

The background features abstract, overlapping green geometric shapes, primarily triangles and polygons, in various shades of green, creating a modern and dynamic visual effect.

Environmental Literacy Workplan Actions

August 2018

Student MWEEs

- ▶ Management Approach 1: Increase professional development opportunities for educators (pre-service, teachers, and non-formal) to support the development and implementation of MWEEs
 - ▶ Create an online MWEE training hub on Bay Backpack based on the MWEE Guide that includes both regional and state-specific training modules and information about in-person training opportunities
 - ▶ Build and support a cadre of “MWEE Ambassadors” to champion the MWEE and help educators develop and implement them
 - ▶ Increase the number of standards aligned environmental literacy professional development opportunities that support MWEE implementation
 - ▶ Collect a set of exemplary Environmental Literacy Models (ELMs) that include scope and sequence and student work; and broadly distribute to professional development providers and educators

Student MWEEs

- ▶ Management Approach 2: Increase the visibility and adoption of MWEEs as an educational best practice that supports and contributes to Environmental Literacy programs at the state and local levels
 - ▶ Maintain environmental education awards programs to maintain visibility and excitement
 - ▶ Create marketing and instructional materials that showcase the importance of the MWEE and connect it to existing education initiatives (e.g. Next Generation Science Standards, Project Based Learning, Workforce Development, etc.)
 - ▶ Improve the ability of regional and state networks to efficiently and effectively disseminate information about environmental literacy programs and practices

Sustainable Schools

- ▶ Management Approach 1: Strengthen and coordinate sustainable school state certification and recognition programs consistent with high-quality, recognized criteria such as the U.S. Department of Education Green Ribbon School program.
 - ▶ Convene state-level sustainable schools meetings to facilitate dialog and increase intentional connections among programs to create an easy-to-understand pathway for schools to engage in increasingly sophisticated sustainability efforts.
 - ▶ Identify additional funding opportunities to support sustainable school efforts.
 - ▶ Collect successful program models and lessons learned and share among partner organizations to improve programs and increase collaboration.

Sustainable Schools

- ▶ Management Approach 2: Broaden stakeholder engagement beyond environmental literacy constituents to broaden awareness, build partnerships, and increase support.
 - ▶ Increase the number of facilities, health, and other related professionals engaged in state level sustainable schools convenings to better inform sustainable schools efforts and increase sustainability considerations across disciplines.
 - ▶ Better connect with other Chesapeake Bay Program Goal Implementation Teams and state working groups/networks to support implementation of best management practices at schools.

Sustainable Schools

- ▶ Management Approach 3: Identify and disseminate sustainable schools information and resources to school districts and schools.
 - ▶ Support development of school and school division sustainability plans that clearly outline program components and best practices, and disseminate them to encourage replication.
 - ▶ Collect and disseminate studies and information about sustainable schools awards programs, opportunities, and benefits, including cost savings, student health, student achievement.
 - ▶ Encourage and support the installation of BMP projects on school grounds.

Environmental Literacy Planning

- ▶ Management Approach 1: Support school district efforts to embed locally appropriate environmental practices, content, and learning opportunities into curriculum and operations.
 - ▶ Encourage and support school district efforts to develop K-12 environmental literacy frameworks that document in which grade(s) MWEEs and other environmental literacy programming occurs.
 - ▶ Provide technical and/or financial assistance to support school districts with the integration and implementation of MWEEs and sustainable schools into appropriate grade level curriculum.
 - ▶ Collect examples of model planning documents (e.g. environmental literacy frameworks, sustainability plans, curriculum integration tools) and broadly share with school districts.
 - ▶ Encourage the development of local networks that include school district(s), environmental education providers, and local community groups to provide in-school and out-of-school opportunities to foster youth engagement.

Environmental Literacy Planning

- ▶ Management Approach 2: Use available data and information to strategically and equitably focus resources to support school district level environmental literacy planning and implementation.
 - ▶ Create reports, data visualizations, and progress indicators using data from the Environmental Literacy Indicator Tool and other pertinent information (e.g. socioeconomic, natural resource, etc.) to better inform policy and resource allocation decisions.
 - ▶ Work with school districts to collect standardized data and information using the Environmental Literacy Indicator Tool.
 - ▶ Create recommendations to advance environmental literacy, including budget projections for cost-effective approaches to strategically and equitably provide recognition, technical assistance, and financial support to local school districts.

Environmental Literacy Planning

- ▶ Management Approach 3: Ensure broad understanding at the state and regional level of the progress, gaps, and opportunities related to the Environmental Literacy Goal.
 - ▶ Regularly convene partners around key issues through interagency state working groups, the CBP Education Workgroup, and working with the Principals' Staff Committee to convene high-level leaders.
 - ▶ Raise visibility and encourage new funding opportunities by working with national and regional environmental education organizations and funders.
 - ▶ Identify and promote means to secure the resources (policy, programs, and staffing) necessary to achieve the Environmental Literacy Goal.