

# Cobb County Green School Initiative

## 2014/15 Report



The Cobb County Green School Initiative is a cooperative effort between Cobb County Water System, Keep Cobb Beautiful, and the Cobb County Parks and Recreation Natural Resources Unit. The initiative was designed to recognize Cobb County schools who demonstrate a commitment to environmental education. To qualify as a Green School, a school must have at least 5 teachers receive Green Classroom designations, by completing 5 lesson plans or projects that help students learn about, protect, and beautify their environment.

### **22 schools received Gold status designation, with at least 15 green teachers:**

Bells Ferry Elementary, Belmont Hills Elementary, Big Shanty Intermediate, Blackwell Elementary, Davis Elementary, Due West Elementary, Ford Elementary, Hendricks Elementary, Hillgrove High, Kennesaw Charter Science and Math Academy, Keheley Elementary, Kemp Elementary, King Springs Elementary, Lewis Elementary, Mt. Bethel Elementary, Nickajack Elementary, Pickett's Mill Elementary, Russell Elementary, Smyrna Elementary, Still Elementary, Tritt Elementary, and Vaughan Elementary

### **5 schools received Silver status designation, with at least 10 green teachers:**

Addison Elementary, Clarkdale Elementary, Fair Oaks Elementary, Hightower Trail Middle, Nicholson Elementary

### **4 schools received Green status designation, with at least 5 green teachers:**

Bullard Elementary, Lassiter High, Lovinggood Middle, Murdock Elementary

In total, 31 schools received Green School designation for the 2014/15 school year. These designations represent the work of 596 teachers, with over 3,675 hours of environmental education reaching more than 27,700 students.

# Activities Completed



*Vaughan Elementary 4th graders learn how animals survive during drought with Cobb Water Efficiency staff*

## ***Plants and Animals***

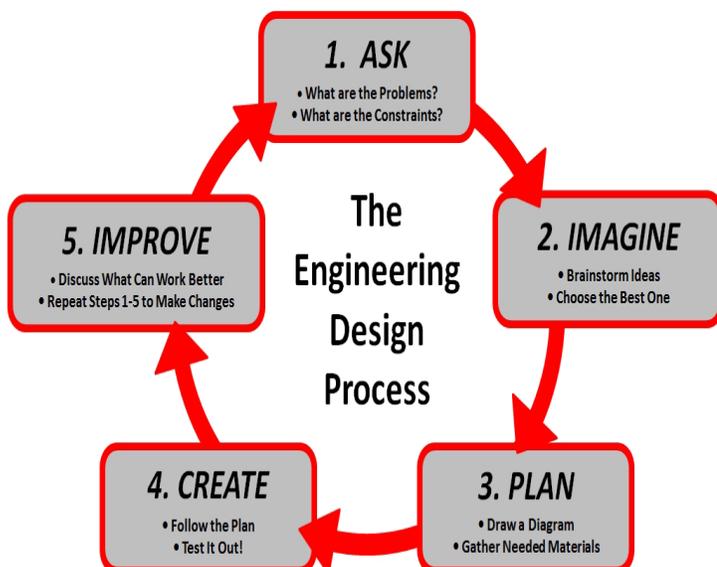
Students used school gardens, outdoor classrooms, and nature trails to harvest vegetables, identify basic needs of plants, and test their five senses. They created and enhanced animal habitats by building birdfeeders and monarch butterfly waystations, and they tracked changes throughout the year by doing seasonal scavenger hunts.

## ***Recycling and Conservation***

Students collected data on home water use to identify ways to conserve, and visited a wastewater treatment plant to learn about the manmade water cycle. Some students collected gently worn clothing for a school second-hand store and donated shoes. Others melted down old and broken crayons to create new ones and produced new sheets of paper from old paper scraps.



*P.A.R.K.S. staff teach Ford ES students about protecting our water with the Pollution Solutions lesson*



## ***STEM Projects***

Students used the engineering design process to research environmental problems, brainstorm solutions, and build new technology to help solve those problems. Building projects included windmills, solar-powered machines, water filters, oil spill cleanup devices, and erosion control technology.

