

Environmental Education Resource List for City of Camden Schools 2015

*Created by the Environmental Education Working Group,
a subset of the Camden Collaborative Initiative*



This Resource List serves to provide the City of Camden's educators with an outlet with which they can incorporate the concepts of sustainability and environment-based instruction into their classrooms. Members of the Environmental Education Working Group offer an array of resources that include lesson plans, hands-on activities, field trips, and grant opportunities. Art and science instructors alike can use this resource list to incorporate "green" concepts into classroom routines and procedures.



Introduction

The Camden Collaborative Initiative (CCI) is a partnership amongst the City of Camden, Cooper's Ferry Partnership, the Camden County Municipal Utilities Authority, the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection, and the United States Environmental Protection Agency. This program was formed in 2013 to help coordinate the resources of committed local stakeholders, with guidance from the CCI's administrators, to bring environmental benefits to the City of Camden.

The CCI formed six working groups to make a difference on the ground, where it matters most. One of those working groups is the Environmental Education Working Group, composed of professionals from over two-dozen organizations and entities. This group is dedicated to providing a diversity of worthwhile resources to Camden's educators, so they may effectively utilize environment-based instruction while boosting student performance and promoting success in the classroom.

The List

The Resource List serves to connect City of Camden educators to environmental professionals in the area that can provide resources to help incorporate environment-based instruction into City of Camden classrooms. Examples of resource categories include:

- Curriculum/Lesson Plans
- Contests
- Field Trips
- Grant Opportunities
- Schoolyard Enhancements
- Summer Camps/After-School Programs
- Speakers/Classroom Presentations
- Teacher Workshops/Professional Development
- Volunteer Opportunities
- Youth Employments

Each Resource Page lists a **target audience**, which includes students K-12, educators, and the general community. In addition, each page explains the environmental **resource types and environmental topics** represented by each organization, along with the respective age and any fees associated with the program. Any questions about a particular resource can be directed to the **primary contact** listed on the top of each page.

While this list is intended for City of Camden educators, other municipalities are welcome to utilize the list, as applicable. Many of the resources included are offered broadly to the County of Camden, the State of NJ, or throughout the United States.

*This Resource List was created by personnel of Vision Edge, including:
Jessica Franzini, Sustainability Consultant
Edward Cohen, Owner*

Table of Contents

Resource Organizations	Page #
AmeriCorps New Jersey Watershed Ambassadors	4
Bayshore Center at Bivalve	5
Camden Children's Garden	6
Camden County Parks Department	7
Camden County Municipal Utilities Authority	8
Center for Aquatic Sciences	9-10
Center for Environmental Transformation	11
National Parks Service	12-13
NJ Conservation Foundation	14
NJ Department of Environmental Protection	15-16
NJ Tree Foundation	17
Partnership for the Delaware Estuary	18
Philadelphia Zoo	19-20
Rutgers Cooperative Extension Water Resources Program	21
Saddler's Woods Conservation Association	22
Sustainable Cherry Hill	23
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency	24-25
Urban Promise Ministries	26

This Resource List is updated regularly and will soon be available online. Please contact Maurie Smith at the address below for the most updated PDF version of this document.

To join the Camden Environmental Education Working Group, please contact Maurie Smith of Cooper's Ferry Partnership at (856) 757-9154 or msmith@coopersferry.com.

AmeriCorps New Jersey Watershed Ambassadors

Kathy Giordano, Program Manager

(609) 777 – 1406

P. O. Box 420, Mail Code 401-03

Trenton, NJ 08625-0420

kathy.giordano@dep.state.nj.us

<http://www.nj.gov/dep/wms/bear/ameri-corps.htm>



Target Audience: Students Grades K-12, General Community

Resource Type(s): In-Classroom/Assembly Programs, Volunteer Opportunities, Wildlife

Environmental Topics: Water, Watersheds, Stormwater Management

Mission

The AmeriCorps New Jersey Watershed Ambassadors Program is an environmental community service program administered by the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (NJDEP) to raise public awareness about watershed issues and promote watershed stewardship through direct community involvement. AmeriCorps members are assigned to different watersheds throughout the state to serve as "Watershed Ambassadors" to their watershed communities.

Resources

All programs are offered free of charge and tailored for students K-12.

Watershed Health Presentations:

Watershed Ambassadors are available to speak in classrooms about watersheds, threats to local waterways (including point and non-point source pollution), and how to assess the health of watersheds through macroinvertebrate surveys. Watershed Ambassadors can bring live macroinvertebrates into the classroom and/or engage students through the use of a watershed model called the Enviroscape. Sessions can be tailored for all age groups.

Community Projects:

Watershed Ambassadors partner with community groups to organize volunteer events like cleanups, rain garden installations, and more. Schools can partner with Watershed Ambassadors to plan an event to benefit the school and local watershed, or schools can send volunteers to attend events taking place in the nearby community. For a list of current events or for more information, please contact Ms. Giordano.

Water Quality Monitoring Training:

Watershed Ambassadors can teach students how to monitor the water quality of nearby streams using two methods. The first method is based on a visual analysis of erosion, human impact, and available habitat for organisms. The second method is biological, involving the collection and identification of macroinvertebrates. All training sessions incorporate a classroom and hands-on field-based component.

Bayshore Center at Bivalve

Shipboard Program Coordinator
2800 High Street, Port Norris, NJ 08349
(856) 785-2060 x 107
education@bayshorecenter.org
www.bayshorecenter.org



Target Audience: Students grades 4 – College, General Community

Resource Type(s): Field Trips / Experiential Learning, Scholarship Opportunities, Contests, Curriculum / Lessons, Summer Camps

Environmental Topics: Environmental Education, Watersheds, Water Quality, Wetlands, Marine Biology, Energy, Environmental Stewardship, Sustainability

Mission

The Bayshore Center at Bivalve's mission is to motivate people to take care of the history, the culture and the environment of New Jersey's Bayshore region through education, preservation and example.

Resources

Program fees are described below, but scholarships may be available for all resources with a fee.

