

Parent/Guardian Consent Form

Exploring our Watershed

Note: This form must be returned in order for your child to participate.

Dear Parents/Guardians,

On _____, _____, _____, our class will be travelling to
(day) (month) (date) (year)

_____ Watershed for a SPECIAL day of outdoor learning connected to school curriculum.

This watershed is one of three major sources of our region's tap water. These areas are closed to the public except for education through organized school programs and public tours in the summer. Metro Vancouver's water supply is one of just a few systems in North America that are closed, as one of several steps taken to protect the quality of tap water.

Students will have the opportunity to learn about the unique features of this area and become champions for sharing what they learn. They will learn about biodiversity and ecosystems by hiking in a mature forest, see some of the complex systems in place to provide safe drinking water, and discover how people work to protect our tap water.

Please be advised that students will be walking uphill on an un-surfaced trail for an hour. It is important that they wear comfortable footwear. The watershed is a wilderness environment and we are fortunate to share this land with wildlife including black bears and cougars. Every attempt will be made by our educators to keep your child safe during their visit. They each have a great deal of experience working in wilderness settings and are trained in level 1 First Aid. Many safety techniques will be employed throughout the field trip, along with a chance for students to learn more about these great creatures and their habitat. Please encourage your child to follow the instructions provided to ensure a safe and enjoyable program for all.

The watershed is a large forested environment and **students will be outside for the duration of the program** (about 4 hours). It is often wetter and cooler in the watershed area than in the city.

There are no facilities to purchase anything. Only outhouses are available.

THE BEST WAY YOU CAN HELP YOUR CHILD IS TO MAKE SURE THEY WEAR/BRING:

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• layers of clothing• comfortable walking shoes or boots (no flip-flops please)• a RAINCOAT (umbrellas are not suitable for this trip)• an extra sweater, socks and hat | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• a BIG LITTERLESS lunch, <u>water in a reusable container</u> and extra snacks (The fresh air makes everyone more hungry than usual!) All garbage must be taken home with the students as part of our 'pack out what you pack in' policy. |
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Students will leave the school at _____ am by bus, and return to the school at approximately _____ pm. They will be accompanied by _____ teacher(s) and _____ adult volunteers. One certified educator will be assigned to each group of 15 students. The cost to the students is \$_____. In the event of an emergency, on the day of the program only, please call 604-987-5354.

Please return the bottom of this form to the school, along with the fee, no later than _____.

I, _____, give permission for my child, _____
(print name) (print name)

to attend the Metro Vancouver Watershed Education program on _____
(date)

Signed: _____