

Watershed Academy 2021

Details and Frequently Asked Questions

Due to COVID-19 restrictions, our Watershed Academies are limited to eight students per session in Summer of 2021. Most activities will be held outdoors and be socially distanced. We might, for short durations, make use of our laboratory in small groups while socially distanced. If indoors, students and staff will wear masks at all times.

The Watershed Center will be closed to the public during the day.

Some experts might visit via video chat.

Summer 2021 Course Descriptions:

Climate Change Academy \$250

July 12 -15

Discover the factors that drive climate change, what scientists and engineers are doing to address this global threat, and how you can engage in this effort.

- Learn about the natural global cycles and processes that control earth's climate and how it changes over time.
- Perform experiments and analyze the data to infer how human activities impact climate.
- Discover how climate change impacts public health and safety.
- Meet with experts in the field to learn how we can mitigate the effects and adapt to the changing climate.

Past speakers have included:

Emmy-Award-winning meteorologist Bernadette Woods Placky

State Climatologist David Robinson

The Hydrogen House's Mike Strizki

Climate researchers from Princeton University

Stream Science Academy \$250

July 26 -29

Learn from The Watershed Institute's experts and lead your own investigation to determine the health of our streams! We will study water quality indicators and perform tests in this hands-on session. Explore the Stony Brook in-depth and learn how freshwater scientists determine watershed health, identify potential sources of pollution, and propose potential solutions to water quality problems.

- Learn and practice the scientific methods of assessing water quality.
- Identify and understand potential threats to the health of the stream.
- Develop solutions to water quality problems.

Clean Water Academy \$250

August 9 -12

People pollution from urban stormwater is a serious threat to clean drinking water, healthy rivers, and healthy stream ecosystems. Join our science team, led by Science & Stewardship Director Steve Tuorto, Ph.D., to learn how we are working for better management of polluted stormwater runoff to keep our watersheds healthy.

- Conduct stream assessments to measure the impacts of urbanization and stormwater management on water quality.
- Explore how we have worked with local communities to reduce pollution and flooding through nature-inspired rainwater management.
- Learn basic civil engineering methods to assess stormwater management on the Watershed Reserve and design rainwater solutions as part of a research and restoration project.

REGISTRATION DETAILS:

Discounts:

- Membership: A 5% discount will apply automatically if you are a member. You must be logged

into your account when registering in order to have the discount apply to your order.

- Multiple Discount: When you register for 2 or more sessions use code MULTI2021 to receive 5% off.

- A 50% deposit is due upon registration, full payment is due by May 1, 2021.

Cancellation and refund policy:

- To be eligible for a refund, cancellations must be submitted by March 31.
- After March 31, a refund will be issued only if we are able to fill the vacancy.
- All refunds will be charged a \$50 processing fee per student after March 31.
- Watershed Institute memberships are not refundable.

Financial Aid

- Available based on financial need
- Will be granted on a first-come, first-served basis until funding is dispersed
- Will include limited transportation from the Trenton Area.

Application for Financial Aid

1. Complete documentation and send to academy@thewatershed.org:

- Financial Aid Application found <https://thewatershed.org/academy/>
- A letter expressing need

2. We will review your application and inform you of your eligibility.

3. If you receive partial financial aid, you must pay the remaining balance not covered by financial aid by May 1, 2021.

Frequently Asked Questions

What are the hours of Academy?

Academy hours are 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

What if my student is sick?

If your student or someone in the household is sick, please refer to our COVID-19 policies on the website regarding symptoms and attendance. If your student becomes unwell at camp you will be contacted to pick them up immediately.

What are you doing to ensure the safety of the students?

We will be taking a number of measures to protect both students and staff this summer. For a comprehensive list of the safety measures please refer to our COVID-19 policies on the website.

- **Primarily Outdoor Activities:** The Academies will take place outdoors. We might, for short durations, make use of our laboratory in small groups while socially distanced.
- **Masks:** Students and staff will wear face masks for the majority of the day. Masks can be removed when staff have ensured that both they and students are a safe distance apart. This will happen at meal times and periodically throughout the day to cool off.
- **Watershed Center:** The Watershed Center will be closed to the public during the day. Masks will be worn at all times while indoors. Eating indoors is prohibited.

What about the weather? Thunderstorms?

Our goal is to remain outdoors, or under a tent whenever possible. During thunderstorms or other unsafe weather, we will take shelter indoors in our lab and library.

What is the dress code?

Dress for active outdoor activities—shorts, t-shirt, and closed-toe, hard-sole shoes. Open-toe or soft-sole shoes (flip flops, crocs, and open-toed sandals) are not allowed. Students will receive an Academy tee shirt on their first day.

Do you serve meals?

No. Students must bring lunch and at least two snacks daily that do not need refrigeration or reheating. Bring a refillable water bottle. There is no place onsite to purchase food or snacks. Please inform us of all food allergies when you complete the health profile. We do not exclude foods from the academy. Students are instructed to clean their hands after eating to avoid contamination.

What do students need to bring?

- Lunch, snacks and a water bottle.
- Two properly fitting masks.
- Students may bring their own laptop for note taking, but it is not required.
- For Stream Science and Clean Water Academies, students will be standing in or near water. Please bring waterproof boots if you have them. We have some boots to lend. You might also want a change of clothing and a small towel in case you get wet.
- Please refer to our Academy policies for more details.