Education Sails Aboard the Schooner AJ Meerwald:

Participants help hoist the sails of this 1928 Delaware Bay Oyster Schooner, enjoy a series of hands-on educational stations aboard the ship, and enjoy the surrounding environment. Educators choose the topics covered during the sail, including watershed, water quality, wetlands, plankton, oysters, and more. The ship can accommodate up to 41 total passengers and typically visits the Camden area each spring and fall. The Education Sail fee is \$800.

Curriculum Packets:

Teachers booking an Education Sail are provided with a curriculum packet that they can use prior to their sail to prepare the students for the experience and/or following the sail to reinforce what they learn. These packets are available online and are designed for 4th – 8th and 9th- 12th grades.

Bivalve Discovery Tours:

Interactive guided wetland walks and/or museum tours can be scheduled for any day/time of the week. Fees range from \$50 to \$375 and depend upon group size and selections made. Combination packages are available.

Summer Camps:

Sailor For A Day Camps (1 day) and Maritime Camps (5 days & 4 nights) are designed to elaborate on the lessons learned during an Education Sail, combined with living a sustainable lifestyle for the duration of the camp. Fees are \$70 for Sailor For A Day Camp and \$750 for Maritime Camp.

"Make-A-Difference" Contest:

Choose a project that will make a positive impact in your school, community or beyond. Write about the experience, take a few photos of it and enter to win a free Education Sail aboard the Schooner AJ Meerwald

Current Information: January 2015

Camden Children's Garden

Mike Devlin, Executive Director

(856) 365-9741

3 Riverside Drive, Camden, NJ 08103

education@camdenchildrensgarden.org



Target Audience: Students Grades K-12, General Community

Resource Type(s): Field Trips, Distance Learning

Environmental Topics: Insects, Gardening, Nutrition, Plants

Mission

The Camden Children's Garden is designed for children and families. It is a special place to explore and discover the natural world. The four-acre garden provides horticultural experiences for creative and imaginative play.

Resources

The cost and age group of each resource is listed below.

Field Trips:

Field trip rates are \$7.00 per student and \$5.50 per adult (one free chaperon per 5 students). Visit the Garden on a self-guided tour. Enjoy the various themed gardens, learn about butterflies at the Philadelphia Eagles Four Seasons Butterfly House and Education Center, ride some of our amusements and enjoy a day at the Garden. Consider adding structured lessons from Garden staff (see "On Site Education"). Pre-registration is required.

On-Site Education:

Enhance your field trip with an engaging Garden Lesson. Rates are \$55 for grades K-2 (30 minutes), \$70 for grades 3-6 (45 minutes), and \$75 for grades 7-12 (45 minutes). A variety of topics are available for students K -12, including butterflies, soil, trees, migration, biodiversity, tropical rain forests, nutrition and many more. For a listing of available lessons, please visit the Children's Garden website.

School Festivals:

These are held on select Thursdays in April & May, from 9:30AM-1:30PM, at the cost of \$9.00 per student; \$5.50 per adult (1 chaperon free for every 5 students). School festivals connect 3rd to 6th graders with nature through engaging hands-on activities. In a round-robin style, students work on their Garden Passports as they explore science concepts. Each child receives two tokens for amusement rides and plants a plant to take home. Reservations are required.

Distance Learning:

Bring the Garden to your students through videoconferencing! Designed for students of all ages, interactive nature-themed science lessons are available on a variety of topics ranging from butterflies and weather to nutrition and genetics. Rates are \$60 for grades K-2 (30 minutes), \$75 for grades 3-6 (45 minutes), and \$80 for grades 7+ (45 minutes). For available lessons, please visit the Children's Garden website.

Camden County Parks Department

Maggie McCann, Environmental Educator

(856) 833-1469

1301 Park Boulevard, Cherry Hill, NJ 08002

maggie.mccann@camdencounty.com

www.camdencounty.com/parks



Target Audience: Students Grades K-12, Teachers, General Community

Resource Type(s): In-Classroom/Assembly Programs, Field Trips, Summer Camps, Grant Opportunities, Professional Development

Environmental Topics: Parks, Sustainability, Recreation, Environmental Issues, Recycling, Solid Waste Management, Water, Maps

Mission

The Camden County Parks and Recreation Department is committed to coordinating and providing a wide variety of healthy, wholesome activities as well as preserving and maintaining the county's parks, facilities and open spaces.

Resources

All programs are offered free of charge and tailored for students K-12.

Camden County Environmental Center Talks and Walks

The Center offers nature and full moon walks, along with an informational and speaker series.

School-Based Education

A variety of customizable, hands-on environmental programs are offered in the classroom, through assemblies, or through field trips to the Camden County Environmental Center.

Professional Development for Teachers/Environmental Educators

Camden County provides high-quality professional development programs for teachers, to equip educators with the knowledge, tools, skills, and confidence to use the local environment in their curriculum through hands-on investigations, standards-based activities and assessments.

Camden County Citizen Science Opportunities

These are collaborations between scientists and volunteers, to expand opportunities for scientific data collection and provide access to scientific information for community members.

Fresh Water Mussel Survey of the Delaware Estuary

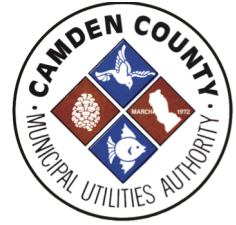
Opportunity for classrooms/out-of-school groups/community groups to learn about fresh water mussels, their importance and function in the estuary and then survey their local waterway to provide meaningful data for scientists.

4-H ArcGIS Mapping Program

This is a software grant to enable youth to learn how to map the many resources within the Camden County Parks and the Camden Greenway Trail network.

Camden County Municipal Utilities Authority

Andrew Kricun, Executive Director
1645 Ferry Avenue, Camden, NJ 08104
andy@ccmua.org
www.ccmua.org



Target Audience: Students Grades K-12, General Community

Resource Type(s): Field Trips, Lesson Plans, Community Outreach

Environmental Topics: Combined Sewer Systems, Green Infrastructure, Renewable Energy, Stormwater Management, Wastewater Treatment, Water

Mission

The CCMUA's employees are committed to their customers, public health, and quality wastewater management through shared responsibility of teamwork and individual effort.

