

Barnegat Bay Watershed Resources for Environmental Education 2014 - 2015



SAMPLER: PLACES AND THEIR OFFERINGS -

Barnegat Lighthouse Interpretive Center and State Park is located on the northern tip of Long Beach Island. In addition to visiting the historic Barnegat Lighthouse and walking the beach, the center offers to groups engaging exhibits about the natural and cultural history of the Barnegat Bay. (609) 494-2016

www.nj.gov/dep/parksandforests/parks/barnlig.html

Cooper Environmental Center is part of Cattus Island County Park and is located in Toms River on 500 acres of protected land. Naturalists offer programs that are designed to study or explore the salt marsh, maritime forest, and Barnegat Bay. Programs are designed for teachers or students and can be held on site or at the school. (732) 270-6960

www.ocean.nj.us/parks/cattus.html

Double Trouble State Park Interpretive Center is located in Bayville on state park land that includes wetlands, upland pine forests and meadows. The park naturalist offers free programs for teachers and/or students on the Cedar Creek Sub-watershed and Water Use and can be held at the park or in the classroom. (732) 341-4098

http://njparksandforests.org/parks/double.html

Forest Resource Education Center is a State facility located in Jackson on 660 acres of woods, fields, wetlands and streams. Its staff strives to teach and practice forest stewardship in the watershed. On-site programs for grades K-12 focus on ecology, watersheds, wildlife and habitat, tree growth and forest products. (732) 928-0987

www.niforestrycenter.org

Island Beach State Park is on a narrow barrier island that stretches between the ocean and Barnegat Bay. The park's natural sand dune formations and vegetation create a unique outdoors experience to study a barrier island ecosystem. School groups interested in visiting the park for self-guided tours must make advance reservations.

(732) 793-0506

www.nj.gov/dep/parksandforests/parks/island.html

Jenkinson's Aquarium is located in Point Pleasant Beach and offers several outreach programs for schools, many of which include live animal visits. Topics include invertebrates, reptiles and amphibians. All programs are aligned with the NJ Core Curriculum Standards. Visit the Teacher's Corner at the aquarium's website. (732) 899-1659

www.jenkinsons.com/aquarium

Lighthouse Center for Natural Resource Education is located along the bayshore in Waretown on 194 acres of coastal habitat that includes salt marshes, maritime forests, tidal creeks and sandy beach. The center offers a variety of on-site programs for all ages that focus on marine ecology, cultural history and other topics. (609) 698-8003

www.experiencebarnegatbay.org

Sedge Island Natural Resource Education Center is a State facility located on Sedge Island, just off the shore of Island Beach State Park. This seasonal lodge offers space for residential stays with easy access to staff for engaging lessons on marine science, local history, natural resource management, clamming and fishing. (609) 748-4347

www.nj.gov/dep/fgw/sedge.htm

SAMPLER: STEWARDSHIP AND ACTION PROGRAMS

Adopt a Species EDU is the classroom version of the State's Adopt A Species program. Through this program students and faculty can learn about and help protect the Barnegat Bay watershed's rare wildlife. Species like ospreys, piping plovers, loggerhead sea turtles, and Pine Barrens tree frogs can be supported through this program. (609) 984-0621

www.conservewildlifenj.org/education/adopt

Barnegat Bay Buddy Program is an action-oriented program that focuses on water quality and habitat and encourages the reduction of nitrogen in Barnegat Bay through education and behavior modification. Recognition and certification is provided by Clean Ocean Action to any "Buddy" that conducts these actions. (732) 872-0111

www.cleanoceanaction.org/index.php?id=719

Bayscape for Barnegat Bay is a hand-on program that engages homeowners, groups and students with managing and enhancing an outdoor property. Administered by the American Littoral Society, the program focuses on native plantings, fertilizer and pesticide use, water conservation and other ecological improvements. (732) 291-0055

www.littoralsociety.org/Bayscape_for_Barnegat_Bay

Rain Gardens are practical and educational outdoor enhancement projects for schools and communities that help filter runoff, improve water quality, increase groundwater recharge and reduce potential for flooding. Various experts, supplemental resources, demonstration projects and guidance are available to interested schools. (609) 971-7002 ext. 21

www.ocscd.org/raingarden.shtml

Shellfish in the Classroom is administered by ReClam the Bay and the Rutgers Barnegat Bay Shellfish Restoration Program. It raises student awareness about the watershed and water quality through lessons and the "hands-on" experience of growing shellfish, specifically oysters, in a classroom environment. (609) 361-9378

www.reclamthebay.org/edu.html

Trout in the Classroom engages students with real-life water quality and wildlife problems and solutions through the raising of brook trout in the classroom, from eggs to fingerlings, to their eventual release. The program offers classroom support with lessons, speakers, manuals, videos and other types of assistance. (908) 637-4125