# Activities Completed

## *Writing, Education, and Outreach*

Students created posters and video PSAs to encourage schoolmates to recycle and conserve resources. They chose rhyming Earth Day slogans, created recycling superheroes, and organized campus cleanups. Students also participated in the Adopt-a-Mile litter cleanup program, wrote letters to elected officials, and created field guides for the various regions of Georgia.



*Mt. Bethel ES third graders play Water Jeopardy during a visit to the Noonday Water Reclamation Facility*



*Allatoona Ally coloring book contest winners celebrate at their autograph signing party at South Cobb Library*

## *Art, Music, and Drama*

Students learned about watershed stewardship with the *Brooke and Branch* puppet show and drew their favorite water conservation tips for the *Adventures with Allatoona Ally* coloring book contest. They also used recycled materials to create birdhouses, trash monsters, personal chalk boards, and collages inspired by the works of Henri Matisse.

The Green School partners would like to congratulate Cobb County School District on its recognition as a U.S. Department of Education Green Ribbon School District. CCSD was one of 14 districts nationwide to receive the honor in 2015. We have all seen first hand the commitment of our teachers and administrators to creating healthy and sustainable schools where our students can learn to be exceptional stewards of our communities and our environment.

We would also like to recognize Big Shanty Intermediate School for its individual honor as a 2015 USDOE Green Ribbon School.

Thank you so much for all that you do for your students, your community, and your world! Keep up the good work.

# Cobb County Green School Initiative

## *Green Innovation Award*



Beautify

Conserve

Protect

The Green Innovation Award was created to recognize a school that has gone above and beyond the basic requirements of the Green School Initiative to create an innovative environmental program for its students or community. We are proud to present this year's Green Innovation Award to:

## *Hillgrove High*

The Hillgrove High School Recycling Program is not just about recycling; it is also an opportunity for students to learn valuable life skills. Hillgrove's recycling is coordinated through the school's Transition Academy, a program for students with disabilities who have completed the requirements for their high school diploma but would like to become independent and improve vocational skills.

Through their weekly responsibilities with the recycling program, Transition Academy students improve their team work, organizational skills, social skills, and time management. The work of these students has also helped increase the amount of material recycled at Hillgrove, and the program has previously won an "Outstanding Recycling Participation Award" from the Cobb County School District.

According to Hillgrove High teacher Connie Nelson, "The students and faculty involved in this program work diligently to not only ensure the success of the participants as independent adults, but to raise awareness of vital concerns, including the depletion and destruction of our environment, amongst the entire Hillgrove community. Further, individual Transition Academy students are growing through this experience. For example, students are learning valuable social skills by interacting with teachers and other students during the recyclable collection process."

The Green School partners commend Hillgrove High School and the Transition Academy for their commitment to recycling and to raising environmental awareness in their school and in their community, and we are proud to award them this year's Green Innovation Award.

# 2014/15 Green Teachers

(alphabetical by school)

## ***Addison ES (SILVER)***

Allison Gillenwater  
Beverly Casto  
Debbie Burdett  
Elizabeth Keith  
Jayne Hebert  
Jennifer Gerber  
Jim Williams  
Julie Knobbe\*  
Juliet Havird  
Kimberly Kistler  
Natalie Gasque  
Victoria Matacotta  
Wanza Walston

## ***Bells Ferry ES (GOLD)***

Angela Titus  
Jean Martin  
Kelli Nastasi  
Kim Sigsbee\*  
Kimberly McCreary  
Lauren Stuckey  
Leslie Gaines  
Martha Yosko  
Peter Boomhower  
Rebecca Baldwin  
Remonna Sears  
Robin Pullen  
Susannah Dickinson  
Susie Gatlin  
Tahereh Seyedbagheri  
Theresa Bass  
William Tyler