Resources

All programs are offered free of charge and tailored for students K-12.

Plant Tours

Plant tours help students understand what happens to our water after it goes down our toilets, drains and combined sewers. Tours show firsthand the amazing biological process that transforms polluted influent into clean effluent. More than just a tour; science, history and the conservation movement are discussed as students are challenged to make connections between human ingenuity, the unintended consequences of such, and the environmental issues we face today.

Water Quality Sampling

Students gain access to the CCMUA's laboratory and are exposed to biology and chemistry in a real life setting. This setting reinforces laboratory concepts learned in the classroom while allowing students to see and test water as it progresses through the wastewater treatment plant.

Combined Sewers & Rain Gardens

Students are provided classroom instruction on Camden City's combined sewer system and the environmental strain it puts on the City. Exposing students to the challenges and opportunities that exist with a combined system can help modify behavior and foster thoughtful discussion on steps that can be taken to help resolve this issue. For those students whose schools are in proximity to a rain garden, tours can be given to demonstrate green infrastructure techniques.

General Environmental Education Programs

CCMUA personnel can provide lessons on a wide range of environmental issues. From topics ranging from runoff and erosion to solar power, teachers can augment their lessons with people whose job and desire is to protect our environment.

Environmental Education Inserts

The CCMUA has a unique opportunity to reach most residents in Camden County through its quarterly billings. Appropriate environmental education inserts can be included to highlight challenges and accomplishments that affect all or a portion of the county's population.

Center for Aquatic Sciences at Adventure Aquarium

Jack Carr, Senior Manager of Public STEM engagement
1 Riverside Drive, Camden, NJ 08103
(856) 361-1017
jcarr@njaas.org
www.njaas.org



Target Audience: Students Grades K-12, Teachers

Resource Type(s): Professional Development, In-Classroom Programs, Field Trips, After-School Programming

Environmental Topics: Water, Aquatic Life

Mission

The Center for Aquatic Sciences at Adventure Aquarium promotes the understanding, appreciation and protection of aquatic life and habitats through research, education and youth development programs.

Resources

The cost and age group of each resource is listed below.

Teacher Professional Development and Partnership Programs

We offer professional development to help educators engage students in active STEM learning. We offer single or multi-session workshops tailored to your curriculum and grade-level needs, addressing Inquiry-based science learning, specific content knowledge, practical classroom strategies, literacy links, writing for science and other cross- curricular connections.

TrOutreach Traveling Programs

TrOutreach programs travel year-round to schools, daycare centers, summer camps, libraries, community centers, fairs and special events - wherever you need us. Whether it's hands-on in a classroom, or a large assembly, TrOutreach helps you bring science to life, and life to science! Programs are available for all ages, and most programs include live animals.

Meet us in the Wild Field/Nature Programs

Our Wild Field Programs takes your group on an educational outdoor adventure to the NJ Pinelands, salt marsh or beach ecosystem. All Wild Field Programs provide hands-on learning and data collection/analysis opportunities. The programs run approximately 2 hours, with additional time set aside for lunch (not provided).

21st Century Community Learning Centers Enrichment Programs

We provide science content providers for established after-school programs. Engaging activities, games and hands-on opportunities give after-school students science enrichment which allows students to gain confidence and understanding of the natural world. All programs are delivered at the after-school location.

Embedded School-day Programs

Collaborating with school teachers, NJAAS staff support the school curriculum by team-teaching a weekly science class regularly throughout the year. Our real world experience, extensive animal and artifact collection, and engaging, non-traditional methods add alternative learning opportunities for students in an on-going basis.

Summer Camp (at Adventure Aquarium)

Through field trips, hands on activities, crafts, games, a 4D Theatre Show, up-close animal encounters, as well as behind the scenes and exhibit tours at Adventure Aquarium, children have a summer experience they won't soon forget!

Family Programs

We offer a set of hands-on learning experiences designed to teach science to families of varied ages and backgrounds in communities of the Philadelphia-Camden region. It is a collaboration between the New Jersey Academy for Aquatic Sciences, The Franklin Institute Science Museum, the Philadelphia Zoo, the Academy of Natural Sciences, and ten Community Based Organizations (CBOs).

Scouting Programs

Programs for scout groups focus on specific badge requirements. Workshops are 2-hours long, complete several requirements for the badge, and combine hands-on activities, live animals and biofacts. Girl Scouts can choose between Juniors Wildlife, Juniors Water Wonders, Juniors Marine Animals (GSEP), Juniors Ocean Discovery (GSCSNJ), Brownies Animals Try-It, Brownies Eco-Explorer Try-It, Brownies Marine Animals Try-It (GSEP) and Brownies Ocean Discovery Try-It (GSCSNJ) badges. Boy Scouts can choose from Webelos Naturalist and Boy Scout Oceanography badges. Other workshops can be developed by request.

Classes and Tours at Adventure Aquarium

A variety of educational programs enhances a group's trip to Adventure Aquarium. They are offered Monday – Friday from Sept. through June between 10:00 am and 1:45pm. Learning Adventures, Assemblies and Tour programs are designed to enhance your classroom lessons, and are in line with several State and National Standards. Programs range from Pre-K-12, including programs for special needs. Visit our website for a complete list of programs.

Center for Environmental Transformation

Ari Rosenberg, Urban Farmer and Educator

1729 Ferry Avenue, Camden, NJ 08104

856-365-811

ari@cfet.org

www.cfet.org



Target Audience: Students Ages 9-19

Resource Type(s): Youth Employment, Experiential Learning, In-Classroom Programs, Service Retreats

Environmental Topics: Urban Agriculture, Health and Nutrition, Air Quality, Environmental Justice, Stormwater Management

Mission

CFET seeks to educate people into a more environmentally responsible way of living on our planet. Equally important, we seek to engage in sustainable modes of food production, storm water management, and waste recycling for the benefit of the people of our neighborhood and the residents of the entire city.

Resources

The cost and age group of each resource is listed below.

