

**HOW TOUGH ARE YOU? CAN YOU CAMP IN THE MOUNTAINS WITH WFSI FOR 32 DAYS NEXT SUMMER?**



**WORTHINGTON FIELD STUDIES  
SUMMER 2012 – CENTRAL ROCKIES  
FIELD ECOLOGY**



**INFORMATION AND APPLICATION PROCESS**

**INTRODUCTION:** Next summer, Worthington Field Studies will offer a unique opportunity to students. Students who are accepted to participate in the course will travel for thirty-two days in the WFSI vans to many state and national parks in Missouri, Kansas, Colorado, Utah, Wyoming, South Dakota, and Iowa. The program will begin with pre-trip classes at Thomas Worthington High School on June 18-19<sup>th</sup>, with departure on June 20<sup>th</sup>, then return on July 21<sup>st</sup>. The last day, July 22<sup>nd</sup>, will consist of cleaning and storage of equipment. Upon successful completion of the course, each student can earn one full ELECTIVE credit (1.0) in science through the Worthington Schools Summer School program. This PASS/FAIL credit cannot replace a credit in any other required science course. In addition to learning about the geology, ecology, Native American history, American history, and environmental issues of the areas being visited, participants will be afforded the opportunity to test themselves both physically and mentally. Participants will camp, hike, swim, whitewater raft, cave, ride horseback, visit museums, and experience the natural world first-hand. Participants can be assured that this is a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity.

**PARTICULARS:** Students will be accepted into the program only after a rigorous screening process which includes the completion of a student application, four teacher recommendations, parental input, and a face-to-face interview. The student will be expected to have a physical examination by the time the trip begins. Parents and students should be aware that the course will be both mentally and physically **STRENUOUS**. Students and their parents should consult their **DOCTOR** prior to applying for the trip if any of the following conditions apply to them: 1.) **CARSICKNESS / MOTION SICKNESS / ANXIETY/DEPRESSION** – students should be able to ride in a van with other students for up to three hours on winding and hilly roads between rest breaks, 2.) **CLAUSTROPHOBIA** – students will participate in two cave tours, and 3.) **HEART HEALTH & PHYSICAL CONDITION** – students should be able and willing to hike in high temperatures and on steep trails. The temperature may range from less than 30<sup>o</sup>F at night to 115<sup>o</sup>F during the day. Furthermore, students should know that sleeping accommodations will be either in tents or under the stars. Because we will be almost exclusively camping in state and national parks, electricity won't be available for such conveniences as hair dryers or curling irons. Students should expect a **RUGGED** thirty-two day experience. Please keep in mind that this trip involves a lot of **PHYSICAL ACTIVITY** – a student is expected to be in shape to adequately hike up and down mountain trails with a loaded (20-30 pounds) daypack in a timely manner. In the climate and altitude of Ohio, students should be able to walk a mile with a loaded daypack in at least 15 minutes.

There will be a wide variety of learning experiences for the students. Since this program is not conducted in a normal classroom setting, the student is responsible for budgeting his/her own time for normal study periods which will be needed to successfully complete all course requirements. The individual will be evaluated through a variety of activities including journal entries, presentations, notebook assignments, and daily participation. **APPLICANTS ARE REMINDED THAT THIS IS NOT A VACATION; THERE IS A LOT OF HARD WORK.** While participating in the course, the student will be expected to willingly and actively participate on work crews which will be responsible for vehicle and camp maintenance, loading and unloading vehicles, erecting and packing tents, daily cooking, and kitchen clean-up duties.

Due to space limitations, students will be allowed to take only a minimum of gear. A list of suggested gear will be discussed at a later date with those students accepted for the program. The students will be expected to bring a digital camera for taking photographs which will go into their journal. Electronic devices such as walkmans, CD players, iPods, curling irons, hair dryers, laptops and cell phones are **PROHIBITED** as well as hair products and make-up.

While participating in the course, students are expected to follow all school rules, including special rules adopted for this trip. **IF A STUDENT IS FOUND IN VIOLATION OF THESE RULES AND IF THE INSTRUCTORS FEEL THAT THE STUDENT'S ACTIONS ARE DETRIMENTAL TO THE PROGRAM, THAT STUDENT WILL BE SENT HOME AT THEIR PARENTS' EXPENSE, FORFEITING THE TUITION PAID FOR THE PROGRAM.** It must also be stressed that if a student is accepted into the program and pays his/her deposit and/or tuition and then for some reason must drop out of the program, that student will lose all monies, unless a suitable replacement can be found.

