

PORTAL Project Opportunities 2005

MARCH-MAY

Care for Tree Seedlings (Mountains to Sound Greenway)

All ages of students can learn about native plants and environmental restoration by working outdoors at a nursery in Issaquah. Large groups can work for two hours, individuals up to 6 hours at flexible times from January through March.

Kelly Kirkland, 206-812-0122, kelly.kirkland@mtsgreenway.org

Transportation: Metro #271 runs nearby

Duwamish River Bird Monitoring (Seattle Audubon)

Small groups and individual high schoolers (or classes with prior arrangement) will learn the skills of a field scientist, bird identification and data collection. The project involves one short hike into the Duwamish River site one weekend morning per month.

Emily Sprong, 206-985-6823, emilys@seattleaudubon.org

Dates: 3/5, 4/2, 5/7, 6/4

Transportation: Call 206-985-6823

Elwha River Program (Olympic Park Institute)

Groups of 12 students (or larger groups subdivided) working in Olympic National Park will understand the scientific process, use technical equipment to monitor ecosystem health, understand the complex scientific, cultural and historic aspects of dam removal.

Lisa Steele-Maley, 206-937-5640, lsteelemaley@yni.org

Dates: February-June, June 20-24, July 11-15, July 25-29, September-November

Costs: \$45/student - \$345/student, depending on group and selected dates

Transportation: provided from the Olympic Park Institute site

Longfellow Creek Bird Banding (Seattle Audubon)

High schoolers as small groups, classes or individuals can learn the skills of a field scientist, bird banding and data collection. Students can work one Saturday morning per month, all year long.

Emily Sprong, 206-985-6823, emilys@seattleaudubon.org

Dates: 2/26, 3/26

Service Learning in Urban Spaces (Seattle Parks)

Groups of 5-50 students of all ages can use any Seattle park to coordinate projects on any date. Contact staff below to develop an individualized plan.

Ken Turner and Ron Mirabueno, 206-233-3979, KenO.Turner or Ron.Mirabueno@seattle.gov

Trail Maintenance on Tiger Mountain (Mountains to Sound Greenway)

While working outdoors on Tiger Mountain trails in Issaquah, volunteers ages 14 and up (no group too small or large) will learn about the importance of public lands and trails. At flexible times between February and June.

Kelly Kirkland, 206-812-0122, kelly.kirkland@mtsgreenway.org

Transportation: None available

ONGOING Projects

Native Plant Restoration (North Cascades Institute)

The goal of this project is high quality ecological restoration of the landscape at and adjacent to the new North Cascades Environmental learning Center. By the end of the third year the area will be 100% native plants, 100% self-sustaining. This native plant restoration and resulting education program provide a unique opportunity for a wide range of participants (individuals or 10-15 maximum plus one group lead, middle school classes 30 students max) to study and monitor the ecological processes that tie nature and culture together. Learners will participate in solo and group reflection sessions, and assess own behaviors that enhance or inhibit ecological restoration. Learners will understand the difference between a native and non-native plant, and apply best restoration techniques available for the site.

Erin Schneider, North Cascades Institute Restoration Coordinator, 360-856-5700 ext 282,

erin_schneider@ncascades.org

Translating Science (National Parks Service)

High school groups (minimum group, 15 students) during class time will make park science research accessible and exciting for their peers with written, web-based or oral presentations. Students will gain knowledge in current scientific research, writing, reading and information design, while conducting additional independent research. Most class groups take between 4 to 6 weeks. We can also facilitate park visits.

Lisa Eschenbach, 206-220-4017, lisa_eschenbach@nps.gov

Urban Forest Restoration Project in the West Duwamish Greenbelt (Nature Consortium)

Hands-on restoration projects planting native plants, removing invasives, monitoring. Students of any age will gain ability to identify native and invasive species, planting and removal techniques. For individuals or groups of up to 50, can be 1 day or ongoing project.

Tracy Calvin, 206-923-0853, tracy@naturec.org

Dates: ongoing, year-round

Transportation: Metro #23, 125, 128

Field Projects (Mount Rainier National Park)

Classes of 30 students as well as individual students (as internships and senior projects) can perform revegetation, trail work, work in the Park greenhouse (limited to older/HS age students), or other projects. Each project will be tailored to the group, and can range from one to several days for upper elementary through high school students.

Anne Doherty, 360-569-2211 x3319, anne_doherty@nps.gov

Please note all school-related projects and education program requests should first contact the Park's Education Office, which will also coordinate fees and camping.

Transportation: There is no public transportation available to or within the park.

Historical Document Transcribing (Whitman Mission National Historic Site)

One to three middle or high school students will transcribe and copy email documents into Word format, learning computer skills and assisting future Park history education. Ongoing project especially suitable for expanding students' accessibility to Parks.

Mike Dedman, 509-522-6357, mike_dedman@nps.gov

Transportation: not needed (local commuting students can be reimbursed for mileage)

Wilderness Education Trunk Coordinator (Whitman Mission National Historic Site)

Up to four middle or high school students will have the opportunity to create a model educational trunk which Park staff will use to model others after. Students will create materials based on computer email documents. Ongoing project especially suitable for expanding students' accessibility to Parks.

Mike Dedman, 509-522-6357, mike_dedman@nps.gov

Transportation: not needed (local commuting students can be reimbursed for mileage)

Oral History Program Translator (Whitman Mission National Historic Site)

One or two middle/high schoolers can translate oral history cassette tapes into written Word format as part of a program to record local and Park history. Working from email documents, students can complete this ongoing project from home or classroom computers.

Mike Dedman, 509-522-6357, mike_dedman@nps.gov

Transportation: not needed (local commuting students can be reimbursed for mileage)

SUMMER

Science Camp Group Counselors (NOAA)

High school juniors and seniors with a strong science background or interest can develop leadership skills, knowledge of ocean sciences, and work with middle school aged children for 2-3 weeks in July.

Rebecca Reuter, 206-526-4249, Rebecca.reuter@noaa.gov

Dates: 7/1-7/15

Transportation: Metro #74, 75

Environmental Science Field Study (OPI)

Juniors and seniors will understand the scientific process, use technical equipment to monitor ecosystem health, understand the complex scientific, cultural and historic aspects of dam removal and receive five Environmental Science credits from Peninsula College. For 7 days in June and July.

Lisa Steele-Maley, 206-937-5640, lsteelemaley@yni.org

Dates: 6/26-7/1

Costs: \$695/student

Transportation: provided from the Olympic Park Institute site

Nature Camp Junior Naturalist Program (Seattle Audubon)

Up to 7 high schoolers per week can learn the skills of a naturalist, while working with kids 1st-6th grade outdoors at Sand Point Magnuson Park. During the summer, students will work for one week from 9-4, Mon-Fri.

Sue Tallarico, 206-985-6993, suet@seattleaudubon.org

Dates: 6/27-9/2

Transportation: Call for directions, also Metro service