Garden SEEDS (Service, Eating, Education, Diversity & Silliness) - a program for children ages 9-13 to engage in hands-on cooking and garden exploration activities, using a seed-to-table curriculum developed by CFET staff that focuses on the hands-on exploration of food and where it comes from. Garden SEEDS programs are offered at CFET and within school classrooms.

Eco Interns - an entry-level paid-work opportunity for youth ages 14-19 that provides intensive hands-on training in urban gardening, cooking and entrepreneurship. Youth learn about a variety of environmental justice themes including storm water management, particulate matter, fracking, and sustainable agriculture. Youth are paid \$8.25/hr.

Assistant Farmers - Designed for alumni Eco Interns, this program will focus on leadership development. Assistant Farmers will be responsible for leading weekly workshops, developing garden work plans, and supporting the Garden SEEDS children's program. Youth are paid \$9.00/hr.

Environmental Justice Retreats - Designed for high school and college students, the retreat program educates youth and young adults about environmental justice, sustainability, and how systemic oppression has affected urban environments, including Camden. Groups work on projects connected to our urban gardens and with partner organizations, whose activities focus on topics including education, homelessness, food access, and community development. Retreats are \$40/night/person for multiple nights, day trips are on a sliding scale.

Products - CFET sells heirloom vegetable seedlings in the spring and fall, native plants in the summer and fall, and rain barrels year round.

National Park Service

Sophie Sarkar
Rivers, Trails and Conservation Assistance Program
(215) 597-2136
Sophie_Sarkar@nps.gov
<http://www.nps.gov/learn>



Target Audience: Students Grades K-12, Teachers

Resource Type(s): Field Trips, Guest Speakers, Curriculum Materials, Professional Development, Videos and Readings

Environmental Topics: History, Health, Planning/Development, Civic Engagement, Climate Change, Earth Science, Geology, Outdoor Recreation, Ecology, Biology, Geography, etc.

Mission

The National Park Service preserves unimpaired the natural and cultural resources and values of the national park system for the enjoyment, education, and inspiration of this and future generations. The Park Service cooperates with partners to extend the benefits of natural and cultural resource conservation and outdoor recreation throughout this country and the world.

Resources

All programs are offered free of charge and tailored for students K-12 unless otherwise specified.

Field Trips

Whether you plan your own trip entirely, or request a ranger-led program, there are many great ways to explore, learn, and enjoy the National Parks. While at the park, hands on, experiential learning connects students with real examples and relevant curriculum. You can find park-specific field trip information for some of the nearby National Parks at the following links:

- [Valley Forge National Historical Park](#)
- [Hopewell Furnace National Historic Site](#)
- [Independence National Historical Park](#) (fee for curriculum-based field trip programs)
- [Delaware Water Gap National Recreation Area](#)

Rangers in the Classroom

Some of the National Parks offer students the opportunity to meet a real park ranger, scientist, historian or other park professional in their own classroom. Rangers and other park staff come to the classroom prepared to contribute to curriculum-based programming, addressing specific standards using park examples. [Valley Forge National Historical Park](#): (grades 3-8)

Curriculum Materials

The National Park Service offers educators a variety of curriculum materials that bring the parks to the classroom through standards-based activities and lesson plans that cover everything from wildlife biology to slavery. You can search for lesson plans by park, grade range, subject, or key word through the National Park Service Education Portal located here:

<http://www.nps.gov/teachers/curriculummaterials.htm>

Teacher Workshops

The National Park Service works with partners to offer a variety of teacher workshops. The workshops are as varied as the parks in which they occur, but all stress interdisciplinary participatory learning, and strive to connect curriculum goals with the park stories and resources.

- [Independence National Historical Park](#) (cost ranges from \$0-\$30)
- [Valley Forge and Independence Summer Teacher Institute](#) (\$75)

Historical & Environmental Education Reading

Park rangers, scientists, historians and other park professionals have prepared this list of materials that inspired them to learn about the parks - an ever growing library of titles you can suggest to your students. They provide additional resources to accompany your curriculum, and draw inspiration for future curriculum planning. <http://www.nps.gov/teachers/educationreading.htm>

National Park Service YouTube Channel

Find videos to share in your classroom on the NPS YouTube Channel. Here you will discover everything from short, un-narrated moments in nature, to explorations of the science behind the scenery in your national parks and monuments.

<http://www.youtube.com/user/NationalParkService/videos>

To learn more about the nearby National Park Sites, please visit the links below:

New Jersey and New York

- [Delaware Water Gap National Recreation Area](#)
- [Morristown National Historical Park](#)
- [Paterson Great Falls National Historical Park](#)
- [Thomas Edison National Historical Park](#)
- [National Parks of New York Harbor](#)

Pennsylvania

- [Independence National Historic Park](#)
- [Edgar Allan Poe National Historic Site](#)
- [Valley Forge National Historic Park](#)
- [Hopewell Furnace National Historic Park](#)

New Jersey Conservation Foundation

Chris Jage, Assistant Director for South Jersey

800 Cooper St., Suite 201c

Camden, NJ 08104

chris@njconservation.org

www.njconservation.org



Target Audience: Students K-12, Teachers, General Community

Resource Type(s): Field Trips, Indoor and Outdoor Classroom Programming, Presentations

Environmental Topics: Land Conservation, Environmental Awareness

Mission

The NJ Conservation Foundation's mission is to preserve New Jersey's land and natural resources for the benefit of all.

Resources

The cost of each resource is listed below, if applicable.

Step Into Nature Programming

The NJ Conservation Foundation (NJCF) offers programming all over the state of New Jersey. In Camden, events have involved partnering with local organizations to paddle the Cooper River, assist with watershed education on bikes, tour Camden's urban gardens, bike the Delaware River Heritage Trail, walk the Camden Greenway, and host cleanups. Our statewide programs, however, are also available to Camden and area residents and schools. NJCF would gladly work with any group or resident to discuss how they may attend our Step Into Nature programs.

NJ Land Conservation Rally

NJCF organizes New Jersey's Land Conservation Rally annually. The Rally is one of the largest statewide conservation training events. It is a great education tool and networking event for anyone interested in the environmental field in our region. Historically, NJCF has had the ability to find scholarships for Camden area students that have the desire to attend. Those interested should contact Chris Jage at the above email address or Laura Szwak (laura@njconservation.org).

