

15TH ANNUAL CHICAGO RIVER STUDENT CONGRESS

Dear Environmental Professional,

Each year, Friends of the Chicago River and Amundsen High School present the Chicago River Student Congress. Students in grades K-12 lead workshops, create displays and showcase their river artwork. Additionally, many environmental agencies such as yours share their knowledge and expertise by providing workshops and displays for students.

**When: Saturday, February 25, 2012
8:00 am - 12:30 pm**

**Where: Amundsen High School
5110 N. Damen Ave., Chicago**



We would like to have you be part of this year's Congress. You are invited to present a workshop or exhibit a display about your agency/organization. The kids LOVE to hear about work that is actually being accomplished. Workshops are 30 minutes long and are usually presented twice. The more interactive and hands-on, the better! Displays are set up in the hallways so attendees can visit them throughout the event.

If you wish to attend, please fill out the registration form or call me for more information.

This Year's Theme: *Confluence*

This year's Congress will highlight the many collaborations and accomplishments that have occurred to improve the Chicago River. Maybe your school worked with Friends of the Chicago River, the Forest Preserve District of Cook County, or some other funder or supporter. Perhaps you studied the river in your classroom, or took a trip to the river to monitoring chemistry and biology. This year we celebrate coming together (i.e. confluence) and the change that collaboration can bring. Many issues regarding the Chicago River are currently in the public eye. We are all at a confluence in the river's history. Disinfection of sewage effluent would remove coliform bacteria, a huge step forward in water quality. Steps are also being taken to improve fish habitat (through dam removal), and to raise awareness regarding invasive species (such as Asian carp and zebra mussels). The decisions we make today will affect the river and our environment for years to come.

Workshops should highlight your experiences in improving water quality. We all play a vital role to safeguard the health of the river's ecosystems for plants, animals, and people. Other topics may also be accepted. Call me if you have any questions.

I hope you can join us,

Mark Hauser
Education Coordinator
(312) 939-0490, ext. 11
mhauser@chicagoriver.org

Friends of the Chicago River

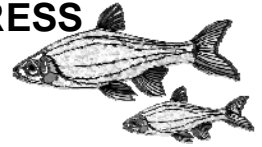


www.chicagoriver.org/events/student_congress



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Confluence Registration Form



Agency/Organization: _____

Contact Name: _____

Email Address: _____ Daytime Phone: _____

- I WILL be able to participate in the 15th annual Chicago River Student Congress. (Please check the options below)
- I will not be able to participate.
- I will not be able to participate and wish to be taken off the mailing list for the event. (You can also email a message to that effect to mhauser@chicagoriver.org)

Workshop:

- Time limit: 30 minutes.
- Be prepared to deliver your presentation twice.
- Presentations will begin around 9:30 am.
- You will be assigned a classroom when you arrive.

Title of Presentation:

Presentation Summary:

Equipment Needed:

- Overhead projector TV/VCR
- Slide projector PowerPoint projector
- Other

Note: If you have your own AV equipment, please bring it.

Display:

- The building will open at 7:45 am. You should plan to be set up by 8:15 am.
- You will have an assigned table in the hallway on the 3rd floor.
- Students will have from 8:00 am - 9:00 am to view displays.
- You may break down and leave at 11:45 am.

Display Summary:

Equipment Needed:

- 6' table 3' table TV/VCR
- Access to an electrical outlet Other
- Extension cords (please try to bring your own)

ALL AGENCY PARTICIPANTS WILL RECEIVE BREAKFAST AND LUNCH!

PLEASE FAX OR MAIL THIS RESPONSE FORM BEFORE **FEBRUARY 15, 2012**.
LATE SUBMISSIONS **WILL NOT** BE ACCEPTED!

Friends of the Chicago River

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Mark Hauser, Education Coordinator
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