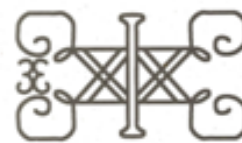


WABANAKI YOUTH in SCIENCE (WaYS)

Integrating Technology, Science and Traditional Culture

Newsletter

Spring 2016



Upcoming Events: - Mark your calendars!

Spring Mini Camp—May 14, 15 at Arthur Haines, Canton ME

Inter-Tribal Youth Climate Leadership Conference, July 5-12; Shepardstown, West Virginia

Earth Camp—July 11-15 Fourth Debsconeag

This winter and spring WaYS has been very busy expanding and working with students to garner internships, TEK programs and much more! It is wicked exciting. Even with lots going on, if you know of a Native youth that would be interested or if you are a Native youth interested in becoming a part of the WaYS program, please contact Barry Dana, Tish Carr or your tribal Educational Director!

Winter Mini Camp

This past February, Maine Youth Fish and Game (Milford ME) was again the site for our winter mini camp. We had hoped for a bit more snow, perhaps a bit more cold, but all turned out very well for our record number of students attending, 23!

Friday evening was kicked off with Story Teller extraordinaire, Roger Paul, sharing innumerable Native stories for every one there. All were kept in awe as Roger shared his wealth of knowledge and enthusiasm. Saturday morning was warmer than anticipated and rained a tad longer than had hoped. The morning was spent ice fishing. Even with the sprinkles, there was an immense amount of ice (over 11"). Most students tried their hand at ice fishing and even the first-timers proved all could be successful! During the ice fishing, small groups worked together to build a fire for their group. And despite the drizzle, all had fires to warm up and secure their knowledge that no matter what the weather they can get a fire going! Also during the morning, everyone learned about snow shoe history and uses from snowshoe wizard Bill Mackowski. Our "winter survival" talk ended up being more indoors than outdoors but we learned a lot thanks to Jennifer Neptune and her wealth of medicinal plant usage and Dr. Elizabeth Snuggs and Ed Charles for their emergency first aid knowledge. By evening, students had a quiet respite earning traditional beading from guru Jennifer Neptune. We had hoped that Sunday would be bright and sunny, but alas, that did not happen. Sprits were not dampened by the weather because John Dennis and a wildlife biologist from IF&W shared the ecological and spiritual knowledge about bears. It was an amazing and captivating time.



Morgan's success was deemed the largest catch for the weekend!

Way to go Morgan!

Spring Mini Camp : May 13-15

Our Spring mini camp will be hosted by Arthur Haines. Arthur Haines is a well renowned and respected Botanist. He is also well-versed in Wabanaki knowledge. This combination will make for an exceptional weekend for students. This camp will not have any facilities. We will be camping in tents, using the "great outdoors" for our facilities (i.e. no indoor plumbing, showers or running water). All cultural foods will be cooked over a campfire. Arthur and others will be sharing their knowledge about local plants, cultural knowledge and leadership training. This mini camp will focus on leadership training and preparation for our earth camp in July. Students that attend this mini camp will be expected to a "Teen Leader" at the earth camp. Applications will be sent out to all on our mailing list and also on our WaYS website at <https://naps.umaine.edu/wabanaki-youth-science-program/>

Earth Camp July 11 -15

Speaking of earth camp ... this is the 4th earth camp for WaYS. And we are changing it up this year. New venue, new format, new experiences. Earth camp will be at Chewonki's Debsconeag Wilderness Camp. It is located along the shores of Fourth Debsconeag at T1 R10 WELS, T1 R11 WELS, Piscataquis, County Maine (north east of Greenville and due south of Baxter State Park). It is a pristine body of water where we will be hosting an impressive gathering of Cultural Knowledge Keepers, Natural Resource professionals to share in their wealth and knowledge of the area. Focus will be on the natural area, water and the geology of the landscape. Canoeing, hiking, swimming will be a part of the activities as well. Plus a few more surprises. One of which is students over 14 years of age, that have filled out their required paperwork, will receive a stipend for attending the camp of \$300. The expectation will be these students will work towards an internship after completion of the camp. More information to follow .. check our website .. check Facebook ... mark it on your calendar!

INTERNSHIPS

Funding for internships are available immediately. There are a number of opportunities not only within Tribal Dept. of Natural Resources but with federal agencies. Internships are a great way to get hands-on experience in a field of interest. Interns would be working with Natural Resource professionals as well as Cultural Knowledge Keepers to meld western science with traditional ecological knowledge and culture. A bonus is you also get paid!

Internships that are or will be available in 2016 include:

- Penobscot DNR, Indian Island (Forestry, Wildlife, Fisheries and Community Forestry)
- USFS Penobscot Experimental Forest, Orono and White Mountain Region.
- US Dept. of Interior and Abbe Museum at Acadia
- University of Maine
- Community Forestry Project at Penobscot Nation
- Recycling Program at Penobscot Nation and MicMac Nation
- Other tribal DNR's .. Just ask!

There is definitely a ton of great opportunities to try some thing that might be of interest to you plus get paid for it. How great is that?

If you are interested in learning more about Internships whether you are on or off-reservation, please contact tish carr at waysprogram@gmail.com or 207.485.0219 .

Cultural Corner earth camp 2015



IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER

May 14-15, 2016 Spring Mini Camp, Canton ME. Share time with Arthur Haines hiking, nature-related activities and a very special foraging site for a primitive camping weekend in Canton.

July 5-12 Inter Tribal Youth Climate Leadership Conference, Shepardstown, West Virginia

July 11-15; 2016 earth camp at Fourth Debsconeag!



For more pictures check out our facebook page and our website.

FACEBOOK: <https://www.facebook.com/Wabanaki-Youth-in-Science-1681104032109048/>

WEBPAGE: <https://naps.umaine.edu/wabanaki-youth-science-program/>

To learn more about WaYS or the opportunities that are available please contact

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