

## About The CES

The Center for Environment & Society (CES) promotes interdisciplinary learning, research, and exemplary stewardship of natural and cultural resources. It endeavors to shed light on the reciprocal relationship between humankind and the natural world. Our primary mission is to support the integration of ecological and social values.

The Center acts as a portal to one of the world's greatest estuaries—the Chesapeake Bay. We strive to connect our research with the people and problems of the region, recognizing that local methods and solutions may have wider national or international application. By managing precious resources over the long term, we can preserve the natural world—and opportunities to study it—for generations to come.

Washington College has a long tradition of exploring the natural world, embracing both a practical hands-on attitude to problemsolving and the more thoughtful approach of research science. This began with Charles Peales' instruction in navigation and surveying at the College's 18th century precursor, the Kent Free School, and continued with surprising and often prescient efforts that included: involvement through Prof. Peregrine Wroth in the founding of the American Medical Association in the 1840s; the introduction into the curriculum in 1873 of evolution and anthropology (only 14 years after Darwin published his *Origin of Species* in 1859); and a 1920 proposal for a chair and curriculum in rural living to counter the problem of young people fleeing rural areas in search of better jobs—an issue that resonates today.

## Center for Environment & Society

### Staff

John Siedel, Director  
Briggs Cunningham, Climate Action Coordinator  
Wayne Bell, Senior Associate  
Jennifer Endicott, Center Coordinator  
JoAnne Fairchild, Program Director  
Shannon Holste, Research Associate  
Liz Seidel, Archaeology Lab Director/Senior Staff  
Archaeologist

### Affiliate Staff

Karl Kehm, Adrian Reed Assistant Professor of Physics & Earth & Planetary Science  
Donald Munson, Joseph H. McLain Professor of Environmental Studies, Director of Environmental Program  
Leslie Sherman, W. Alton Jones Associate Professor of Chemistry

Center for Environment & Society  
Washington College  
300 Washington Avenue  
Chestertown, Maryland 21620



# Washington College 2008 pre-orientation trips

*Center for Environment & Society*

## Chesapeake Bay Discovery Tour

MONDAY, AUGUST 18, 2008

8:00 A.M. - 4:30 P.M.

Formed about 12,000 years ago as glaciers melted and flooded the Susquehanna River valley, the Chesapeake Bay is North America's largest estuary and the world's third largest. "Chesapeake" derives from the Native American "Tschiswapeki," which loosely translates into "great shellfish bay." Explore the rich heritage of the people who have made the shores of the Chesapeake Bay their home. See how this estuary has attracted a diverse population, shaping the lives of early Native Americans to current residents and recreational boaters. Discover how the Bay provided an avenue for trade, a site for the fight for American Independence, and a bountiful food source for a growing country. In the morning, we'll begin at the Custom House on the Chester River, home to the College's Center for Environment & Society and the Public Archaeology Laboratory. You will explore the region's history, examine local artifacts, learn how to make native stone tools, and try your hand throwing spears at a mastadon. In the afternoon, we will visit the Chesapeake Bay Maritime Museum in St. Michael's for a behind-the-scenes tour.

## Ecology Cruise

TUESDAY, AUGUST 19, 2008

8:00 A.M. - 4:30 P.M.

The Chesapeake Bay supports 3,600 species of plant and animal life, including more than 300 fish species and 2,700 plant types. What types of animals live in the watershed? What kinds of plants grow there? To gain a better appreciation for the interdependencies of the organisms making up the ecology of the region, and how human activities have numerous effects on the species, students will cruise down the Chester River for a day of fishing, crabbing, seining, and water testing. Remote sensing and side scan sonar will reveal surprises under the surface of the water, from oyster bars to shipwrecks. The tour includes mucking in the marsh and a crab feast at Conquest Beach. This

in-depth investigation into the Chester River's ecosystem will take students through past problems, current issues, and future solutions to improving its health. Participants will have the opportunity to meet the people and animals that depend on the river and gain an appreciation of how its health affects us all.

## Archaeological Dig

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 20, 2008

8:00 A.M. - 12:00 P.M.

In this hands-on investigation of the region's past, we will explore archaeology. After an overview of some of the College's archaeological discoveries, we will conduct a "dig" at the Custom House, searching for old buildings and artifacts on the site.

