INTERNERSHIP NOTICE #66

Dear Educators, Supporters, Community Leaders, and Students:

For those who have not seen our earlier emails, the National Hispanic Environmental Council (NHEC) is still accepting applications from NYC area students to attend our upcoming 7th annual, regional "NYC Minority Youth Environmental Training Institute", to be held June 27—July 3, 2012, at parks, forests, wildlife refuges and other environmental sites in and around New York City. However, interested students should apply as soon as possible for the slots that remain.

The NYC Institute is an intensive, residential, science-based, 7 day long environmental education and envir. career program for top students, aged 16-18 (typically high school seniors and freshmen/sophomores in college) selected competitively from across the NYC area. Through a full scholarship, NHEC will cover ALL costs for accepted students, including housing, meals, books, science equipment, and more. Utilizing an Environmental STEM curriculum students will learn about a wide range of environmental issues, as well as conduct field studies (testing air, water, soil, plus biological assessments, birding, and more) using professional-grade environmental science equipment, taught by NHEC’s experienced instructors and other environmental professionals.

Our 7th annual regional NYC Institute is being funded by several federal environmental agencies, including the U.S. Forest Service and USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service. Thus, students will also learn about federal internship and youth jobs with these agencies, and how to apply for these this summer and beyond.

Specifically – the Forest Service is offering PAID FEDERAL JOBS FOR THIS SUMMER to students who successfully complete the Institute. Students hired will do a range of interesting and highly educational environmental work related to the FS's mission of protecting our natural resources. Students will start right after the Institute and work throughout July and August at a national forest.

Our federal sponsors are actively seeking to recruit talented, motivated students, especially youth of color, to come work for them now and in the future. So if you are a student, love the environment, AND want a job in this field, this program is for you.

The attached pdf files contain all materials necessary for a student to apply to the Institute. Please read the "Fact Sheet" first, as it contains key information. Also included are materials for environmental professionals interested in serving as volunteer "role models" at the NYC Institute.

In addition, we ask that you forward this email on to those you think might be interested in this exciting program, including qualified students, fellow educators, high schools, colleges, youth organizations, and more. We appreciate your help.

Please contact NHEC, especially our Programs Coordinator, Juan Rodriguez, at jrodriguez@nheec.org or rriverra@nheec.org if you have further questions. Or call NHEC at 703-683-3956. To view photos of past NHEC Institutes, including our NYC, NM, and CA ones, please visit our website at www.nheec.org

Thank you.

Roger Rivera
President, NHEC

FOR MORE INFORMATION AND AN APPLICATION SEE BELOW

Important Note: If you are selected for the internship, please inform Mr. Honor immediately via email at: bths.internship@gmail.com
FACT SHEET

THE 7th ANNUAL
NEW YORK CITY MINORITY YOUTH
ENVIRONMENTAL TRAINING INSTITUTE

An Environmental STEM Initiative

“7 Days of Learning, A Lifetime of Experience”

June 27–July 3, 2012 • New York City

SUMMARY

The National Hispanic Environmental Council (NHEC) is accepting applications from New York area students, aged 16–18, to attend its upcoming 7th annual “New York City Minority Youth Environmental Training Institute”. The Institute is an intensive, science-based, residential, and highly educational 7 day environmental education and environmental career program to be held June 27--July 3, 2012, at a variety of parks, wildlife refuges, and other sites in the New York city area.

Using classroom and outdoor settings, the Institute is designed to help build the environmental leaders and professionals of tomorrow by educating, engaging, and inspiring youth, especially Latinos/other minorities, on a range of environmental and natural resource issues. The Institute is also designed to give information on the many different college and career opportunities in the environment, and to assist students to pursue these careers in the future, especially at the U.S. Forest Service and Natural Resources Conservation Service, the Institute sponsors.

The NYC Institute is being funded by the U.S. Forest Service and the Natural Resources Conservation Service, both federal agencies within the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA). NHEC and our sponsors are working closely together on the planning and implementation of the Institute. Further -- the Forest Service is seeking students deeply interested in the environment to work for them, this summer and beyond. The Institute is designed to introduce teens to the Forest Service and NRCS, intensively train them on a range of environmental issues, and then offer students job/internship opportunities at two of the premier federal environmental agencies in the country.

Students should note that if selected, NHEC will provide a scholarship that will cover all your major costs to attend the 7 day Institute, including housing, 3 meals a day, academic materials, science and camping equipment, and more. There is no fee to apply and only a $15 registration fee if accepted.

