

**CONNECTICUT SCIENCE CONNECTION**

**September 2016**

**THE CONNECTICUT BUILDING A PRESENCE FOR SCIENCE NETWORK IS SUSTAINED THROUGH THE ADVOCACY OF THE CCAT, CONNECTICUT SCIENCE SUPERVISORS ASSOCIATION, AND THE CONNECTICUT SCIENCE TEACHERS ASSOCIATION**

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**NAMES AND E-MAIL ADDRESSES OF OUR POINTS OF CONTACT AND KEY LEADERS ARE NOT SHARED WITH ANY OTHER ENTITY**

**Resources**



CSDE's [science curriculum web site](#).

**Visit the NGSS@NSTA Hub** : The [NGSS@NSTA Hub](#) now offers a dynamic version of the *Next Generation Science Standards*..

Would you like a complete list of grants that has been provided by the National Science Teachers Association? NSTA has put these grant and their deadlines in an easy to follow calendar. It includes: deadline date, description, category, and grade level. To view this list, please visit:

<http://www.nsta.org/publications/calendar/>

**SAVE THE DATE! CONNECTICUT SCIENCE SUPERVISORS ASSOCIATION:**

All educators welcome! DATE: Wednesday, October 5th, 2016, 5:30 - 8:30pm. It is at the Radisson in Cromwell, which last year was the Crowne Plaza Hotel. The menu is our biggest hit, the Southwestern Buffet, that includes skirt steak, chicken, salted caramel layer cake, churros, plus the healthy salad, roasted veggies and more. Social Time, Meet w/ Sponsoring Exhibitor 4:30-5:30 PM, Buffet Dinner and CSSA Professional Development Meeting 5:30-7:00. To register and for more info, click on: <http://www.cssaonline.org/dinner-meetings.html>

**MORE DATES TO RESERVE FOR THE 2016-17 SCHOOL YEAR:**



**Connecticut Science Educators Annual Conference**  
Hamden Middle School, 2623 Dixwell Avenue, Hamden CT  
November 19, 2016, 8 am - 3 pm

Check in at the CSTA web site for updated information. The Conference program and registration information will be ready soon at: <http://www.csta-us.org/event.htm?id=2azessfl>



**CIPWG SYMPOSIUM:**

***Invasive Plants in Our Changing World: Learn from the Past, Prepare for the Future***

**Presented by the Connecticut Invasive Plant Working Group (CIPWG)**

**Tuesday, October 11, 2016, 8:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.**  
**Student Union, University of Connecticut, Storrs, CT**

**EARLY REGISTRATION ENDS SEPTEMBER 12**

This 8<sup>th</sup> biennial conference features national, regional, and local experts as well as citizen volunteers sharing practical solutions for invasive plant management and actions needed to promote native species and improve wildlife habitat. The symposium is open to the public and will include introductory information about invasive plants. People with all levels of interest and experience are invited to attend. Nationally-recognized Keynote speaker, Jil Swearingen, co-author of *Plant Invaders of Mid-Atlantic Natural Areas* will present, ***"We're Moving on Up: Invasive Plants Heading North"***. Karl Wagener, Executive Director of the Connecticut Council on Environmental Quality, will speak on ***"Connecticut's Future: Rooted in Choice"***. William Hyatt, Vice Chair of the Connecticut Invasive Plants Council, will provide a legislative update.

Charlotte Pyle, formerly with the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service will deliver closing remarks. Concurrent afternoon sessions will include:

- *What Are Other States Doing?* Panel discussion with New England invasive plant experts.
- *Native Plants for our Pollinators* – Creating a balanced and healthy pollinator environment.
- *Management of Key Invasives: Success Stories and Progress Reports*
- *Biological Control: No Animal Too Small* – Learn about these valuable invasive plant management tools.
- *Aquatic Invasive Plants* – Updates on Hydrilla and other new aquatic invasive plant threats.
- *Plants to Watch Out For: Future Threats* – What are the new invasives that threaten our borders?

