded to 16 winners at seven schools.

Thank you to our friends and partners.

Contact us to explore how you can get involved in our efforts to educate others about the environment.

Reaping Nature EOF is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization. Donations are tax deductible as permitted by law.
**2014 Marked a Decade of Service**

Our passion to educate kids about recycling and the environment started at Daves Creek Elementary in 2004 as parent volunteers. We knew there was a need to provide EE to kids and others outside of this one school . . . so we have.

There is no greater accomplishment in what we do than to inspire, empower, and educate kids to care about their environment.

Denise Carleton, Executive Director

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**BAGS OF BOOKS**

For Read Across America In March, in partnership with the Sawnee Woman’s Club, we delivered 147 reusable bags containing three new and/or gently used books to students in grades K through 5 at Chestatee Elementary, a Forsyth County Title I School. 58% of this school’s students are on the free and reduced lunch program.

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**STUDENT OF THE YEAR**

Reaping Nature was honored to award $100 to Hannah Testa, a 12 year old environmental warrior, with the Student of the Year award at the 20 year anniversary and awards banquet of Keep Forsyth County Beautiful in September.

Pictured: Kevin Smith, KFCB Community Outreach Specialist, Hannah Testa & Reaping Nature’s, Denise Carleton

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**GARDEN TOWERS & COMPOST BINS**

Tyson Foods and Reaping Nature have installed 13 compost bins at Forsyth County Schools since 2012. Tyson remains committed to building four bins per year. Tyson received Business Partner of the Year from Keep Forsyth County Beautiful in 2014 for this project.

Pictured: North Forsyth & Woodstock High Schools

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**BAGS OF BOOKS**

In February 2015 we delivered 528 bags with three books each to students at Chestatee ES. If you would like donate books for grades K to 5, contact us.
ABOUT US

Reaping Nature Educational Outreach Foundation was founded after an administrator in a Cobb County Title I elementary school told us that what we did had the ability to let children know that they can be a part of something bigger than themselves. Originally founded as Reaping Nature Productions, LLC in 2008, our non-profit received its 501(c)3 status in 2009.

We’ve withstood the peaks and valleys of our journey through the years by constantly exploring what it takes to strengthen our mission and goals. Through this exploration we find the resolve to remain steadfast and committed to our cause . . . educating others, especially children, to care for issues impacting our environment, such as resource depletion, recycling, and water and energy conservation.

There is truth that there would be no greatness if there were no little ones who did not believe in achieving great things.

WHAT IS ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION

Environmental Education (EE) is a learning process that increases knowledge and awareness about the environment and develops skills that enable responsible decisions and actions that impact the environment. EE promotes interdisciplinary learning, encourages inquiry and investigation, and develops problem-solving skills. EE is all about “how to think, not what to think.”

Georgia Department of Education

AWARDS

- National Award, Waste Reduction/Recycling, Distinguished Service Citation, Keep America Beautiful, Inc. (2012)
- State Award, 2nd place, Waste Reduction by a Non-Profit, Keep Georgia Beautiful Foundation (2012 & 2010)

MESSAGE FROM THE BOARD

*Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world. Indeed, it is the only thing that ever has.*
- Margaret Mead

For me, 2014 marked 10 years working with our amazing Executive Director, Denise Carleton. She and I met in 2004 at Daves Creek Elementary here in Forsyth County where we each had two children. Our connection came through the recycling program, the Green Team, and on to my interest in what she was doing with Reaping Nature.

Denise’s visions of what she hoped her little company could do were just starting. It was all about educating others about what they could do, young and old, to take care of the environment. She showed me there was more that could be and needed to be done beyond the school walls.

As the years have passed we have hit upon some obstacles. But, more than anything, we have hit upon the curiosity and hunger of minds that wanted to make a difference. They just needed a little guidance on how and where and why. Reaping Nature became the guidance.

We all think about environmentally-friendly choices and actions we should make in our daily lives. Environmental education provides us with the guidance and knowledge needed to make those choices and actions. The end result is our planet and communities are healthier.

It continues to be an honor helping to spread Denise’s visions. We are a very environmentally passionate board of volunteers. Please consider financially supporting us because we have a lot more work to do.

Lisa LaFayette, Secretary

2014 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Denise Carleton, Executive Director
Lisa LaFayette, Secretary
Wendy Kraby, Esq.
Heather Cates
Farida Testa
Mary Nix