

# Watershed-Wise Teacher Professional Development Workshops

## WANT TO BECOME A DEEPER SHADE OF GREEN?

The Interstate Commission on the Potomac River Basin (ICPRB) offers workshops and resources to help educators in the Potomac River Basin bring watershed-wise student investigations into your classrooms and sustainable practices onto your school grounds. Our workshops support Meaningful Watershed Educational Experiences (MWEE), satisfy multiple Environmental Literacy requirements, and can help your school become a Green School with the Maryland Association of Environmental and Outdoor Education. Arrange for us to bring one of these workshops to your school, or contact us to get on our workshop mailing list. Contact: Rebecca Wolf, 301-274-8110, or [bwolf@icprb.org](mailto:bwolf@icprb.org).

To download lessons and resources, see: [www.potomacriver.org/resources/educator-resources/](http://www.potomacriver.org/resources/educator-resources/).



### GETTING STARTED WITH STREAM MONITORING

**What better way to learn about stream ecology and water quality** than to collect and identify the fascinating insect larvae, crayfish, and shrimp-like scuds that live on the bottoms of our streams? We provide training and resources to help you develop a benthic macroinvertebrate stream program for your students. Stream monitoring programs provide opportunities for a transdisciplinary program involving biology, chemistry, history, geology, communications, data collection and analysis, math, and more. Your stream ecosystem's the limit. Grades 6-12.

**School Mentorships.** We also provide a tailor-made series of in-class lessons covering watersheds and biological, chemical, and physical stream assessment. A limited number of mentorships are available for teachers committed to an ongoing stream monitoring program. Preference will be given to schools involving multiple teachers.



### SCORE FOUR for Students, Schools, Streams and the Bay

**Students enjoy getting their hands into science – and the dirt –** and take pride in implementing projects that reduce stream pollution on their campus with our Score Four lessons. With a focus on real-world science and math and project-based student stormwater solutions, this 15-hour teacher workshop (1 Maryland-approved CPD) enables educators to raise environmentally savvy students and to develop student stormwater reduction projects, such as a conservation landscape, riparian buffer, or rain garden. Teachers learn indoor and outdoor investigations and lessons that enable their students to assess the school's watershed, stormwater footprint, and soils and to plan their project. The activities incorporate the scientific method, hydrological, biological and chemical processes, and math, language, and analytical skills (such as maps, tables, and graphs). The Score Four Program provides ample opportunity for a school cross-curricular program.



## WATERSHED CONNECTIONS MODEL BUILDING WORKSHOP

**By far, our most popular workshop.** In this 15-hour workshop teachers build a watershed model that students in grades 2 to 12 can use to explore historical land use, water pollution, and the use of sustainable methods known as Best Management Practices (BMPs). The workshop includes an in depth background presentation covering watersheds, land use, water quality, and BMPs. Teachers tell us that their hands-on models engage students in various lessons – bringing to life aspects of the water cycle, ecology, sociology, and history. A number of our participants have involved their classrooms in building additional models for class research and demonstrations.

Your school or nature center can arrange to have a workshop brought to it (minimum 5 participants). Contact us for more details. A \$75/person fee covers model supplies. We also can advise you on grants that might cover costs.



**ICPRB School Mentorships in Stream Ecology and Monitoring or the Score Four Program** are tailored for grades 6-12. Apply by writing an email describing why you are interested in a mentorship and the classes that would be involved. Please note the commitment of other teachers for a cross-curricular program, as preference is given to schools involving multiple teachers in the effort. It is our intention that mentorships will evolve into an ongoing school program. For the 2016-2017 school year, apply by June 30, 2016.

**To learn more, contact Rebecca Wolf at 301-274-8110 or [bwolf@icprb.org](mailto:bwolf@icprb.org).**

## About ICPRB

*The ICPRB mission is to enhance, protect, and conserve the water and associated land resources of the Potomac River basin and its tributaries through regional and interstate cooperation. Created through an interstate compact by an Act of Congress in 1940, the Interstate Commission on the Potomac River Basin (ICPRB) is composed of commissioners representing the federal government and the states of Maryland, Pennsylvania, Virginia, West Virginia, and the District of Columbia.*

*We accomplish our mission by conducting, coordinating, and cooperating in studies and programs in the areas of water quality, water supply, living resources, and land resources. Our Section for Cooperative Water Supply Operations on the Potomac River (CO-OP), a special section of the Commission, is a technical operations center for management and coordination among the regional water utilities to avoid water supply shortages in Metropolitan Washington during droughts. Educational outreach is provided through our Communications Group.*



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