DAY-BY-DAY INSTITUTE OVERVIEW

The Institute will be held at a number of sites in the New York City area, including Gateway National Park on Staten Island; Jamaica Bay National Wildlife Refuge; Fire Island National Seashore on Long Island; Fort Totten Park/U.S. Forest Station, and others. Students will be housed at the Navy Lodge, a hotel in Gateway National Park.
The Institute will begin on Wednesday, June 27 at the Education Center of Fort Wadsworth in Staten Island, the headquarters of Gateway. As a federal facility, access to Gateway is monitored and controlled with guard security at the front gate. Day One, Two, and Three will be held at Gateway, with classroom presentations and field studies there, but then students will go on field trips to different environmental sites in New York. While on site visits students will conduct a variety of field studies, including air, water, and soil testing, biological assessments, vegetation inventories, birding, and more.

Regarding site visits, for example on the afternoon of Day Three students will go to the Forest Service’s NYC Urban Field Station in Fort Totten, Queens. On Day Four students will go to Jamaica Bay Wildlife Refuge in Queens for a day of field studies, including on boats offshore of Jamaica Bay. On Day Five students will travel to Long Island to visit several national wildlife refuges, and then on to beautiful Fire Island National Seashore, located on the beaches of eastern Long Island where students will camp overnight! (NHEC will provide the sleeping bags, tents, etc. for the camping trip). On Day 6 students will continue their field studies at Fire Island, returning to the Education Center at Gateway National Park that evening. On Day 7, students will board a chartered boat for a half day trip exploring marine biology issues in the Hudson and East Rivers, plus in NY Harbor. Students will return to Gateway for classwork and final presentations that evening, where the Institute will end.

Students will be transported by bus to the site of each day’s activities, including to and from Fire Island National Seashore. Students will be accompanied each day by NHEC’s trained instructors, as well as U.S. Forest Service, NRCS, and other agency staff. NHEC Instructors will teach the curriculum, with active assistance from FS and NRCS staff. Also present and participating will be “role models”, who are environmental professionals (often minority) from every discipline, and are volunteering their time, knowledge, and heritage to help students learn the curriculum, as well as environmental career, scholarship, and internship opportunities.

YOU CAN GET A JOB WITH THE FOREST SERVICE THIS SUMMER!!

The U.S. Forest Service is hiring students for great jobs on their forests this summer. But these are competitive positions and sometimes hard to get. However, the Forest Service is making a special offer to students who graduate from our NYC Institute.

Because you’ll be learning so much during the 7 days, the Institute will be your intensive “prep school” for these jobs. Therefore, FS will be hiring a select number of students from the NYC Institute. NHEC and U.S. Forest Service staff will be evaluating your performance, so you must do well in the program. If you do, AND you want a great environmental job, then the Institute is your path to a paid federal position at a national forest this summer.

The Forest Service runs the “Youth Conservation Corps” (YCC), a federal employment program for teens. Using the YCC program FS will definitely hire a number of students from the Institute. FS recruiters will be on-site to interview students.

If selected you will earn the federal minimum wage and work approximately 40 hours a week, 5 days per week. Regarding the job location: you will work at the Allegheny National Forest in Pennsylvania. For those students hired, the Forest Service will provide suitable housing at the Allegheny for the length of your employment there. Your YCC job will begin a few days after the Institute ends and last through July and August, ending on August 25. Application forms and information will be available on-site. But if you have further questions be sure to contact NHEC before the NYC Institute.

In your YCC job you will be supervised by veteran Forest Service managers doing much needed and interesting environmental work, including conservation and forestry management; land and animal resource protection; assisting visitors with recreation and educational opportunities; and more. Students will work side by side with FS professionals in varying scientific and engineering fields. These disciplines will include
hydrology, fisheries, forestry, geology, GIS, engineering, and minerals; students will rotate through these disciplines one week at a time.

If you want to maximize what you’ve learned at the Institute, then the YCC program and this amazing job opportunity is for you. The Institute, combined with your Forest Service summer job, will be a great way to gain invaluable environmental work and learning experiences. So take advantage of this unique opportunity to build your resume, now and for the future!

I hereby give my consent to allow the U.S. Forest Service to give me or my child more information about the YCC program during the NYC Institute, and further, if me or my child desires, to apply for and if selected participate in the YCC program. I understand this does not imply me or my child will be hired by the Forest Service in YCC.

APPLICATION PROCESS, SELECTION, AND THE INSTITUTE SCHOLARSHIP

The Institute is open to all students aged 16–18, and all are welcome to apply, although Latino youth are especially urged to do so, given the severe under-representation of Latinos in environmental fields.