## ***Belmont Hills ES (GOLD)***

Ada Freeborn  
Alida Miller  
Amanda Chafin  
Danielle Engle  
Jacqueline Patterson  
Katherine Craig  
Kristin Church  
LaShaun Lee  
Madison Sherman  
Melissa Weatherford\*  
Nerlie Alexandre

## ***Belmont Hills (continued)***

Patrice Hill  
Paula Jo Powell  
Shannon Stratton  
Taryn Tarter

## ***Big Shanty ES (GOLD)***

Alison Palen  
Amy Hester  
Ashley Dinkel  
Barbara Powell-Schager  
Becky Gonzales  
Becky Renfer  
Beth Jones  
Erika Brown  
Evelyn James  
Felicia Berenger  
Gay Marlene Crane  
Glenda Hutchinson  
Jamee Douglas  
Jane Cantrell  
Jill Parker  
Karen Taylor\*  
Keisha Gordon  
Lauren Easter  
Leslie Smith  
Lisa Ashmeade  
Lisa Green  
Lori Borg  
Mandy Janney  
Marlo Reed  
Melissa Laudick  
Monica Burke  
Tracey Sender

## ***Blackwell ES (GOLD)***

David Mitchell  
Debra O'Dell  
Diane Crozier  
Diane Rosenberg  
Gracy Griffith  
Janine Lock  
Judy Hrabak  
Kathryn Collins  
Katie Nelson  
Laurie Bradford  
Laurie Wheeler

## ***Blackwell (continued)***

Lisa King  
Mary Pope  
Melissa McKeehan  
Patti Griffith  
Tiffany Crofford  
Tricia Granger

## ***Bullard ES (GREEN)***

Bobbie Jo Valenzuela  
Elizabeth Kauffmann  
Ellen Adams  
Kendra Berry  
Kim Oden

## ***Clarkdale ES (SILVER)***

Barbara Jill Cook  
Cristin Upchurch  
Denise Keasler  
Jessica Elwood  
Jennifer Borders  
Jenny Carroll  
Kristi Curtright  
Laura Werren  
Lisa Whitfield  
Ryisha Smith  
Sheila Lade

## ***Davis ES (GOLD)***

Bonnie Popienko  
Clark Branch  
Jennifer Bartlett  
Jillian Duncan  
Joan Muzyka  
Karoline Horton  
Kathy Belongia  
Kim Schroeder  
Kristen Stegall  
Lara Quigg  
Lisa Gay  
Megan Brent  
Megan Smith  
Myra Rosenfeld  
Nancy Parsons  
Patty Abel  
Sarah Bagwell

# 2014/15 Green Teachers

(alphabetical by school)

## ***Due West ES (GOLD)***

Ann Blocksidge  
Erin Milton  
Francine Lawrence  
Holly Holston  
Jeanette Waters  
Jeanne Thome  
Joanie Lewis  
Joanne Doss  
Judy Davis  
Karyn Krzemien  
Kellie Slaughter  
Kelly Hamilton  
Kirsten Perla  
Kristen Waddell  
Kristin Poole  
Laura Howerton  
Linda Petrea  
Mandy Pearce  
Martha Haley  
Mary Davidson  
Mary Roberts  
Mary Schwartz  
Maureen Friese  
Megan Paternostro  
Melinda Divelbiss  
Paige Ullmer  
Susan Braddy  
Tom Martin

## ***Fair Oaks ES (SILVER)***

Carrie Milford  
Charlene Kratz  
Dana Wood  
Danielle Beaver  
Elizabeth Dunlap  
Kim Carren  
Kindra Brock  
Kristin Poncheri  
Lori Rogers  
Maura Snow  
Michelle Carpenter  
Renee Gillen  
Susan McCurry

