

A WATERSHED FOR EVERY CLASSROOM

A place-based professional development program for educators who teach in the Lake Champlain Basin.

A Watershed for Every Classroom (WEC) is a year-long professional development experience for educators in the Lake Champlain Basin (Vermont, New York and Quebec), brought to you by the CBEI partners. It offers teachers inspiration, knowledge and skills to frame exciting place-based curriculum.

At the heart of this approach is the belief that students who are immersed in the interdisciplinary study of their home place are more motivated to learn and be involved in the care of their community and watershed.



LAKE CHAMPLAIN BASIN

THIS WORKSHOP SERIES OFFERS:

- An integrated, field-based exploration of the Lake Champlain watershed spanning all four seasons.
- Hands-on, lively workshops presented by aquatic biologists, researchers, historians, geologists, economists, and others passionate about the future of the Lake Champlain watershed.
- Instruction and practice in principles and best practices of place-based education.
- Learning opportunities that use the Lake Champlain Basin as an integrating concept to teach science, math, history, art, geology, and language arts.
- Practice in using “Understanding by Design” as a curricular frame to articulate what students should know, do and understand.
- Service learning fundamentals and case studies that showcase stewardship and student action.
- Curricula and resource materials.
- A network of educators in VT, NY and QC and resource specialists.
- Mini-grants available to help implement your curriculum.
- Extended support and follow-up through alumni training events.
- Five graduate credits offered for an additional fee through St. Michael’s College. (optional)



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Place-based education is a vibrant practice that energizes students, teachers and the work they do together. In this approach, teachers embed subject content and civic involvement in the natural and cultural heritage of the local community. Place-based education often involves **service learning** as an authentic way to learn in and be involved in the local environment.

Rather than learning only in the classroom, students are in their community, exploring the riverbed, talking with elders, writing poetry, or restoring a local watershed. The work they do is real, engaging and matters. Join us to learn how to provide your students with this rich educational opportunity!

CBEI Partners

Established in 1992, the **Champlain Basin Education Initiative** (CBEI) is a consortium of New York, Vermont and Quebec organizations dedicated to helping educators learn and teach about Lake Champlain Basin issues. More than 640 educators have participated in CBEI workshops and forums. Visit www.lcbp.org/cbei.htm to learn more or contact one of the partners listed here.

Adirondack Park Agency Visitor Interpretive Center
www.adkvic.org

ECHO at the Leahy Center for Lake Champlain
www.echovermont.org

Lake Champlain Basin Program
www.lcbp.org

Lake Champlain Committee
www.lakechamplaincommittee.org

Northeast Natural Resource Center of The National Wildlife Federation
www.nwf.org

Shelburne Farms
www.shelburnefarms.org

UVM Watershed Alliance, A UVM Extension Program
www.uvm.edu/~watershd



Vermont Project WET
www.vtwaterquality.org/lakes/html_lp_projectwet.htm

Amy Demarest, *Our Curriculum Matters*, has served as an individual member of CBEI since 1997.

A Watershed for Every Classroom is a replication of a Forest for Every Classroom with permission and support of the National Wildlife Federation, Shelburne Farms, the Green Mountain National Forest, Marsh-Billings-Rockefeller National Historical Park and the National Park Service's Conservation Study Institute.

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DATES AND LOCATIONS

Summer Sessions: July 14-16 and July 19-20, 2010
Vermont & Quebec

Fall Session: October 15-16, 2010
Adirondacks, NY

Winter Session: February 4-5, 2011
Burlington, VT

Spring Session: May 6-7, 2011
(location TBD)



We anticipate that three overnight accommodations will be provided with dinner. Participants may be asked to bring most of their own lunches.

What will be expected of participants?

Educators will be responsible for developing a unit of study that incorporates state standards and district expectations, as well as the real-world experiences within their local watersheds. Teachers will design a service-learning component for the unit, involving students in authentic civic engagement.

Thanks to the:
Lake Champlain
Basin Program
for their generous
support in making
this program possible.

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The course fee is \$400, payable during the course. Teachers will receive \$100 for classroom resources and an opportunity to apply for a \$200 mini-grant. Five optional graduate credits are available for an additional \$1,000 from St. Michael's College.

Name _____

School _____

Position _____ Grade level _____

Teammate name (if applicable) _____

School address _____

Town _____ State _____ Zip _____

School Tel. _____ Home Tel. _____

Email _____

Local watershed available to you:

Teaching and professional development goals:

(Please answer the following questions on an additional sheet of paper.)

1. In what ways do you presently use your natural and human community in your teaching? Have you specifically used your watershed to focus your teaching?

2. Please describe how participating in *A Watershed for Every Classroom* will support your professional goals. Please mention relevant personal or professional experiences.

3. Do you have any experience with service learning? If so, please describe.

Return application and support letter by May 1, 2010 to:

Jen Cirillo, Shelburne Farms
1611 Harbor Road
Shelburne, VT 05482
Fax: (802) 985-8123 Office: (802) 985-0315
Email: jcirillo@shelburnefarms.org

APPLICATION FORM:

- Teams of two or more are encouraged to apply. Individuals are also welcome. The program is focused on educators working in grades 4-9, but is applicable to all subject areas and grades.

You should be willing to:

- Come with the strong support of your administrator—*PLEASE PROVIDE A LETTER OF SUPPORT FROM YOUR ADMINISTRATOR AS PART OF THIS APPLICATION.*
- Participate in ALL workshops and summer sessions.
- Develop a watershed-based teaching unit that utilizes the local landscape and meets the goals of your school action plan. It should also exemplify the best practices of place-based education and service learning.
- Upon completion of this program, submit a written reflection on the implementation of your unit.

