Sustainable Energy Leaders of the Future (SELF) Day UMaine

Engineering Information Foundation has funded a grant to connect middle school girls of rural Maine to STEM careers through active research, mentoring and community service in Forest Bio-Products. About 80 girls will be spending a day at the Forest Bioproducts Research Institute’s Technology Research Center in Old Town to learn beyond paper making about the use of Maine forest in developing advanced materials, chemicals and fuels in an economically and ecologically sustainable manner.

The objectives of this project are:

- To promote interest in STEM education and careers for girls by raising awareness about the responsible use of a forest eco-system as a building block for sustainable and renewable energy resource
- To engage, mentor and prepare female middle school students from rural communities in cutting-edge Forest BioProducts research programs at the University of Maine
- To connect the participating girls with the college sophomores for a continued knowledge of the UMaine Engineering Programs thereby to advance girls from rural areas to pursue post-secondary education in STEM fields

Schools/organizations can bring a group (up to 20) of middle school girls to campus for a day. The group can decide the day to come. Transportation cost and lunch will be provided.

For more information please contact: Sheila Pendse sheila.pendse@maine.edu
10 Great Reasons to be an ENGINEER!

1. Love Your Life and Live Your Life too!  
   engineering is an exciting profession, but one of its  
   greatest advantages is that it will leave you time for all  
   the other things in your life that you love!

2. Be Creative  
   engineering is a great outlet for the imagination—  
   the perfect field for independent thinkers.

3. Work with Great People  
   engineering takes teamwork, and you’ll work with all  
   kinds of people inside and outside the field. Whether  
   they’re designers or architects, doctors or entrepreneurs,  
   you’ll be surrounded by smart, inspiring people.

4. Solve Problems, Design Things  
   That Matter  
   come up with solutions no one else has thought of.  
   make your mark on the world.

5. Never Be Bored  
   creative problem solving will take you into uncharted  
   territory, and the ideas of your colleagues will expose  
   you to different ways of thinking. Be prepared to be fas-  
   cinated and to have your talents stretched in new ways.

   engineers not only earn lots of respect, but they’re highly  
   paid. even the starting salary for an entry-level job is  
   impressive!

7. Enjoy Job Flexibility  
   An engineering degree offers you lots of freedom in  
   finding your dream job. it can be a launching pad  
   for jobs in business, design, medicine, law, and gov-  
   ernment. to employers or graduate schools, an engineering degree reflects a well-educated individual  
   who has been taught ways of analyzing and solving  
   problems that can lead to success in all kinds of  
   fields.

8. Travel  
   field work is a big part of engineering. You may end  
   up designing a skyscraper in London or developing  
   safe drinking-water systems in Asia. or you may stay  
   closer to home, working with a nearby high-tech  
   company or a hospital.

9. Make A Difference  
   everywhere you look you’ll see examples of engineer-  
   ing having a positive effect on everyday life. cars  
   are safer, sound systems deliver better acoustics,  
   medical tests are more accurate, and computers and  
   cell phones are a lot more fun! You’ll be giving back  
   to your community.

10. Change the World  
    imagine what life would be like without pollution  
    controls to preserve the environment, life-saving  
    medical equipment, or low-cost building materials  
    for fighting global poverty. All this takes engineer-  
    ing, in very real and concrete ways, engineers save  
    lives, prevent disease, reduce poverty, and protect  
    our planet.

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