About the Institute

This five-day Institute is designed to provide teachers (grades 3-12) with an understanding of and ability to teach forest ecology and management:

- Forest types; abiotic and biotic components of forest ecosystems.
- Potential threats to forests (climate change, invasive species, insects & disease, land use changes, fire ecology).
- Sustainable forest management: bio-diversity, silvicultural prescriptions, forest health, multiple uses (wildlife, water, recreation, timber).
- Resources to design and implement a forestry teaching unit and a school-community forest stewardship project.

The institute brings together the expertise of scientists, university faculty, natural resource management professionals, and expert educators to conduct the Institute. Through lecture, hands-on data collection and analysis, field trips, and readings, participants will obtain new knowledge and skills that can be incorporated into their work with students. Participants will visit an active logging site, an SFI-certified (sustainably managed) forest, timber mill and school forest. Teachers will receive forest measurement supplies, field guides, and curriculum support materials, including Project Learning Tree (K-8) Activity Guide or Forestry Field Studies: Manual for Science Teachers.

The Institute will provide participants with standards-based professional development, an opportunity to participate in real-world, inquiry-based investigations, and time to share teaching ideas with their peers.

Participants will gain a sense of forest stewardship—by better understanding how human activities interact with forest health. Participants will enhance their teaching skills—by sharing ideas and innovative approaches to curriculum development and delivery with other educators; and will be better able to guide their students’ interest in natural resource careers.

This Institute is made possible with generous support from the Michigan Forest Foundation

Coordinated by: Michigan Technological University School of Forest Resources & Environmental Science and Center for Science and Environmental Outreach
Course Credit & Requirements
Participants earn two graduate credit (ED5630) upon completion of course requirements:
◊ Complete pre-course readings.
◊ Participate fully in the entire Institute, including lecture, field trips, and evening programs.
◊ Develop a 5-day teaching unit that includes five lessons and incorporates topics from the institute (using the rubric provided) and that meets Michigan (or national) content expectations. Participants should plan to implement the unit during the 2013-14 school year. Due September 1, 2013.

Travel to Michigan Tech
Michigan Technological University is located in Houghton, MI (pop. 7,000) United Airlines (800.241.6522 or www.united.com) is the sole airline serving Houghton with 2 flights daily from Chicago. Taxi service is available for by calling Neil’s Taxi Service at 906.482.5515 or Copper Country Limo & Taxi at 906.482.4761.

How to Apply:
Applications online at:
http://wupcenter.mtu.edu
Application deadline May 20, 2013
Submit Applications to:
Lori J. Witting, Coordinator
Teacher Professional Development
Michigan Tech University
Work: 906-487-2263 Fax 906-487-2468
Cell 906-370-9748 Email: lori@mtu.edu

Master of Applied Science Education at Michigan Tech
The credits earned from this institute can be applied to an 18 semester-hour planned course of study for teachers working towards their Michigan Professional Certificate or toward a Master of Science in Applied Science Education.

Financial Aid
The Michigan Space Grant Consortium K-12 Educator Incentive Program will provide up to $400 for Michigan teachers to attend workshops on math and science. For an application: http://mi.spacegrant.org

Cost
Total cost of the institute is $300 off campus which includes 2 credits, five lunches, field trips, and classroom supplies, and $550 on campus that includes 5 nights lodging and meals from Monday’s breakfast through Friday’s lunch. [Generous support from the Michigan Forest Foundation and the MTU School of Forest Resources & Environmental Sciences reduces the cost of MTU tuition (official 2012-2013 MTU Applied Science Education Graduate Tuition for Residents/Non-Residents is $485 per credit)]. Payment due June 1, 2013.

Accommodations
Participants on campus will stay in single rooms with private baths in our newest residential apartment building Hillside Place.