## ***Ford ES (GOLD)***

Amy Soto  
Angela Morrison  
Ashley Miller  
Barbara Birkbeck  
Barbara Warren  
Bramlett Micklow  
Catherine Padgett  
Cherie Nix  
Chrissy Garrison  
Claire Cyr  
Colleen Cauffiel  
Courtney Kelly  
Craig Hurley  
Cynthia Edwards  
Drena Varghese  
Fran McMath  
Heather Fritts  
Heather Henslee  
Janice Goodall  
Jennifer Leclair  
Jennifer Wiltshire  
Julie Barnett  
Kay Appelgate  
Kellee Strickland  
Kimberly Marcus  
Laura Hargrove  
Laura Holmes  
Lauri Cook  
Libby Mitchell  
Linda Campisi  
Linda Huebener  
Linda McMath  
Madelyn Chris Watts  
Maria Hunt  
Mary Garrett  
Nicole Harrison  
Rebecca Goodman  
Shawna Plunkert  
Shay Kappel  
Shirley Trammell  
Stephani Aldridge-Duff  
Stephanie Beckett  
Tara Jones  
Tina Smith  
Todd Plunkert  
Vicki Turner

## ***Hendricks ES (GOLD)***

Amanda Stacy  
Annmarie Martin  
Ashley Mastrangelo  
Audrey Jinks  
Beth Knight  
Christine Stafford  
Cynthia Coker  
Erin Steen  
Erin Tyre  
Greg Mosley  
Haley Holman  
Jena Parish  
Jessica Sellers  
Joe Tackett  
Jonna McGaughy  
Julia Bishop  
Kathy Blanchard Wicker  
Kathy Mathis  
Kelly Sahlbom  
Kelsey Born  
Kristen Peace  
Kristi Perry  
Kristin Garber  
Leila Barber  
Lisa Koch  
Margaret Ahern  
Margaret Cannington  
Mariko Whiteside  
Mega Bauser  
Monica Reed  
Nicole Bass  
Nicole Henderson  
Patrick Key  
Rachaelanne Hadden  
Rebecca Lane  
Renee Heiberger  
Shannon Williams  
Sheila Elkins  
Sonya Henry  
Tessa Williams-Diederich  
Vicki Owens

# 2014/15 Green Teachers

(alphabetical by school)

## ***Hightower Trail MS (SILVER)***

Adam Weiss  
Alicia LaFontaine  
Caroline Sangster  
Debbie Jennings  
Jennifer Nix  
Joel Blacher  
Kara Holshouser  
Katie O’Ryan  
Kelly Seaman  
Penny Chasko

## ***Hillgrove HS (GOLD)***

Cecily Abernathy  
Chief Allen Harris  
Cindy Ford  
Connie Nelson  
Elmore Jackson  
Guy Catton  
Jeanine Allen  
Jennie Collier-Johnston  
Karen Jeffrey  
Kelly Colvin  
Lea Anne Hammond  
Leigh Steed  
Michele Arrowood  
Nikki Bisesi  
Rachel Kucera

## ***Kennesaw Charter SMA (GOLD)***

Angie Lutzow  
Berlinda Bell  
Brenda Haklik  
Carley Marshall  
Caroline Hardeman  
Chad Monnier  
Colleen Allen  
Hanna Davis  
Jason Page  
Jenna Harmsen  
Jennifer Ellis  
Jessica Borgerding  
Judy Cauthen  
Julie Talone  
Kay Sims  
Kelly Meek

## ***Kennesaw Charter SMA (cont)***

Kelsea Townsend  
Kelsey Digby  
Kym Rich  
Laura Franz  
Lea Abraham  
Lisa Moore  
Lisa Schwenk  
Lucy Agresta  
Mandy Estes  
Margie McMasters  
Melissa Gilbert  
Michael Donnelly  
Rebekah Williams  
Sarah Sanderfer  
Sarah Walls  
Shannon Hood  
Stephanie Peterson  
Taylor Swords  
Tessa Bailey  
Tiffany Harris  
Tyler Miller