Applications will be evaluated as they are received, so applying as soon as possible is strongly encouraged. See the attached “Application Form” and other documents for how to apply. Students can also call or write NHEC for application materials, or go to our web page at www.nheec.org However, while students can obtain application forms from our web site, you cannot apply on-line because you must include documents like your school transcripts. Completed applications must be mailed to NHEC.

Applicants from across the New York area will be competitively selected for the Institute scholarship, based on a variety of criteria. Selection criteria includes: 1. students’ maturity and seriousness of intentions; 2. an academic background containing environmental-related coursework; 3. a minimum 3.0 GPA; 4. proven experience in some environmental activity or job; 5. ability to show a strong and genuine interest in the environment or related field as a future career—but especially if with the U.S, Forest Service or Natural Resource Conservation Service; 6. extracurricular and/or community activities; and 7. diversity — by age, gender, race, ethnicity; geography, environmental experience, and other factors.

An essay is also required (no more than 2 pages max), where applicants describe their qualifications, their interest in the environment, their future career goals, and how they can make a difference to our environment now and in the future. This essay will be especially important in selecting students to the Institute. Once again, selected, students will have all major costs covered by NHEC through the Institute scholarship. NHEC will also waive the $15 registration fee for any student who is accepted into the Institute but is unable to pay the fee due to proven financial hardship.

During the Institute students will encounter a diversity of views and experiences, especially from fellow students. This diversity will ensure that they learn as much from each other as from the coursework.

CURRICULUM DESCRIPTION

The Institute will begin on Wednesday, June 27 and end at 8 pm on Tuesday, July 3. There will be approximately 24 students in the NYC Institute. Once accepted, students will be sent materials before the start of the program. Following breakfast the Institute will begin at 8:30 am each morning and will continue throughout the day, with breaks for lunch and dinner. The Institute will operate like school: students must arrive on time; be prepared to participate fully in the classroom and outdoor field activities; be respectful of the Instructors, role models, and fellow students; and follow instructions, especially regarding safety. There is also coursework and activities in the classroom every evening after dinner until at least 8:30 pm.
The Institute uses an Environmental STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math) curriculum taught by NHEC’s skilled Instructors (all are environmental educators). It begins by covering principles in environmental and conservation topics, and then progresses to more advanced concepts as each day builds on the day before. The Institute combines daily classroom instruction with science-based field studies (such as air, water and soil testing) that complements the classroom lessons. Supervised by instructors, students will also use a variety of professional-grade environmental science equipment to conduct their field studies. Since a major Institute goal is to expose students to nature, students spend much of their time outdoors in closely supervised field studies in wetlands, forests, streams, forests, beaches, and more.

The Institute will also include sessions on the many different careers in the environment, and provide students with opportunities to see up-close—through interaction with role models from the Forest Service, NRCS, as well as from other environmental agencies, organizations, companies, and more—how these jobs are performed in the real world. Students will also explore the many environmental related majors and programs at colleges/universities across the U.S., plus learn where these schools are, how to apply, and what you need to know to be admitted.

In addition to NHEC’s paid Instructors, helping teach the curriculum will be a variety of Latino/minority “role models”, and their participation is a vital element of the Institute.

These “role models” are working environmental/natural resource professionals from many different fields—forest rangers, wildlife biologists, foresters, soil scientists, environmental engineers, environmental attorneys, administrators, geologists, archeologists, law enforcement officers, and many more. There will be a minimum of several role models each day at the Institute. Thus, students will have their “own” to interact with, to be inspired by, to learn from, and who have a success story to tell. In this way, the message to students will not only be clear, but believable—“I made it in this field and so can you”.

We do wish to be clear with students—this is not summer camp. The Institute is an academically challenging, intellectually serious, Environmental STEM program for mature students with a deep interest in the environment. You will definitely have fun, but you will have work to do too.

But if you are highly interested in learning much more about the environment, and learning how to perhaps work for a federal environmental agency, then we promise you will have one of the best experiences of your life. All our students from past Institutes will tell you that it is truly “7 Days of Learning, A Lifetime of Experience”

POST INSTITUTE CONTACT AND FOLLOW-UP WITH STUDENTS

NHEC and our Institutes are about building the next generation of people of color environmental leaders and professionals. To do this, NHEC must contact students after the Institute.

Thus, there is a post-Institute component to the Institute, and you need to know and agree to this component before you apply. Post-Institute follow-up will be occasional emails or phone calls from NHEC that asks you about your progress in school, your GPA, what environmental courses or activities you are pursuing, and more. In return, NHEC will keep you informed of other opportunities for our Institute graduates. This includes information on our annual Student Environmental Conference and Career Fair; our High School Environmental Career Awareness Program; our other national and regional Institutes; and more. We will also keep you posted about environmental jobs, internships, and scholarship opportunities with FS, NRCS, and other environmental employers who partner with NHEC.

