Mid-Atlantic Environmental Literacy Strategy

Maryland Update

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The Mid-Atlantic Strategy

calls upon federal, state, and nongovernmental partners to advance shared priorities in four key areas—students, educators, schools, and the environmental education community.

Together, these partners have the vision, expertise, and resources to create and support schools that foster citizen stewardship and graduate environmentally literate students.
Environmental Literacy Summit
August 2012
People and Place

Teams

• Planning Team
  – MSDE staff, DNR, NCLI, Chesapeake Bay Trust

• Educator Participant Teams
  – All 24 Maryland school systems represented
  – Elementary, middle, and high school teachers
  – Science and social studies supervisors

Rocky Gap Resort
Structure

• Concurrent sessions focusing on four strands
  – Partnerships, E-lit Curriculum, School-centered Programs, STEM and E-Lit

• Four days

• Residential at Rocky Gap Resort

• Funding through Math-Science Partnership Grant

• Keynote: Judy Braus, Executive Director, NAAEE
Sessions

Presentations

Partners

• EE Providers
  – On site session presenters
  – On location sessions at Rocky Gap State Park, C&O Canal National Historical Park, Evergreen Heritage Center, New Germany State Park

• Higher Education
  – Science: SERC, UMCES
  – Social studies: UMBC, MD Geographic Alliance
Expectations

- Participate in professional development sessions each day
- As a team, collectively attend all sessions
- Debrief after sessions to share information
Outcomes

• Develop school system environmental literacy plan that meets State requirements

• Share ELP with other school systems

• Complete self-evaluation of ELP online and submit

• Participate in focus groups with grant evaluator

• Attend Follow-up Sessions during 2012-2013
Regional Follow-up Sessions

• E-Lit Liaisons
  – Pairs of formal and informal educators
  – Represent seven geographic regions across Maryland
  – Plan and facilitate sessions

• Outcomes
  – Devise e-lit implementation strategies
  – Improve educator content knowledge through continued collaboration with higher education
  – Incorporate EE providers, activities, and strategies in ELPs
  – Refine and submit school system ELPs
# E-lit Follow-up sessions

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Region</th>
<th>Liaisons</th>
<th>Site(s)</th>
<th>Fall Date (Spring TBD)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Western</td>
<td>Carol Garner (ACPS)</td>
<td>Appalachian Lab</td>
<td>November 13, 2012</td>
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<tr>
<td>(Washington, Allegany, Garrett)</td>
<td>Cat Styinski (UMCES)</td>
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<tr>
<td>West Central</td>
<td>Laurie Jenkins (MCPS)</td>
<td>Robinson Nature Center</td>
<td>October 25, 2012</td>
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<tr>
<td>(Frederick, Montgomery, Howard, Carroll)</td>
<td>Stephanie Oberle (MNCPP)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Central</td>
<td>Deb Albert (AACPS)</td>
<td>CBF</td>
<td>November 5, 2012</td>
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<tr>
<td>(Prince George’s, Anne Arundel)</td>
<td>Tom Ackerman (CBF)</td>
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<td>Northeast</td>
<td>Pat Ghingher (BCPS)</td>
<td>MD Ag Center</td>
<td>November 30, 2012</td>
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<td>(Baltimore City, Baltimore Co., Harford)</td>
<td>Mary Hardcastle (PPF)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Upper E. Shore</td>
<td>LeeAnn Hutchison (MSDE)</td>
<td>Env Sci Training Center @ Oxford Lab</td>
<td>October 25, 2012</td>
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<tr>
<td>(Cecil, Talbot, Caroline, Queen Anne’s, Kent)</td>
<td>Mark Scallion (PC)</td>
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<tr>
<td>(Dorchester, Wicomico, Worcester, Somerset)</td>
<td>Carrie Samis (MD Coastal Bays)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Southern</td>
<td>Donna Miller (CCPS)</td>
<td>Cyprus Swamp</td>
<td>November 8, 2012</td>
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<tr>
<td>(Charles, Calvert, St. Mary’s)</td>
<td>Andy Brown (Battle Creek Cyprus Swamp)</td>
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Challenges
related to getting children outside frequently enough

• Lack of funding for transportation to EE sites
• Teacher inability to utilize the outdoors in instruction
• Lack of flexible time within the school day for outdoor instruction
• Cumbersome paper work for travel and field trip approval in schools and school systems
• Risk management barriers
EE Provider Workshops

• Three regional workshops: Eastern Shore, Central, Western Maryland
• Collaborative facilitation: MAEOE, MSDE, NOAA, MD NCLI
• Agenda
  – Environmental literacy standards review
  – Discuss integration of NGSS and CC for Math and ELA
  – Lesson review
  – Issues investigation strategies focusing on MWEEs
  – Work session to align lessons with e-lit standards
  – Address challenges
  – Align provider resources with LEA needs
Initiatives

• Engaging Higher Education faculty in devising strategies to include environmental literacy in pre- and in-service activities

• Collectively exploring strategies to increase the number of teachers and students using the outdoors as an instructional setting
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