A maximum of twenty-five (25) students will be accepted into the program. The selection process will be completed in mid-December 2011 and the students will be notified soon thereafter if they are accepted into the program. After notification of acceptance into the program, a \$600 non-refundable deposit is due in early January 2012. Failure to pay this initial deposit of the tuition within the allotted period of time indicates a willingness of the individual not to participate. The first meeting for the students and their parents will be held in early January 2012. More specifics about the program will be discussed at that time.

The total cost of the trip is \$1800. This will cover the cost of transportation, equipment, insurance, food, campgrounds, and additional planned events (backpacking, rafting, museums, horseback riding, train rides, and swimming). The remainder of payments for the tuition will be paid in two installments. The second payment of \$600 is due in February 2012, the final payment of \$600 is due in March 2012 to WFSI. Students are expected to bring their own spending money, which will, in part, cover the cost of showers (showers are not available at all campgrounds) and laundry as well as other personal expenses (such as souvenirs).

Without a doubt, the Worthington Field Studies program provides an incomparable opportunity for any student. If you are interested, please complete and return the Application Form as soon as possible to your science teacher. The deadline for applications is December 1, 2011. Four teacher recommendations are also required. See the attached forms. Please visit our website at [www.wfsinc.org](http://www.wfsinc.org). Any questions may be directed to Brian Luthy at Thomas Worthington High School (883-2500 ext. 1435), or via email at [bluthy@worthington.k12.oh.us](mailto:bluthy@worthington.k12.oh.us)

**APPLICATIONS AND TEACHER RECOMMENDATIONS ARE DUE  
TO BRIAN LUTHY at TWHS or DAVE WEANER at WNHS BY DECEMBER 1, 2011.**

**WORTHINGTON FIELD STUDIES  
SUMMER 2012 – CENTRAL ROCKIES  
FIELD ECOLOGY**

***STUDENT APPLICATION***

**THE APPLICATION AND TEACHER RECOMMENDATION FORMS ARE TO BE RETURNED TO BRIAN LUTHY @ TWHS or DAVE WEANER @ WNHS BY DECEMBER 1, 2011. DIRECT QUESTIONS TO BRIAN LUTHY AT TWHS AT 883-2250 OR EMAIL [bluthy@worthington.k12.oh.us](mailto:bluthy@worthington.k12.oh.us)**

Student's Name \_\_\_\_\_ Current Grade Level \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address \_\_\_\_\_ Home Phone \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_ Student Email \_\_\_\_\_

Parent's Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_ Parent(s) Email \_\_\_\_\_

Have you ever applied for this trip before? Yes No Tee Shirt Size: S M L XL 2XL

List the high school science courses you have taken or are now taking:

Course Name	Semester Grade(s)	Teacher

List any science courses that you plan to sign up for next year: \_\_\_\_\_

Do you plan to pursue a college education? YES NO

What are your career goals? \_\_\_\_\_

In what types of physical activities do you regularly participate? \_\_\_\_\_

Do you have a fear of heights? If yes, explain how severe. \_\_\_\_\_

Do you have a fear of water? If yes, explain how severe. \_\_\_\_\_

Can you swim? YES NO

Do you have any known allergies to medications? If yes, please list:

\_\_\_\_\_

Are you allergic to any foods? If yes, explain: \_\_\_\_\_

Do you sleepwalk or have any other unusual sleeping habits?

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Explain in some detail *why you wish to participate* in the Worthington Field Studies program next summer. Your answer should include *how you believe you will benefit* from the program.

What *contributions do you believe you can make* to the Worthington Field Studies program next summer? (In answering, keep in mind that you will be acting as a member of a closely-knit, efficient, social and educational group that will be camping and studying together. If you have had any camping experiences, group leadership responsibilities, first aid training, auto-mechanic experiences, life saving training, swimming abilities, special educational interests, or background, be sure to describe any and all of them.)

What will you do to *prepare yourself* both *physically* and *mentally* for the demands of this trip?