SAFETY FIRST – ALWAYS

The Institute is designed to not only be highly educational and fun, but also safe. NHEC has a “safety first” ethic, and safety considerations are paramount for NHEC’s Instructors during the Institute. And, because the
Institute is being sponsored by the Forest Service and NRCS and has their support and involvement, students and parents can be assured NHEC has and will take every precaution to protect the health and safety of students. When students are at national parks we will have full access to NPS’s medical/safety system, and park and law enforcement rangers are nearby whenever students are doing field work.

INSTITUTE CODE OF CONDUCT

All students must follow the Institute “Code of Conduct”. This Code is a set of reasonable rules that govern student behavior at the Institute, including with Instructors, role models, and fellow students. NHEC requires appropriate behavior at all times during the Institute and the Code is definitely enforced, especially since this is a residential program. All students and their parents must read and sign the Code prior to the Institute, and agree in writing to abide by its terms. Failure to follow the Code can result in a number of penalties, including being dismissed from the Institute and sent home.

Students and parents should also know that when on federal land (such as national parks) students are governed by federal law, and can be prosecuted for any violations of civil and/or criminal violations, should that agency choose to do so.

As you can imagine the Code of Conduct is a vital tool for a group of teens in a residential program. Thus, NHEC—like your school—definitely uses and enforces its Code and students must follow it. If you have a problem following reasonable rules, then the Institute is not for you and you should not apply.

ABOUT THE U.S. FOREST SERVICE

One of the key sponsors of the NYC Institute is the Eastern Region of the U.S. Forest Service. The Forest Service is a major, multi-billion agency in the U.S. Dept. of Agriculture tasked with managing America’s national forests in a sustainable, multiple-use way. There are 155 forests in our national forest system, plus 20 national grasslands, as well as scientific facilities such as research labs and centers.

The Forest Service’s Eastern Region is the most geographically, ecologically, and socially diverse area in the country. It is comprised of 20 states – from Minnesota in the west to Maine in the east, from Michigan, New Hampshire and New York in the north then south to Missouri, Pennsylvania, and West Virginia. There are 18 national forests in the Eastern Region.

Unlike Western forests that were carved from virgin territory, Eastern forests were salvaged from overdeveloped lands that were badly damaged due excessive farming, logging, and mining. Once called “the lands nobody wanted”, they are now “the lands everyone wants”; there is high demand for its recreation and natural resource uses. These 18 national forests have truly become “islands of green in a sea of people.”

With major cities like New York, Boston, Chicago, Milwaukee and others within it, the Eastern Region must serve millions, but especially people of color. As urban interest, influence, and impact grows, the Region is truly the gateway to the Forest Service, and thus to a wide range of opportunities. These include recreation, tourism, hiking, fishing, biking, hunting, and more, plus offering employment, education, internships, and more.

With over 33,000 full and part-time employees (including students) hired each summer, the Forest Service is a great path to a great environmental career, especially if you like being outdoors. The Forest Service is proud to partner with NHEC, welcomes participants to the NYC Institute, and is eager to hire students from this program.

ABOUT THE NATURAL RESOURCES CONSERVATION SERVICE

The Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) is another key sponsor of the NYC Institute. Like the U.S. Forest Service it is a large, multi-billion dollar agency in the U.S. Dept. of Agriculture.
When people are asked about federal conservation agencies, often mentioned is the National Park Service or Forest Service, and especially their national parks and forests. However – the reality is that 70% of all the land in the U.S. is privately owned, not public; everything from the huge farms and ranches out West to the suburban backyards of Long Island. Thus conservation stewardship by private landowners is absolutely critical to the environmental health of America.

NRCS is the only federal agency whose environmental mission is to work on private lands. Created by Congress in 1935 to address soil erosion, NRCS has evolved to become a conservation leader for all natural resources, ensuring that private lands are conserved, restored, and made resilient to a range of environmental challenges. NRCS not only tackles familiar challenges like clean water and healthy soil, but works on air pollution, clean energy, climate change, and new science technology. NRCS works with landowners through conservation planning and technical assistance to benefit soil, water, air, plants, and animals, and to help ecosystems remain or become healthy. NRCS experts help landowners make the best science-based decisions for every natural resource.

NRCS’s 12,000 employees work at field offices in nearly every county in the nation, assisting farmers, ranchers, conservation districts, government agencies, Tribes, environmental non-profits, and many others. NRCS hires students every summer to work at their field offices, helping staff help the environment on private lands across America. NRCS is proud to partner with NHEC, welcomes applicants to the NYC Institute, and looks forward to hiring students from this program.

