



Dear Parents:

Your child's fifth grade class is preparing to visit Hard Bargain Farm in Accokeek, Maryland for their environmental education overnight experience. Hard Bargain Farm is in the center of a large tract of land, which has been set aside for education of children. It is directly across the Potomac River from Mount Vernon, Virginia. The farm is owned by the Alice Ferguson Foundation.

While at the Hard Bargain Farm, your child will be involved in "hands-on" learning to develop a better awareness and understanding of the environment of which they are a part. Your child's class will begin work on a Memory Book before their trip to help them prepare for their experience and will use it while at the Farm to record their observations during their field studies. Completion of the Memory Book back in the classroom will provide an opportunity to reflect upon their learning and share their experiences with the class. All of these activities were designed to build upon the skills necessary to succeed on the Maryland State Assessment and meet the objectives of the Charles County Essential Curriculum for 5th graders.

During this overnight trip, students and chaperones will sleep on bunk beds in Wareham Lodge, which has separate bunkrooms and toilet facilities for boys and girls. Each student will need to bring a bag lunch and drink for the first day. Please see the Memory Book regarding the "trash-free" lunch challenge when packing this meal. A hot dinner will be prepared by a local school's kitchen and delivered in time for the evening meal. The second day's breakfast and lunch will be provided for your child, as well. Please make your child's teacher aware of any food allergy.

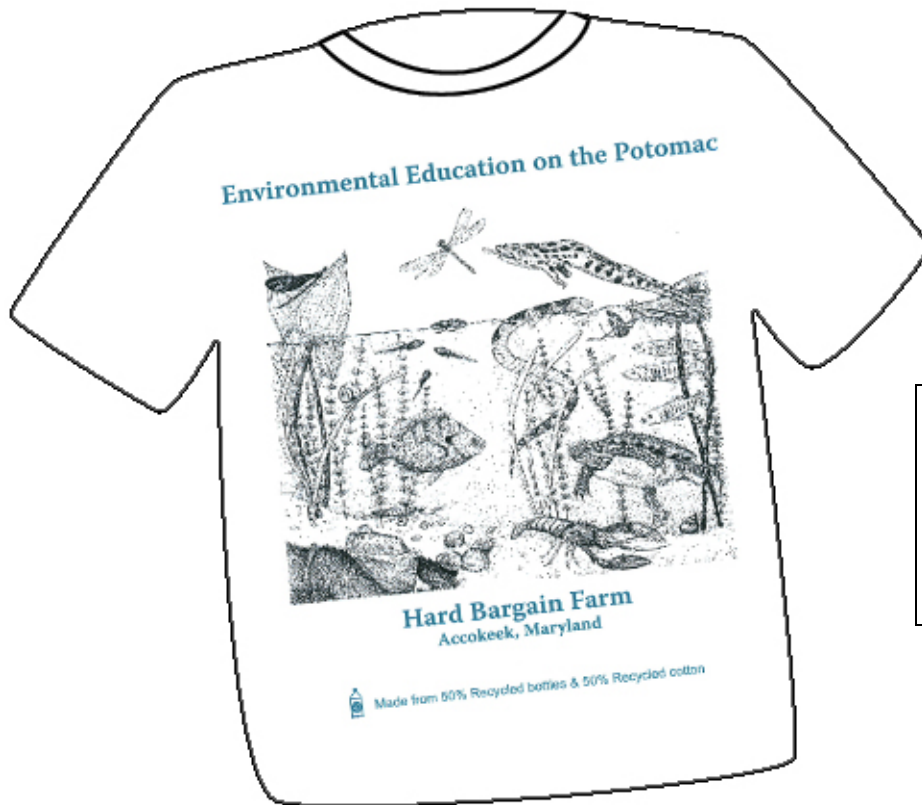
Your class will visit Hard Bargain Farm on _____. Students should arrive at school as usual on the day of the trip with their gear (a gear list for the trip is provided in the Memory Book). They will then board a bus to travel to Hard Bargain Farm. The students will return to school in time for regular school dismissal.

Please complete the attached permission slip and return it to school with the \$10.00 trip fee by _____.

Sincerely,

Paula Batzer
Environmental Education Resource Teacher, NCEEC
Charles County Public Schools

T-Shirts Available!



Free T-Shirt Guide!

Identify the wetland animals and plants on your t-shirt and learn some interesting facts.

Made from 50% recycled cotton and 50% from recycled bottles!

- Not bleached
- Not dyed
- Heavy weight
- Black and turquoise imprint
- Made in the USA

Available in the following adult sizes:

- Small (34 – 36)
- Medium (38 – 40)
- Large (42 – 44)
- X-Large (46 – 48)
- XX-Large (50 – 52)

\$10.00 each
(XX-Large \$12.00)

Bring payment on day of visit made payable to:

The Alice Ferguson Foundation



Wondering what to do with the old, dead cell phones you no longer use? Bring them to your visit to Hard Bargain Farm and donate them to our **Phoneraiser!** It's a quick and easy environmentally friendly way to help the Alice Ferguson Foundation earn money! If not disposed of properly, cell phones are damaging to our air, soil and water. Recycling cell phones instead of adding them to our local landfills is a smart thing to do!