



33rd Annual OCTC

TIE Conference

Teachers, Industry & Environment Conference

Wednesday, October 14, 2026

4:00-6:00 p.m. Conference Registration

5:00-6:00 p.m. Welcome Dinner – Sponsored by AmSty

6:15 p.m. Shuttle Transportation to Ashland Chemical Company

6:45 p.m. Tour of Ashland Chemical Company

Ashland Chemical Company is a global specialty chemical company that provides products, services and solutions throughout a variety of industries. The tour of Ashland Chemical Company provides conference participants an inside look at an operating chemical plant.

8:30 p.m. Depart for Conference Hotel

Thursday, October 15, 2026

7:00 a.m. Breakfast – Sponsored by Enbridge

8:00 a.m. Conference Opening Remarks

Andy Swaim, President, Ohio Chemistry Technology Council

8:05 a.m. Introduction of Ashland University Graduate Credit Opportunity

Linda Pettit, Ashland University

8:15 a.m. Eco-Innovation: Turning Environmental Problems into Entrepreneurial Solutions – Presented by Young Entrepreneur Institute (YEI)

What happens when students move beyond learning about environmental challenges and become the innovators tasked with solving them? In this hands-on session, educators will experience Young Entrepreneur Institute's Eco-Innovation unit as their students would: identifying a real-world environmental problem, exploring the needs of the people affected, developing an innovative solution, and creating and testing a prototype.

Designed to be adaptable to any age, Eco-Innovation blends science, design thinking, and entrepreneurship while developing creativity, collaboration, problem-solving, and communication skills. Participants will work through a ready-to-use experience and leave with practical strategies and classroom resources they can use to transform science concepts into engaging, real-world innovation challenges.

Elizabeth Clymer, YEI

9:30-9:40 a.m. Break

9:40-10:30 a.m. & Concurrent Sessions

10:40 a.m.-11:30 a.m.

Dancing Bubbles – Presented by Syensqo

In this activity teachers will observe the relative densities of household liquids, like syrup, oil and alcohol and solids, like plastics, wood and paper.

Kelydra Welcker, Syensqo

Ready, Set, Recycle! How to Leverage Ohio EPA's School Recycling Resources – Presented by Ohio EPA

Join Ohio EPA for an inside look at two opportunities that help schools boost recycling efforts. We'll break down how schools can use Recycle Ohio grants and the School



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Recycling Program Toolkit, share what's new, and highlight how these resources can support stronger, greener schools.

Rachael Dininger and Jeff Montavon, Ohio EPA

11:30 a.m.-1:00 p.m. Lunch – Sponsored by The Lubrizol Corporation

**1:00-2:00 p.m. &
2:10-3:10 p.m. Concurrent Sessions**

Plastics in Industry & Environment – Presented by Covestro

Through a series of interactive demonstrations, participants will experience the stages of plastics manufacturing, including polymerization, extrusion, molding, quality analysis, and recycling. Participants will demonstrate polymer reactions, participate in a live color matching process, and experience tabletop-scale representations of extrusion, molding, and quality analysis processes. Participants will also be introduced to information on the career opportunities and education requirements in the industry.

Adam Houdeshell, Derek Fulk, Troy Wolfzorn, Covestro

Exploring Energy – Presented by SESA

Teachers will be exploring several types of energy through a variety of hands-on experiments. Each experiment will be able to be easily adapted to a classroom setting and are designed to match up with grade appropriate science standards. Teachers can plan on being very active as they work through this presentation on energy!

Rachel Smith, SESA

3:10-3:30 p.m. Snack Break – Sponsored by BASF

3:30-4:30 p.m. Foodology – Sponsored by Univar Solutions

Food, science, need we say more?

Kim Uttley, Univar Solutions

4:30 p.m. Ashland University Reflection

This session is offered to those interested in obtaining 1 semester hour of graduate credit through Ashland University. The fee for the credit is \$200. Participants will work with an Ashland University facilitator on a reflection of the sessions attended during the conference, and how to incorporate what was learned into their curriculum.

Linda Pettit, Ashland University

4:30 p.m. Evening on Your Own

Friday, October 16, 2026

7:00 a.m. Breakfast – Sponsored by Syensqo

7:45 a.m. Opening Remarks (During Breakfast)

Andy Swaim, Ohio Chemistry Technology Council



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October

7:50 a.m.

Teaching Science with Toys – Presented by Amy Weiskittel, Celanese

Unlock the mysteries of chemistry for your students by learning to use both homemade and purchased toys in your classes. Teachers will explore hands-on science activities that use toys and other common household items to teach the principles of scientific inquiry, physics and chemistry.

Amy Weiskittel, Jan Galbraith

9:30-9:40 a.m.

Break

9:40-10:30 a.m. &

Concurrent Sessions

10:40-11:30 a.m.

Real Industrial Concepts as Student-Friendly Experiments – Presented by Syensqo

Discover some of the processes that chemical companies must be knowledgeable about when they design and operate their plants. Participants will model the concepts by completing hands-on experiments that can easily be brought back to their classrooms. They will learn how these ideas are used in real world applications, and they will observe how severe the consequences can be when the hazards are not properly understood or mitigated.

Kelydra Welcker, Syensqo

What He/She Got I Ain't Got: OEE Resources and More – Ohio EPA

Participants will be provided examples grant funding resources from the Ohio EPA (OEPA), Office of Environmental Education on the Ohio Environmental Education Fund (OEEF). We will also “dive” into Project WET (Water Education Today) Sampler Guides. Learning the ins and outs of funding through OEEF while also gaining water quality curriculum activities through WET will be an informative and hands-on experience during the TIE Conference. Find out What's He/She Got I Ain't Got and get it for your classroom.

Dennis Clement and Jeff Montavon, Ohio EPA

11:30 a.m.

Survivor SESA Style: You are Stranded on a Desert Island – Presented by SESA

So begins the SESA Tech Challenge. Guided by the SESA crew, participants will use the materials provided to design and construct tools to attract a boat and be rescued. This session encourages higher level thinking skills and the creative use of technology.

Rachel Smith, SESA

12:30 p.m.

Conference Closing Remarks

Andy Swaim, Ohio Chemistry Technology Council

Departing Gifts Presented to Teachers

Swag Bags – Sponsored by Enbridge

Swag – All Company Sponsors

Snack Box To Go – TBA

Teacher Grants – PPG

Certificate of Completion – All Company Sponsors