ABOUT THE NATIONAL HISPANIC ENVIRONMENTAL COUNCIL

The National Hispanic Environmental Council (NHEC) is a national, non-profit membership-based organization founded in 1997 and headquartered in Alexandria, VA (just outside Washington, D.C.). With over 5,000 members, NHEC is the only national Latino environmental and natural resource organization in the country, and runs programs, like our NYC, CA, and NM Institutes, that furthers our mission.

NHEC seeks to educate and engage the Latino and minority community on environmental and sustainable development issues; encourage Latinos and others to actively work to preserve and protect our environment; provide a national voice for Latinos before federal and other key environmental decision-makers; and assist our community to pursue the many career, educational, program, and policy opportunities in the environment. Our guiding credo is: “because it’s our environment too”.

FOR MORE INFORMATION ON NHEC

Call or write us at:

National Hispanic Environmental Council,
106 N. Fayette Street
Alexandria, VA 22314
Attention: NYC Institute

Phone: 703-683-3956  Fax: 703-256-8288

Or visit our website at www.nheec.org, especially to see great photos of past Institutes.

For questions, contact the NHEC Programs Coordinator, Juan Rodriguez, at: jrodriguez@nheec.org
APPLICATION INFORMATION: HOW TO APPLY

THE 7TH ANNUAL

NEW YORK CITY MINORITY YOUTH ENVIRONMENTAL TRAINING INSTITUTE

An Environmental STEM Initiative

“7 Days of Learning, A Lifetime of Experience”

June 27—July 3, 2012, New York, NY

The National Hispanic Environmental Council (NHEC) is accepting applications from New York tri-state area teens, aged 16—18, to attend its upcoming 7th annual “New York City Minority Youth Environmental Training Institute”. The Institute is an intensive, science-based, residential, and highly educational 7 day environmental education and environmental career program to be held June 27-July 3, 2012 at a variety of parks, wildlife refuges, and other environmental sites in the NY City area.

Through these site visits and field studies (i.e. doing air, water, soil testing and more) plus the Environmental STEM curriculum we use, students will receive an in-depth environmental learning experience. The Institute is being funded by the U.S. Forest Service, Eastern Region and the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS), in conjunction with NHEC.

The following will help students prepare their application. For more details information on the Institute please read the “Fact Sheet” and other materials.

If you are selected, NHEC will provide a full scholarship that will cover all your major costs to attend, including housing, all meals, educational materials, and on-site equipment. There is no fee to apply and only a $15 registration fee if you are selected. The Institute is open to all youth aged 16—18, and all are welcome to apply. However, Latino youth are especially urged to apply, given the severe under-representation of Latinos in environmental fields.

1. Be a serious student with proven experience in the environment, or can demonstrate to us that you have a deep, genuine interest in the environment.
2. Read and complete all Forms, especially the Application Form. You must mail us all required forms and attachments for your application to be reviewed. Incomplete applications cannot be evaluated by NHEC. You can obtain all necessary Forms by going to the NHEC website at www.nheec.org However, you cannot apply online; you must mail us your completed application package.
3. Write an essay (2 pages max). This essay will be particularly important in selecting students for the Institute. See below for details on what to address in your essay.
4. Include a copy of your latest transcript or school report card showing your classes and grades, including your GPA. If obtaining an official transcript will be difficult or time-consuming, NHEC will accept an unofficial one.
5. Apply as soon as possible, as early applicants have a better chance of acceptance.
WHAT WE ARE LOOKING FOR

NHEC is seeking mature, serious applicants with active experience (past or present) in the environment, and/or are strongly interested in pursuing an environmental or natural resource career in the future (especially if with the U.S. Forest Service or the Natural Resources Conservation Service), the Institute’s two sponsors. If you have been actively involved in any kind of environmental program, class, project, or job, either in school or out, you are eligible to apply. Remember—the more you tell us about your past or present activities in the environment, the greater your chance of selection.

We are also interested in receiving applications from students who may not have prior experience in an environmental activity, but you are strongly and genuinely interested in learning more about the environment, especially related careers and colleges. But--you must be able to show us this strong interest—convincingly. Remember—the Institute is not summer camp. It is a science-based program for students deeply interested in learning more about the environment and related careers, and willing to diligently participate in a challenging program for 7 days. Through your application packet we will be able to determine your interest, intent, and seriousness.