Presentations

NJCF has done a variety of presentations for groups of all ages. Generally, presentations highlight the importance of open space and trails, their relevance locally and regionally and further explain how the target audience may choose to get more involved.

NJ Department of Environmental Protection

Tanya Oznowich, Environmental Education Supervisor

NJDEP Office of Communications

401 East State Street, Trenton, NJ 08625

(609) 984-9802

Tanya.oznowich@dep.state.nj.us

www.nj.gov/dep



Target Audience: Students Grades preK-12, Teachers, Environmental Educators, Naturalists

Resource Type(s): Professional Development, Technical Assistance, Lesson Plans, Speakers

Environmental Topics: Air Quality, Water Quality and Supply, Waste Management and Recycling, Energy, Sustainability, Pollution, Pesticides, Radon, Land and Natural Resource Management, Ecology, Environmental Justice, Stewardship, Environmental Health

Mission

NJDEP's core mission is and will continue to be the protection of the air, waters, land, and natural and historic resources of the State to ensure continued public benefit. The Department's mission is advanced through effective and balanced implementation and enforcement of environmental laws to protect these resources and the health and safety of our residents.

Resources

All resources are offered free of charge.

DEP Online Directories

[State Environmental Education Directory webSite \(SEEDS\)](#)

SEEDS is an online catalog of hundreds of environmental education resources available through the DEP. Categories of resources include field trips, classroom programs, materials, training, events, grants, etc.

[Environmental Education News \(EEEdNews\)](#)

EEEdNews is a bi-monthly listserv and website that features events, competitions, employment, funding opportunities, new resources and programs, professional development, classroom materials and links to other resources.

[School Facilities Directory](#)

This provides convenient regulatory information and best practices for educational institutions targeting school administrators and faculty, school board members, parent associations, school nurses and others.

DEP Webpages for Educators

[Speakers Program](#)

The DEP fields requests for public speakers, classroom presentations and exhibitors on various environmental and scientific topics that are overseen by DEP.

[Professional Development Opportunities](#)

DEP sponsors four nationally recognized, award-winning environmental education curriculum supplements in New Jersey. They are **Project WILD**, **Project WILD Aquatic**, **Project WET** (Water Education for Teachers) and **Project Learning Tree** (PLT).

[Outdoor Classroom Network](#)

The network is dedicated to training, networking and promoting the development or enhancement of schoolyard habitat projects for educational purposes.

[Earth Day/Environmental Education Week NJ](#)

DEP celebrates Earth Day and Environmental Education Week annually and helps promote the dozens of local celebrations that are held by communities, schools, businesses and organizations statewide.

[Air Quality Education](#)

This listing promotes data sources, content information, curriculum resources and community-based projects that engage students of all ages in learning about air quality and air monitoring in New Jersey.

[Stop-The-Soot](#)

The Bureau of Mobile Sources promotes strategies that help reduce diesel emissions.

[School Integrated Pest Management \(IPM\) Program](#)

The School IPM Act requires schools to establish an IPM program, which includes adopting a [Model IPM Policy](#) and implementing a Model IPM Plan, which is a comprehensive site-specific document that guides a school's day-to-day activities for controlling pests.

[Radon Testing in Schools](#)

The DEP and the Department of Education developed information about school radon testing and related requirements for school administrators, teachers, and parents.

[Governor's Environmental Excellence Awards](#)

This program recognizes outstanding environmental performance, programs and projects. Awards are given to individuals, businesses, educators, institutions, communities, youth and others who made significant contributions to environmental protection.

New Jersey Tree Foundation

Jessica Franzini, Program Director

P.O. Box 1221, Camden, NJ 08105

(856) 287-4488

jfranzini.njtf@gmail.com

www.njtreefoundation.org



Target Audience: Students Grades K-12, General Community

Resource Type(s): Volunteer Opportunities, School Enhancements, Presentations

Environmental Topics: Urban Forestry, Environmental Stewardship, Fruit Trees

Mission

The NJ Tree Foundation (NJTF) is dedicated to planting trees in NJ's most urban areas, where the need is the greatest. Through tree planting, education, and volunteerism, NJTF helps communities across NJ improve their environment and quality of life.

Resources

All programs are offered free of charge.

Trees for Schools (Grades K-12)

Through the Urban Airshed Reforestation Program, the NJ Tree Foundation offers free street and yard trees to Camden schools. Trees are offered free of charge as long as a designated school representative(s) assists with organizing the planting and recruiting volunteers to help plant the trees. Schools are required to maintain the trees for a minimum of 2 years.

Please note: there is a 10 tree minimum for all planting projects. Applications are available online or can be sent via postal mail. Projects take place in the spring and fall each year.

Camden TreeKeepers Workshops (Children 10+ and adults)

This program is great for parents and families. Camden TreeKeepers is a series of four workshops offered in the summer. Topics include tree identification, tree planting and pruning, tree maintenance, recognizing tree hazards, and understanding environmental issues. Sessions are held in various Camden locations, typically on weeknights after 6pm.

Participants receive free tools, educational materials, and dinner at each session. Those who attend all four sessions become Certified Camden TreeKeepers and become part of our volunteer coalition of tree stewards.

Presentations (Grades K-12)

The NJ Tree Foundation is happy to present to high school classrooms about tree planting volunteer opportunities in Camden and the importance of trees in urban communities.

Partnership for the Delaware Estuary

110 S. Poplar Street #202, Wilmington, DE 19801

Lisa Wool, Program Director

lwool@DelawareEstuary.org

www.DelawareEstuary.org



Target Audience: Students K-12, Teachers, General Community

Resource Type(s): Workshops, Professional Development, Contests

Environmental Topics: Water, Aquatic Life, Stormwater

Mission

The Partnership's mission is to lead science-based and collaborative efforts to improve the tidal Delaware River and Bay, which spans Delaware, New Jersey, and Pennsylvania.

