

Field Experience for Secondary Science Teachers
June 20-24, 2022

Exploring the Watershed provides a three-day immersive experience for secondary education teachers. Teachers are equipped with the knowledge, skills and techniques researchers use to study a topic, in this case, the Macatawa watershed, that they can then use with their own students. Getting students outside, into nature and teaching them the same skills a scientist would use is a relevant and engaging experience that may have enduring effects on student retention of new information.

During the workshop teachers will learn from area experts about watersheds, factors affecting water quality in a watershed, how to assess water quality, local policies affecting land use, and potential solutions to improve water quality in a watershed.

Each day begins with discussion and skills training by area experts. Lunch is provided. In the afternoon teachers will visit a lab at Hope College where the water quality of the Macatawa watershed is monitored, different streams in the watershed that could serve as potential sites for students to practice assessing water and soil chemistry, visit local farm sites with an area expert to observe pollution mitigation and tour the campus of Hope to observe stormwater runoff mitigation strategies.

Teachers will leave the workshop with not only knowledge and skills but an abundance of resources to use with their own students to study watersheds. SCECHS provided.

*Contact explore@hope.edu for further information and registration instructions.
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