Applicants from the New York tri-state area will be competitively selected for the Institute scholarship, based on their application package and a variety of criteria. This criteria includes (but is not limited to):

1. Students’ maturity and seriousness of intentions;
2. Students’ academic background and achievements, including a minimum 3.0 GPA;
3. Proven experience in some environmental activity, program, class, project, or job, especially if associated with federal environmental agencies;
4. Ability to show a genuine interest in the environment, especially as a future career;
5. Extracurricular and/or community activities that may not be related to the environment, but reflect well upon you as an applicant;
6. Diversity by age, gender, race, ethnicity, geography, environmental experience, and other factors.

WRITING YOUR ESSAY

An essay (2 pages max please) is required with your application. You must describe in your own words your qualifications for and interest in the Institute. This essay will be especially important in selecting student for the Institute. DO NOT have your parents write your essay. Trust us—we can tell, and doing this may disqualify you. Your essay must tell us:

1. Your current GPA.
2. Why you want to attend the Institute.
3. Your qualifications. Tell us what kinds of environmental activities, programs, classes, jobs, etc. you have been involved in, past or present. If you are in college, tell us what year you are in and your current and future major.
4. Your future career and/or college goals, most especially if they relate to the environment, and/or if with NRCS or U.S. Forest Service, the Institute sponsors.
5. How can you now and in the future make a difference to our environment?
6. How might your race, ethnicity, gender, and/or culture play a role in helping the environment?
7. Why should we select you to attend the Institute?

MAIL OR FAX YOUR COMPLETED APPLICATION PACKAGE TO:

National Hispanic Environmental Council
Attention: NYC Minority Youth Envir. Institute
106 N. Fayette Street
Alexandria, VA 22314
Phone: 703-683-3956
Fax: 703-256-8288

Questions?: Email Juan Rodriguez, NHEC Programs Coordinator, at jrodriguez@nheec.org
STUDENT APPLICATION FORM

THE 7TH ANNUAL
NEW YORK CITY MINORITY YOUTH ENVIRONMENTAL TRAINING INSTITUTE

“7 Days of Learning, A Lifetime of Experience”
June 27–July 3, 2012 • New York, NY

(You must answer all questions for your application to be considered)

STUDENT INFORMATION

Name: ________________________________________________________________
Street Address: _________________________________________________________
City, State: ___________________________ Zip Code: _______________
Home Phone: ___________________ Cell Phone: _______________________
E-Mail: (students, parents, or someone else, like a teacher, if one is available) __________
Student’s Email: ______________________ Parents or Teacher Email: ________________
Birthdate: Month _____ Day ______ Year ______ How old are you now? (ex. 16, 17, etc.) ______
US Citizen: ❑ Yes ❑ No  Legal Resident ❑ Yes ❑ No

SCHOOL INFORMATION

Name of Your School: ___________________________________________________________
School Address: _____________________________________________________________
City: ___________________________ State: __________________ Zip Code: ______
Your Current Grade Level: (ex.: 10th grade, 11th etc.): ________________________
Current Grade Average Or GPA:______________________________________________

OTHER QUESTIONS

(Note: there are no right or wrong answers to the following questions. They are being asked only to help NHEC better plan the coursework for the Institute. You should make an effort to answer every question in this section.

Do you plan to go to college? (check one): ❑ Yes ❑ No
Are you already in college? (check one): ❑ Yes ❑ No
If yes, what is your planned or current major in college? ____________________________________________

What college(s) do you think you want to attend? ________________________________________________

If you do not plan to go to college in the future, what job will you seek? Is it a job related to the environment? Please tell us ____________________________________________________________

Briefly, tell us whatever you know about the following:

U.S. Forest Service _________________________________________________________________
__________________________________________________________________________________________
__________________________________________________________________________________________

Natural Resources Conservation Service ____________________________________________
__________________________________________________________________________________________

U.S. EPA _________________________________________________________________
__________________________________________________________________________________________

In the future, would you want to work for these environmental agencies? ❑ Yes ❑ No

If yes, which one __________________________________________________________________________

If not these federal agencies, do you have another in mind related to the environment? ❑ Yes ❑ No

Which government agency is that? ________________________________________________________________

If not a government agency, where would you like to work in the future? (A company, an organization? etc). Tell us which one, if you know ____________________________________________________________

ENVIRONMENTAL-RELATED INFORMATION

(If you need more space to respond, use extra paper and attach to this Form. Remember: the more you tell us about your background, the better your application will be.)

**List any past or present classes related to the environment you** have taken, in school or elsewhere:(ex. biology, chemistry, botany, environmental education courses, Outward Bound, etc) and where and when you took them.

1. __________________________________________________________________________________________
2. __________________________________________________________________________________________
3. __________________________________________________________________________________________

**List any past or present activities related to the environment** (ex. Boy Scouts; Girl Scouts; environmental organization or outdoors club, either in school or elsewhere; 4-H club; local park clean-up; environmental field trips; tree plantings; recycling club; Earth Day activities; etc.). When did you pursue these activities? Give dates.

