



# *Bridging the Watershed*

An Outreach Program of the Alice Ferguson Foundation in Partnership with the National Park Service and Area Schools

→ **Attention Secondary Science Teachers** ←

Bridging the Watershed is conducting the  
**2009 SUMMER TEACHER/RANGER INSTITUTE**  
at  
**Virginia National Parks**  
**June 29 – July 2, 2009**

***Bridging the Watershed (BTW)*** is

an educational science program that provides personally meaningful educational experiences that connect students to their place in the natural and cultural world. The uniqueness of learning through national parks in the Potomac watershed inspires lifelong civic responsibility. To learn more about BTW, log onto to the website at <[www.fergusonfoundation.org](http://www.fergusonfoundation.org)>.

**The main component of BTW is the connection of classroom curricula to the real-world.**

Curriculum modules have been developed in which students study ecology, geology, and water quality of the Potomac River basin. BTW curricula can be applied to environmental science, Earth science, biology, and chemistry courses and is aligned with National Standards for Science Education, Maryland Core Learning Goals and Washington, D.C. Learning Standards. After students have completed lessons in the classroom to enhance their knowledge of a relevant issue in the watershed, they participate in a field study in a local national park and collect authentic data dealing with water quality, bio-indicators of water quality, exotic invasive species, runoff and sediment in the river and/or trash in the Potomac watershed. While in national parks, students are presented with opportunities to make intellectual/emotional connections to the environment.

**This BTW summer institute will prepare teachers to**

incorporate the *BTW* stand-alone curriculum modules into science courses. This four-day institute will take place at Hard Bargain Farm and partnering parks throughout Maryland and Washington, D.C. Participants will explore the Potomac watershed to learn the local history, geology, and ecology and work with student investigations in the BTW curricula. An integral part of the institute is an opportunity for teachers to complete a field study in many of the parks to collect and analyze authentic data.

**Building bridges between national parks and schools**

has been a main focus for BTW. The goal is to reach students and heighten their awareness of the real-world issues in their backyard—the Potomac watershed. During the institute, teachers and national park rangers work together on activities students will do in the classroom and work together in the parks getting their “feet wet” engaging in field studies.



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# 2009 SUMMER TEACHER/RANGER INSTITUTE

## Virginia National Parks

### June 29 – July 2, 2009

WHO IS ELIGIBLE?	Secondary (grades 6 – 12) environmental science, Earth science, chemistry, biology, integrated physics teachers, National Park Service rangers and Volunteers in Parks
ITINERARY	During this 4-day institute, participants will learn BTW curricula and strategies to implement hands-on activities in the classroom, engage in field studies in national parks, and complete a project due at the end of the institute.
INSTITUTE DATES	June 29 – July 2, 2009
INSTITUTE TIMES	8:00 AM – 4:00 PM
LOCATIONS (in the field and in the classroom)	George Washington Memorial Parkway, Great Falls Park, Manassas National Battlefield, Prince William Forest Park, Rock Creek Park
STIPEND and STIPEND REQUIREMENTS	\$600 for teachers for full participation in the 4-day institute <b>plus</b> a follow-up field study with students in a national park before November 30, 2009. Stipends will be issued in December 2009.
PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT CREDIT	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Three (3) graduate credits are available from Catholic University at current university rates (Pending). Credit will be issued at end of Fall 2009 semester. To receive graduate credit, in addition to full class participation and follow-up field study, teachers will be required to submit a portfolio of student work and program evaluation.</li><li>• MSDE - 3 credits</li><li>• DC Professional Learning Units (Pending)</li></ul>
APPLICATIONS	Application and supporting documents must be received by May 15, 2009. No faxes please.

#### FURTHER INFORMATION

Jeanne Troy  
BTW Program Director  
Phone: 301-292-8757 or [jtroy@fergusonfoundation.org](mailto:jtroy@fergusonfoundation.org)



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**TEACHER APPLICATION**  
**2009 BTW Summer Institute**  
**Virginia National Parks**  
**June 29 - July 2, 2009**

**Applications must be received by May 15, 2009. Apply early; enrollment is limited.**

**I. General Information**

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_  
Home Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Cell (Optional) \_\_\_\_\_  
Email Address \_\_\_\_\_  
Years of Teaching Experience \_\_\_\_\_  
Highest Degree held \_\_\_\_\_ Discipline: \_\_\_\_\_  
Previous Environmental Science Background \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**II. School Information**

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_  
County \_\_\_\_\_  
School Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Fax \_\_\_\_\_  
School (check one) Public  Private  Parochial

**III. Supporting Paragraph from School Principal**

A paragraph of support is requested from your school principal on school letterhead. The letter should demonstrate support for your plans to bring students on a field study in the fall. Please submit the paragraph of support either with this application or separately, by mail, before the deadline.

**IV. Personal Statement**

Bridging the Watershed is a partnership and exists primarily to create future stewards of their watershed. Include a one-page summary of your reason(s) for applying to this institute and an indication that you would be willing to work with BTW to provide students with field studies in national parks.

Mail application and supporting documents to:

**Rhonda Scott**  
**Alice Ferguson Foundation**  
**2001 Bryan Point Road**  
**Accokeek, MD 20607**



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**RANGER and VOLUNTEER APPLICATION**  
**2009 BTW Summer Institute**  
**Virginia National Parks**  
**June 29 - July 2, 2009**

**Applications must be received by May 15, 2009. Apply early; enrollment is limited.**

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Park \_\_\_\_\_  
Park Address \_\_\_\_\_  
City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone \_\_\_\_\_  
Cell Phone (Optional) \_\_\_\_\_  
Fax \_\_\_\_\_  
Email Address \_\_\_\_\_  
Position Description \_\_\_\_\_  
Previous Environmental Science Background \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Have you facilitated education programs in parks? \_\_\_\_\_ If yes, describe. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Required Signatures:**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Applicant's Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Supervisor's Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Supervisor's Name Printed

Mail application to:

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