

Methods for Teaching Biological Assessment of Stream Health

Don't want all the students stomping around in the stream? Have special needs students that can't get in the stream? Learn some of the many other methods of biological assessment such as leaf packs, a stream table and a stream side portable pond. Participants will receive the *Leaf Pack Manual* from the Stroud Water Research Center.

Date: Thursday, March 26, 2015

Location: Blandy Experimental Farm, Boyce

Fee: \$12

Freshwater Wetlands Investigation

What makes freshwater wetlands unique? Learn how and why freshwater wetlands play such important roles in water quality and for living resources. Learn to identify key species while spending time exploring freshwater marshes on foot and by canoe. Participants will receive the book *The Wonders of Wetlands*.

Date: Thursday, May 14, 2015

Location: Mason Neck State Park, Lorton

No Fee: Participants will need to bring a lunch.

Coastal Wetlands Investigation

Why are coastal wetlands considered the most endangered part of our ecosystem? Learn how and why wetlands play such important roles in water quality and for living resources. Learn to identify key species while spending time exploring salt and brackish marshes on a remote island in the Chesapeake Bay. This field course will be based at Port Isobel, an education facility owned and operated by the Chesapeake Bay Foundation, and located near Tangier Island in the middle of the Chesapeake.

Date: Tuesday and Wednesday, June 9 and 10, 2015

Location: Meet at Smith Point Marina for the boat to Port Isobel.

Overnight Lodging and meals will be provided.

Fee: \$30 (Must be received by April 15 to guarantee spot.)

2014-2015 Watershed Educators Institute

The Watershed Educators Institute is a series of one and two day workshops offered from October 2014 through June 2015 for those desiring to be formally recognized as leaders in watershed education in the Commonwealth of Virginia.



To receive a Certificate of Recognition as a Watershed Leader for the Commonwealth of Virginia you must complete **five** workshops. The following is a brief description of the workshops including their dates and locations. Otherwise, you may simply take some of the workshops to increase your personal skills and knowledge.

Coffee/Tea and lunch will be provided at all but one workshop.

Fees need to be received at least 2 weeks before the workshop unless otherwise noted. Checks should be made out to "VRUEC" and sent to DEQ, P.O. Box 1105, Richmond, VA 23218. Attn: Page Hutchinson.

To register:

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/WEI>

You will receive a confirmation email and a follow up email several weeks before the workshop(s).

For more information, contact Page Hutchinson at 804-698-4488 or Page.Hutchinson@deq.virginia.gov

Designing and Leading a MWEE for School Groups

Required workshop for anyone desiring to receive a Certificate of Recognition as a Watershed Educator Leader.

This workshop will provide a framework for developing effective Meaningful Watershed Educational Experiences (MWEEs) that result in specific student driven action projects. In the afternoon you will have a chance to begin planning your own seasonal or yearlong action project. Participants will receive CBFs *Guide to Creating a MWEE* and U.S. Fish and Wildlife's *Schoolyard Habitat Project Guide*.

Date: Thursday, January 15, 2015

Location: Herrity Building, Room 107, Fairfax

Fee: \$12

OR

Date: Wednesday, February 18, 2015

Location: VDOT District Office, Culpeper

Fee: \$12

Assessing the Health of a Watershed – Part 1

What does the dissolved oxygen or pH level indicate about the health of a stream? What do macro invertebrates tell us about water quality? During this workshop you will come to understand the many facets that indicate the health of a watershed through chemical and biological assessment. Participants will receive the *Healthy Water, Healthy People Educator's Guide* and *Field Testing Manual*.

Date: Tuesday, October 21, 2014

Location: NOVA 4-H Ed Center, Front Royal

Fee: \$12

Assessing the Health of a Watershed – Part 2

Are there ways to teach students about riparian zones, point and nonpoint source pollution, run off, impervious surfaces, and land use without boring lectures? You bet there are! Join us for a day of exploration and inquiry based activities. Participants who did not receive the *Healthy Water, Healthy People Educator's Guide* and *Field Testing Manual* in Part 1 will receive the set in this workshop.

Date: Wednesday, November 12, 2014

Location: Lake Anna State Park, Spotsylvania

Fee: \$12

Introducing Watersheds

Come join us in the many engaging, hands on activities that can be used to help students understand what a watershed is and how human impacts play a role in the health of the watershed. Participants will receive the book *Discover a Watershed: The Watershed Manager*.

Date: Thursday, April 30, 2015

Location: Mason District Government Center, Fairfax

Fee: \$12