1. __________________________________________________________________________________________
2. __________________________________________________________________________________________
3. __________________________________________________________________________________________
List any jobs you have held related to the environment, and give employer name and dates employed.
1. __________________________________________________________________________
2. __________________________________________________________________________
3. __________________________________________________________________________

List any other organizations you are an active member of (either in school or outside school) that tells us more about you, and you want NHEC to know about. (ex. community organizations, church groups, volunteer groups, youth groups, sports clubs, minority organizations, etc.)
1. __________________________________________________________________________
2. __________________________________________________________________________
3. __________________________________________________________________________

REFERENCES
List one adult (other than family members) who can attest to your strong interest in the environment, or to your participation in some environmental activity, past or present. (For example: a teacher, principal, school counselor, club president, employer, etc.)

1. Name: _______________________________________________________________________
   Address: _____________________________________________________________________
   Email: ___________________________ Phone: ___________________________

What is their relationship to you? (ex.: my teacher, supervisor, etc) ____________________

REMEMBER: All applicants must also submit an essay. Please attach it to your Application Form. See the “Application Information: How to Apply” document for more details on writing the essay. This essay is an important part of the selection process and will be read carefully by NHEC. Also, there is a post-Institute component—students and parents must agree to be contacted periodically by NHEC so we can follow-up on students progress.

REMEMBER: There is no fee to apply. However, if you are selected there is a $15 registration fee for the 7 day Institute, which covers certain costs to NHEC not underwritten by Institute sponsors. If selected, NHEC will provide a scholarship that will pay all your major expenses to attend the Institute including local travel costs, meals, and related educational materials.

PARENT/GUARDIAN INFORMATION
Name of Mother: ___________________________ Street Address: ___________________________
City, State, Zip Code: ___________________________ Day/Work Phone: ___________________________
Evening Phone: ___________________________ Cell Phone: ___________________________

Name of Father: ___________________________ Street Address: ___________________________
City, State, Zip Code: ___________________________ Day/Work Phone: ___________________________
Evening Phone: ___________________________ Cell Phone: ___________________________
PERSON TO NOTIFY IN CASE OF EMERGENCY
(If it is the same as above, check here.) Same as above ☐ If not, please fill in below.
Name: ___________________________ Street Address: __________________________
City, State: ___________________________ Zip Code: __________
Day/Work Phone: ___________________________ Cell Phone: __________________________
Evening Phone: ___________________________ Relationship to Applicant: __________________________

KEY INFORMATION TO KNOW AND REMEMBER:

Read all materials and complete all required Forms. You must answer all questions; if your application package is incomplete it cannot be evaluated by NHEC, and will prevent you from being considered. Apply as soon as possible. Mail your completed application to the VA address below.

The Institute is for teens aged 16–18 only, and will be held at federal and non-federal sites in NYC area. There is no fee to apply. If selected, NHEC will provide a scholarship that covers all major costs of the Institute. There is a post-Institute follow-up process with students. The Institute is open to all, and applicants from every race, gender, ethnicity, etc. are welcome to apply. See our “Fact Sheet” and “Application Information: How to Apply” for detailed information on the Institute. NHEC reserves the right to make changes to the Institute, including revisions to the curriculum. If selected, students will be notified and provided with further information on the Institute. NHEC will provide Institute sponsorships to qualified students only up to the limits of available funding.

I hereby give my consent to allow NPS and NHEC to give me or my child more information on the YCC program during the NYC Institute, and further, if me or my child so desires, to apply for and if selected participate in the YCC program. I understand that this does not imply that me or my child will be automatically hired into YCC.

Signature of Applicant: ___________________________ Date __________________
Signature of Parent or Guardian: ___________________________
(required for all applicants under 18).
(Parents must sign their names clearly) Date ___________________________

For more information, call or write NHEC at the address below. Mail completed applications to this address as well.

National Hispanic Environmental Council
NYC Minority Youth Environmental Training Institute
106 N. Fayette Street, Alexandria, VA 22314
Telephone: 703-683-3956 Fax: 703-256-8288

Or visit us at our web page: www.nheec.org

For more information: Send an e-mail to Juan Rodriguez, NHEC Programs Coordinator, at jrodriguez@nheec.org
COMBINED NYC INSTITUTE/YCC PROGRAM STUDENT MEDICAL FORM

THE 7TH ANNUAL
NEW YORK CITY MINORITY YOUTH ENVIRONMENTAL TRAINING INSTITUTE
“7 Days of Learning, A Lifetime of Experience” June 27–July 3, 2012 • New York, NY

(You must fill out this Form completely)

Please fill out this form and include it with your Application package. You must submit the Medical Form for your application to be considered. You must fill out the Form completely, if you leave out any information, your application will not be considered. Use additional paper as necessary.

