

FORE River REACH Programs

Teacher Information

Please make sure you have read all of the information below carefully. Check-boxes have been provided for you to ensure that you have reviewed and completed all necessary items for the trip.

Number of Participants

To keep our cruises as hands-on as possible for students, we prefer no more than 40 students. Exceptions can be made on a case-by-case basis.

Cost and Payment

Cost is \$15/student for \$400 minimum per class. FORE offers a sliding scale fee for schools that qualify. Please contact Heather Mayfield at hmayfield@orsanco.org or at 513-231-7719 for more information. Payment can be collected the day of the cruise (money/checks should be first collected by the teacher in an envelope). FORE can also invoice your school after the cruise for payment within 30 days. All checks should be made out to the **Foundation for Ohio River Education**.

Permission Slips, Medical Waivers

In order to participate, all **student** and **adult** participants must submit the completed Permission Form and Medical Waiver. Teachers must collect waivers prior to leaving the school and present them, along with payment upon boarding. *If students do not have the waivers with them at school, they should not be permitted to leave with the rest of the students for the field trip. Participants who do not have their permission slip cannot be permitted to board.*

Please ensure that when you arrive, you not only have the Permission Slip and Waiver form from the Foundation for Ohio River Education (FORE) but that you also have copies of any additional paperwork your school requires.

Student Groups

Students will be split into **three** groups to participate in activities. *Please group students before the trip.*

Chaperones

Three adult chaperones, each responsible for one group of children, are required for this field trip. *Chaperones and teachers will not be charged for the field trip.*

Arrival and Departure

Participants should arrive at 9:15 am to board the riverboat promptly at 9:30 am. Students will spend 2.5-3 hours on the riverboat (depending on the program). Once the boat arrives back at the dock, students will continue activities on the covered, top deck of the boat. Activities will end at 1:30 pm.

Emergency Policies

Please note that for all emergencies, illnesses, injuries, or other incidents, it is the responsibility of the teacher to notify the school, parent(s), guardian(s), and/or physician(s) of the student(s) involved according to your school's protocols. FORE collects emergency contact information on our Permission Slips/Waivers so that you will have this information if necessary.

Selected FORE staff and Queen City boat crew are trained in American Red Cross CPR and First Aid procedures and are prepared to administer them to the extent of their training in the event of an emergency.

FORE staff are not permitted to administer any medication of any kind to students.

Cancellations/Scheduling Changes

Because conditions on the Ohio River are often unpredictable, there is a chance that your voyage may be cancelled. We make every effort to give at least 24 hours or more notice for cancellations, but cannot always guarantee advance notice (this is why we ask group leaders for their cell phone numbers). If your voyage is cancelled due to weather or river conditions, we will try to schedule a make-up voyage for you if conditions permit. If you have any questions about weather on the day of your voyage, please contact Heather Mayfield at 859-468-4539 (cell phone).

What to Wear

Participants will be outside in the elements during the majority of the program. They should dress in comfortable layers of clothing that they don't mind getting wet or dirty, including:

- Closed-toed, rubber-soled gym shoes or boots with good traction (*do not wear sandals, flip-flops, or dress shoes*)
- Windbreakers, sweat shirts, jeans/shorts, and/or rain ponchos (*do not wear dresses or skirts*)
- Jackets, coats, hats, and gloves for cold weather (it always feels much colder and windier on the river)

What to Bring

We ask that items brought aboard the riverboat be limited to what is listed below.

- A well-marked sack lunch that does not need refrigeration (a reusable lunch bag is encouraged!) **Lunch will be eaten on-board the riverboat.**
- Plenty of drinking water (reusable water bottles encouraged!)
- Something to write with.
- Sunscreen
- A signed permission slip and medical waiver
- Any pre-voyage "homework" and datasheets that were assigned.
- TEACHERS: Please bring any Pre-Program assessments with you.
- TEACHERS: If you checked out a Stream Savers Kit for our high school program, please DO NOT bring this with you. You will have to make arrangements with the Program Director to return the kit to ORSANCO.

Please do not bring backpacks, I-Pods, laptops, or electronic games. Small purses are acceptable.

Accessibility/Special Needs

Only the first floor of the riverboat will be wheelchair accessible, thus students in wheelchairs may not be able to participate in all activities on the riverboat. Please contact Heather Mayfield at 513-231-7719 if you have students with special needs.

Safety Information

A detailed safety talk will be given to students prior to boarding the riverboat. However, we ask that you review the following safety rules with your students prior to the trip:

- All passengers must follow the Captain's directions and orders, and the directions of FORE staff.
- Engine room, pilot house, and any other marked areas on the riverboat are restricted to staff only.
- Groups must always stay together. Students cannot leave their groups without first getting permission from their chaperone. Adult chaperones must stay with their group at all times.

- There is to be no sitting on, straddling, or standing on railings or other raised objects on the deck of the boat.
- There is to be no running or rough-housing at any time aboard the riverboat.
- Students must wash hands before eating and after handling river water, mud, fish, or macroinvertebrate samples. Hand sanitizer will also be provided.
- Eating, drinking, or chewing gum during the lab activities is not permitted.
- Goggles and gloves must be worn during water chemistry experiments. Hands must be kept away from the face and long hair must be tied back.
- NO Spitting or throwing trash or other objects overboard.
- NO smoking.

Student/Parent Packets

Please look over and distribute the Student/Parent Packets. They include an additional checklist for parents, along with a Permission Slip and Medical Waivers that will need to be signed in order to participate.