Canisius College
Ambassadors for Conservation
Select Canisius Students
Field Studies
School Presentations

3,700 attendees
Buffalo Zoo & Aquarium of Niagara

150,000 attendees
We will conserve only what we love
We will love only what we understand
We will understand only what we are taught

Baba Dioum

We firmly believe that one of the best things we can do is help shape the attitudes of the next generation of citizens so that the human race can reach a state of sustainable harmony with nature.

Conservenature.org is a program of Canisius College, Buffalo, NY.

Web Design by Ivan Andrijivo

80,000+ unique visitors
Original Video Productions

This is the story of how one exceptional college professor ignited a passion for wildlife conservation in five young adults and how they in turn went on to pass that passion along to children who will make up the next generation of citizens.
Iroquois Nat’l Wildlife Refuge !!
In collaboration with the National Wildlife Refuge System, the Canisius College Ambassadors for Conservation are hosting middle school groups at the Iroquois National Wildlife Refuge.

Program availability

Location
The Iroquois National Wildlife Refuge is a 10,338 acre wetland preserve, located just north of the town of Alabama, NY. It is a 40 minute drive from Buffalo, easily reached from Exit 48A of the New York State Thruway.

Program
Exploration of a Forested Woodland (on newly established oak-beach)
Field-based Birding Exercises (associates provided by the program)
Lunch Break at wildflower beauty
Conservation Games (at Refuge Headquarters)

Flexible
Ordinarily, the program runs from about 9am until about 2pm. However, the start and end time can be adjusted according to each school’s needs. The program can extend from two to five hours, depending upon the group’s constraints.

Cost
Free
This program is free thanks to generous support from the Canisius College POGP Program. A school instructor must accompany each class, along with the requisite number of chaperones required by the school district. Students must provide their own lunch.

Bus
School groups will ordinarily provide their own bus transportation. However, bus scholarships are available for groups without access to busing from their school.

Contact
To reserve a date and/or request a bus, please contact Sharon Lutter of Canisius College.

Program Director
Michael Noonan, PhD
Professor of Animal Behavior
Canisius College
Buffalo, NY 14220
noonam@canisius.edu
716-887-2510

The Canisius Ambassadors for Conservation
Canisius Ambassadors for Conservation

Wetlands Field Trip Details

This document provides details concerning the Ingonico National Wildlife Refuge field trip hosted by the Canisius College Ambassadors for Conservation.

LOCATION:
Ingonico National Wildlife Refuge is located north of Pembroke and south of Middleboro.
Travel time from the Buffalo area is about 45 minutes.
The refuge encompasses 10,015 acres that have very few roads.
On the day of your field trip, we will link up with you at the refuge headquarters.
From that location, a CAC guide will ride in the bus with you to the Swallow Hollow Trailhead.
The street address for the headquarters is 1101 Casey Rd, Brookline, NY 14410.
You should direct your bus driver as follows:
• Take the NYS Thruway to Exit 44A (Pembroke).
• Turn left to travel north on Route 77 (North).
• Drive through the town of Indian Falls, Brookline and Alabama.
• In Alabama (NY), take route 77 east of the left.
You stay straight on Route 63 (North).
• Turn left on Casey Road to meet up with your CAC guides at the refuge headquarters.

PREPARATIONS:
Your students should be instructed to bring along their belongings for the day.
They will have to purchase food at the refuge.
Your students are instructed to bring appropriate clothing for the weather.
Sun hats and sunscreen may be necessary/optional.

There will be some insects, but usually not enough to present a problem.
People who are especially sensitive to insects may wish to use repellent, but this is optional.
We will be teaching your students about the importance of insects in the ecology of wetlands.

RESTROOMS:
There will be a Porta Potty available at the trailhead at the Swallow Hollow stop at the beginning of the day.
Ordinary restrooms will be available at the refuge headquarters at the middle of the day.

PROGRAM SCHEDULE:
Our program will have three components.
We will do our best to adjust the timing and length of these components to fit your group's time constraints.
Feel free to consult with our representative so that your program maximally meets your own needs.

1. Swallow Hollow Nature Trail/Power Sterling
At the beginning of the day, our CAC representatives will guide the bus driver directly to the newly rehabilitated Swallow Hollow Nature Trail.
We will divide your students into groups of 10-12 for guided tours along this trail.
An elevated boardwalk will expose your group to three different habitats over a one-mile hiking loop.
Short lessons will be presented along the way, including scheduled stops, and there will be opportunities for encountering native flora and fauna.
Lessers will be for your students this purpose.
The idea is for each group to take a group photo and to compare the facts learned, as possible within a one-hour period.
A friendly competition can develop among the groups.

2. Lunch Break
For lunch, we will then travel by bus to the refuge headquarters on Casey Road.
The lunch break will occur on picnic tables outside the refuge headquarters.
Your group members need to bring their lunches for this purpose.
There will be no food available for purchase at the refuge.
Due to weather conditions, the lunch may move indoors.

3. Ecology Games
After lunch, we will assemble in the headquarters' classroom for two sets of games.
Focused on the themes presented earlier in the day.
In a friendly competition, the same groups of 10-12 will play in two sets.
First, an Ecology Jeopardy game.

RAIN CONTINGENCIES:
In the event of forecasted rain, we will try to consult with you by telephone the evening before your scheduled field trip.
Our program will be adjusted in light of the weather.
We will be prepared to go rain or shine!
24 CAC days (out of a possible 24)

28 Schools
   18 Public Schools
   10 Private/Parochial

72 Different classes

2270 School Children
   97 Teachers/Chaperones

2367 Program Participants
Dear Dr. Noonan and Liz,

You made my school day fun and exciting. Thank you very much. I learned so many things that I did not know. Thanks to you, I will go there again and appreciate nature.

Sincerely,

[Signature]
Welcome to the ConserveNature National Wildlife Refuge System Quiz!!

A fun way to test your knowledge about nature and conservation!

Click Here To Get Started

Welcome to the Iroquois National Wildlife Refuge Quiz!!

A fun way to test your knowledge about nature and conservation!

Click Here To Get Started

Birds of Western New York

We at ConserveNature.org are delighted to bring you these properties found in our own backyard. Western New York is nature lover’s dream! Our beauty and diversity.

Birds are an ideal point of focus for those of us concerned if we are attracted to birds because of their sheer beauty and diversity. However, many birds are often overlooked species. They are the perfect reasons why birds species can be a great addition.

People understandably fall in love with birds and become their caretakers. This then has a wonderful and positive effect. Correctly, what a great way to always give to nature and serve them in this way if the

ConserveNature.org is a recourses of Canisius College, Buffalo, NY.
KEY ELEMENTS

1. Suitable field site
   - ecologically rich
   - charismatic element
   - near population
   - middle school accessible

2. Choosing select college students
   - motivated by exciting travel, prestige, stipend

3. Extensive training
   - in wetlands and forest ecology
   - in birding

4. Infrastructure/staff for school recruitment
   - labor intensive (wide advertisement / low return)

5. Exciting/flexible script for field lessons
   - friendly birding competition
   - overt coaching for upcoming contest

6. Ecology based games
   - pictionary and jeopardy style (somewhat boisterous)