Research and management posters, an invasive plant identification area, and other educational exhibits will be featured throughout the day. The registration fee includes parking and lunch. **Pesticide Recertification Credits** and other continuing education credits (CEU's) will be available.

**Attendees are advised to register early, as the last symposium had record attendance and sold out in advance with 500 attendees.**

**REGISTRATION FEE: \$50 – EARLY** postmarked or online by September 12;

**\$60 – REGULAR** postmarked or online after September 12;  
**\$25 – STUDENT** (must bring current ID)

The symposium agenda, online registration, and mail-in registration form are available at <http://cipwg.uconn.edu/2016-symposium/>.



Check out our fall lineup of online graduate courses from the American Museum of Natural History. Gain exciting new knowledge and powerful classroom resources with 6-week online courses co-taught by Museum scientists and classroom educators. Plus, our [new website](#) makes it easier than ever to find the courses you're looking for and partner universities to fulfill your graduate credit needs! [Seminars on Science courses](#) include: *The Brain; Climate Change; Earth: Inside & Out; Evolution; Genetics, Genomics, Genethics; The Ocean System; The Solar System; Space, Time and Motion; Water and more.* The [next session](#) starts September 19th. Sign up today and receive \$50 off your registration fee! Use code SCIENCEMATTERS. For more information about the program, check out *Seminars on Science* at [amnh.org/learn](http://amnh.org/learn).



TRAINING! From our Guru of Safety Ken Roy! The annual calendar for the Science Safety Workshop Series is ready! I've attached the overview and more specific details about each workshop along with registration information can be found at

[:http://www.wesleyan.edu/greenstreet/professionaldev/sciencesafety.html](http://www.wesleyan.edu/greenstreet/professionaldev/sciencesafety.html). This year we are excited to announce that each registration includes a copy of Dr. Ken Roy's latest book – *Science Laboratory Safety Manual*. A \$99 value with over 450 pages of legal safety standards, best practices, and more for your reference!

September 29, 2016 - Science Lab Safety and Liability

October 13, 2016 – Developing and Updating a Chemical Hygiene Plan

October 27, 2016 – Training for Chemical Hygiene Officers

November 10, 2016 – Chemical Management Safety

December 1, 2016 – Safety in Technology Education and Engineering Labs

February 16, 2017 – Safety in the Art Classroom/Studio

March 9, 2017 – Safety in the Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS)

March 23, 2017 – Science Lab Safety and Liability for Administrators  
Please share the 2016-2017 Science Safety Workshop Series with your colleagues and be in touch if you have any questions about registration.



FROM NSTA! We are actively seeking nominations for the upcoming ballot for a Region I director. If you know of an emerging leader, please submit his/her name through the nomination link which can be found at

[www.nsta.org/nominations](http://www.nsta.org/nominations). The application pages are open for submission and may also be found through the same link, for which you or a colleague may apply.

The deadline for members to apply is October 19, 2016.

Amanda Upton  
Manager, Nominations  
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Arlington, VA 22201  
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"...promoting excellence and innovation in science teaching and learning for all"



CONNECTICUT  
ACADEMY OF  
SCIENCE AND  
ENGINEERING

CIC  
Winners  
Receive

#### Additional CASE Support

CASE recognizes 15 student middle school winners each year from the Connecticut Invention Convention. These students are honored at the CASE Annual Meeting, receive a certificate of \$50 for the purchase of scientific equipment, books, or other STEM related material, a trophy, and a certificate suitable for framing. Additionally, this year CASE provided \$1,000 to reimburse the travel expenses for two urban students and their chaperones that attended the FIRST National Invention Convention held in May. This funding was made available through the generous contributions of CASE members to the Academy's Student Awards Fund.

