



Chesapeake Classrooms Course Syllabus



Environmental Literacy in Howard County

June 22-26, 2015

Course Leaders:

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Please prepare yourself each day by packing a lunch, water bottle, hat, sunglasses, and sunscreen, wearing cool, comfortable clothing, comfortable walking shoes, and by checking the “Good to Know” section for each day in the itinerary below.

This itinerary is subject to weather, wind, tide, and therefore change.

Driving Question: How can Howard County communities and schools use the Chesapeake Bay as a guide to learning?

Monday, June 22

Investigative Questions: What is the current health of the Chesapeake Bay? How does agriculture affect the Chesapeake? What is “sustainable” agriculture? What is the connection between farms, the Bay and human health?

Good to Know: long pants are recommended and closed toed shoes are required for this afternoon (walking in tall grass with livestock)

9:00 Meet at Clarksville Middle School: 6535 Trotter Road Clarksville, MD 21029
Introductions
Distribution of course materials
State of the Bay report
Schoolyard Report Card

12:00 Drive to Heritage Hill Farm: 2790 Florence Road, Woodbine, MD 21797
Lunch & Meet Keith Ohlinger, owner/founder of Heritage Hill Farm
Introduction to Permaculture, Farm Tour

4:00 Wrap-up, Prep for tomorrow

Tuesday, June 23

Investigative Questions: Why care about local, organic vegetables? How are these crops raised? How can I use the Issues Investigation Framework to create an Issues Investigation Plan for my classroom?

Good to Know: Please carpool to Love Dove Farms. Long pants are recommended and closed toed shoes are required for the morning. Feel free to bring a change of clothes/shoes.

- 9:00** Meet at Howard County Conservancy: 10520 Old Frederick Road Woodstock, MD
Review Homework
Introduction to the Conservancy
Gardening with Students
Blue Bead Activity
Lunch
Who Polluted the Patuxent?
- 1:30** Drive to 21163 Love Dove Farms: 14838 Old Frederick Road Woodbine, MD 21797
Meet John Dove--history of Love Dove Farms
Farm tour
- 4:00** Wrap-up, prep for tomorrow

Wednesday, June 24

Investigative Questions: What makes teachers and students environmentally literate? How does where we live and teach connect to the Bay? How can we determine the health of local streams?

Good to Know: you will need a pair of shoes you can wear to walk through a stream—NO FLIP FLOPS—we recommend an old pair of sneakers (best) or water shoes

- 9:00** Meet at Howard County Conservancy: 10520 Old Frederick Road Woodstock, MD 21163
Stream Survey
Lunch
What's in your lunch activity
How to use the Issues Investigation Framework
Work with fellow teachers to begin creating your plan
- 4:00** Wrap-up, Prep for tomorrow

Thursday, June 25

Investigative Questions: How can we investigate the health of the Patapsco River? How does urban land use affect the Chesapeake Bay? How can our communities address these issues? What does a typical CBF field experience offer students?

Good to Know: Closed toed shoes are required aboard the *Snowgoose*. We will be on the boat all day!

- 9:00** Meet at Canton Waterfront Park: 3001 Boston Street Baltimore, MD 2122
Board the *Snowgoose*
Water chemistry
Lunch
Oyster dredging
Trawl net fishing
- 4:00** Wrap-up, prep for tomorrow

Friday, June 26

Investigative Questions: How do the fresh and brackish water systems in the Chesapeake Bay watershed compare and contrast? How does Howard County affect the Patuxent River? What role do wetlands play in the Bay's ecosystems? What field investigations can Howard County teachers lead to help facilitate environmental literacy?

Good to Know: Pack an extra change of clothes and shoes to keep in the car, just in case! Do your best to waterproof your lunch (a small cooler, large ziplock, or dry bag if you have it is great)—we will have some extra dry bag and/or cooler space as well. A hat is highly recommended and you might want to consider long sleeves for sun protection if you're sensitive to the sun.

- 9:30** ←Note the 9:30, not 9:00 start time! Meet at Selby's Landing in Patuxent River Park: 1600 Croom Airport Road Upper Marlboro, MD 20772
Canoeing Instruction
Paddle through wetlands into Mataponi Creek
Lunch
Water chemistry
Seine net fishing
- 2:30** Return to Selby's Landing
- 3:30** Wrap-up, say goodbye, have a great summer!