**TO THE PARENTS**

I am aware that my daughter/son is interested in the Worthington Field Studies program. Likewise, I am aware of the total cost of the program (\$1800), with the \$600 non-refundable deposit due the night of the first meeting in January 2012. I am aware that once this deposit is made, if for some reason my son/daughter is unable to take part in the Worthington Field Studies Program, all monies which have been paid up to that point in time are forfeited. I am also aware of the possibility that if my child breaks a serious school rule, he/she will be sent home at my expense. In such case, I am aware that all fees paid will be forfeited. I am aware that if my son/daughter is chosen for the trip and decides to return home during the trip, the costs associated with the return home of the student and an adult chaperone will be paid by me and no monies will be reimbursed.

**My daughter/son has no mental or physical medical conditions that would enter into the selection process for this strenuous outdoor program.** (If you have some question regarding your child's physical capability in regards to participation in this course, please include some explanation on an additional piece of paper.)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent's Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Phone Number



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SUMMER 2012 - CENTRAL ROCKIES  
FIELD ECOLOGY**

***TEACHER RECOMMENDATION FORM***

**\*If you are a WFSI alumni, you do not need teacher recommendations.**

**TO THE APPLICANT:**

1. Ask four of your present teachers, from whom you receive a grade, to fill out a recommendation.
2. Print the teacher's name on this form where indicated.
3. I waive the right to review this form after it has been given to the teacher.

Applicant's Name (please print neatly) \_\_\_\_\_

Applicant's Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Teacher's Name (please print neatly) \_\_\_\_\_

**TO THE TEACHER:**

The above applicant is applying to participate in the Worthington Field Studies program. The program is designed to take a group of students on a thirty-two day Field Ecology educational experience to the Central Rockies. I would appreciate your cooperation in the completion of this form. Please be as complete as possible and accurate when filling out the form. Your input will significantly help in determining the eligibility of the applicant. The student evaluation is on the back side of this paper. A one (1) represents the lowest score and a five (5) represents the highest. When returning this application, fold it in half so there will be some privacy to your responses. Please return this form to Karen Kochheiser at Worthington Kilbourne, Brian Luthy at Thomas Worthington, Ron Pilatowski at Linworth, or Dave Weaner at Westerville North (Westerville Schools) by December 1, 2011. Thank you for your assistance.

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**RETURN TO  
Karen Kochheiser @ WKHS  
Brian Luthy @ TWHS  
Ron Pilatowski @ LINWORTH  
Dave Weaner @ WESTERVILLE NORTH  
by December 1, 2011**

FOLD THIS SIDE OUT AND STAPLE CLOSED

	<b>LOW</b>	<b>EVALUATION</b>				<b>HIGH</b>	
<b>ACADEMICALLY INQUISITIVE</b>	little interest 1	aims to get by 2	occasionally motivated 3	above average motivation 4	eager to obtain education 5	UNABLE TO JUDGE 0	
<b>RESPONSE TO AUTHORITY</b>	defiant 1	argumentative 2	average 3	may question but accepts positively 4	accepts without question 5	UNABLE TO JUDGE 0	
<b>INITIATIVE</b>	needs constant supervision 1	succeeds if told what to do 2	average 3	self reliant 4	actively creative 5	UNABLE TO JUDGE 0	
<b>RESPONSIBILITY</b>	unreliable 1	somewhat reliable 2	usually dependable 3	conscientious 4	readily assumes responsibilities 5	UNABLE TO JUDGE 0	
<b>EMOTIONAL STABILITY</b>	nervous, poor self control 1	poor control of feelings 2	usually well-balanced 3	good self-control 4	excellent self-control 5	UNABLE TO JUDGE 0	
<b>INTEGRITY</b>	poor 1	below average 2	average 3	above average 4	outstanding 5	UNABLE TO JUDGE 0	
<b>GROUP COOPERATIVENESS</b>	loner 1	hardly ever 2	occasionally 3	usually 4	always 5	UNABLE TO JUDGE 0	
<b>LEADERSHIP</b>	follower 1	below average 2	helpful 3	excellent 4	shows initiative 5	UNABLE TO JUDGE 0	
<b>COMMUNICATION SKILLS</b>	poor 1	below average 2	average 3	good 4	excellent 5	UNABLE TO JUDGE 0	
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Teacher's Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Please include comments that help in making a more accurate evaluation of this student.

Knowing what you know about this trip, how would this student get along with you and other students for 32 continuous days and nights of riding in a van and camping?

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