

Outdoor Environmental Education Programs

Courses and Workshops

Spring 2019

Register for all courses on PDO.

Teachers of sixth grade residential Outdoor Environmental Education will have priority.

Outdoor Education Organizer Meeting; Course #54153

Thursday, January 3, 2019 4:00–5:30 p.m.

Participants: Local School Outdoor Education Organizers from every school attending the residential program in the second semester (February –June 2019)

Participants will review new policies and procedures, as well as be introduced to significant changes in core lessons for the 2018–2019 residential program. New local school organizers are encouraged to stay for 30 minutes after the general meeting for additional guidance and support.

Food Web (Predator/Prey); Course # 50893

Saturday, March 16, 2019 8:00 – 11:00 a.m. OR

Saturday, March 16, 2019 12:00 – 3:00 p.m.

Voluntary workshop for teachers who are interested in teaching the predator/prey simulation lesson that is used during the residential outdoor education experience for sixth grade students. The simulation supports the populations and diversity concepts in the sixth grade science curriculum and provides students with an engaging and thought-provoking glimpse into how food webs work and function. Teachers who complete this workshop will be able to conduct the simulation during their students' sixth grade residential experience. The workshop will focus on organizing the experience for maximum educational value and safety.

Stream Study or Pond Study Workshop; Course # 50894

Saturday, March 16, 2019 8:00 – 11:00 a.m. OR

Saturday, March 16, 2019 12:00 – 3:00 p.m.

Voluntary workshop for teachers who are interested in conducting a stream study with their students. This workshop will focus on techniques for conducting a macro invertebrate survey, chemical analysis, and stream buffer analysis of a local stream in order to determine the health of the local watershed. Food web and food chain concepts will be reinforced through identification of the organisms in a stream ecosystem. The environmental impact of various pollutants will be discussed.

Treasure Earth (Amazing Race): Geocaching Workshop; Course # 84946

Saturday, March 16, 2019 12:00 – 3:00 p.m.

For teachers of 6th grade Outdoor Environmental Education who are interested in teaching geocaching during the residential outdoor education experience. Students will learn to use GPS units along with a map and compass to find hidden tasks to complete. Students can complete a set of specific STEM tasks or the tasks can be related to your content area.

Exploring the Watershed

Course # 50895

Saturday, March 16, 2019 8:00 – 11:00 a.m.

Voluntary workshop for teachers who will be teaching Exploring the Watershed. We will begin the class with a review of using a map and compass. Each outdoor education site has a course that marks special features of our local watershed or possible sites for settlement. Teachers who complete this workshop will be able to conduct a structured exploration of the watershed during their students' sixth grade residential experience. The workshop will focus on organizing the experience for maximum educational value and safety.

Confidence Course Re-Certification; Course # 50890, Section # 111483

Saturday, March 16, 2019 8:00 – 11:00 a.m. OR

Saturday, March 16, 2019 12:00 – 3:00 p.m.

In order to maintain the ability to use the confidence course for instruction, staff members need to complete a three-hour re-certification course every three years. Instructors certified in, or prior to, Fall 2015, are due for re-certification (You may check your completion date on your transcript in PDO). This voluntary course is for MCPS Outdoor Environmental Education certification only and is available only to those who have taken EE-06 Confidence Course training.

Grade 6 Student Service Learning (SSL) Hours for this workshop, please contact your OEEP coordinator and/or check out the videos on our website:

<http://www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/curriculum/outdoored/programs/residential-ssl.aspx>

EE-06 Confidence Course Instructor's Workshop

Saturday, March 2, 2019; Sunday, March 3, 2018

This 1-credit CPD course is designed to provide participants with the knowledge and skills necessary for conducting confidence course activities at all of the outdoor education sites. It is designed to allow participants to be involved in small group activities that demonstrate the proper procedures, processing, and safety requirements for the appropriate and successful use of the confidence course. In addition, group interaction, communication, and cooperation are emphasized, as well as overall team building and problem-solving skills. Completion of this course is required for any staff intending to utilize the confidence course with adults or children. This course meets Saturday and Sunday, March 2 and March 3 from 8:00 a.m.-4:30 p.m.

EE-07 Using Environmental Issues as a Context for Learning

February 27, 2019– May 8, 2019 Wednesday nights, 4:15pm – 7:15pm

This 3-credit CPD course will give participants an in-depth look at the content and methodology of the MCPS Outdoor Environmental Education Program. The class will be held at the Kingsley Environmental Education Center in Clarksburg, MD. Participants will receive opportunities to engage in investigations that emphasize content and process in outdoor environmental education related topics. Participants will build capacity by learning from experts in the fields of study typically covered in environmental education (e.g., a climatologist will present the latest research on climate change; a Department of Natural Resources manager will present on Wildlife Management issues). Participants will become familiar with using the environment as an integrated context for learning and the connections to the Common Core, Maryland Environmental Literacy Standards and MELP. This course has two all day Saturday sessions on 4/6 and 5/4. Class Dates: 2/27, 3/6, 3/20, 3/27, 4/3, 4/10, 4/24, 5/1, 5/8