

North Inlet-Winyah Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve Field Study & Outreach Information for Teachers

Thank you for your interest in programs for students at the North Inlet-Winyah Bay NERR and the University of South Carolina's Baruch Marine Field Laboratory (BMFL). Following are guidelines and general information about our field studies and outreach programs.

Field Trip Programs:

- Salt marsh field studies-students visit the salt marsh and learn plant and animal species, tour the field laboratory, and engage in hands-on sampling activities via a salt marsh boardwalk and/or other selected sites where students can get wet and muddy (proper attire, esp. footwear, a must for creek activities)
- Research sample – (for 9-12th grade, limited to 15 students); assist researchers in a biological survey of fish, crabs, and shrimp; this must be scheduled around actual field sampling (scheduled year-round, 2X/month), so dates and times are limited
- Freshwater pond study-visit a pond and/or swamp ecosystem and sample for pond life and study plants and animals using dip nets and microscopes, analyze water samples and learn about water quality
- Oyster reef and zooplankton activities – these primarily indoor programs include activities to learn about life in an oyster reef and/or zooplankton collection and identification

In-school Outreach Programs:

- In-school programs provide overviews of the research and monitoring activities at NI-WB NERR, BMFL, and Hobcaw Barony; these may include formal presentations, “show and tell”, and hands-on activities such as water test kits and other sampling equipment
- Classroom presentations on estuaries, watersheds, and water quality; these integrate well with high school biology, chemistry, environmental studies, and marine science classes, but may also be arranged for younger students
- ‘Career Day’ presentations-researchers and education staff are available to share information on science and marine biology careers
- Presentations on special topics such as stormwater, invasive species, climate, and other coastal topics may also be available

Please note that in-school programs are intended for local and regional schools; staff and travel limitations restrict long-distance travel to other locations. Similar programs may be available in your area-please inquire.

General information for field trip programs at the Reserve:

- **Cost per student is \$5.00**, and participants must sign a waiver of liability for activities (or provide copies of school field trip waivers) for each program
- Field trips are first request, first served and must be booked in advance; busiest times are spring and fall, so please plan well in advance
- Most field trips are 2-4 hours in length, but can be customized for your schedule
- Group size is limited to 35 unless prior arrangements can be scheduled
- School buses may not be driven to some locations at Hobcaw-staff can assist in determining how best to manage transportation once on the property
- Field studies are recommended for 5th-12th grades, but younger students may be accommodated with advance scheduling and preparation
- No overnight accommodations on-site
- No food service on-site; participants must bring food and beverages if they wish to eat during their field trip program and arrangements can be made for on-site picnicking with advance notice

For more information, please contact:

Beth Thomas, Education Coordinator
(843) 904-9016
beth@belle.baruch.sc.edu

Lindsay Thomas, Education Specialist
(843) 904-9017
lindsay@belle.baruch.sc.edu

www.northinlet.sc.edu

