

## Plan to Integrate Sustainability Concepts into Student Teaching Experience

Given that my role in the College of Education is non-traditional compared to other faculty I plan to integrate sustainability concepts in a slightly altered manner. The plan is a three pronged approach.

During the weeks prior to the beginning of the fall semester the supervisors gather to review the coming academic year. At that meeting I will present an overview of sustainability concepts as was explained during the Chesapeake Project workshop. My goal for the presentation is to introduce the concepts while making connections between the Maryland Environmental Literacy Standard 8 (Sustainability) and the subjects taught in elementary school. I will encourage my colleagues to share this information with their interns.

I plan to present the same information described above to my interns sometime in the first few weeks of their placement. The interns spend two days a week in their assignment classrooms. The bulk of this time is spent getting acquainted with the students and staff, reviewing curricula as well as learning the daily routine. I will encourage the interns to make connections between sustainability ideas and the concepts they will be teaching during their full time student teaching experience in the spring.

In the spring, the students spend the entire semester at their placement. They are required to teach the majority of the school day. In addition I formally observe them teach one lesson in each of the main elementary subject areas; math, reading/writing, science and social studies. At this point in their placement I will require the interns to identify the sustainability concepts imbedded in their lessons. After the formal observation I conduct a conference to provide some reflection once the lesson is taught. This Post Observation Conference will provide an ideal time to also discuss their thought processes in making connection between the idea of sustainability and the elementary curriculum.