

## Environmental Decision-Making: A Team Approach

This two-day hands-on professional development opportunity is designed to provide decision-making tools, processes and resources for local Kansas leaders. Participants will explore methods to help communities make better, more informed decisions that involve/impact the environment, such as wind energy development, water resource protection, or land use management. Participants will also engage in a leadership pilot project with team members to test these tools and resources in a variety of settings.

Space is limited — participants will be selected based on criteria in the application.

**Important Dates**  
**Application Deadline:**  
**February 25, 2005**  
**Notification to Applicants:**  
**March 7, 2005**

### Planning Committee Partners

- Hank Ernst, Kansas Water Office
- Kathleen Fenton, US EPA Region 7
- Eileen Hack, Johnson County Wastewater
- Joe Harkins, Governor's Natural Resource Policy Office
- Brad Loveless, Westar Energy Green Team
- Bruce Snead, KSU Engineering Extension and Manhattan City Commission
- Don Snethen, KS Dept of Health and Environment, Watershed Management
- John Strickler, KS Natural Resource Legacy Alliance
- Mark Tomb, League of KS Municipalities
- Dee Turner, State Conservation Commission
- Judy Willingham, KS Environmental Leadership Program
- Ron Wilson, Huck Boyd Institute for Rural Development

### Project Coordinators

- Laura Downey, KS Association for Conservation and Environmental Education (KACEE)
- Dan Kahl, K-State Research & Extension, Kansas PRIDE Program
- Robert Wilson, K-State Research & Extension, Office of Local Government

**For more information, or to request application forms, please contact:**

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**Sponsored by**  
Kansas Association for Conservation & Environmental Education and K-State Research & Extension

**Funded by**  
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

## Community Environmental Decision-Making Institute

**May 5-7, 2005**  
**Rock Springs**  
**4-H Camp,**  
**Junction City**



**Better Decisions for**  
**Improving the Places We Live**

# Community Environmental Decision-Making Institute

Some of today's most important decisions impacting the Kansas environment take place at the local community level. Yet often, decision-makers find it difficult to fully take into account the potential impacts to our land, water, air, natural resources and wildlife.

This project provides tools, resources and processes to those involved in community level decision-making for better, more well-informed decisions that impact the environment.

Those participating in the institute will learn to use a variety of processes, tools and resources that can be used at the local community level by a variety of constituents.

Topics covered at the institute will include:

- Types of environmental decisions
- Identifying stakeholders
- Characterizing the environmental, social, political and economic setting for a decision
- Challenges in environmental decision-making
- Criteria for making good environmental decision-making
- Public participation and collaborative decision-making
- Tools for identifying issues and problems, developing and evaluating alternatives, reaching a decision, and evaluating decisions
- AND MORE!

## Workshop Details

- **Dates:** Thursday, May 5 at 2:00 p.m. thru Saturday, May 7 at 1:00 p.m.
- **Location:** Rock Springs 4-H Camp, Junction City, Kansas
- **Housing:** Leadership Lodge (share room with 1-2 other participants)
- **Meals:** All meals provided beginning with dinner on Thursday and ending with lunch on Saturday
- **Transportation to and from location:** Responsibility of participants
- **Cost:** All costs (except transportation) are covered by funding from EPA

## Who Should Participate?

This institute is designed for 3-5 person community-based teams who are involved in local level decision-making. "Community" is defined broadly to include teams from cities/towns, counties, & regions as well as those defined by watersheds and other natural boundaries.

**Teams should consist of a mix of the following:**

- **Local Elected/Appointed Officials** (Commissioners, Planning Board Members, etc.)
- **City/County Government Staff** (Managers/Administrators, Planning Staff, etc.)
- **Business Community Members** (Business Owners, Consulting Firms, etc.)
- **Active Citizens/Civic Organizations** (Lions, Audubon, PRIDE, Clergy, etc.)

## Cost

This project is funded through an environmental education grant from the US Environmental Protection Agency. Funding is available to provide full scholarships to 5-6 community-based teams consisting of 3-5 members each.

## Participant Expectations

All selected applicants must agree to:

- Attend and participate fully in the entire workshop from 2 pm on May 5, 2005 through 1 pm on May 7, 2005.
- Provide own transportation to and from the training
- Complete a team pilot project by 10/31/05 that involves the application of the tools, processes and resources provided within the Institute
- Attend one follow up meeting and one final presentation meeting (approximately 2-3 hours in length each) at dates and locations to be determined by group.

## How to Apply

Complete and return the attached application form no later than Friday, February 25, 2005.

Applicants will be notified by March 7, 2005.

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