



TUCSON 2022

51<sup>ST</sup> Annual  
Conference

OCT. 12-15

19<sup>TH</sup> Annual  
Research  
Symposium

OCT. 11-12



## CALL FOR PRESENTATIONS

**SUBMISSIONS DEADLINE: April 29, 2022**

### 51ST ANNUAL NAAEE CONFERENCE

—EDUCATING FOR CHANGE—

**OCTOBER 12-15, 2022**

**With both in-person and virtual options**

Our 2022 conference will focus on the powerful role education can play in creating healthier communities and tackling today's complex environmental and social issues. We'll dig into vital topics in our field such as climate change education and climate justice, the benefits of connecting to nature, building a green workforce, protecting biodiversity, and centering equity in our work. We'll explore creative new approaches that have emerged from the pandemic and delve into ways in which current research can increase our effectiveness as we work to transform communities so they are more sustainable and just.

NAAEE seeks compelling proposals that highlight promising and proven practices, push the leading edge of the profession, advance equity and inclusion, and motivate the pursuit of excellence.

Proposals can be submitted for the in-person conference in Tucson or the online virtual conference; submitters must select a delivery option when they submit their proposals.

This is the Call for Presentations for the general NAAEE Conference.

[Click here](#) for the Call for Presentations for the NAAEE Research Symposium, October 11 & 12, 2022.

## Conference Strands & Keywords

We invite presentation proposals in the six thematic strands that characterize this year's conference. Each strand explores a different aspect of the environmental education profession; the focus points indicate this year's priority topics. Use these to guide your submissions and choose the **one** strand that most closely aligns with your proposal. Submitting identical or nearly identical proposals under more than one strand will not increase your chances of being selected and is strongly discouraged.

### **1) Advancing Civic Engagement and Sustainable Communities**

*Creating sustainable, equitable, and resilient communities through partnership building, civic engagement, personal decision making, systems thinking, connecting community and environment, supporting vulnerable communities, and understanding historical impacts on communities of color*

Sessions appropriate to this strand address such topics as:

- Education and civic engagement to build more resilient communities and address climate change, with a focus on disadvantaged and disproportionately burdened communities
- Grassroots partnerships for community improvement; characteristics of successful community action projects
- Achieving environmental integrity, social equity, environmental justice, and economic prosperity through education and authentic engagement of all communities
- Incorporating culturally rooted practices into our work and understanding how people from different backgrounds relate to, engage with, and care about the environment in urban, suburban, and rural communities
- Strategies, tools, and training for addressing controversial issues and finding common ground
- The role of environmental education in achieving the UN Sustainable Development Goals

### **2) Conservation and Environmental Education**

*Achieving conservation goals through education, communication, social marketing, and ecotourism strategies, including public participation in scientific research and place-based community action*

Sessions appropriate to this strand address such topics as:

- Integrating education strategies into the broader practice of conservation
- Increasing justice, equity, diversity, and inclusion in the conservation movement

- Current research and case studies on behavior change as it relates to conservation education
- Successful collaborations between conservation educators, scientists, resource managers, and practitioners in all formal and nonformal education settings, from rural to suburban to urban, as well as wild spaces, public lands, and beyond
- Successful tools, approaches, and educator preparation for bringing community-based science to classrooms and community improvement projects
- Education strategies for addressing specific issues such as climate change, habitat loss, energy, water, ocean conservation, and food systems

### **3) Green Schools, Universities, and Vocational Institutions**

*Using environmental education to transform education, enhance student achievement, prepare students for green careers, conserve resources, support national and international education trends, link schools and communities, and build support for environmental education in formal education*

Sessions appropriate to this strand address such topics as:

- Green Schools as a pathway to service learning, student leadership, civic engagement, outdoor learning, and other effective education practices
- Exemplary initiatives for greening the campus and the curriculum, including school learning gardens and landscapes, facilities management practices, district and administrative commitments, and student involvement
- School-community partnerships that support and promote project-based learning and civic engagement
- Integrating EE into preservice teacher preparation and in-service professional development
- Introducing green career options and creating career pathways for high school and college students, especially efforts that help create a more diverse and inclusive workforce in the EE field
- Preparing a workforce with vocational skills for green careers

