

Field Trip Needs Form

Friends of the Chicago River

Thank you for your interest in a field trip to the Chicago River. To make your trip as enjoyable and organized as possible, please provide the following information. **WE CANNOT BOOK YOUR TRIP UNTIL WE HAVE THIS FORM.** Please fax your completed form to Mark Hauser, education manager, at (312) 939-0931 to formally lock in your requested date.

School Name _____

Teacher Name _____ **Teacher Email** _____

Teacher Phone _____ **Teacher Cell** (for day-of communication) _____

Trip Date _____ **Arrival Time** _____ **Departure Time** _____

Location (for a list, visit www.chicagoriver.org/education/field_trips/field_trip_sites/) _____

of Students _____ **Grade/s of Students** _____ **# of Adults/Teachers** _____

Students' Special Needs _____

(Note any language, mobility and/or learning disability issues so that we can accommodate those students)

How many Activity Stations do you plan on having? _____ Note: This must match the

We suggest no more than 15 students at a station at a time. (# of total students ÷ 15 = # of activity stations) number of activities

Friends of the Chicago River can lead one activity station... your school must be able to lead the rest. checked below.

Teachers are responsible for bringing copies of **student worksheets** on the field trip. ◀
Teachers are responsible for obtaining an **Education Permit** from the Forest Preserve District of Cook County two weeks prior to the field trip (available at www.chicagoriver.org/education/field_trips/).

Desired Activity Stations Please check the appropriate boxes to indicate which stations you plan to implement and what equipment you need us to provide. Activity write-ups (which include student worksheets) can be downloaded from Friends' website at www.chicagoriver.org/education/field_trips/activities/.

Water Quality and Habitat Monitoring

Water Chemistry Monitoring

Students test the river water using up to nine different parameters.

Easy GREEN Test Kits (nitrate, phosphate, pH, and dissolved oxygen) (5th to 8th) ◀

OR

Hach Water Quality Test Kits (kits come separately, so check those you would like) (9th to 12th) ◀

Nitrate Phosphate pH Dissolved Oxygen/Biological Oxygen Demand

PLUS...

Turbidity Tube Total Dissolved Solids probe Coliscan Easygel[®] test for fecal coliform/*e. coli*

Macroinvertebrate Observation (K to 4th) ◀ and Monitoring (5th to 12th) ◀

Students collect and observe macroinvertebrates (small backboneless organisms living at the bottom of the river). Older students monitor and identify them to determine the water quality of the river.

D-Nets Viewing Trays Magnifiers Tweezers Macro I.D. Cards

Hip Boots (only if students are entering the water). Please give an indication of sizes requested: _____

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Water Quality and Habitat Monitoring (...continued from other side)

Stream Flow Monitoring (6th to 12th) ◀

Students calculate flow rate and stream flow of a local river. Students wade into the water to complete.

Measuring Tapes Flags Meter Sticks Stopwatch(s) Oranges (6) Hip Boots

Habitat Monitoring (5th to 12th) ◀

Students investigate the ecology of the riverbanks and land surrounding the river through observation.

Field Guides to Wildflowers: # _____ Field Guides to Trees/Shrubs: # _____

Upland Ecology Investigation

Plant Identification (K to 12th)

Students learn to identify some common plants around the river using field guides.

Field Guide to Wildflowers: # _____ Field Guide to Trees/Shrubs: # _____

Tree Transect (6th to 12th) ◀

Students sample the forest adjacent to the river, using transects or quadrant.

Measuring Tape Compass Field Guide to Trees/Shrubs: # _____

Invasive Species Impact Study (6th to 12th) ◀

Students compare the diversity of plants in an area invaded by non-native invasive species and an area relatively free of invasive species.

Active Games

Active Games (K to 12th)

Students often get very excited on field trips; an educational active game can provide them with a constructive outlet for their extra energy. Two books by Joseph Cornell, available for loan from Friends, have a variety of nice active games and Project Wild has a nice game about macroinvertebrate adaptations (which we can send you upon request).

Reflection and Observation

Observation and Reflection (K to 12th) ◀

Students can hone their observation skills as they take a nature walk, do a scavenger hunt, make detailed drawings, or write poetry as they soak it all in.

Stream Walk (6th to 12th) ◀

Students are divided into three groups. Each group takes a stream walk along the Chicago River answering questions about different aspects of the river environment.

Stewardship

Stewardship Activities/Restoration (K to 12th) to be done in conjunction with other lessons

Students can help with physically restoring natural areas. Some activities can include trash pick up (K to 8th), invasive species removal (9th to 12th), native plantings and/or seed collection (9th to 12th). This activity requires extra planning and may limit where your field trip can take place. Please call to arrange.

Other

Describe your own idea for a station...