Resources

[Delaware Estuary Watershed Teacher Workshop\(s\)](#) - Three-day and one-day workshops held throughout the Delaware Estuary giving teachers hands-on experiences and instruction for bringing environmental education into the classroom. The workshops generally take place in June-August.

[Green City, Clean Waters Art Contest](#) - Art contest open to students in Philadelphia to raise awareness about non-point source pollution / stormwater runoff pollution. The contest generally runs from December - March.

[Philly Water's Best Friend Spokesdog Competition](#) - Residents and their dogs, from varying neighborhood/regions of Philadelphia, participate to raise awareness of stormwater runoff pollution from dog waste.

[Schuylkill Action Students](#) - Bringing community groups, businesses, and volunteers together with local schools to install and maintain stormwater runoff pollution reduction/green infrastructure (native gardens, natural buffers, rain gardens, etc.).

[Storm Drain Marking](#) - Anyone can request free storm drain marking supplies for use in the city of Philadelphia. Groups, including municipal agencies, within the Delaware Estuary can purchase storm drain marking supplies from PDE at reduced cost.

[Volunteer Mussel Survey & Workshops](#) - Data on mussel populations in the Delaware Estuary is collected through citizen scientists. Workshops are held, generally through the spring and summer, to give participants hands-on training for conducting mussel surveys.

[Publications](#) - Multiple publications to raise awareness and educate about management of stormwater runoff pollution (i.e. *Green Guide for Property Management*, *Homeowners Guide to Stormwater Management*, *Rain Barrels & Rain Gardens* brochures, etc.). Other water-related publications including *Delaware Estuary Water Education Resource Guide* highlighting water-related environmental education programs and organizations in the Delaware Estuary, *Let's Learn About Water* activity books for kids, and *Estuary News*, a quarterly newsletter about hot topics and events in the Delaware Estuary.

Philadelphia Zoo

3400 West Girard Avenue, Philadelphia, PA 19104
Kristen Waldron, Director of Conservation Education & Integration
Erin McCool, Manager of Conservation Education
education@phillyzoo.org
www.philadelphiazoo.org
(215)243-1100



Target Audience: Students Grades preK-12, Teachers and Families

Resource Type(s): Field trips, Speakers/Classroom Presentations, Summer Camps, Experiential Learning, Youth Internships

Summary of Resource Categories: Wildlife Conservation and Stewardship, Environmental Education, Sustainability

Mission

By connecting people with wildlife, the Philadelphia Zoo creates joyful discovery and inspires action for animals and habitats.

Programs

[Community Access Program](#) - (CAP)

In 2010, the Zoo announced an umbrella program reflecting our commitment to providing **FREE admission to eligible Title 1 school children**, as well as to community groups and 501 (c) (3) organizations whose mission and organizational goals support exploration and education of children and families in the region. The Zoo is committed to a goal of at least 5% of total admission coming through this program – in a typical year; this will result in at least 60,000 free admissions to the Zoo. The Community Access Program is one facet of the Zoo's initiatives to strengthen our role as a community resource and to create future generations of environmental stewards.

[Curriculum-focused Field Trips](#) -

For schools that are not eligible for the CAP grant, the Zoo also offers a rich variety of education programs for all ages. Field trip rates are \$10.00 (November-March) and \$12.00 (Sept-Oct and April-June) per student and per adult (one free chaperon per 10 students). From onsite lessons to wildlife discovery tours, these curriculum-focused programs provide numerous possibilities that support 21st Century learning and the Next Generation Science Standards. Onsite lessons or tours are an additional \$3.00-\$5.00 per student.

[Unless Contest](#) -

Since 2012, more than 5,400 students from 113 different schools in the Delaware Valley region have participated in the Zoo's Albert M. Greenfield Unless Contest. This contest provides a project-based learning opportunity where students join the Zoo in taking action in their daily lives to save wildlife. The 2013-2014 Unless Contest is focused on addressing the impact of palm oil on endangered tigers. The 2014-2015 Unless Contest will be focused on recycling and Saving Energy to Save Wildlife. The Unless Contest program participants receive a free skype program and free visit to the Zoo in December- January.

[Zoo on Wheels](#) (In-classroom, assembly programs and STEM-based experience)

Zoo on Wheels program offers students grades preK-12 a chance to meet live animals, participate in hands-on scientific investigation and learn how their actions can make a difference in the lives of animals. This program is designed to meet the specific curriculum needs at each grade level and addresses key standards such as Interdependent Relationships in Ecosystems; Human Impacts; Earth's Systems; Weather and Climate. Zoo on Wheels program rates are \$275 (45-minute for up to 50 students or \$425 (45-minute up to 300 students; mileage fees apply).

[Zoo on Wheels](#) (Community Outreach)

Zoo on Wheels traveling naturalists set up a table with live animal ambassadors, touchable biofacts and an action opportunity such as "Save Energy to Save Wildlife". This informal program is a good fit for community festivals, libraries, and special events with a large audience. Guests may spend as much time as they wish or come back throughout the event to meet new animals. Zoo on Wheels community program rates are \$475 for a 2 hour booth; \$250 for each additional hour; maximum 4 hours; mileage fees apply.

[Teacher Resources](#) –

The Zoo provides a variety of opportunities for teachers. The Summer Break Teacher Pass provides certified preK-12th grade teachers free access to the Zoo (Monday-Friday in June, July and August). The Zoo also recruits educators for its Teacher Advisory Council which is a two-year term commitment focused on addressing the changing needs of today's teachers.

[Zoo Champions for Restoring Endangered Wildlife](#) – (Zoo CREW)

Zoo CREW is an immersive volunteer program at the Philadelphia Zoo where teens can become conservation ambassadors, gain experience working with animals, and take action for animals. Zoo CREW teens have amazing experiences and make life-long memories while developing their career and professional skills. Applicants must currently be in 9th grade. Preference is given to students from underserved communities.

[Zoo Overnights](#) -

Ever wonder what it is like to spend the night at the Zoo? Families, scouts, environmental clubs, and youth groups participate in an action-packed adventure while exploring the Zoo after dark. Overnight rates \$50-\$60 per person.

