



<http://forestbioproducts.umaine.edu>

[www.umaine.edu/gem](http://www.umaine.edu/gem)

<http://wabi.tv/2014/03/20/middle-school-girls-get-crash-course-engineering>

## **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:

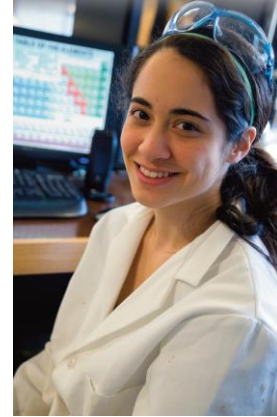
- To promote interest in STEM education and careers for girls by raising awareness about the responsible use of a forest eco-system as a building block for sustainable and renewable energy resource
- to engage, mentor and prepare female middle school students from rural communities in cutting-edge Forest 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@umaine.edu](mailto:sheila.pendse@umaine.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 fascinated and to have your talents stretched in new ways.

### 6. Make A Big Salary.

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 government. 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 engineering 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 engineering. in very real and concrete ways, engineers save lives, prevent disease, reduce poverty, and protect our planet.