### **4) Connecting with Nature**

*Cultivating partnerships and providing accessible outdoor education experiences that connect people of all ages, backgrounds, and abilities to nature*

Sessions appropriate to this strand address such topics as:

- Early childhood environmental education and nature preschools
- Developing outdoor programs that are inclusive, relevant, and provide equitable access
- The restorative power of nature during the pandemic and other challenging times

- Creating and using parks and other green learning spaces in urban, suburban, and rural areas
- Outdoor programs that promote physical or spiritual health and wellness and that build a sense of place and cultural relevancy in urban, suburban, and rural communities
- Using the arts to explore people's connections to nature

## **5) Linking Research and Practice to Increase Impact**

*Using research to inform how we design, develop, refine, and promote environmental education programs for maximum effectiveness, and using practice to inform research*

Sessions appropriate to this strand address such topics as:

- Cutting-edge research that is important and relevant to all environmental educators
- Connecting research and practice; applying what we know to what we do
- Strategies for evaluating and improving environmental education programs, including culturally responsive evaluation
- Developing shared outcomes that allow us to better measure our collective impact and using research results to influence decision makers and demonstrate the value of EE
- Research and case studies about the benefits and challenges of learning and teaching in outdoor settings and in a culturally relevant context
- Incorporating effective virtual learning and engagement practices into environmental education

## **6) Building Leadership for Environmental Literacy**

*Strategies for building leadership and infrastructure to advance EE at the state, provincial, national, and global levels, and for motivating the public to take informed actions to protect the environment and address social and economic disparities*

Sessions appropriate to this strand provide training in such areas as:

- Creating a more just, diverse, inclusive, equitable, and accessible field
- Strengthening organizations that deliver and coordinate EE, especially on the local, state, and regional levels
- Cultivating and supporting leadership in EE
- Building our capacity to deliver effective, relevant environmental education with and for our diverse audiences
- Leading efforts to link environmental education and civic engagement
- Setting, achieving, and maintaining professional standards of excellence

## Keywords:

Program listings on NAAEE's mobile app are searchable by keywords. You can tag your proposal with up to three keywords selected from the word bank on the online proposal submission form.

## Session Formats and Delivery Options

Please read the following descriptions carefully, and select the most appropriate format and delivery option for your proposal.

### Delivery Options

Sessions may be presented in-person or virtually, although some session formats are restricted to one delivery option (see chart below). Please make sure you understand these options before selecting your preferred method of delivery. You will need to choose between the in-person or virtual options for each submission; the same proposal cannot be submitted twice.

#### In-Person Sessions:

- Scheduled and presented once during the three-day conference (October 13–15) in Tucson
- Must have at least one registered in-person presenter but may include prerecorded segments to help accommodate international presenters in different time zones and those unable to attend in person
- Will not be recorded for on-demand viewing after the conference and are available only to those joining us in Tucson

#### Virtual Sessions:

- Must be prerecorded and submitted as mp4 files with accompanying PDFs **by September 16** to allow time for processing
- Available throughout and after the conference for asynchronous, on-demand viewing (no scheduled presentation time)
- Available to both virtual and in-person attendees
- Presenters do not need to be in attendance but must be registered for the virtual conference
- NAAEE will invite selected virtual proposals to be presented live (via Zoom) during regular conference hours (8:30 AM–5:00 PM Mountain Standard Time); submitters may indicate their interest in this option during the submission process

Session Format	Available Delivery Options	
	In-Person Sessions <i>Scheduled for delivery at the conference in Tucson</i>	Virtual Sessions <i>Prerecorded and submitted by September 16 as mp4 files</i>
Bright Spot		✓
Hands-On Presentation	✓	
Poster Presentation	✓	
Roundtable Discussions	✓	
Symposium	✓ (90 minutes)	✓ (60 minutes)
Traditional Presentation	✓ (40 minutes)	✓ (30 minutes)
Workshop	✓	✓