[Summer Camp](#) -

Wildlife Warriors Summer Camp offers campers, ages 4-to-13 years old, opportunities for hands-on learning and up-close, personalized animal experiences. Week-long sessions in June, July and August are available from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. (before and after camp options also available). Wildlife Warriors Summer Camp offers children the chance to have extending learning while discovering the wonders of wildlife. Summer camp rates are \$315 zoo members; \$340 nonmembers; before and after camp available for an additional fee.

Rutgers Cooperative Extension Water Resources Program

Christopher Obropta, Extension Specialist
obropta@envsci.rutgers.edu (848) 932-5711
www.water.rutgers.edu



Target Audience: Students Grades K-12, General Community
Resource Type(s): Volunteer Opportunities, School Enhancements, Experiential Learning
Environmental Topics: Watershed, Water Cycle, Rain Garden/Barrel, Stormwater

Mission

The Rutgers Cooperative Extension Water Resources Program's mission is to identify and address community water resources issues using sustainable and practical science-based solutions.

Resources

All programs can be tailored for various levels of students and adults. Program costs vary.

[Stormwater Management in Your Schoolyard](#) is an educational program in which students are provided with an opportunity to apply their science, math, and communication skills to real-world environmental problems. This program's pilot study concluded with an increase in the students' environmental awareness, and the students were encouraged to teach others in their communities about the importance of stormwater management.

[Water Champions](#) is an educational program designed to engage high school students in the promotion of WaterSense® and water efficient products. This environmentally-oriented community service and learning effort allows students the opportunity to tailor their program to local community needs.

[Stormwater Management in Your Backyard](#) is an educational program that educates community members about stormwater management. The program provides homeowners with the skills needed to install and manage rain gardens.

[Build a Rain Barrel Workshop](#) is an educational program where participants learn about stormwater management techniques, the importance of conserving water, and how to build and install a rain barrel. Workshop participants retrofit food grade barrels into rain barrels as part of the workshop.

[Rain Barrel Train the Trainer Program](#) is an educational program to provide environmental commission members, recycling coordinators, educators, Extension Master Gardeners, garden clubs, and environmental organizations with the skills to teach others how to build and install a rain barrel.

Saddler's Woods Conservation Association

Janet Goehner-Jacobs (Executive Director)

250 MacArthur Blvd. Haddon Township, NJ 08108 (physical address)

P.O. Box 189, Oaklyn, NJ 08107 (mailing address)

856-869-7372

Janet@saddlerswoods.org

www.saddlerswoods.org



Target Audience: Children 8 months - 12 years, General Community

Resource Type(s): Field Trips, Presentations

Environmental Topics: Nature, Wildlife, Water, Forests

Mission

Saddler's Woods Conservation Association (SWCA) strives to preserve and promote the natural and cultural resources of Saddler's Woods. Our core initiatives are restoration education and research. Our mission statement is to preserve and protect the native biodiversity of Saddler's Woods through stewardship, restoration, education, research, and land acquisition.

Resources

Some programs are offered free of charge and other programs are offered for a small fee.

- Children's programs ages 8 months-12 years
- Tours for children and adults
- Programs and/or tours for scout troops, schools, colleges, businesses, clubs
- Outreach programs and presentations to businesses and schools
- Group Initiatives/ retreat type programs for businesses, colleges, schools, clubs, organizations, etc.
- Private programs or tours can be arranged

Children's Programs available:

Nature, Trees, and Art Please

Flight around the Woods

Creatures of the Night Hike

Sensing Nature

Salamanders, Frogs, and Toads, Oh My

Creeping Crawling Reptiles

Busy Buzzing Bugs

Let's Live the Lenni Lenape Way

Mineral Mania

Water, Water, Everywhere

Winter in the Woods

Paper Making: Trees, Recycling, and Conservation

Living the Colonial Life

Tracking Nature: What's that Smell?

Tree-mendous Adventures

Wildflowers and Pollinators

The Bear Necessities

Current Information: January 2015

Sustainable Cherry Hill

Regional/Urban Partnerships for Sustainability

(RUPS) Committee

Edward Cohen, RUPS Chairman

ecohen@vision-edge.com

<http://www.sustainablecherryhill.org>



Target Audience: Students Grades 5-12, General Community

Resource Type(s): In-Classroom Opportunities, Lesson Plans, Outdoor Classroom support

Environmental Topics: Sustainability, Community Outreach, Recycling, Education

Mission

Sustainable Cherry Hill is dedicated to bringing people together to build a sustainable South Jersey.

Resources

The cost of each resource is listed below, if applicable.

RUPS Community Outreach:

RUPS is a group of volunteers in Burlington, Camden, and Gloucester counties with an outreach effort to increase understanding about the sustainability progress and challenges in the City of Camden. The RUPS group can help coordinate, advertise, support, and provide volunteers for projects in the City of Camden or surrounding regions.

Green-Themed Magic Show (small fee):

This exciting and interactive show is appropriate for classroom-sized audiences, grades 5-12. Each magic show can be adapted to focus on desired sustainability topics, as fit for the age group at hand. Ed does numerous shows free of charge each year, but his standard rate for this is \$300 for a show.

Lesson Plans - Educating for Sustainability

from the Cloud Institute's NJ Learns training program

The NJ Learns program has a variety of Lesson Plans for K-12 on topics such as Natural Laws & Principles of the Materials Cycle, the Healthy Commons, and the Dynamics of Systems & Change. The RUPS group includes several graduates of the program with access to those resources as well as a network of graduates in the area.

US Environmental Protection Agency: Region 2

Sabina Pendse, Sustainability and Multimedia Programs

(212) 637-3574

Pendse.Sabina@epa.gov

<http://www.epa.gov/region02/ee/>



Target Audience: Students Grades K-12, Teachers

Resource Type(s): Technical Assistance, Grants, Lesson Plans

Environmental Topics: Air Quality, Children's Health, Chemicals & Toxins, Climate Change, Energy, Waste, Water

Mission

The mission of Environmental Protection Agency is to protect human health and the environment.

Resources

All programs are offered free of charge and tailored for students K-12.

