

WORTHINGTON FIELD STUDIES SUMMER 2010 PACIFIC NORTHWEST FIELD ECOLOGY I

INFORMATION AND APPLICATION PROCESS

INTRODUCTION: This summer, the Worthington Field Studies Program 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 bus to many national parks in Colorado, Utah, Idaho, Washington, Montana, and South Dakota. The program will begin with departure from Thomas Worthington High School on June 23rd and return on July 24th. The last day, July 25th, will consist of the final cleanup of equipment. Upon successful completion of the course, each student can earn one full ELECTIVE credit (1.0) in science. This credit cannot replace a credit in any other science course.

In addition to learning about the geology, biology, ecology, American and Native 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 hike, backpack, swim, bike, boat, and witness nature 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, and parental input. 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 strenuous. The temperature may range from 40^oF at night to 115^oF 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 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 and adequately hike up and down mountains with a weighted pack on 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 camp maintenance, erecting tents, 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 camera along for taking photographs which will go into their journal and notebook. Electronics 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 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 thirty-six students will be accepted into the program. The selection process will be completed in mid-January 2010 and the students will be notified soon thereafter if they are accepted into the program. After notification of acceptance into the program, a \$500 non-refundable deposit is due in early February 2010. 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 February 2010. More specifics about the program will be discussed at that time.

The total cost of the trip is \$1700. This will cover the cost of transportation, equipment, insurance, food, lodging and backpacking, and additional planned events (boating, biking, and swimming). The remainder of payments for the tuition will be paid in two installments. The first installment of \$600 is due in March 2010, the second installment of \$600 is due in April 2010 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, 2009. Four teacher recommendations are also required. See the attached forms. Visit our website at 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

**APPLICATIONS AND TEACHER RECOMMENDATIONS ARE DUE
TO BRIAN LUTHY at TWHS or DAVE WEANER at WNHS BY DECEMBER 1, 2009.**

**WORTHINGTON FIELD STUDIES
SUMMER 2010 PACIFIC NORTHWEST
FIELD ECOLOGY I**

STUDENT APPLICATION

THE APPLICATION AND TEACHER RECOMMENDATION FORMS ARE TO BE RETURNED TO BRIAN LUTHY @ TWHS or DAVE WEANER @ WNHS BY DECEMBER 1, 2009. DIRECT QUESTIONS TO BRIAN LUTHY AT TWHS AT 883-2250 OR EMAIL BLuthy@worthington.k12.oh.us

Student's Name _____ Current Grade Level _____

Street Address _____ Home Phone _____

City, State, Zip Code _____ Email _____

Parent's Name(s) _____ Email _____

Have you ever applied for this trip before? Yes No

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? _____

Do you feel you are physically able to hike up steep slopes? _____

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? _____

Explain in some detail why you wish to participate in the Worthington Field Studies program this 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 this 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.)

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 (\$1700), with the \$500 non-refundable deposit due the night of the first meeting in early February 2010. 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 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 return home of the student and an adult chaperone will be at the cost of the student and no monies will be reimbursed.

My daughter/son has no 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

Phone Number

**WORTHINGTON FIELD STUDIES
SUMMER 2010 PACIFIC NORTHWEST
FIELD ECOLOGY I**

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 Pacific Northwest. 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 Courtney Irwin at Worthington Kilbourne, Brian Luthy at Thomas Worthington, Ron Pilatowski at Linworth, or Dave Weaner at Westerville North (Westerville Schools) by December 1, 2009. Thank you for your assistance.

-----FOLD-----

**RETURN TO
Courtney Irwin @ WKHS
Brian Luthy @ TWHS
Ron Pilatowski @ LINWORTH
Dave Weaner @ WESTERVILLE NORTH
by December 1, 2009**

FOLD THIS SIDE OUT AND STAPLE CLOSED

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

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 bus and camping?