## Session Formats

### Bright Spots

**(Virtual, 10 minutes)** Bright spots are **succinct talks** that celebrate specific triumphs and showcase things that work. These prerecorded sessions highlight successful and innovative programs, community partnerships, conservation achievements, expanded audiences, research and evaluation findings, civic engagement, and more. Bright spots may include narrated PowerPoint presentations or still images (such as posters) accompanied by a recorded introduction. Presentations are limited to a maximum of 10 minutes. All bright spots will be offered as prerecorded on-demand sessions.

### Hands-On Presentations

**(In-person, 90 minutes)** Hands-on presentations are **designed to actively engage participants** in teaching activities, interactive discussions, and project development. Hands-on sessions will be scheduled during the in-person conference in Tucson. A/V equipment is provided.

### Poster Presentations

**(In-person)** Posters are **two-dimensional printed presentations** of any size up to 48 x 48 inches. Posters summarize programs, resources, research studies, or other work through text, images, and data. They are most often created using Adobe InDesign, Adobe Illustrator, Microsoft Publisher, Microsoft PowerPoint, Canva, and similar applications. Posters are fixed to portable bulletin boards for in-person attendees to review at leisure throughout the conference. There will be a one-hour general poster session on Thursday during which all presenters stand near and share their posters with conference participants. No A/V equipment or electricity is provided, but presenters may use their own laptops or tablets.

## Roundtable Discussions

**(In-person, 40 minutes)** Roundtable discussions **emphasize spirited discussion** about a central question between the presenter(s) and session attendees. Presenters briefly introduce the baseline idea or question they wish to explore and then open the discussion for input and exchange of ideas. Examples and interactive materials are welcome, but this format does not lend itself to formal presentations, and PowerPoints are strongly discouraged except to introduce the topic. Roundtable discussions are scheduled throughout the conference, with about six simultaneous discussions in the same large room. No A/V equipment or electricity is provided, but presenters may use their own laptops or tablets.

## Symposia

**(In-person, 90 minutes or virtual, 60 minutes)** Symposia are **panel discussions** presenting different perspectives on a topic or question related to one of the focus points for each strand. Proposals must include a moderator and a minimum of three panelists representing different organizations, ideas, or experiences. To enhance the richness of discussion, criteria for selecting symposia include the diversity of presenters and viewpoints. Symposia may be offered as in-person or prerecorded virtual sessions; note that the session length varies with the delivery option. A/V equipment is provided for in-person sessions.

## Traditional Presentations

**(In-person, 40 minutes or virtual, 30 minutes)** Traditional presentations focus on a single topic or program, typically including a **talk or PowerPoint (or other media) presentation** followed by questions and answers or a short discussion. Traditional presentations may be offered as in-person or prerecorded virtual sessions; note that the session length varies with the delivery option. A/V equipment is provided for in-person sessions.

## Workshops

**(In-person or virtual, 3½ hours)** Pre-conference workshops are **in-depth sessions** that actively develop specific professional competencies and have widespread potential for implementation. Workshops are held before the start of the conference and may be offered as in-person (October 12) or virtual sessions (October 10–11). Virtual workshops will be held live via Zoom and do not need to be prerecorded and submitted in advance. They will not be recorded for on-demand viewing. Note that workshop proposals are highly competitive and we have space to select only a small number for the conference program.

## Review Criteria

The strongest proposals carefully address the **criteria listed** below and **provide enough detail** for reviewers to fully understand what the session will entail.