NHEC needs this information so that Institute staff will know—in advance—of any special medical conditions you may have, rather than learning about them during the Institute, should a medical emergency arise. Also, in the event of injury or illness, this Form provides medical personnel with key information regarding your medical history. Because of this, it is vital that you be as complete, accurate, and truthful as possible. This Form is not used to screen out applicants.

NOTE: this Medical Form will be used for both the NYC Institute and the Youth Conservation Corps job program (YCC), should you be hired by the FS after the Institute for YCC. The sole purpose of using this combined Form is for the convenience of applicants, so that you do not have to fill out another Medical form.

GENERAL INFORMATION

Your Name: ____________________________________________________________________________________

Street Address: ________________________________________________
City, State: ____________________________________________________ Zip Code: ________________________

Home Phone: __________________________________________________________________________________
Cell Phone: _________________________________________________________________________________

E-Mail (student’s and parents, if available):

Student’s: ___________________________________________ Parents: __________________________________

How old are you now? (Example: 16, 17, etc.):

Birthdate: Month ______________________ Day ____________________________ Year______________________

US Citizen: ☐ Yes ☐ No Legal Resident ☐ Yes ☐ No

Person to Notify in Case of Medical Emergency:

Name: ________________________________________________________________________________________
Street Address: ________________________________________________________________________________
MEDICAL INSURANCE INFORMATION

We strongly encourage you to have medical insurance and to bring your insurance card or other documentation with you to the Institute.

Insurance Carrier: ____________________________________________
Policy Number: _______________________________________________
Contact Phone Number (if applicable): ______________________________

VITALS (You must provide all information—fill out every line—We mean it!)
Your date of birth: _______________________ Resting Pulse: __________ Blood Pressure: ______
Height: ________________________________ Weight: ______________________ Blood Type: ______

EYES
Any problems with your eyes or vision? ____________________________________________
Do you wear glasses or contacts? ________________________________________________
(If so, we strongly recommend bringing an extra set of glasses or contacts to the Institute.)

ALLERGIES
Have you ever had a reaction to any medication, including aspirin? ____________________________
If so, how severe are your reactions? Please explain: ________________________________
(please use a separate sheet of paper, if necessary)
Are you allergic to anything? ______________________ Please list: ______________________
(please a separate sheet of paper, if necessary)

In particular, are you allergic to bee stings? ____________________________
If so, how severe are your reactions? Please explain: ______________________
Do you carry an anaphylaxis kit? ____________________________

**ILLNESSES AND MEDICATIONS**

List any recent illnesses: ___________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________

List any accidents, operations, or hospitalizations and dates occurred: ___________________________

________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________

List any exposure to infectious diseases and dates occurred: ___________________________

________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________

Have you ever experienced any conditions or illness related to altitude? ___________________________

If so, please explain, and tell us when: ___________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________

Please describe any medications you are taking, why you are taking them, how much and how often: _____________

________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________

Note: **Participation in the Institute will require some physical exertion, including hiking, walking, and other physically and mentally demanding efforts.** Several times during the Institute, the coursework will take students to somewhat isolated areas without immediate access to medical facilities or medical staff. Given the above, please list all physical or mental limitations and/or restrictions of which you are aware:

________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________

**Important: If you have no limitations or restrictions, please sign here:** ____________________________

**TETANUS:**

The danger of tetanus in natural areas can sometimes be severe. You must be inoculated against this fatal disease and you need a booster every ten (10) years.

Give the date of your most recent tetanus inoculation or booster: ____________________________

________________________________________________________________________
PHYSICAL EXAMINATION

A recent physical examination is recommended and may be required by NHEC.
Date of most recent physical: ______________________________________________________________
Doctor's name: _________________________________________________________________________
Address: _____________________________________________________________________________ City, State: __________________________
Phone Number:_________________________________________________________________________________

SHIRT SIZE

All students will receive a polo type shirt for use during and after the Institute.
Please tell us your shirt size (check one):
❑ Small    ❑ Medium    ❑ Large    ❑ XLarge

APPLICANTS SIGNATURE: ________________________________ DATE: __________________________
PARENT OR LEGAL GUARDIAN SIGNATURE: ____________________________________________
(required for all Applicants, even if you are over 18) DATE: ____________________________
(PARENTS—you must sign your name clearly)

REMEMBER: Be sure to include this form with your application.