



# Forestry and Environmental Camp- Volunteer

## Frequently Asked Questions

**Overview:** Forestry and Environmental Camps are for students across the state at selected schools interested in learning more about forests and natural resources. Lesson plans incorporate hands on activities that allow students to learn skills and techniques that many professionals use on a day-to-day basis.

**Why Volunteer:** We are facing a generation of young people that have minimal exposure to the outdoors and nature. In order to promote environmental literacy, emphasize the importance of sustainability, and connect students to nature; natural resource professionals have an obligation to share their passion, stories and knowledge. This program allows a variety of professionals from various backgrounds to share their careers and the importance of their work in their communities.

### Registration Questions

#### How do I sign up?

If you are interested in volunteering for a Forestry and Environmental Camp, sign up using our online Sign Up Genius system (link can be provided) or email our Education Manager Amy Juliana-  
[ajuliana@ncforestry.org](mailto:ajuliana@ncforestry.org).

#### Who Can Volunteer?

We are in need of forestry, natural resource professionals, and environmental educators to volunteer to lead our rotational activities and lesson plans students. Volunteers do not need to be a member of NCFA or be a registered forester to volunteer for our program. Volunteers simply must have a natural resource related career, and want to highlight your good work to a younger generation.

### Program Questions

#### What will I be teaching?

Volunteers will be implementing lesson plans and activities that relate to the field of forestry and natural resources. We provide activities on the following topics:

Middle School Students		
Dendrology	Forest Ecosystems	Forest Products and History
Land Measurement	Forest Management	Forest Wildlife

High School Students		
Dendrology	Forest Soils	Forest Products and History
Land Measurement	Forest Management	Forest Wildlife

For a complete description, scroll to the bottom of this FAQ. All lesson plans are age appropriate and correlated to the essential standards for science as dictated by the NC Department of Instruction.



Lesson plans and materials will be provided. Volunteers can access information and supplemental resources in our google drive.

**What is the time commitment?**

Camp can run one day to a week depending on the location. Volunteers are required to commit to at least one day of the program (unless otherwise stated by Education Manager). Volunteers are NOT required to commit to multiple days of programming. Camp days begin at 8:30 am with set up and typically end early afternoon. See below for a sample schedule. If a volunteer needs to leave early/arrive late, please notify the Education Manager.

Class/Group	9:00AM	9:10-10:00	10:05-10:55	11:00-11:50	Lunch	12:30-1:20
Willow	Introduction	Dendrology	Ecology	Forest Products	LUNCH	Wildlife
Red Oak	Introduction	Wildlife	Dendrology	Ecology	LUNCH	Forest Products
Maple	Introduction	Forest Products	Wildlife	Dendrology	LUNCH	Ecology
Pine	Introduction	Ecology	Forest Products	Wildlife	LUNCH	Dendrology

**What should I bring with me to volunteer?**

NCFA will provide all the camp materials. If you have a particular tool that helps you implement an activity related to your lesson plan, feel free to share!

**Am I teaching alone?**

We strive to have two teachers per activity.

**Volunteer Benefits**

- Complimentary T-shirts
- Lunch
- Registered foresters will have the opportunity to earn criteria 3 CFE credits
- Environmental Educators will have the opportunity to earn teaching hours

**Are volunteers provided lunch?**

Yes! Snacks and water will also be provided. If you have a dietary restriction, please notify the Education Manager.

**What should I wear?**

Please dress for the outdoors and weather appropriate. Volunteers will also be provided a complimentary camp T-shirt and name badge.

**What if it rains?**

The Forestry and Environmental Camp is held rain or shine. Should a severe weather incident occur; the Education Manager will contact our volunteers.



Tel 919.834.3943

Fax 919.832.6188

North Carolina Forestry Association

## **Camp Conditions**

All camps are held in local nature and recreation parks.

## **Additional Questions or Concerns?**

Amy Juliana

Education Manager for NC Forestry Association

[ajuliana@ncforestry.org](mailto:ajuliana@ncforestry.org)

919-834-3943 ext. 2

Menu of Activities

## **Overview of Activities for Middle School**

### **Dendrology**

Dendrology is the study of the characteristics of woody plants to distinguish between species. In this class, students will learn to identify trees by their bark, twigs, leaves and habitat. Students will then create an inventory of the trees on site using dichotomous keys and field guides.

### **Forest Ecology- Ecosystems**

Forests are dynamic communities dominated by trees. The type of forest capable of growing on a site is directly related to factors of soil, sunlight, water and climate. In this class, students will learn about the how site factors affect tree growth through tree cookies and core samples.

### **Forest Products and History**

Every part of a tree can be used to make something. From wood to extracts from leaves, roots and bark, comes more than 5,000 products. In this class, students will gain an appreciation of the value of trees as the provider of many raw materials, learn about the many wood products they use every day, and learn which parts of a tree are used to make these products and how trees have been used throughout history.

### **Land Measurement**

Land measurement and the maps that are produced through land measurement are important parts of forest management and decision making. Maps give us a visual representation of the composition of the forest, its size or acreage and the spatial orientation of features represented by the map. This information is gathered by using a compass and some form of linear measure.

### **Forest Management**

To make sound forest management decisions, foresters collect a great deal of information about trees and forests. Much of this information comes from evaluating a tree's physical characteristics. In this exercise, students will learn about the different measurements that foresters take how to take measurements and will use critical thinking skills to implement forest management decisions.

### **Forest Ecology-Wildlife**

Forests provide food and shelter for many types of wildlife, each of which have specific requirements to survive. This class introduces students to the concept of wildlife habitat and the interconnectedness of wildlife populations and habitat. Students also will learn about ecosystems and the balance between human development and habitat conservation.

## **Overview of Activities for High School**

### **Dendrology**



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Dendrology is the study of the characteristics of woody plants to distinguish between species. In this class, students will learn to identify trees by their bark, twigs, leaves and habitat. Students will then create an inventory of the trees on site using dichotomous keys and field guides.

### **Forest Ecology- Soils**

Forests are dynamic communities dominated by trees. The type of forest capable of growing on a site is directly related to factors of soil, sunlight, water and climate. In this class, students will assess the health of the forest through a series of experiments to find the soil types, pH and organisms present. Students will then apply data collected to create a management plan and what trees to grow on site.

### **Forest Products and History**

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