

Principals Environmental Leadership Program

Frequently Asked Questions

What will it *really* be like to spend three days on an island learning with other principals? Here are some of the most frequently asked questions about our principal program.

What are the accommodations like?

CBF's island residential centers are dormitory style buildings with an environmental education theme. A highlight of each center includes a gorgeous view of the Chesapeake Bay.

All buildings have electricity, central air, heating systems, and full bathrooms with showers. Port Isobel and Karen Noonan Center have Clivus Multrum composting toilets that use no water or chemicals, and Smith Island has flushing toilets with water conservation mechanisms in place. All centers have a full kitchen with a stove, microwave, refrigerator, and oven.

Port Isobel	Smith Island	Karen Noonan Center
		

There is no camping involved so do not worry about living in a tent. We will be using a regular stove to cook and not an open fire; so if you cook at home, we may put you to work.

Will I have access to cell phone and internet?

- **Cell phone signal is spotty and inconsistent at all of our island centers.** We encourage participants to put away their cell phones during time on the island, which allows you to immerse yourself in the experience AND save your phone battery. Each center has a land line for emergency calls in or out. Wifi is currently not available at our centers.

What is the cost?

- The true cost of a 3-day island experience is \$1500 per person but **CBF is able to offer the course to principals and their leadership teams at no charge.** Funding for your participation is provided through a generous grant from the NOAA B-WET program.



What will we eat?

- All food is provided by CBF. Meals are prepared by the group with a CBF staff leading the effort. Snacks (nuts, granola bars, fruit, etc) are available all day. Staff try to use foods that showcase the season and region. :
 - o Breakfast and lunch are full meals prepared by CBF staff and the group. Dinners are a traditional family style island meal with a meat (turkey, beef, or chicken), local seafood (crab or fish), sides, and a dessert prepared by a local community member.
- CBF takes all allergies or specific dietary preferences like vegetarian, gluten free, etc. into consideration when making the menu. Please let the program leader know if you have any requests ahead of time.

How should I dress?

- Most activities will be outside so be prepared to be exposed to the elements. Lightweight, long sleeves and long pants are your best defense against the bugs and the sun. Quick-dry material is great for the boat since there's always a chance you might get wet.
- Close-toed shoes are best for boat activities. They protect your toes from the equipment and the critters (crabs pinch!). Flip flops and crocs are fine for down time and exploring the towns.
- Bring rain gear like a poncho or raincoat and pants other than jeans. Umbrellas are not necessary.
- You will not need any formal or business casual clothing. Save it for the mainland!
- Your course leader will provide a detailed packing list.

Is this experience just for principals?

- Courses are open to principals and other administrators/instructional leaders by request.
- Teachers are encouraged to sign up for the 30+ teacher professional development courses we offer through the Chesapeake Classrooms program. Details at cbf.org/chesapeakeclassrooms.
- Starting in 2012 we are running a program for school-based middle school leadership teams in Maryland. See the website for more details – cbf.org/principals.

What activities can I expect to participate in?

- You will learn about environmental education by participating in hands-on, outdoor activities.
- The group will investigate Bay waters using a traditional workboat for local watermen practices.
 - o Setting crab pots, scraping the grassbeds, and dredging for oyster
- You may explore a Chesapeake salt marsh by canoe.
- You may investigate the culture and history of a traditional waterman's community.
- Group discussions and instructional sessions will be interspersed with field investigations

Visit our principals' webpage - www.cbf.org/principals