11th Annual
Teaching With the Outdoors Workshop
Michigan's Environmental Education Curriculum Support (MEECS)

Thursday, May 4 & Friday, May 5, 2006
Michigan Tech
Ford Forestry Center
Alberta, Michigan
**Teaching With the Outdoors Teacher Workshop**

**Michigan's Environmental Education Curriculum Support (MEECS)**

FREE Classroom & Teacher Materials for Workshop Participants

Thursday, May 4 & Friday, May 5, 2006
Michigan Tech Ford Forestry Center ~ Alberta, MI

Registration Deadline ~ Wednesday, April 26, 2006

SB-CEU’s & MTU Credit Available

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**What is the Michigan Environmental Education Curriculum Support (MEECS) Project?**

The Michigan Environmental Education Curriculum Support (MEECS) is a set of environmental education curriculum lessons and support materials, carefully designed to help teachers integrate environmental materials into their classrooms – materials that are Michigan-specific, balanced, science-based, and critically aligned to the Michigan curriculum framework standards and benchmarks. The materials were carefully developed with broad-based review, and teacher-tested in Michigan classrooms.

The MEECS curriculum consists of five foundation environmental education units for grades 4-9 which support Michigan’s science and social studies curriculum framework and benchmarks: Ecosystems & Biodiversity, Land-Use, Water Quality, Energy Resources, and Air Quality.

The Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) and the Department of Education have worked hand in hand to develop sound science-based supplementary environmental education curriculum materials for use by Michigan educators. The curriculum units were carefully created by a team of experts, carefully reviewed by a variety of organizations, teachers, university faculty, environmental groups, business and industry trade associations, and government agencies. Then each curriculum unit was field-tested by 20 to 30 classroom teachers and thoroughly revised based on their feedback.

The curriculum units are distributed through teacher training workshops, conducted by trained facilitators, to help educators more easily understand and integrate the materials into their classrooms.
Thursday, May 4th Sessions
9:00 am - 4:30 pm EST

**Ecosystems & Biodiversity** (Gr. 4-6; eight lessons)
Explores how organisms interact with their environment, ecosystem services, Michigan’s environmental timeline, and concepts related to biodiversity including “Michigan’s Web of Life” and “Biodiversity Study.” (Limit 20 participants)

**Water Quality** (Gr. 6-8; nine lessons)
Students discover the essential role that water plays in Michigan’s economy and our lives; calculate how much water they use, investigate how land uses can impact water quality, explore Michigan watersheds and characteristics of healthy streams, analyze Michigan stream data, and investigate challenges to the Great Lakes. Students consider “How can we protect Michigan’s water quality and quantity?” and “Are the Great Lakes really great?” (Limit 20 participants)

**Air Quality** (Gr. 7-9; eight lessons)
Explores the sources, types and health effects of air pollutants in Michigan and examines current Michigan issues through lessons on: “Why Should We Be Concerned About Air Quality?” and “How Can We Tell What the Quality of Air is Today?” Also includes a series of lessons on global climate change and its potential effects on the Great Lakes. (Limit 20 participants)

Friday, May 5th Sessions
9:00 am - 4:30 pm EST

**Land Use** (Gr. 4-5; eight lessons)
Teaches students how to analyze and understand issues regarding land use and the impacts people have on it with lessons from “Classifying Land Use” to “Solving Land Use Conflicts.” (Limit 20 participants)

**Energy Resources** (Gr. 7-9; eight lessons)
Addresses Michigan energy use and sources, how electricity is generated, renewable and non-renewable energy resources, energy conservation and efficiency, and environmental sustainability. Students keep an Energy Use Diary, compare Michigan and U.S. per capita energy consumption to energy use in other countries, and calculate their energy footprint. What is Michigan’s energy future? (Limit 20 participants)
Some of the workshop will take place outdoors. Participants should come prepared for current weather conditions.

**FREE Classroom and Teacher Materials for Workshop Participants!**

Every curriculum unit includes:
- Notebook of Lesson Plans
- Background Information for Teachers
- CD with extension lessons, PowerPoints, and more.
- Hands-on Activities
- Pre- & Post-Tests and other assessments
- Student materials & colorful posters

**Driving directions to the MTU SFRES Ford Center & Research Forest:**
- From St. Ignace: follow US-2 west to M-77 north, then west on M-28 thru Marquette to US-41 north to Alberta.
- From Ironwood: follow M-28 thru Bruce’s Crossing to US-141 north thru Covington to US-41 north to Alberta.

**SB-CEU’s & MTU Credit Available**

SB-CEU’s available at no charge. **One MTU graduate credit** is available for those who attend both full days for $214, the cost is the responsibility of the participant.

**Workshop Cost**

FREE to all Michigan Teachers. Lunch and free curriculum materials both days. **Overnight Lodging** available at additional cost at the Ford Forestry Center for those teachers who would like to attend multiple days. Lodging and meals are $45/day for a double which includes dinner and breakfast. Contact Gail Weisinger (mtuffcgw@mtu.edu) to make reservations.

**For More Information**

To find out more about the workshop, contact Shawn Oppliger at shawn@copperisd.org or call (906)482-0331; or visit the Western UP Center’s website: [http://wupcenter.mtu.edu](http://wupcenter.mtu.edu).
TEACHING WITH THE OUTDOORS

Michigan's Environmental Education Curriculum Support (MEECS)

Thursday, May 4 & Friday, May 5, 2006

REGISTRATION FORM

Registration deadline is Wednesday, April 26, 2006

Name______________________________ Address________________________________________

School/Other Affiliation_____________________________________________________

Phone__________________________ Email_____________________________________

Grade(s) Taught__________________ Subject(s) Taught_______________________

THURSDAY, May 4, 2006

Full Day: 9:00 AM—4:30 PM

_____ Ecosystems & Biodiversity

_____ Water Quality

_____ Air Quality

FRI DAY, May 5, 2006

Full Day: 9:00 AM—4:30 PM

_____ Land Use

_____ Energy Resources

Send Registration form to:

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