



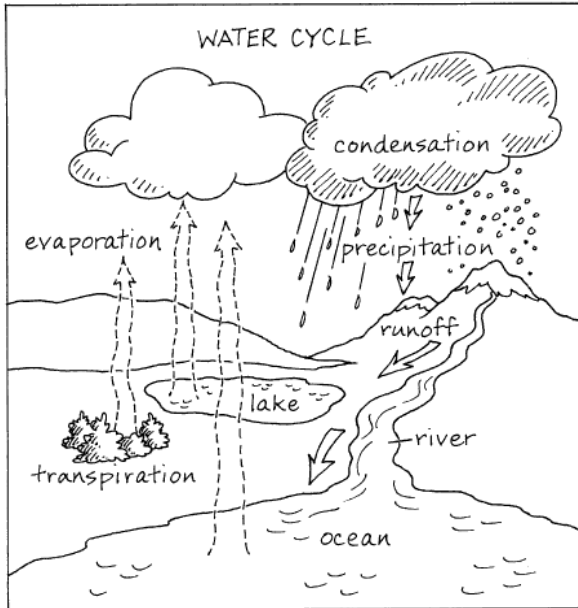
Fernbrook Farms Environmental Education Center 2023 Fall Upper Level Homeschool Semester



“Water, Water Everywhere, but Not a Drop to Spare”

Ages 12-14 Years Old (students must be 12 years old by the start of classes)

Class Sessions: Tuesdays 9:30am-11:30am, Tuesdays 1:00pm-3:00pm,
Thursdays 9:30am-11:30am, OR Thursdays 1:00pm-3:00pm



Each week the class will be discussing the importance of water in all aspects of nature and life. The students will be looking at strategies to conserve water, reduce water pollution, and prevent erosion. We will also be looking at our own personal water consumption. Students should be prepared to get wet and dirty. Please note that the following schedule is tentative as some changes may be needed due to weather and trips.

Sincerely,

Ms. Patty Gurgul

Patty@fernbrookfarms.com

The Water Cycle

September 19th or 21st

The semester starts by reviewing the water cycle and how water and its availability affect people and the land. The class will look at the amount of water people have used for daily tasks over time and what it means to live in a watershed.

Creek Evaluation

September 26th or 28th

The students will observe the properties of the creek and conduct scientific testing to determine its health. Students should be

prepared to be IN the creek this week. The class will also evaluate the effects of erosion in the upper and lower sections of Bacon's Run Creek.

Water Pollution

October 3rd or 5th

We will examine non-point source pollution this week. What is non-point source pollution, where does it come from, and how we can reduce it? Some "hot topic" questions that the classes will be discussing are: are there any sources of pollution on the farm or in your neighborhood? Does this affect any of the animals that live near water sources? Where do storm sewers drain?

The Pond and Irrigation

October 10th or 12th

The pond at Fernbrook is used for irrigation and is also home to many animals. We will learn about recycling water, preventing pollution and the animals that call the pond home. We will also look for native and invasive plants and animals.

Stewardship Project

October 17th or 19th

The students will brainstorm ways to prevent erosion in different environments and assess the lower creek entrances to correct the damage caused by erosion. The students will be working together to build something, we don't want to give away too much, but be prepared to get wet and dirty.

Bordentown Sewerage Authority Field Trip (TBD)

October 24th or 26th

What happens to the wastewater that leaves your toilet? Ever think about it? Where does it go? We have learned that water is a closed cycle so how does it get recycled for our use? We are taking a trip to the wastewater treatment plant to find out.

Water and Energy

October 31st or Nov. 2nd

We will look at waterpower through the ages then students will test their engineering skills to build something water powered.

Human Impacts on the Environment

November 7th or 9th

For the last class we will examine the role of wetlands and impervious surfaces and their impact on flooding. The students will also be discussing the difference between bottled water versus tap water and conducting a taste test.