## ***Keheley ES (GOLD)***

Allison Johnson  
Annette Simpson  
Brandy Mitchell  
Caroline Gorman  
Cheryl Dillon  
Cindy Gropp  
Denise Black  
Frances Strickland  
Harriet Denny  
Hayley Stuart  
Joanna Johnson  
Jill Thurman  
Karen Stone  
Kathy Harris  
Katie Biello  
Kelley Williams  
Kelly Campbell  
Laura Lindsey  
Lynn Boye  
Othniel Campbell  
Pamela Handley  
Stacey Fisher

## ***Kemp ES (GOLD)***

Carla Brown  
Celeste Jouanet  
Dana Johnson  
Dyanna Motes  
Gwen Youngs  
Heather Beames  
Jennifer Pritchett  
Jessica Whire  
Josee Levitt  
Karen Phillips  
Karissa Otte  
Katrina Shirley  
Kim Wood  
Kori Crocker  
Laura Ayres  
Leigh Anne Gagnon  
Mandi DePriest  
Mary Jo Groeneveld  
Mary Watters  
Maury Howell  
Melissa McRoberts  
Rachel Bardwell  
Sandy Ramirez  
Shane Brazile  
Stephanie Gaiters  
Tanya Fields  
Veronica Gardner

## ***King Springs ES (GOLD)***

Allison Powell  
Elisabeth Tovi  
Emily Atkins  
Jaclyn Vieras  
Jessica Barber  
Joannah Shoushtarian  
Karla Rozier  
Katie Messinger  
Kristen Kraemer  
Lauren Stanfield  
Mary Beth Trulove  
Megan Tovi  
Melissa Gottschalk  
Merry Mullins  
Nichole Begerow  
Pamela Wilfred

# 2014/15 Green Teachers

(alphabetical by school)

## ***King Springs ES (continued)***

Rene Perry  
Roslyn Anderson  
Sara Manning  
Toshie Condon

## ***Lassiter HS (GREEN)***

Arlene Veloce  
Courteney Hinkson  
Ginny Berkemeier  
Jennifer Dupree  
Jennifer Mercure  
Michael Raburn

## ***Lewis ES (GOLD)***

Allison Monroe  
Amanda Lovett  
Anne Barnhill  
Carol Rothrauff  
Debbie Collins  
Debra Brock  
Diane Searles  
Donna Meyers  
Donna Sill  
Karen Osterhoudt  
Kari Reeve  
Kathryn Linpinsel  
Laura Layde  
Laurie Edwards  
Lisa Fries  
Marylea Remkus  
McKenzie Smith Gay  
Pam Huber  
Rebecca Roberts  
Ryann Henderson  
Stephanie Elliott  
Tiffany Bagwell

## ***Lovinggood MS (GREEN)***

Janice Scoville  
Jeremy Studdard  
Kathryn Kilkenny  
Lisa Russell  
Rachel Wise  
Samantha Bayer

## ***Mt. Bethel ES (GOLD)***

Beth Norris  
Catherine Chaviano  
Cindi Cabral  
Cristal McClain  
Gail Lindsay  
Heather Curry  
Heather Mullins  
Jessica O'Neill  
Jody Greenwald  
Kiersten Hoeflinger  
Krissy Gray  
Laura Ferguson  
Lisa Bredickas  
Mary Alice George  
Maureen Mullins  
Melina Henry  
Michelle Boutwell  
Peggy Haag  
Roxanne Owens  
Sam Dietrich  
Stacye Fogel

## ***Murdock ES (GREEN)***

Brittney Meehan  
Dawn Westerfield  
Jennie Dang  
Jennifer Kelly  
Jennifer Libardi

## ***Nicholson ES (SILVER)***

Amanda Savage  
Jennifer Carusone  
Karen Hersey  
Karen Honeycutt  
Katharine Schulz Ditchen  
Laurie Purselle  
Lisa Gagnon  
Michele Myers  
Michelle Burke  
Pam Otto  
Ruth Martin  
Shearon Birdsong  
Tara Haney

