

FREE: Ecosystem Studies Fieldtrips

For Metro Detroit Schools*



TECHNOLOGY ENHANCED NATURE STUDY **At the Metroparks and Your School!**

Give your middle school students the opportunity to experience nature and the scientific method first-hand at Indian Springs, Oakwoods or Lake St. Clair Metroparks! The Technology Enhanced Nature Study (TENS) program allows selected classes to use high-tech tools and equipment such as data loggers, anemometers and water quality tests to become familiar with local ecosystems, and then branch out to investigate Metropark ecosystems as they develop research questions and gather their own data in the field.

We address the Michigan Science Standards and can adapt to meet specific classroom needs.

Receive all-expenses paid to attend three school-based outreach programs and four park visits over the school year.

Students gain experience sharing their findings with peers and professionals at the year-end Student Science Symposium at Indian Springs Metropark.



**Schools must complete and submit a TENS application by the deadline to participate. Selected schools will be notified by phone.*



TECHNOLOGY ENHANCED NATURE STUDY

AS PART OF THE TENS PROGRAM YOU AND YOUR STUDENTS WILL RECEIVE:

- Up to three Ecosystem Investigation field trips to a Metropark for the same class
- One Schoolyard Ecosystem Investigation lead by a Metroparks Interpreter at your school
- One (or more) follow-up data-analysis school visits by an interpreter during the school year
- Use of high-tech and traditional tools for data-collection, including: iPods, data loggers and probes, water quality chemical tests, anemometers, and GPS units
- Instruction on how to make video and photo documentation of research experience using the iPods
- Materials and assistance to create a research poster
- One visit to the Environmental Discovery Center at Indian Springs Metropark to participate in the Student Science Symposium in the spring
- Up to \$400 per visit to defray expense of transportation to the Metroparks
- Web access to ecosystem data collected by all participating schools at their sites and Metropark locations.

TEACHERS WILL BE REQUIRED TO:

- Participate in planning meetings to become familiar with the Metroparks and coordinate TENS program activities.
- Submit a letter of support (along with school principal) that shows a commitment to participating in the entire TENS program with your students during the school year.
- Work with students to refine research questions and analyze data between the time of the park visits and the Student Science Symposium.
- Complete evaluation materials to help determine the effectiveness and value of the program.

**To apply, contact Jill Martin at 248-625-7280, or email jill.martin@metroparks.com.
Please see application for selection criteria and deadline.**