Environmental Education in Urban Schools Initiative: “Bringing Forests to the City”

2010-2011 Workshops for Detroit & Pontiac Teachers

Workshops are FREE to Detroit & Pontiac School District teachers. Workshops include classroom supplies & lunch. To participate in the Initiative, teachers must attend at least THREE workshops listed below. Each workshop is limited to 26 participants. Open spaces will be made available on a first-come basis to teachers not in the Initiative.

MEECS Ecosystems & Biodiversity
9 am-3:30 pm, Sat., Dec. 4, 2010  Belle Isle Nature Zoo  Presenter: Jessica Wagonmaker, Holton Middle School

Receive a classroom unit which includes: Ecosystem and biodiversity lesson plans, CD-ROM with lessons and supplemental resources and materials, hand-on activities, MEAP-like unit assessments and colorful posters. Aligned to Michigan Grade Level Content Expectations.

Great Lakes in My World
9 am - 3:30 pm, Sat., January 22, 2011  Belle Isle Nature Zoo  Presenter: Jamie Cross, Alliance for the Great Lakes

This workshop will provide a meaningful way to learn science, history and culture using the Great Lakes—a rich, living ecosystem and a cherished resource that defines our lives and home here in Michigan.

Hands-On Nature
9 am -3:30 pm, Sat., Feb. 12, 2011  Hawk Woods Nature Center  Presenter: Mike Mansour, Director, Hawk Woods

Watch a spider gracefully spinning its silken web or listen for the songs of birds seemingly celebrating the rise of a new day. Children are naturally curious about the world around them. When invited outdoors to learn, children become explorers and questioners, poets and artists. Learn how to teach children to discover a world of simple wonders. Friday overnight optional.

Designing & Conducting Scientific Research Outside
9 am -3:30 pm, Saturday March 12, 2011  Belle Isle Nature Zoo ~ Detroit  Presenter: U.S Forest Service

Take the scientific inquiry process outside! Gain great tips on making observations, taking measurements, data analysis, and easy monitoring projects to do with students. Explore study of the Monarch Butterfly!

Gardening at School with Students
9 am-3:30 pm, Sat., March 26, 2011  O.W. Holmes Elementary (tentative)  Presenter: Sarah Haller, Greening of Detroit

Supplement your curriculum with garden-based learning. Find out about gardening techniques, basic science concepts, and develop management strategies for a school garden program.

Field Trips to Natural Areas in Detroit
9 am - 3:30 pm, Sat., April 9, 2011  Belle Isle Nature Zoo  Presenter: Mike Reed, Manager, Belle Isle Nature Zoo

Discover some amazing field trip locations in the Detroit area! We’ll visit Detroit River Walk—first urban state park in Michigan, Ford Living Laboratory Tour, U-Mich Environmental Interpretative Center in Dearborn.

Monitoring Detroit River & Local Wildlife
10 am & 2 pm, Sat., May 21  Discovery Cruise on Detroit River  Presenter: Steve Stewart, MI Sea Grant

Sturgeon, eagles, islands, lighthouses, wetlands, and more await you as we explore the Lower Detroit River from the water. These will be 2.5 hour cruises.

Other workshops: 8:30-Noon, Sat., Jan. 15, 2011

MEECS Water Quality Unit at Cranbrook Institute of Science; call 248-645-3210 to register. $35.