

Governor Martin O'Malley's

Maryland Partnership for Children in Nature

John R. Griffin, Chair

Secretary, Maryland Department of Natural Resources

Bernard J. Sadusky, Chair

Interim State Superintendent of Schools, Maryland State Department of Education

April 19, 2012, 10 a.m.- 12 p.m.

Robinson Nature Center, 6692 Cedar Lane, Columbia MD 21044 – auditorium

Meeting Agenda

- 10:00 **Welcome** – *Stacey Yankee, Director, James and Anne Robinson Nature Center*
- 10:05 **Welcome / Overview / Introductions** – *Partnership co-Chairs*
Mary Cary, Assistant State Superintendent for Instruction, MSDE; Joe Gill, Deputy Secretary, MD DNR
- 10:15 **Partnership Actions for 2012** – *Britt Slattery, MD DNR*
Overview of the revised, updated action plans in the four main focus areas.
- **Environmental Literacy** [Lead contact is *Julie Dieguez, MD No Child Left Inside Coalition*]
 - **Communities & Community Planning:** [Lead is *Sandi Olek, DNR*]
 - **Health & Food (Agricultural) Connections:** [Leads are *Kim Martinez, National Wildlife Federation (health); and Karen Fedor, MD Dept of Agriculture (food/ag)*]
 - **Promoting Outdoor Play & Learning** (Outreach & Communications): [Leads are *Britt Slattery, DNR and Julie Dieguez, MD NCLI*]
- DISCUSSION:** How can we involve more of the Partnership and potentially others in carrying out these initiatives?
- 10:45 **Progress** / updates on recent actions (brief) –
- Environmental Literacy regional meetings – *Julie Dieguez, MD NCLI*
 - Statewide Summit on Environmental Literacy – *Gary Hedges, MSDE*
 - Celebrate Maryland Outdoors Days – *Karen Mullin, U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service*
 - Health Forum – *Tom Donlin, MD Recreation and Parks Association*
 - Community initiatives – *Sandi Olek, DNR*
 - Maryland Green Schools Youth Summit – *Joanne Schmader, MAEOE*
- Discussion/** Questions from Partnership
- 11:30 **Special Recognition** – *Joe Gill, DNR*
- 11:40 **Policy & Funding Matters** –
- Metrics for tracking/ evaluating student outdoor experiences – *Jamie Baxter, Chesapeake Bay Trust*
 - NOAA/ EPA education programs status – *Shannon Sprague, NOAA*
 - County long range recreation plans – *Steve Carr, DNR*
- 11:55 **Announcements** –
- Next Generation Science Standards – *Mary Cary, MSDE*
 - Green Ribbon Schools – *Gary Hedges, MSDE*
 - *Others*
- 12:00 **Adjourn** – **Thank you to the Robinson Nature Center for hosting!**

Please see list of UPCOMING EVENTS and next Partnership meeting dates on reverse...

Upcoming Events –

- April 15-21 [National Environmental Education Week](#)
- Apr 19, 2:00–3:15 pm, webinar Doctors in Parks: A Prescription for Health [registration](#)
- Apr 22 [Earth Day celebration](#) with Governor and Baltimore Mayor, National Aquarium
- Apr 23 Green Ribbon Schools Awards Announced [press release](#)
- May 4, 8am-4:30pm: Catoctin Forest Alliance [Conference](#) featuring Richard Louv
- June 1, 9am-3pm: [Maryland Green Schools Youth Summit: Celebrating Children in Nature!](#)
- June 8-9 Nature Preschool Conference featuring David Sobel at [Irvine Nature Center](#)
- June 10-23 **Celebrate Maryland Outdoors Days**, statewide, [MD Partnership for Children In Nature](#)
- July 19-21 [National Children & Youth Garden Symposium](#)

Upcoming MD Partnership for Children in Nature meetings:

- **July 19**, National Aquarium, Baltimore – also Leadership Team meeting
- **Oct 18**, Brookside Gardens, Wheaton