www.nj.gov/dep/fgw/tic.htm

Watershed Ambassadors Program is an Americorps initiative coordinated by the NJ Department of Environmental Protection and designed to raise public awareness about water issues in New Jersey. Barnegat Bay's Watershed Ambassador is hosted by the Barnegat Bay Partnership and can be contacted for school programs, water monitoring and public events. (732) 914-8116

www.nj.gov/dep/seeds/docs/njwap14.pdf

Sampler: Curriculum & Professional Development Resources -

Discovering Barnegat Bay contains 40 lessons with a focus on Ocean County and the Barnegat Bay watershed. It is designed for integration into existing curricula and though it targets the upper elementary to middle school grades, it offers significant adaptability to all grades. In-service workshops are available. (609) 971-7002 ext. 21

www.ocscd.org

Jacques Cousteau National Estuarine Research Reserve provides a variety of no and low cost professional development workshops for teachers who are interested in learning more about estuary and marine literacy, ocean exploration, weather and climate literacy. These are held at the Reserve or at the school. (609) 812-0649 ext. 206

www.jcnerr.org/education/educators.html

New Jersey Waters – A Watershed Approach to Teaching the Ecology of Regional Systems is a guide for middle and high school educators that encourages students to explore their watershed from ecological, social and economic viewpoints. It is available for purchase from New Jersey Audubon. (609) 861-1608

www.njaudubon.org/SectionEducation/NewJerseyWaters

Pine Barrens – Up Close and Natural is a curriculum that uses the Pinelands as a vehicle to teach about ecology, biology, geology, history and social science. It is made available to educators by the Pinelands Preservation Alliance through summer teacher institutes as well as through requests from schools. (609) 859-8860 ext. 24

www.pinelandsalliance.org/teachers/teacherresources

Pinelands Online Curriculum Project was developed by the Pinelands Commission and is designed to increase student understanding and appreciation of the New Jersey Pinelands. It features an audiovisual program and lessons on Pinelands soils, water, fire, plants, animals and people, for grades 4 – 8. (609) 894-7300 ext. 125

www.state.nj.us/pinelands/edu/curriculum/pinecur/index.htm

Project WET (Water Education for Teachers) provides teachers of grades K-12 with resources to teach students about the importance and value of water. Project WET features over 65 science-based, interdisciplinary lessons that are teacher-tested and classroom ready, and linked with the State's requirements for student performance. Project WET is sponsored by the NJ Department of Environmental Protection and delivered through engaging professional development experiences. (609) 984-5863

www.nj.gov/dep/seeds/projwet.htm

What the Bay HINGES On is an online activity guide developed by the Cooperative Extension of Ocean County that connects stewardship with water quality, shellfish aquaculture and human needs and actions. The guide includes lessons, slides and worksheets on shellfish biology, bay ecology, seafood and nutrition and water quality. (732) 349-1152

http://ocean.njaes.rutgers.edu/hinges/index.html

WAIT, THERE'S MORE! —

Barnegat Bay Partnership is a partnership of federal, state, municipal, academic, business, and private organizations that work together with communities to help restore, protect, and enhance the natural resources of the watershed. The partnership has staff, programs and services dedicated to education about the bay. These include:

- Barnegat Bay Watershed Educational Resource Guide: The most comprehensive online guide for educational resources available about the watershed: http://bbp.ocean.edu/pages/166.asp
- Barnegat Bay Speakers Bureau An online listing of speaker programs: http://bbp.ocean.edu/pages/316.asp
- Barnegat Bay Plants and Animals An Interactive field guide: http://bbp.ocean.edu/pages/298.asp
- About Barnegat Bay: Information, data and maps: www.crssa.rutgers.edu/projects/runj/habitat/tour.html

SEEDS (State Environmental Education Directory Site) features over 400 educational resources that are sponsored by the NJ Department of Environmental Protection. Visit **SEEDS** often at **www.nj.gov/dep/seeds**. Additional water education resources offered by the Department include:

- Stormwater Lessons and Resources: www.nj.gov/dep/seeds/strmwtr/edres.htm
- Watersheds Outreach and Education: www.nj.gov/dep/watershedmgt/outreach_education.htm
- Clean Water NJ: www.cleanwaternj.org

Governor Christie's Action Plan for Barnegat Bay is being implemented through the NJ Department of Environmental Protection. To learn more about the action plan, outreach and education resources, and progress that is being made by the Department and partners, visit www.barnegatbay.nj.gov on a regular basis.

Sign up at this site to receive Barnegat Bay Action Updates! www.nj.gov/dep/barnegatbay/subscribe.htm