

GREETINGS!

We are very excited to have your family be a part of our Homeschooler Winter Animal Adaptions and Winter Ecology Class. Please download this letter to remind you of some things before you arrive.



Check In on the first day of program is from 4:30 pm to 6:00 pm. There is no dinner the first night. Please eat dinner before arrival or bring something to snack on during evening lecture. If you have not sent in your Health forms please mail them in now. If it is less than two weeks before the program begins bring it with you. They can be found on the homeschool page on our website. If you have not made your final payment it is due 30 days before the program begins. On your day of arrival check-in will be held at the Education Center. This is the large building, with a beautiful glass entry way, located on the corner of Enterprise Street and Mill Dam Road. Please park in front of the building and come into the lobby for registration. When you check-in staff will orient you and direct you to your lodging. You will also receive the updated program schedule. Welcome and orientation starts at 6:30 p.m. with the lecture beginning at 7:00 p.m. If you are running late on the day the program begins please call the office at (757) 824-5636 or the afterhour's cell phone at (757) 894-7708.

Your program preparatory guide is attached to this email. In it you will find a list of things to bring, helpful readings and other useful information.

Please be aware of the time that it takes to travel on the Eastern Shore. The speed limit is 35-55 mph for most of the shore. Please allow yourself plenty of time for travel. We are located 2.5 hrs away from Norfolk (in normal traffic). We are 3.5 - 4 hrs away from Washington D.C. For those traveling from the south (Norfolk Area) there is a \$13.00 toll to cross the Chesapeake Bay Bridge Tunnel.

Remember that you must bring your own twin-size bedding, including sheets, pillow and blankets, as well as all of your own toiletries. Rooms are simple with 2-4 beds and a dresser or cubby unit.

SOME HELPFUL NUMBERS

Chincoteague Bay Field Station

Office (8 AM to 4:30 PM): (757) 824 5636

After Hours Emergencies (4:30 PM to 8 AM): (757) 894 7708

Mike Hillman: personal cell (989) 313-9019 (please only use on Check In day to reach Mike directly)

Thanks,

Mike Hillman

Adult and Family Education Coordinator
Chincoteague Bay Field Station

PACKING LIST



We recommend bringing the items on this list in addition to what you normally bring on a 1-2 day trip. Because our programs are active and field based you will need more changes of clothes than usual. Please feel free to pack additional clothing as you may want to change clothing throughout the day.

OBLIGATORY ITEMS

- Adults need a United States Government Issued Photo Identification (i.e. Drivers License, Passport) for access to Wallops Island – the Navy/NASA base.
- Important Note: Foreign Nationals are not allowed entry onto the base.

NECESSARY ITEMS

- Rainwear (rain parka, jacket, pants)
- Warm Clothing: jacket, gloves, hat, scarf
- 1-2 pair of sneakers or boots
- Sweatshirt
- Field clothing for dry trips (long pants recommended)
- Sun protection (SUNSCREEN , HAT , SUNGLASSES)
- Toiletries (BAR SOAP, TOOTHPASTE, etc)
- Towels
- Refillable water bottle
- Alarm clock (Cell phones are not dependable as alarm clocks because of patchy reception.)
- Day bag or backpack for transporting your supplies during day trips
- Plastic grocery bags for wet clothing, laundry and shells
- Notebook, Pencil and/or Pen
- Trash bags for dirty laundry
- Pillow and Pillow Case
- Sleeping Bag and or Blankets
- Fitted and Flat sheets for a Twin Bed

SUGGESTED ITEMS

- Laundry detergent and quarters for the Coin Operated Laundry
- Personal Fan or heater (the residence halls have AC/Heat, but some prefer additional cooling methods)
- Money for the camp store or souvenirs
- Binoculars or spotting scope
- Camera

SUGGESTED READINGS FOR BEFORE AND AFTER YOUR ADVENTURE!

Fiction

- *Misty of Chincoteague* by Marguerite Henry

Culture and History

- *Assateague: Island of Wild Ponies* by Andrea Jauck and Larry Points
- *Beautiful Swimmers: Watermen, Crabs and the Chesapeake Bay* by William W. Warner
- *Chincoteague National Wildlife Refuge: An Ecological Treasure* by Rene Hinke-Sacilotto
- *Chincoteague Revisited: A Sojourn to the Chincoteague and Assateague Islands* by Dorothy Camagna and Jennifer Cording
- *Eastern Shore (American) Indians of Virginia and Maryland* by Helen C. Rountree
- *Eastern Shore Railroad (VA)* by Chris Dickon
- *Off 13: The Eastern Shore of Virginia Guidebook* by Kirk Mariner
- *Once upon an island: The history of Chincoteague* by Kirk Mariner
- *True Tales of the Eastern Shore* by Kirk Mariner
- *Voices of the Chincoteague: Memories of Greenbackville and Franklin City* by Martha Burns and Linda Hartsock
- *Wallops Island (Images of America: Virginia)* by Nan Devinent Hayes and Bowen Bennett

Science and Nature

- *Atlantic Shorelines: Natural History and Ecology* by Mark Bertness
- *A Naturalists Guide to Seashore Plants: An Ecology for Eastern North America* by Shirley Peron
- *Life and Death of the Saltmarsh* by John and Mildred Teal

Field Guides

- *A Field Guide to the Atlantic Seashore: From the Bay of Fundy to Cape Hatteras* by Kenneth L. Gosner
- *The Sibley Field Guide to Birds of Eastern North America* by Sibley
- *Field Guide to Identification of Wildflowers of North America* by Peterson
- *Common Plants of the Mid-Atlantic Coast: A Field Guide* by Gene M. Silberhorn

Books for Kids

- *Awesome Ocean Science (Kids Can! series) (ages 7-12)* by Cindy A. Littlefield
- *Life in the Chesapeake Bay* by Professor Alice Jane Lippson
- *Seaside Naturalist: A Guide to Study at the Seashore* by Deborah A. Coulombe
- *The Ocean Book: Aquarium and Seaside Activities and Ideas for All Ages* by Center for Marine Conservation
- *The Naturalist's Guide to the Atlantic Seashore: Beach Ecology from the Gulf of Maine to Cape Hatteras* by Scott Wesley Shumway