# Save the Date

## Schoolyard Habitat Leadership Summit

Tuesday, October 25, 2016

Audubon Connecticut, together with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Common Ground High School – Urban Farm and Environmental Education Center, and the Yale Peabody Museum, invite you to our second annual Schoolyard Habitat Summit. Connect with others interested and engaged in outdoor learning and schoolyard habitat creation. This day-long summit will include opportunities for professional development, networking, and learning about and sharing best practices in outdoor education.

At the Audubon Greenwich Center  
613 Riversville Road • Greenwich, CT 06831

For more information, contact:  
Katie Blake, Audubon Connecticut  
[kblake@audubon.org](mailto:kblake@audubon.org)




COMMON GROUND  
HIGH SCHOOL, URBAN FARM, AND  
ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION CENTER

Yale PEABODY MUSEUM  
OF NATURAL HISTORY

# Project WILD®

## Let's Get WILD!

September 7, 2016, 9:00 am – 3:00 pm, Session Woods Wildlife Management Area  
341 Milford Street, Burlington, CT. Bring understanding of CT ecosystems to your classrooms and programs through this interactive educational resource for grades K-12. Join wildlife biologists, educators and others as you integrate these interactive lessons into your curriculum through Life Science/NGSS, STEM and Common Core requirements. Participants will:

- ☐ Participate in lesson Demonstrations and Simulations
- ☐ Receive a Project WILD or Aquatic WILD curriculum resource
- ☐ Receive a Citizen Science Resource Packet
- ☐ Receive educational posters and supplemental materials

!

- ☐ Acquire Professional Development Certificate of Participation
- ☐ Become part of DEEP educational support and seminars throughout the year

**Registration is required.** Fee to participate is 40.00 per educator. If two or more teachers from the same school or site are attending registration is reduced to 30.00



each. Registration may be done electronically at [WORKSHOP REGISTRATIONS](#) or call 203-734-2513 or email, [susan.d.robinson@ct.gov](mailto:susan.d.robinson@ct.gov) for assistance.



## The PD session schedule

for this Fall.

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The CIC has teamed up with CREC's Institute of Teaching and Learning to present two wonderful and very valuable types of PD sessions.

### Intro to CIC: (Connecticut Invention Convention)

A overview of what the CIC is, why it's important, how you can teach it and how it will impact your students. Topics covered include: How can the CIC program enhance your students' STEM experience? How can you bring this program to your school? What new changes to the Curricular Resources have been made this year? How will the Regional Events work?

**Who should attend?** This is an essential session for new teachers with limited CIC experience. But **even the experienced teachers will find this session very valuable** in explaining the new CIC features and policies that they never saw before. You don't know what you don't know and this session will fill in the holes.

**Saturdays, 8:30 am to 3:30 pm; \$75**

DATE (Saturdays)	LOCATION	REGISTER
9/17/16	North Haven	<a href="#">Click to Register</a>
10/15/16	Norwich	<a href="#">Click to Register</a>
10/22/16	New Britain	<a href="#">Click to Register</a>
11/5/16	Windsor	<a href="#">Click to Register</a>
1/7/17	New Britain	<a href="#">Click to Register</a>

### CIC and NGSS:

The Invention Dimension - Maximizing Next Generation Science Standards with aligned instructional time through invention. This hands-on session will give you the theory and the realities of achieving NGSS and Connecticut Core standards in your classroom through the CIC program.

**Who should attend?** This session is **vital for any teacher who wants to achieve standards success** and needs the information and skill about how to do that. The session will show you how to address the NGSS and CT Core standards by using the CIC materials and activities in a way that can be done at any grade level by any teacher.