### **Proposals will be assessed and selected by how well they:**

- Describe how the session will effectively engage the audience in innovative thinking about new or proven ideas and approaches
- Raise important questions or deliver positive, solution-oriented outcomes supported by research and/or program evaluation
- Describe what will occur in the session
- Explain how the session will inform environmental educators about proven practices, push the leading edge of the profession, or motivate the pursuit of excellence
- Explain why the session is appropriate for the selected format and delivery option (in-person or virtual) and how it will actively engage the audience
- Demonstrate how the session fits the strand and one or more of the priority topics

We also place importance on **advancing justice, equity, diversity, inclusion, and accessibility in EE** and hope that many proposals will reflect these concerns. These sessions may explore ways to strengthen our field through strategies and programs that help diversify our audiences as well as our workforce, build cultural competence, support environmental justice, focus on vulnerable communities, engage with new audiences, forge new and lasting partnerships, honor traditional knowledge, and increase our reach and relevance throughout society.

To help us identify these sessions and note them with a special icon in the program, reviewers will also assess how well proposals address the following program criteria.

- Incorporate culturally rooted practices and an understanding of how people from different backgrounds relate to, engage with, and care about the environment in urban, suburban, and rural communities
- Affirm differences in skills, abilities, and perspectives as resources and opportunities to build stronger programs
- Describe how curriculum design, participant recruitment, program leadership or administrative structure result in equitable environmental education opportunities
- Identify how education programs are reaching vulnerable communities and strategies for working in places where resources are limited
- Contribute to a more just, equitable, diverse, inclusive, diverse, and accessible field



## How to Submit a Proposal

**Proposals must be submitted online by 11:59 p.m. PST on Friday, April 29, 2022.** You may find it helpful to [download a blank form](#) from the NAAEE website and use it to draft your proposal before entering the information online.

Each individual or team of individuals is limited to three proposals to maximize the number and diversity of presenters and perspectives on the conference program.

1. You must have an account in NAAEE's eePRO directory and be logged in on the NAAEE website before you can submit a proposal. *Note: **All individuals associated with your proposal need to have an eePROfile that has been linked to the online conference management system before you will be able to their names to your online submission.***

[Log in or create a new eePRO account >>](#)

Creating multiple accounts can cause problems with your ability to submit and edit your proposal(s). If you're unsure whether you have an existing account or if your account email address is current, we're happy to assist. To avoid confusion, please contact NAAEE to check your account status.

**Need help with login?** Email [ariel@naaee.org](mailto:ariel@naaee.org) or call (202) 419-0412.

2. After login, click on the "Submit/Edit Proposals" link on your eePROfile page to connect to All Academic, our online conference proposal management system.
3. Select "Conference" and follow the directions for online submission. Click on the "Accept and Continue" button on each page until you reach the final confirmation page.
4. When your proposal is successfully submitted, you will receive a confirmation message at the email address in your eePROfile. This message comes from **do\_not\_reply@allacademic.com**; please check for receipt and make sure the "@allacademic.com" domain is in your **safe sender list**.
5. You can edit any of the information in your proposal until the April 29 submission deadline by (1) logging in to your NAAEE account, (2) clicking on the "Submit/Edit Proposals" link on your eePROfile page, and (3) selecting the proposal from the list on your All Academic home page.

## Important Notes About Presenters and Registration

NAAEE depends on registration fees to cover conference expenses and cannot provide waivers or discounts to presenters.

**All in-person presenters and co-presenters are required to register and pay published in-person fees for the conference.**

**All virtual presenters and co-presenters are required to register and pay published virtual fees for the conference.**

NAAEE has not yet finalized fees, but we expect conference registration for current NAAEE members to be about \$475 for EE professionals and \$325 for students for the in-person conference, and \$240 and \$150 for the virtual conference. Nonmember rates will also be offered. Once fees are finalized, we will post information about registration and scholarships on our website. There is a separate registration fee for the Research Symposium.

**All presenters must confirm their participation by registering for the conference by September 1, 2022**

If your proposal is accepted, you will have an additional opportunity to finalize session information after receiving your acceptance notice.

## Questions?

As a first step, please check the [Frequently Asked Questions](#) on the NAAEE website for help submitting proposals. If you still need assistance, please contact us at [conference@naaee.org](mailto:conference@naaee.org).