

# River to Reefs Educator's Workshop 2011

June 12<sup>th</sup> - 17<sup>th</sup>



Ever wonder where your rain water goes? Or how you are connected to the Georgia Coast and our Ocean? Or how Georgia history is connected to water? This weeklong teacher workshop led by the Georgia Aquarium and NOAA Gray's Reef NMS staff will immerse teachers in a way like no other workshop. Teachers will wade into the watery world for a six-day, jam-packed teacher's workshop full of fantastic field experiences and empowering classroom lessons.

The workshop begins in Atlanta with a visit to the Georgia Aquarium's Learning Loop where participants get a little preview of the watery world in which they will be immersed. Then we are off to follow the course of the Altamaha Watershed from its headwaters near the Georgia Aquarium to the Georgia Coast and then 20 miles offshore to Gray's Reef National Marine Sanctuary.

Field and cultural experiences include water quality monitoring, a canoeing trip to the convergence of the Oconee and Ocmulgee Rivers, a boat ride through the Altamaha River Delta to explore the watershed that directly influences Gray's Reef, a trawling trip through the marsh, and a ferry ride over to Sapelo Island to explore the marshes and estuaries. On Sapelo Island participants are immersed in the cultural history of the native islander while investigating the ecology of beach and marsh communities.

At the end of each day you will be mentally and physically exhausted, sweaty and perhaps even dirty; however, you will have experienced the Watershed, Coast and Ocean thoroughly. You will explore and investigate with your hands, feet and sometimes your entire body and always with your spirit and mind and sometimes even your soul! Click [here](#) to see and hear what happened during last year's workshop or visit the Gray's Reef website and navigate to Education \ Teacher Workshops.



*"The science experiences on the river and on the coast are real: the results have meaning, are relevant and translate well to content in the classroom. The information can be used in high school Chemistry, Environmental Science, and Biology classes. And, besides the science aspect, the whole trip was exciting, fun and personally rewarding. One of the best weeks I've ever spent in a workshop setting as a teacher."* Jerry, High School Teacher, Morgan County

*"The entire workshop was filled with hands-on experiences that can easily be taken home and translated into a classroom setting for students of any age. It was the intensive educational experience of a lifetime and I strongly encourage anyone with the opportunity to attend."* Stephanie, Elementary School Teacher, Fulton County

Each day will conclude with a group discussion on how the day's experiences can be incorporated into classroom lessons. Daily reflective sharing often inspires the greatest of ideas and generates intriguing questions to answer.

Four (4) PLU credits are available to teachers completing the requirements of the workshop.

***Leaders for the workshop are:***

Cathy Sakas, Education Coordinator, NOAA Gray's Reef National Marine Sanctuary

Kim Morris-Zarneke, Manager of Education Programs, Georgia Aquarium

Dr. Mike Mahan, Professor, Armstrong Atlanta State University

**Cost:** Free, we have received a UGA Teacher Quality grant to cover the costs of this workshop but if accepted each participant will be required to write a lesson plan based on their experience.

**Dates:** June 12<sup>th</sup> - 17<sup>th</sup>

**Maximum Participants:** 16 participants per workshop

**Important Notes:** This workshop does contain some moderate to rigorous physical activities in which you are encouraged to participate and is conducted rain or shine.

**Due to the limited number of spaces, interested teachers must apply and be accepted into the workshop to participate. Applications are due by April 15<sup>th</sup>. Selected participants will be notified on or about May 1<sup>st</sup>**

**Send completed applications to:**  
Kim Morris-Zarneke, Education Dept.,  
Georgia Aquarium, 225 Baker St, Atlanta, GA 30313  
E-mail: [kzarneke@georgiaaquarium.org](mailto:kzarneke@georgiaaquarium.org)  
Phone: 404-581-4192  
Fax: 404-581-4199



**River to Reefs Educator's Workshop 2011**  
Presented by the Georgia Aquarium and  
NOAA Gray's Reef National Marine Sanctuary



*PLEASE PRINT OR TYPE*

**Please note, only one week is available this year:  June 12<sup>th</sup> -17<sup>th</sup>**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

E-mail Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_ Work Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_ Cell Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Name and Address of School: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

County: \_\_\_\_\_

Grades and Subjects Taught: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Approximate Number of Students Taught Per Year: \_\_\_\_\_

**Please include with your application these documents:**

- A sealed letter of recommendation from your principal addressing how this workshop will benefit you and your class by participating.
- A personal statement, no more than 2 pages, answering the following questions:
  1. How will this workshop benefit your students?
  2. How does your daily routine affect the Georgia Coast and Ocean?

**Due to the limited number of spaces, interested teachers must apply and be accepted into the workshop to participate. Applications are due by April 15<sup>th</sup>. Selected participants will be notified on or about May 1<sup>st</sup>**

**Send completed applications electronically or by mail to**  
Kim Morris-Zarneke, Education Dept., 225 Baker St. Atlanta, GA 30313  
E-mail: [kzarneke@georgiaaquarium.org](mailto:kzarneke@georgiaaquarium.org)  
Phone: 404-581-4192 Fax: 404-581-4199