

# ***Green Connections*** **2013 Application Form**

**Directions:** *Please complete this form in its entirety. Information provided on this application will be used to create a partnership between a watershed school and a NYC school. Catskill Center staff will assign one watershed school and one NYC school to a partnership.*

**Please Note:** *In an effort to build stronger, more effective upstate and downstate partnerships in Green Connections:*

- *partnerships must consist of teachers who have attended the Watershed Forestry Institute for Teachers*
- *preference will be given to applications that demonstrate an existing relationship between watershed and NYC schools and teachers, and mutual interest in partnering for the 2013 program season*

*Please type your answers:*

**Your Name** \_\_\_\_\_

**School Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**School Address:** \_\_\_\_\_

**School Phone Number (with Area Code):** \_\_\_\_\_

**School Fax Number (with Area Code):** \_\_\_\_\_

**Number of students participating in program?** \_\_\_\_\_ **Grades?** \_\_\_\_\_

(\*Please note that the bus provided for the field trip holds 50 people, including chaperones.)

**Have you participated in Green Connections before?**      Yes      No      **If yes, when?** \_\_\_\_\_

*Please fill out the following if you already have a school you would like to partner with.*

**Partnering Teachers Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Partnering School Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Partnering School Address:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Partnering School Phone Number (with Area Code):** \_\_\_\_\_

**Partnering School Fax Number (with Area Code):** \_\_\_\_\_

**Number of students participating in program?** \_\_\_\_\_ **Grades?** \_\_\_\_\_

(\*Please note that the bus provided for the field trip holds 50 people, including chaperones.)

**Have you participated in Green Connections before?**      Yes      No      **If yes, when?** \_\_\_\_\_

**Have these two schools partnered together for Green Connections before?**      Yes      No

Please Complete the Following for EACH Teacher from you school who will participate:

<b>Name</b>	<b>Home Address</b>	<b>Home Phone Number</b>	<b>Email Address</b>	<b>Grade Taught</b>	<b>Subject(s) Taught</b>	<b>Have you attend ed WFIT?</b>	<b>What year did you attend WFIT?</b>

**Please describe why you are interested in the *Green Connections* Program and what you believe your students will gain from participating. (250-500 words maximum; attach a separate sheet if necessary)**

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**Please describe the nature of your relationship with teachers on your team (listed on page 2 of this application)?**

**How long have you known the teachers from your school on your team? \_\_\_\_\_**

**Have you worked on special projects like this before?      Yes      No**

**If yes, please describe: \_\_\_\_\_**

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**If you have participated in Green Connections in the past, how has your partnership improved or need to change to keep the program fresh for your students?**

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**Thinking realistically, what might be some challenges to your participation in *Green Connections*?**

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**Communication:**

*Communication between students is a key component of Green Connections, as one of the primary goals for this program is to build relationships and understanding between students living at opposite ends of the water supply system.*

*It is expected that students in partnering schools will have open, on-going communication with each other throughout the entire Green Connections program. This includes the classroom portions of the program as well as on the field trips. Communication is expected to be balanced between social, informal interaction (such as personal letters or emails) and more structured sharing pertaining to the educational aspects of the program (for example, sharing student work via digital photographs, video tours of the school and local neighborhood, or video conferencing to share results from a research topic related to the watershed).*

**What resources does your classroom and/or school have access to that would enhance communication opportunities for students (computers, video conferencing capabilities, video recording equipment, internet access, access to social media, etc)?**

<p style="text-align: center;">Available Resources for Communication ( feel free to add extra lines)</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Successful Experience Using? Y/N</p>
<p><i>Ex. My school has internet access in the classroom. We can communicate real time with our partner school on Wiki.</i></p>	<p><i>Yes - 4 years experience</i></p>

**During the Kick-off meeting on January 17, 2013 (snow date Jan. 24), you and your partnering school will create your communication plan for Green Connections. Describe your ideal plan which should include at least three communications; an introduction of the students, a mid-program contact, and a closing communication.**

*An example plan:*

1. *At the Kick-off meeting we will match students from each school. The first communication will be a handwritten letter snail mailed to our partner school.*
2. *With our partnering teacher we will choose a lesson from the required curriculum. Based on this lesson we will communicate via the internet (wiki, skype, etc.) with our partner school and share information gathered from the lesson.*
3. *Our students will work with their technology teacher to create a webpage about our school and community that we will share with our partner school.*
4. *Our final communication will be a handwritten letter to our pen pals.*

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***Field Trip Planning and Management:***

*Green Connections field trips require 1 chaperone/10 students.*

**What is an ideal field trip for your students and your partner students when they visit your city? What watershed, water related, forestry, and/or NYC water supply resources does your community have (parks, education centers, museums, reservoirs, water supply structures, in-class speakers, etc.) that might help your visitors learn about local water and forestry resources? Please share all appropriate resources you can think of as they will be shared with other teachers at the Kick-off meeting.**

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### ***Time and Curriculum Requirements for Participation in Green Connections:***

*Participation in Green Connections is an extremely rewarding experience for teachers and students alike. Lessons and activities are designed for exploring and celebrating the watershed and the New York City water supply system. Relationships develop along with an understanding of how similar people live in very different physical, yet intertwined, environments.*

*Participation is also a big responsibility. Please carefully consider the time commitments, dedication and expectations described in the following section. Your signature documents that you will follow the listed requirements.*

#### **Requirements**

The 2013 *Green Connections* program requires all selected teachers to:

1. Attend a kick-off meeting on January 17, 2013 (snow date Jan 24).
2. Attend a wrap-up meeting in June. Date determined at January 17<sup>th</sup> meeting.
3. Communicate at least three times with partnering school.
4. Teach the 12 provided lessons that address specific aspects of the watershed. (Topics include: the NYC drinking water supply system, protecting drinking water supplies upstate and downstate, watershed protection and open space, forest management in the watershed, and the history and culture of people in the watershed and NYC.)
5. Help modify the lesson plans (originally written for 4-8<sup>th</sup> grades) for your students if you are a 9-12<sup>th</sup> grade teacher selected for this program. Catskill Center staff will be available to help modify any lessons.
6. Complete a brief (5 minute) online survey that evaluates each lesson from your perspective, and describe the educational outcomes.
7. Have a discussion with your school administrator to ensure you have their support for the program.

By signing this, I agree to complete the above requirements and fully participate if selected for the Green Connections Program.

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Signature

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Date

#### **Attachments**

1. **Please attach a written letter in support of your application from an administrator at your school.**
2. **Attach a copy of your school calendar, complete with required in-school testing dates, holidays, prior commitments, in-service days, etc.**

*A total of 4 partnerships (8 teachers or teams of teachers) will be selected for participation in Green Connections for 2013. Four teachers or teams will be from the Catskills or the East of Hudson watershed, and four teachers or teams will be selected from New York City. All selected teachers will be required to attend a Kick-off meeting on **January 17, 2013 (Snow Date Jan 24)**.  
Thank you for your interest in this program.*

**Please return (or fax) the completed application form along with your school calendar, including test dates and prior commitments and a letter of support signed by your administration by November 28, 2013 to:**

Katie Palm, Program Director  
The Catskill Center for Conservation & Development  
P.O. Box 504  
Arkville, NY 12406  
845.586.2611 ext. 107 (phone)  
845.586.3044 (fax)  
Email: [kpalm@catskillcenter.org](mailto:kpalm@catskillcenter.org)

**Accepted applicants will be notified on or before December 31, 2012.**



Since 1969 The Catskill Center, a private, not-for-profit organization, has worked to protect and foster the environmental and economic well being of the Catskill region and its communities.

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