



*Cathance River*  
EDUCATION ALLIANCE  
www.creamaine.org



## 2012 CREA ENVIRONMENTAL YOUTH LEADER

**What is CREA?** CREA is the Cathance River Education Alliance, a 501c3 non-profit organization that promotes the wise use of the Cathance River Preserve; encourages the use of its natural resources to promote ecological awareness and nature-based learning among students, educators, and the public; and prepares future stewards of the Cathance River.

**What is an Environmental Youth Leader (EYL)?** A CREA EYL is a student leader (10th through 12th grade) from either Morse, Mt. Ararat, or Brunswick High School that enjoys learning how to be astonished by nature. These students are involved in occasional workshops and training by area professionals that provide enrichment opportunities in the areas of applied science, environmental education, and leadership. This is a part-time commitment that involves combining active fun (hiking/fishing/trail work) with leadership training in the areas of environmental education and related studies as described below.

### POSSIBLE FOCUS AREAS

- 1) **Environmental Education** – Creating lessons and activities for summer camps and nearby elementary schools involving environmental issues.
- 2) **Environ-Video Production** – Making 3-5 minute video clips that pertain to nature/environmental issues to post on YouTube.
- 3) **Turtle Trapping and Monitoring** – Local Painted and Snapping Turtle populations will be monitored using basic live trapping procedures and telemetry tracking techniques.
- 4) **Water Monitoring** – Working to continue water-sampling initiatives along the Cathance River and watershed.
- 5) **Bat Monitoring** – Using *Anabat*, a system designed to help users identify and survey bats by detecting and analyzing their echolocation calls.
- 6) **Game Cameras** – Baiting and setting some of CREA's game cameras to try and capture on film various animals around the preserve.
- 7) **Salamander Project** – Working in areas around the preserve and setting transects to gather some relative population numbers for salamander species.
- 8) **Underwater Camera** – Setting and recording CREA's new high-tech underwater camera to try and film various fish and turtle species in their natural environment.
- 9) **Historical Research Project on 6 Rivers** – Researching and exploring the local history of the 6 rivers that flow into Merrymeeting Bay.

**POSSIBLE ENRICHMENT AREAS**

**Green Aspirations** – Field studies/green career exploration & job shadows/workshops/field trips  
Required Meeting & Training Dates (Projects may require some time in summer to complete) Usually  
an afternoons once every two weeks or an occasional Saturday.

**RECOMMENDATIONS**

Upon successful completion of the EYL program, CREA teachers and administrators will be happy to  
write glowing recommendations indicating EYL leadership participation and describe your experience  
and training.

**ESSAY QUESTION**

This will be a very competitive selection process that will ultimately choose 30 EYL’s to represent  
three school districts (SAD 75/Morse/Brunswick). Some of last year’s EYL’s may be selected to return  
making the number of open slots even fewer. Please take these short essays seriously. Use no more than  
one back to back page preferably typed.

**For new applicants:** What do you have to offer to CREA? What does CREA have to offer you? What  
makes you a good fit for this experience? Give an example of how you have been a leader? Convince us  
you have the time to commit to this experience.

**For EYL’s reapplying:** Explain what you have done on your own regarding CREA related projects since  
last summer? What made you a successful EYL? Why should we select you again? Give an example of  
how you have been a leader? Convince us you have the time to commit to this experience.

Full Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Best Email \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Best Cell Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Parents’ Names \_\_\_\_\_

Please provide a person whom we can contact regarding your leadership skills.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Best Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Their signature confirming their willingness to discuss your leadership potential:

\_\_\_\_\_ Their best time to receive a phone call \_\_\_\_\_

**Parent Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_ There will be another accident liability form to  
sign. This signature only represents that your parents or guardian agrees that this is a position that their son/daughter may  
have the flexibility and commitment to undertake. A signature confirms that the parent feels their son/daughter is not over  
booked / over worked / or adding on another endeavor which will get lost among ten others.

**Student Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_ I understand that there are multiple commitments  
that must be upheld in order to successfully complete the EYL program. I understand that failure to follow through at any  
point will seriously jeopardize CREA’s payment responsibility and your status as an EYL. I agree that I will follow through  
completely on at least one focus area and one enrichment area. I also agree that I will attend all required meeting and training  
dates and that there may be more that I have to volunteer for in order to finish projects.