

PORT ISOBEL ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION PROGRAM—WEST

Referenced on nautical charts as East Point Marsh, this Virginia island was named Port Isobel to honor the wife of one of its residents. In the 1800s, it was inhabited by families from Tangier Island, but rising sea levels in the 1920s forced them to abandon their homes. The majority of the island was donated to CBF in the late 1980s, when it became one of CBF's five island education centers.



THE CENTER AND BOATS

- All buildings have electricity, central air, and heating systems.
- Facilities include a full kitchen with a stove, microwave, refrigerator, and oven.
- Maximum capacity is 22 people (includes students and chaperones): two rooms with six beds, one room with eight beds, and one room with two beds.
- Boats include 10 canoes, a 24-foot Carolina skiff, and the *Loni Carol II*, a 40-foot Chesapeake Bay workboat.

THE ISLAND AND THE COMMUNITY

- Port Isobel (PI) is a 250-acre island east of Tangier Island. It is the southernmost point between the Tangier Sound and the Chesapeake Bay proper.
- PI has two **independently** run education centers: Port Isobel East and Port Isobel West.

FIELD EXPERIENCE CONCEPTS

BEFORE YOU GO: Prepare students for the remote conditions of the island, the conservation techniques they will practice, and expected behavior. Remind them there are no showers. *Inform students that they are **not to bring** iPods, CD players, DVD players, or other electronics of any kind. Cell phones are permitted for taking pictures at times designated by CBF educators.*

FIELD EXPERIENCE: CBF field educators will work with you during the pre-trip call to tailor your experience so that it complements your classroom content. The following are examples of sample topics:

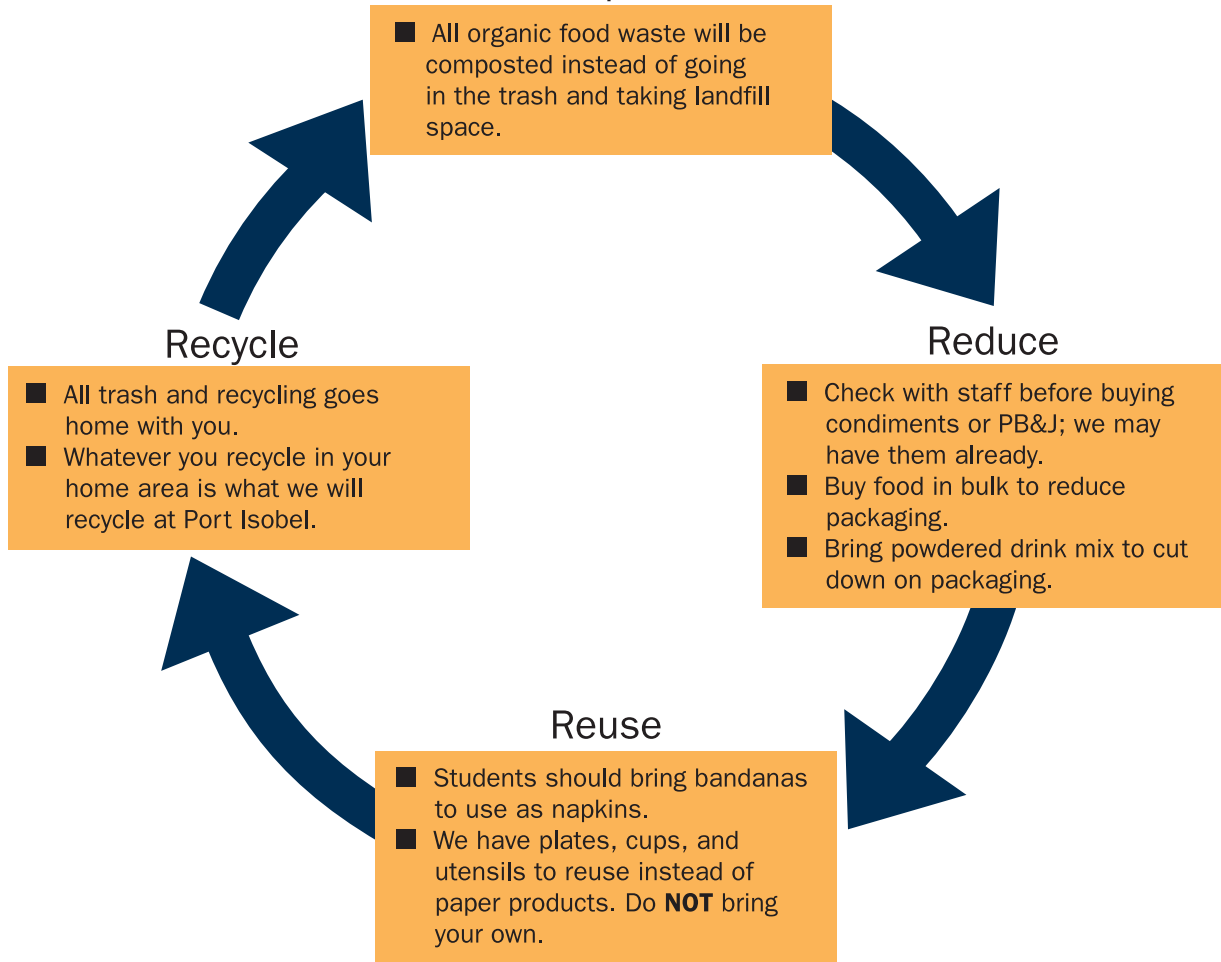
- History and folklore
- Underwater grasses
- Crabbing, fishing, and oystering
- Salt marsh exploration
- Field journals and naturalist news
- Weather watch

ACTION PROJECT: Your experience while at Port Isobel is intended to inspire students to take action when you return home. Please help facilitate restoration and/or leadership projects to help save the Bay!



CHESAPEAKE BAY FOUNDATION
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MEALS Compost



Meal preparation is a group effort. Teacher and chaperone leadership is required for the cooking and cleanup of each meal in addition to behavior management of the remainder of the group.

SAMPLE PROGRAM

DAY 1

1:30 Arrive at Port Isobel intro and safety review
Fisheries Investigation
Set Crab Pots/Dredge for Oysters
Sunset Dinner, evening journal, night hike, stories

DAY 2

Sunrise Breakfast
Morning Field investigations
SAV's—scraping
Marsh/Tidal Wetland
Mid-day Lunch
Field investigations
Canoe/Water Chemistry/Marsh
Sunset Dinner, evening journal, oral history

DAY 3

Sunrise Breakfast
Proggin' (Island history exploration)
Pack up and clean up
11:30-12 Wrap-up meeting and depart

CONTACT INFORMATION



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To apply for a field experience,
visit our website at cbf.org/apply.
For inquiries, contact the
CBF Scheduling Department
at 410/268-8816