

TEACHER WORKSHOPS

For GREEN SCHOOL Certification & ENVIRONMENTAL LITERACY

The Interstate Commission on the Potomac River Basin (ICPRB) offers assistance to schools in the Potomac River Basin that are seeking their Green School status with the Maryland Association of Environmental and Outdoor Education (MAEOE). Our Watershed Coordinator, Becki Wolf, provides mentoring, teacher training, and assistance with school-ground best management practices. She will be happy to make a presentation about the MAEOE Green School program or provide one of the following trainings at your school.

RAIN BARRELS AND WATERSHED-WISE PRACTICES

Why use rain barrels? What other best management practices can you and your students do on your school grounds to conserve water and reduce water pollution and storm-water runoff? This FREE workshop answers these questions, describes what to look for in rain barrels, how to install them, and introduces other watershed-wise practices, such as rain gardens and conservation gardens. The ICPRB also sells sturdy, recycled 60-gallon rain barrels (see <http://www.potomacriver.org/2012/projects/rainbarrels>).

MAKE A LAND-USE WATERSHED MODEL FOR YOUR CLASSROOM

One of the best ways to teach is to let students discover things for themselves. In this two-day workshop (5 hours each) teachers make a watershed model with interchangeable pieces that represent forests, wetlands, urban areas, and farms. This interactive model allows young and old to discover how different land uses affect storm-water runoff and water quality, AND how rain gardens, and other Best Management Practices can reduce the volume of runoff and pollution loads. Workshop participants also receive educational materials and classroom exercises. (Workshop provided with the Patuxent River Park, Maryland National Capital Park and Planning Commission) A \$75 fee covers materials.

WATERSHED CONNECTIONS

How does land use affect water quality? How does urbanization affect the *water cycle*? How can gardens, rain barrels and tree plantings at your school help improve water quality in your local stream? We provide answers to these questions, as well as suggestions on interdisciplinary, watershed-related lessons.

WATER QUALITY MONITORING AND BENTHIC MACRO INVERTEBRATES

Anyone who has ever collected dragonfly larva, crayfish, and the other small critters that live in our streams can't help but want to know more about their life habits. Learn how to monitor the stream on your school property and how to determine its water quality as you collect and identify these benthic macro invertebrates. And no lesson would be complete without information on the life cycles, feeding habits, and habitat requirements of some of these critters.



Interstate Commission
on the
Potomac River Basin

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