*If viewing electronically, **please click the links below** for more information.*

[Energy Star for K-12 School Districts](#)

A technical assistance program to guide school districts through energy efficiency programs

[Indoor Air Quality Tools for Schools](#)

A technical assistance program to reduce exposure to indoor contaminants in schools.

[Mold Remediation in Schools & Commercial Buildings](#)

This booklet presents recommendations on mold remediation in schools.

[What You Can Do-Climate Change at School](#)

An education and action planning resource for reducing greenhouse gas emissions at school.

[Schools Chemical Cleanout Campaign \(SC3\)](#)

This partnership program provides K-12 schools tools to responsibly manage chemicals.

[Integrated Pest Management \(IPM\) in Schools](#)

This resource helps schools achieve IPM to reduce pesticide risk and exposure to children.

[Schools and Mercury](#)

A resource to help schools safely find, manage, and dispose of mercury

[Drinking Water in Schools and Childcare Facilities](#)

This resource provides information and materials on lead in drinking water.

[Smart Growth and Schools](#)

This resource explains how smart growth planning helps schools better serve and support students.

[Clean Bus USA's National Idle Reduction Campaign](#)

This program offers a collection of materials to customize your own idle-reduction program to reduce children's exposure to air pollution from diesel school buses.

[SunWise School Program](#)

This program provides resources for educators to raise sun safety awareness in grades K-8 through classroom activities, publications, and curriculum.

[Community-Based Childhood Asthma Program](#)

This education program raises awareness of asthma issues and encourages community action.

[Asbestos in Schools](#)

An education and action planning resource to prevent asbestos exposure in schools

[WasteWise](#)

This partnership program helps businesses, local governments, 501(c)(3) organizations, and schools meet goals to reduce and recycle municipal solid waste and selected industrial wastes.

[Healthy Schools Environment Assessment Tool \(HealthySEAT\)](#)

This customizable software tool helps establish and manage school facility assessment programs.

[Environmental Education Grants](#)

This grant program supports environmental education projects that promote environmental stewardship and help develop knowledgeable, and responsible students, teachers, and citizens.

[Education Materials for Teachers: Composting and Recycling](#)

Resources about composting and recycling at school, including how to involve students in setting up a school recycling program.

UrbanPromise Ministries

Jim Cummings

856-382-1875

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www.urbanpromiseusa.org



Target Audience: Students Grades K-12

Resource Type(s): Student Speakers, Field Trips

Environmental Topics: Urban Ecology and History of Cooper River, Urban Waterways, Environmental Justice in Camden

Mission

UrbanPromise's mission is to equip Camden children and young adults with the skills necessary for academic achievement, life management, spiritual growth, and Christian leadership.

Resources

The cost of each resource is listed below, if applicable.

Urban BoatWorks Ecology/ History Paddle Trips on the Cooper:

UrbanPromise has space for approximately 20 people to paddle the Cooper River through Camden from Kaighn Avenue dam to Pyne Point. Students can learn about the history and ecology of the river as it relates to the city. UrbanPromise is open to school day field trips April-October and half day trips (weekends in the spring/ fall or anytime weekdays) for community groups, youth groups, etc. This is a fee-based program, and fees are negotiable.

UrbanPromise Ministries Stewardship Team:

This group of 10 student leaders will be looking for opportunities to speak to community groups, churches, etc. about the state of the urban waterways in Camden and the environmental future of the city. They are also potentially available to participate in clean ups, etc. set up by other organizations.

Index

Curriculum/Lessons

Bayshore Center at Bivalve	Page 5
Camden County Municipal Utilities Authority	Page 8
Center for Environmental Transformation	Page 11
NJ Conservation Foundation	Page 14
NJ Department of Environmental Protection	Pages 15-16
National Parks Service	Pages 12-13
Sustainable Cherry Hill	Page 23
US Environmental Protection Agency	Pages 24-25

Contests

Bayshore Center at Bivalve	Page 5
Partnership for the Delaware Estuary	Page 18

Field Trips/Experiential Learning

Bayshore Center at Bivalve	Page 5
Camden Children's Garden	Page 6
Camden County Parks Department	Page 7
Camden County Municipal Utilities Authority	Page 8
Center for Aquatic Sciences	Pages 9-10
Center for Environmental Transformation	Page 11
National Parks Service	Pages 12-13
NJ Conservation Foundation	Page 14
Philadelphia Zoo	Pages 19-20
Saddler's Woods Conservation Association	Page 22
Urban Promise Academy	Page 26

Grants

Camden County Parks Department	Page 7
US Environmental Protection Agency	Pages 24-25

School Yard Enhancements

NJ Tree Foundation	Page 17
Rutgers Cooperative Extension Water Resources Program	Page 21

Summer Camps/After-School Programs

Bayshore Center at Bivalve	Page 5
Camden County Parks Department	Page 7
Center for Aquatic Sciences	Pages 9-10
Philadelphia Zoo	Pages 19-20
Saddler's Woods Conservation Association	Page 22

Speakers/Classroom Presentations

AmeriCorps Watershed Ambassadors	Page 4
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Camden County Parks Department	Page 7
Camden County Municipal Utilities Authority	Page 8
Center for Environmental Transformation	Page 11
National Parks Service	Pages 12-13
NJ Conservation Foundation	Page 14
NJ Department of Environmental Protection	Pages 15-16
NJ Tree Foundation	Page 17
Philadelphia Zoo	Pages 19-20
Saddler's Woods Conservation Association	Page 22
Sustainable Cherry Hill	Page 23
Urban Promise Academy	Page 26

Teacher Workshops/Professional Development

Camden County Parks Department	Page 7
Center for Aquatic Sciences	Pages 9-10
National Parks Service	Pages 12-13
NJ Department of Environmental Protection	Pages 15-16
Partnership for the Delaware Estuary	Page 18

Volunteer Opportunities

AmeriCorps Watershed Ambassadors	Page 4
Center for Environmental Transformation	Page 11
NJ Tree Foundation	Page 17
Rutgers Cooperative Extension Water Resources Program	Page 21

Youth Internships/Employment

Camden Children's Garden	Page 6
Center for Environmental Transformation	Page 11
Philadelphia Zoo	Pages 19-20