

KEEP THIS INFORMATION!

OUR FIRST CLASS IS THIS Saturday, SEPTEMBER 17th, 2011! SEE

YOU THEN: any questions call 573-437-7628!

EC's cell # is 573-205-6749 for questions only during travel on program days.

Natural Resource Career Experience



Sponsored by Earth's Classroom

Description:

Earth's Classroom is happy to announce that YOU are a part of the experiential, free program for high school students whom are interested in chemistry, biology, conservation, wildlife biology, ecological sciences, outdoor education, sustainable architecture or any other similar field! This program has been funded by a grant from New Belgium Brewing Company, located in Fort Collins, A federal grant called 21st Century Community Learning Center (for OHS students only) and US Bank from Washington, MO.

As you know, this program is called the Natural Resource Career Experience (NRCE). EC will be providing a three/four-hour, after school, experiential course, once a month through the 2011-2012 school year (Sept—April). Each experiential course will be a different subject related to the field, so that you as a student may see the diversity within the field and understand your personal passion.

The grants sponsor 22 students from a possible 14 area high schools. However, by the end of the school year you and the other participants will be instructed and guided to do an hour, solo presentation to an elementary class within your school district on a subject you felt most passionate about. Thus, not only will this project affect 22 high school students, but also *approximately 400-450 elementary students* will be able to share the experience through your eyes and storytelling of your NRCE experience.

Please attend every program, for you are already paid for! --Thanks!

The Natural Resource Career Experience Program TENTATIVE SCHEDULE:

(Schedule may change due to conflicts; we will try to work with your schedule.)

- The following experiential courses will be available to the chosen applicants:

September 17th (Saturday) 10am-3pm at Meramec State Park

GEOLOGY: Spend 4 hours in a permit-only cave system to talk about the areas unique ecosystems and how they affect the local ecology. This day we will allow for one hour of an introduction to the NRCE program. Please meet at Meramec State Park Visitors Center parking lot at 10am sharp! (Meramec S.P. is located 3 miles south of Sullivan, MO on Hwy 185; turn right into park entrance.) E.C. will

provide caving helmets and headlamps. *You must bring: cotton or canvas gloves, warm clothes (long pants and shirt or coveralls) that you DO NOT mind getting covered in clay, lace-up shoes/boots only, one reliable flashlight/headlamp with fresh batteries, a lunch and drink in small pack for eating before we enter cave and, a full change of clothes for drive home (including underwear and socks), and a plastic bag to transport caving clothes home in.*

October 23rd (Sunday) 9am-12pm at Busch Memorial Conservation Area:

ORNITHOLOGY: Learn unique natural history and identification skills (sight and sound) of our native birds with binoculars and spotting scopes. **We will meet as a group in Washington, MO at the back of Lowe's parking lot at 8:15am (no later!) and travel together to August A. Busch Memorial Conservation Area.** Directions to CA from Washington, MO: travel north on Hwy 47 for about 4 miles, turn right on Hwy 94 East for about 20-25 miles, turn left on Hwy D, travel about 1.5 miles, turn right into area, at stop sign turn right again and road will dead-end in big parking lot at offices. E.C. will provide spotting scopes, binoculars and other educational equipment. *You must bring: appropriate, warm clothes for being outside and a lunch or cash to eat a group lunch out if you wish.*

November 16th (Wednesday) 4:15pm-7:30pm at Earth's Classroom:

MAMMOLOGY: Learn unique natural history of our native mammals through the study of skulls and furs. *You must bring: appropriate, warm clothes for being outside. Please eat at least a snack before program begins. Be prepared to carpool for 5 minutes at 4:20pm.*

December 18th (Sunday) 10am-1 or 2pm at Earth's Classroom:

FORESTRY AND NATURAL RESOURCE MANAGEMENT: Learn how to identify trees during the winter and their significance. Also, discover the power of fire ecology, and, if suitable, assist/observe in doing a small control burn. *You must bring: appropriate, warm clothes HOWEVER, (if burn conditions are good) have cotton on the outside layer (examples; flannels, canvas jacket, jeans, cotton pants, etc.), leather boots or lace up shoes, leather gloves, bandanna, lunch to carry and drinking water.*

January 18th (Wednesday) 4:15pm-7:30pm at Earth's Classroom:

SUSTAINABLE LIVING: Visit a home that is designed with passive and active solar and built in a self-sustainable way. Look at and discuss vehicle technology. We will meet at Earth's Classroom then carpool/caravan 4 miles to a residential home. *You must bring: appropriate, warm clothes for being outside, and a personal mug for warm drinks. Please eat at least a snack before program begins. Be prepared to carpool at 4:20pm.*

February 8th (Wednesday) 4:30pm-7:30pm at Earth's Classroom:

CULTURAL PRE-HISTORY: Spend time discussing over artifacts and known information about the native Indians of our area and their interrelationship to the resources. *You must bring: appropriate, warm clothes for being outside, at*

LEAST TWO LAYERS on your legs, etc. and a personal mug for warm drinks. Be prepared to hike—even if in snow. Please eat at least a snack before program begins.

March 14th (Wednesday) 4:15-7:30pm at Earth's Classroom:

LIMNOLOGY: Learn unique natural history and identification skills related to the life of freshwater systems. We will meet at Earth's Classroom but then carpool/caravan 1.5 miles to Bourbeous River. E.C. will provide all educational equipment. *You must bring: shoes and pants/shorts to get wet in, change of dry clothes (including underwear) and please eat at least a snack before program begins. Please be prepared to carpool for 5 minutes at 4:20 pm.*

April 18th (Wednesday) 4:30pm-7:30pm at Earth's Classroom:

HERPETOLOGY: learn unique natural history of our native reptiles and amphibians. E.C. will provide all educational equipment. *You must bring: appropriate, warm clothes for being outside, and waders or rubber boots if you own them. Please eat at least a snack before program begins.* We will be using some time to discuss presentations and work with you on them.

May— Date to be determined by you and your choice of teacher:

HOUR PRESENTATION: Present, in solo, to an elementary classroom from your own school district with assistance from E.C. and interpret a subject you have the most interest in.

June 4th-6th (Monday-Wednesday) back-up dates are June 11th—13th

3-DAY, 2-NIGHT ECOLOGY CANOE TRIP: Discover how studies of all life are put together in a tight interrelationship as we travel and collect samples down the upper Meramec River. Learn canoeing skills, natural and cultural history of the Meramec, sight and sound identification skills, and a bit about all the flora and fauna around us. Other professionals will be visiting us on our adventure. *A detailed gear list of what E.C. will provide and what personal items you should bring will be given closer to the date of trip.*

Once all 27 hours of courses, 60 hours of ecological learning/canoe-trip, and an hour presentation are completed, a Certificate of Achievement will be awarded with a \$50 stipend to each participant. This certificate will carry the EC, New Belgium Brewing Company, and US Bank logos.

Objectives:

- To inspire young adults to pursue the natural resource/ environmental field.
- To provide an experiential educational opportunity not available in the formal school setting.
- To provide a certificate of achievement to all students who participated... a certificate very worthy on a resume or scholarship application!