



CHESAPEAKE BAY FOUNDATION

Save the Bay



Dear School Leader,

On behalf of the Chesapeake Bay Foundation and The Gunston School, as well as the Association of Independent Maryland and DC Schools (AIMS), the Association of Independent Schools of Greater Washington (AISGW), and the Virginia Association of Independent Schools (VAIS), we would like to welcome you to the 2nd Annual Environmental Leadership for Independent School Leaders conference on Smith Island, MD.

This conference is unique, and we look forward to an engaging three days experiencing and discussing ways that we can integrate high-impact environmental education within our schools. We will also explore ways that independent schools within the fragile Chesapeake Bay watershed can work together to develop educational opportunities for student environmental leaders around the region.

Included in this packet, you will find:

- A packing list, a health form, and an FAQ sheet for CBF field experiences.
- A list of participants (names, schools, and e-mail) to facilitate any carbon-saving carpools you might wish to organize. We have also included brief bios of the conference co-leaders.
- **You will receive a second packet that includes the conference readings.** They are a diverse and engaging set of readings, ranging from articles on sustainability pedagogy and change management, to an environmental health case study and a review of systems thinking theory. To maximize the conference experience, we ask you to complete the readings before arriving.

Logistics:

We will meet at Somers Cove Marina at Crisfield, MD (directions enclosed) at 10:30 on Wednesday, July 19th. We will meet you at the marina and we will load our gear onto a CBF education vessel. As a CBF participant, you will be able to park on the site free of charge. We will then hold our first meeting over lunch at the Tawes Museum Pavilion at the marina. We will meet the boat before 12:30 p.m. as it will leave with or without us. We will return to Somers Cove Marina on a CBF vessel by 2:30 p.m. on Friday, July 21st.

Conference Preparation:

In order to maximize the educational experience, we are asking each participant to prepare for the conference in the following ways:

- We are going to spend time reviewing our schools' "environmental mission statements"; therefore, **please share any language related to environmental education that exists in your school's mission and/or philosophy.** If there are other "mission documents" or unique curricula that you feel might have relevance, please share that as well. You can 1) send links to these documents, 2) share pdf's of documents, or 3) cut-and-paste a Word document to John Lewis at jlewis@gunston.org. Please e-mail John if you need clarification.
- Again, please read and annotate the conference readings, as they will serve as a basis for various discussions and activities.
- Bring your school's t-shirt! We'll take a group photo at the end.

Please contact us at any time with questions or concerns prior to the retreat. Thank you for enrolling in this conference, and prepare yourself for great discussions, hands-on learning, time for reflection, a taste (literally and figuratively) of a unique culture, and an opportunity to connect with like-minded colleagues.

Sincerely,

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