



A Forest for Every Classroom

This workshop series offers you:

A field-based exploration of private and public forests spanning all four seasons

Experience with authentic field-work methods

Hands-on, active sessions presented by educators, foresters, industry experts, and others passionate about the future of forest stewardship

Strategies for increasing student academic achievement through place-based education

Service-learning fundamentals, modeling, and case studies

Curricula and resource materials for teaching about forest ecology, management and stewardship, including Project Learning Tree (PLT), LEAF, Earth Partnership for Schools, Trees For Tomorrow materials

Graduate credits through the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point

Mini-grants up to \$200 upon completion of workshop requirements

Extended support and follow-up events

What is A Forest For Every Classroom?

A Forest for Every Classroom (FFEC) is a year-long professional development series for middle and high school educators, aimed at providing the inspiration, knowledge, and skills required to transform classroom teaching into effective and exciting place-based education. At the heart of the FFEC program is the belief that students who are immersed in the interdisciplinary study of their own place are more eager to learn and be involved in the stewardship of their natural and human communities.

What is place-based education?

Place-based education is the process of using the local community and environment as a starting point to teach concepts in science, mathematics, reading, social studies, and other subjects across the curriculum. Emphasizing hands-on, real world learning experiences, this approach to education increases academic achievement, helps students develop stronger ties to their community, enhances student appreciation for the natural world, and creates a heightened commitment to serving as active contributing citizens. (David Sobel, Standing Strong in My Rightful Place, 2003) Place-based education research has shown that students who are engaged in real-world learning within their local communities have higher literacy rates and are more likely to succeed than those who learn through a traditional textbook approach. A study by the State Education and Environment Roundtable demonstrated that when the environment is used as an integrating context, students earn higher grades and score better on standardized reading, writing and math examinations.

Dates and Locations

Summer Session: July 11-15, 2014, Friday-Tuesday
Trees For Tomorrow, Eagle River

Fall Session: October 3 & 4, 2014, Friday & Saturday
Western Wisconsin, location TBD

Winter Session: February 20 & 21, 2015 Friday & Saturday
Central Wisconsin, location TBD

Spring Session: April 17 & 18, 2015 Friday & Saturday
Trees For Tomorrow, Eagle River



To register go to:
www.leafprogram.org

The deadline to register is
March 31, 2014.

For more information contact
Sarah Gilbert
at
715-346-4924

~or~

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What will be expected of the participants?

Participants are encouraged to come as part of a school team. The recommended team composition is three teachers, one administrator, and one community member (Individual teachers may participate, if space allows.). Each team will develop a service learning project that brings the school and the community together, where teachers and students learn about local forestry issues and pertinent forest research, and become involved in a viable community-based project. The workshop series begins with a five-day experience at Trees For Tomorrow in Eagle River on July 11-15, 2014. We'll meet again in the fall, winter, and spring, each time for two days. Locations will vary. Teacher participants will be expected to attend all eleven days. Administrator and community member participants will be asked to attend two days during the July session and for the final spring meeting.

What is the cost?

Thanks to our wonderful partners, the registration fee for this unique, year-long experience is just \$350 per person for teachers and \$50 per person for administrators and community members (who will only attend specific portions of the workshop series).

For the teachers, this includes:

- eleven days of professional development
- two graduate credits from UWSP
- extensive curriculum materials
- accommodations
- great food
- implementation grant up to \$200
- and much more.

The value of the package is over \$3500 per teacher (over \$10,750 per district)!

Pssst! The Wisconsin Environmental Education Board (WEEB) has grants for forestry-related projects. Past FFEC teams have received grants to support their portion of the fees. Look for the link to the WEEB website when you access our registration materials.



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