

SERVICE: Sustainable Living

Longbranch Environmental Education Center Trip

October 15 – 17, 2008

Introduction to Trip Planning

As participants on this trip, you will get the most from your experience by planning as much of it as you can. Planning the trip will help you anticipate and create a rich experience. To help the planning process, I have created five team categories and chosen a captain for each. We will decide the membership of each team together based on interest and talent. Each team will make plans based on the description of your jobs below. Your team will then create a document describing the plans that you will present to Mrs. Fitzgerald

Menu: Joseph, captain

You will choose healthy, yummy, economical meals for us to prepare on the trip. You have a budget of \$2 per person per meal and there are 17 people to feed. You will need to find recipes and create a grocery list. You will also need to think about how to transport any items that must stay cold. Meals to plan are Wed. lunch and dinner, Thursday breakfast, lunch, and dinner, Friday breakfast and lunch.

Logistics: William, captain

Your team will develop the trip schedule, choose work teams, create an accountability system (so we don't lose anyone at any point), and determine how best to photo-document the trip. You will need to achieve balance on many levels. The activity time needs to be balanced with some down time. The work groups need to change during the day while balancing personalities. The "thinking" activities need to be balanced with the "labor" activities. You need to balance the big picture with taking care of details.

The schedule must include time for:

Farm Tour, 1.5 hours

Sustainability seminar with Director Paul Gallimore, 2 hours

Hike around property, 2 hours

Ishmael Book Talk, 1 hour

Action Plan Brainstorming Session, 1 hour on the last day

Meals

Farm work

Driving time

Idea Collecting: Dana, captain

We will learn creative sustainable practices, hear about new books, discuss our own book, think up ideas for our Action Plans and probably much more. We want to remember the details so we can act on them when we return. Your team will decide how best to gather these ideas so that we can use them for our service Action Plans. The traditional method is to create journals. You'll probably want to have some way to write things down, but will we stick to reflection? Or can you think of other ways to journal, like interviewing each other at the end of the day or keeping lists of different kinds of ideas? What do we need to do ahead of time and what will be done during the trip?

Ishmael Book Club, Tori, captain

We will have a dedicated time in the trip schedule to discuss *Ishmael* further. The goal of the discussion will be to find Daniel Quinn's call-to-action and detail what he is suggesting. What are some themes in the book that are particularly inspiring for service? How can you direct us so that we prepare ourselves to discuss these themes before the trip? You will prepare an activity, lesson, or assignment that helps us prepare for a great book discussion. You will also lead the one-hour Book Talk during the trip.

Sustainability: Paulina, captain

Your team will look for ways that we can make our trip more sustainable. First, you'll brainstorm general sustainability issues that we will confront on our trip and anticipate ways to reduce our impact. Then, you will identify specific ways to "go green" by consulting with the other teams about their plans and suggesting ways to tweak what they want to do to make our activities more environmentally friendly. I also want you to read through the Longbranch Environmental Education Center website to see what practices are in place there already.