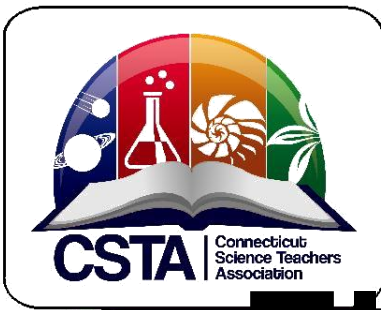
**Weekdays, 4:00 pm to 7:00 pm \$50**

DATE	DAY	LOCATION	REGISTER
10/20/16	Thursday	North Haven	<a href="#">Click to Register</a>
11/30/16	Wednesday	Norwich	<a href="#">Click to Register</a>
12/14/16	Wednesday	Windsor	<a href="#">Click to Register</a>
1/18/17	Wednesday	New Britain	<a href="#">Click to Register</a>

Connecticut Green LEAF Schools has been awarded a **Teacher Quality Partnership Grant** through the CT Office of Higher Education. . More information about Connecticut Green LEAF Schools can be found at [www.ctgreenleaf.org](http://www.ctgreenleaf.org)

**NEW MATERIALS AND PROJECTS FROM NASA!**  
<https://www.nasa.gov/audience/foreducators/index.html>

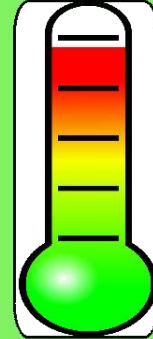




**Free!**



# Elementary Science Extravaganza!



**Saturday, September 24, 2016**

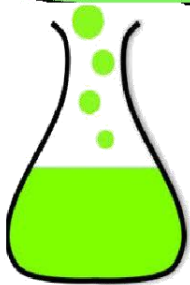
**Registration: 9:00 am Doors**

**open 9:30 to 11:30 am**

**Sacred Heart University**

**University Commons**

**5151 Park Ave, Fairfield, CT 06825**



**Prizes!**

**Fun!**

Discover engaging and fun, content-specific science activities that you can use in your classroom. Activities will be linked to the Connecticut Science Frameworks and the Next Generation Science Standards.

## NGSS K-8 Evidence Statements Now

### Available

The NGSS Evidence Statements for elementary grades (K-5) and middle grades (6-8) are now available. These statements were developed and reviewed by educators and scientists, including many members of the NGSS writing team. The evidence statements are intended to identify clear, measurable components that, if met, fully satisfy each performance expectation (PE) described within the NGSS. Given that each PE is three-dimensional, the statements describe how students can use the practices, crosscutting concepts, and disciplinary core ideas together to demonstrate proficiency on the PEs by the end of instruction. They are

not meant to limit or dictate instruction and were written to allow for multiple methods and contexts of performance, including students' performance on multiple related PEs together at the same time.

For more information, see the Introduction and Overview, which applies to the evidence statements for all grade levels. Additional materials, including appendices for K-2, 3-5, and middle school are coming soon.

**AN IMPORTANT LINK FOR EDUCATORS TO VISIT FOR INFORMATION ON THE STATUS OF SCIENCE STANDARDS IN CONNECTICUT:**

<http://www.sde.ct.gov/sde/cwp/view.asp?a=2683&Q=333862>



*What Is Science Matters? Science Matters is an initiative by the National Science Teachers Association (NSTA) to bring content, news, and information that supports quality science education to parents and teachers nationwide. Science Matters builds on the success of the Building a Presence for Science program, first launched in 1997 as an e-networking initiative to assist teachers of science with professional development opportunities. Building a Presence for Science—now Science Matters—reaches readers in 34 states and the District of Columbia. Why does Science Matter? Science is critical to understanding the world around us. Most Americans feel that they received a good education and that their children will as well. Unfortunately, not many are aware that international tests show that American students are simply not performing well in science when compared to students in other countries. Many students (and their parents!) believe that science is irrelevant to their lives. Innovation leads to new products and processes that sustain our economy, and this innovation depends on a solid knowledge base in science, math, and engineering. All jobs of the future will require a basic understanding of math and science. The most recent ten year employment projections by the U.S. Labor Department show that of the 20 fastest growing occupations projected for 2014, 15 of them require significant mathematics or science preparation to successfully compete for a job. This is why Science Matters. Quality learning experiences in the sciences—starting at an early age—are critical to science literacy and our future workforce. Feel free to publish this information in school newsletters and bulletins, and share it with other parents, teachers, and administrators.*