## ***Nickajack ES (GOLD)***

Alicia Butler  
Amanda Newman  
Amanda Wood  
Amy Karp  
Anna Freese  
April Cochran  
Dana Zhun  
Deryl Heflin  
Diane Kordel  
Dina Espenshied  
Heather Hunt  
Karen Harrison  
Katie Morris  
Maria McDonald  
Molly Slayton  
Nicole Bonadonna  
Rebecca Johnston  
Renita Stamper  
Sarah Lasiter  
Theresa Copeland  
Virginia Medford

## ***Park Street ES***

Ana Allen  
Audrey Dominguez

## ***Pickett's Mill ES (GOLD)***

Allison Gurski  
Amy Pace  
Angela Hicks  
Carolyn Schumacher  
Cassie Llewallyn  
Elizabeth Miles  
Jennifer Rooke  
Jessica Miller  
Julie Fletcher  
Kimberly Campbell  
Laura Purcell  
Lori Sprout  
Lynn Hahn  
Mariann Dolnick  
Myrna Alley  
Pam Thompson  
Pamela Mitchell  
Suzanne Hilliard

# 2014/15 Green Teachers

(alphabetical by school)

## ***Pickett's Mill (continued)***

Tricia Orton  
Virginia Aiken

## ***Rocky Mount ES***

Kristy White

## ***Russell ES (GOLD)***

Amanda Scott  
Amber Hicks  
Ashley Winsett  
Beth Farris  
Bridget Purdy  
Carly Pirani  
Chris Laster  
Crystal Ware  
Deborah Brown-Bell  
Elizabeth Zych  
John Butler  
Kelly Bodner  
Kimberly Comai  
Laura Reidinger  
Lisa Rueter  
Megan Fisher  
Rita Redmon  
Tracey Steiner

## ***Smyrna ES (GOLD)***

Abby Sandlin  
Amber Henning  
Amy Foster  
Amy Morris  
Andrea Cooley  
Brad Demel  
Catherine Simonson  
Claire Conner  
Debra Clark  
Denise Bierie  
Elayne Ongtingco  
Gabriele Bunz-Connor  
Kim Olson  
Kim Waid

## ***Smyrna (continued)***

Kimberly Waits  
Nia Fields  
Ramona Long  
Susan Bell  
Tammie Begora

## ***Still ES (GOLD)***

Amanda Caden  
Cindy Volckmann  
Claudia Gossett  
David Brown  
Debbie Novac  
Donna Brunson  
Julie Wacker  
Lashelle Joiner  
Lisa Darden  
Lynn Duhn  
Marisa Hallberg  
Miatta Smith  
Michele McCulloch  
Stacey Strudthoff  
Terri Talley  
Tyler Bailey  
Wanda Rademacher

## ***Tritt ES (GOLD)***

Alexa Dean  
Allison Walker  
Amy Benson  
Amy Salo  
Angela Wilson  
Ann Bryan Womble  
Anne Wender  
Barbara Kappel  
Carolynn Stoddard  
Catherine Tommasello  
Cindy Gentry  
David Eichler  
Ilene Smith  
Jamie Lupiani

## ***Tritt (continued)***

Jennifer Herman  
Kelle Laushey  
Kim Lamphere  
Kimberly Bower  
Melody Swierski  
Sarah Gardner  
Tamera Neal  
Theresa Grohovsky  
Tiffany DeMeester  
Tonya Pirlot

## ***Vaughan ES (GOLD)***

Carianne Good  
Carol Case  
Christy Garvin  
Cory Babcock  
Deb ReDavid  
Jennifer Maxwell  
Jenny Jones  
Kate Murray  
Kelli Connors  
Kirk York  
Kriste Millington  
Kristine Porter  
Mark Campoli  
Megan Koch  
Nicola Boone  
Pat Davis  
Sherreen Bahr  
Stacy Pitts  
Tamara Estes  
Teresa Pitzel

\* School coordinator

For more information about the Cobb County Green School Initiative, visit our website:

<http://water.cobbcountyga.gov/Files/GreenSchool.html>