Maryland School Grounds for Learning: Environmental Literacy 101

Maryland Association for Environmental & Outdoor Education
Environmental Literacy 101

• Objectives of the power point
• How environmental education became environmental literacy
Environmental Literacy: 
Regional Perspectives 
The Chesapeake Bay
Environmental Literacy: 
Regional Perspectives 
Meaningful Watershed Educational Experience
Environmental Literacy: Meaningful Watershed Educational Experience
Environmental Literacy: Regional Work: The Chesapeake Bay

• The 2012 Mid-Atlantic Environmental Literacy Strategy:
  • As a response to the Chesapeake Bay Executive Order
Environmental Literacy: Regional Work: The Chesapeake Bay

- Environmental Literacy was one of the 10 Chesapeake Bay Agreement Goals from 2014:
  - Enable students in the region to graduate with the knowledge and skills to act responsibly to protect and restore their local watershed.
What exactly is environmental literacy?

Is it the same thing as environmental education?
An environmentally literate person, both individually and together with others:

- makes informed decisions concerning the environment;
- is willing to act on these decisions to improve the well-being of other individuals, societies, and the global environment;
- participates in civic life.
Environmental Literacy: National & International Trends

• Sustainability
• Resiliency of green infrastructure
• Human health and well being
Environmental Literacy:
National & International Trends

Sustainable Schools

- Food
- Energy
- School Grounds
- Transportation
- Building Materials

National & International Trends
Environmental Literacy: Maryland

• Proud tradition of Environmental Education in Maryland
Environmental Literacy: Maryland’s Graduation Requirement

• Beginning with students entering high school in 2011—2012, all students must complete a locally designed high school program of environmental literacy as set forth in COMAR 13A.04.17 that is approved by the State Superintendent of Schools.
Environmental Literacy: Maryland Standards

1. Environmental Issues
2. Interaction with Earth Systems
3. Flow of Matter and Energy
4. Populations, Communities and Ecosystems
5. Humans and Natural Resources
6. Environment and Health
7. Environment and Society
8. Sustainability
Designed to coincide and support the implementation of all existing education initiatives including:

- Science Technology Engineering and Math (STEM)
- Next Generation Science Standards
- Geography Standards
- Common Core

Environmental Literacy:
Maryland Standards
Environmental Literacy: Maryland Environmental Literacy Partnership
Environmental Literacy: You & Your Schools
Environmental Literacy:  
*You & Your Schools*

- Explore the opportunities....