



2012 St. Croix Rivers Institute

To St. Croix Rivers Institute participants:

Thank you for being part of Hamline University's Center for Global Environmental Education's St. Croix River Institute! This note should give you all the information you need to get where you need to go when you need to be there with the gear you need to be safe and comfortable. If you have any questions, don't hesitate to contact me at crieckenberg01@hamline.edu

Days and Times

Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, June 25, 26 and 27
8:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Locations

MONDAY, JUNE 25

Meet at **Interstate Park in Taylor's Falls on the Minnesota side of the St. Croix River**. Click this link for a map to the park.
http://www.dnr.state.mn.us/maps/compass.html?map=COMPASS_MAPFILE&zoomsize=3&scale=100000&mapxy=526489.056624162+5026962.40281096 . **Note- Interstate Park spans both the Minnesota and Wisconsin sides of the river. We will meet on the Minnesota side.** The address for Interstate State Park is 307 Milltown Road, Taylors Falls, MN 55084. Drive through the park entrance to the parking lot. Registration will be in the picnic shelter opposite the parking lot.

We get down to business, including morning coffee, at **8:00 a.m. sharp**. Plan to arrive in plenty of time to register, sign waivers and get coffee for the 8:00 a.m. start.

We will spend the day at Interstate Park. Following a brief introduction to the institute and each other, we'll board canoes and paddle. Shuttle buses will bring us back upstream to Interstate Park.

TUESDAY, JUNE 26

Meet at the lower picnic shelter at **Afton State Park**. Click the link for a map to the park:
http://www.dnr.state.mn.us/maps/compass.html?map=COMPASS_MAPFILE&zoomsize=3&scale=100000&mapxy=516981.953125+4967173.22449901 .

The address for Afton State Park is 6959 Peller Avenue South, Hastings, MN 55033. Drive all the way through the park. Park your vehicle in the lot farthest from the park entrance and head for the trail that runs down the bluff to the left as you walk out of the far end of the parking lot, heading toward Trout Brook.

Please note: The picnic shelter is near the top of the high bluffs at the park. We will be working at sites located along the bottom of the bluff. You will need to hike up and down the bluffs several times over the two days at Afton State Park. **If you have mobility limitations, please let us know in advance.**

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 27

Meet at the picnic shelter at **William O'Brien State Park**. Click the link for a map to the park:

<http://www.dnr.state.mn.us/maps/compass.html?scale=100000&mapxy=517499.977628436+5007251.79762292>. The address for William O'Brien State Park is 16821 O'Brien Trail North Marine on St. Croix, MN 55047. Once you enter the park, take a left at the 'T' and follow the road under the bridge. Continue to the farthest most shelter by the canoe/kayak landing.

Parking

A Minnesota State Park vehicle sticker is required for entry to the state parks. Your daily expense will be \$5 per vehicle per day. If you have an annual State Park sticker, you won't need to pay an additional entry fee. If you don't have a State Park sticker, consider purchasing one for the Institute, use it for the next year and support our parks.

A note about time

We have a very full agenda these three days and will move around extensively. ***We begin and end our sessions on time.*** If you pull into the meeting site at 8:00am, activities will already have started. Plan to arrive before the listed start times so you are ready to go when the day's activities start. Please plan for additional time in the morning as many participants need parking pass resulting in a backlog at the entrances.

We will end our days at 4:00pm as noted. Please make appropriate accommodations for child care and other needs as we need you to stay until we are finished for the day.

What you'll get

Besides a fabulous experience and nourishment, CGEE will provide:

- A spiral-bound notebook to keep a journal during the Institute
- A syllabus for the course
- Mini grant guidelines
- A W-9 form to fill out for the mini grant you receive as part of the institute.

What to wear

We will be outside all three days of the Institute. Please dress appropriately for weather and activities. On Monday, June 25, dress for canoeing for most of the morning, i.e. **wear shoes appropriate for slippery, wet conditions**. In the afternoon, we will be traveling through high grass and forested areas. I recommend long pants and closed toed-shoes for the afternoon as you'll be in the woods and tall grasses.

On Tuesday and Wednesday, June 26 and 27, dress to walk in the water, on trails and through forested areas. Wear shoes you don't mind getting wet.

It's often hot and sunny in late June. It can also rain like crazy. Plan clothing and sun protection accordingly.

What to bring

- **IMPORTANT- A full, refillable water bottle. Be sure to start with a full bottle of water. Water to refill bottles throughout the day will be available at. We will not provide single use water bottles.**
Reduce, reuse, then recycle!
- Light rain gear, head covering, sunscreen, pen and pencil
- Health insurance provider name and number to complete liability waivers
- Bring a small pack, but pack very lightly. You'll carry whatever you bring
- A **laptop** on the third day (if you have one).

What's to eat

Lunch with a beverage will be provided every day, including adequate non-vegetarian options. ***If you have specific food requirements, please email Sara Robertson (srobertson01@hamline.edu) at least two weeks in advance. We will make every effort to accommodate your needs.*** We'll have trays of sandwiches, shared large bags of chips, whole fruit, etc. along with paper plates, napkins and utensils. Mid-afternoon snacks and multiple opportunities to refill water bottles will also be provided.

Thanks again for joining us. See you on the river!

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