

ACEA Bob Ritchey G.R.E.E.N. Activity Award

The G.R.E.E.N. (Growing Roots for Environmental Education and Nature) Activity Award is ACEA's newest award. Recognition is given to one **Activity** that has been implemented in a Community Education or extended day program, which has a significant impact on the environment or focus on nature. This award is named in honor of Bob Ritchey, who was very instrumental in establishing 21st Century Community Learning Centers statewide through state funding to further promote after-school and summer enrichment programs. With a Master's degree in Zoology and strong connection to nature, Bob was known for his love of the outdoors. In his years at the Alabama Department of Education, Bob not only wanted children to enjoy the environment, he was a strong advocate for all children to have a nurturing and loving environment that community education fosters.