



NOW SCHEDULING FALL FIELD TRIPS

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ELIZABETH RIVER PROJECT LEARNING BARGE

Teaching YOU how to help make the river
swimmable & fishable by 2020

During fall 2009, 1,340 students 1st grade through college visited the **LEARNING BARGE** for the first pilot season. The barge is now headed to Deep Creek Lock Park for the spring season, March 26 – June 10 and then to the Lafayette River for summer.

YOU can make reservations NOW for fall 2010 season! Field trips begin September 27 and continue to November 19 with an exciting mission to teach all ages how YOU can help make the Elizabeth River safe for swimming and eating shellfish by 2020. Docking site to be announced.

World's First Floating Wetland Classroom ~ The 120' by 32' barge has six stations on board that will allow all ages to explore everything from the living wetland nursery, where you can test river water and find out if it is cleaner once wetlands filter it, to the "green alley" demonstrating the barge's ability to operate solely with sun and wind. An enclosed classroom lab invites you to examine river conditions where the barge is docked and compare them to a NOAA weather buoy. A final "river reflections" station, will engage you in your own expression of river art while learning how other cultures honor their rivers.

River Field Trips ~ The Elizabeth River Project and top education advisors from area schools developed the curriculum, for hosting students, civic groups and youth groups. The afternoon 1.5 hour program for up to 30 youth would be perfect for scouts, home schools or private schools!

Reserve YOUR visit now!

Contact Robin Dunbar, Education Director for the LEARNING BARGE
rdunbar@elizabethriver.org •757-399-7487 www.elizabethriver.org

Sign up your school or youth organization for a Meaningful Watershed Experience -- an on-the-water, inquiry-based field trip, while docked on the Elizabeth River (not underway). School children visiting the barge will experience VA Standards of Learning correlated with action oriented instruction to answer the question: How can I help make the Elizabeth River swimmable and fishable?

- During the fall 2010 season (Sept. 27-November 19), field trips will primarily target grades 3-8, and schools in the Elizabeth River watershed, but can be tailored to all ages. (Note: Barge not available Dec - March 2011 while winterized).
- The signature field trip is 2 ½ hours and is offered in the morning. Afternoon program is 1 ½ hours and is a great option for smaller groups. Both options take students through learning stations with trained educators. Field trips are cancelled if raining...sprinkling o.k.
- Min. participants 20 and max. 60 for 2 ½ hour program and min. participants 15 and max. 30 for 1 ½ hour program. Schools must provide 1 adult/chaperone per 10 students for safety.
- Fee is \$5 per student to help offset program costs. Limited assistance may be available for bus costs, depending on grant funds we have on hand.
- The signature field trips are available primarily in the morning, Monday-Friday beginning around 9:30-10:00am. Afternoon programs are flexible, but typically begin 12:30–1:00 pm.



Would you like to help make the Lafayette River swimmable and fishable by 2014? The Elizabeth River Project is seeking 30 pilot Lafayette River families to engage in stewardship activities such as: reduce fertilizer use, scoop the poop, protect and restore wetlands, oyster reefs, forested buffers, reduce boater sewage, reduce contaminated runoff, reduce air pollution and influence government decision-making. Your efforts will serve as a pilot program for The Elizabeth River Project and you'll serve as mentors to inspire other citizens to help clean up the Elizabeth River by 2020. You have the opportunity to make a difference by helping us achieve a home river that is safe for your children and grandchildren to swim and fish. This program will focus on summertime activities that you and your family can do together. We welcome all family lifestyles, by the way; whether you have children or not! Contact Robin Dunbar at rdunbar@elizabethriver.org or 757-399-7487 to receive an application. Applications are due by April 30. If chosen the orientation training will take place June 5, 9-11:30am aboard the award-winning LEARNING BARGE.

Standards of Learning: Science 3.1, 3.6, 3.9, 3.10, 4.1, 4.6, 4.8, 5.1, 6.1, 6.5, 6.7, 6.9, Life Science .1, .4, .7, .12 Physical Science .1



A BARGE-full of thanks to LEARNING BARGE Sponsors!

The LEARNING BARGE would not be possible without the generosity of sponsors and our core support team, the members and donors of The Elizabeth River Project. Visit www.elizabethriver.org to view supporters and to learn more about the world's first floating wetland classroom, Elizabeth River Project LEARNING BARGE!