



Minnesota Valley National Wildlife Refuge *Partner Teacher Program*

Empowering Teachers

Minnesota Valley National Wildlife Refuge offers a teacher-led environmental education model that emphasizes teacher training, field trip planning support, and multidisciplinary, standard-based curriculum. The curriculum incorporates hands-on, real-life experiences with plants and wildlife. The **Partner Teacher Program** is open to any teacher interested in using the refuge as their own personal outdoor classroom!



Partner Teacher Program Highlights

- Attend at least one *Orientation Workshop* at the beginning of each season to participate in the **Program**. Offered 3 times each year, these workshops highlight curriculum and teaching materials and equipment for the season. After that, attend only one additional refuge training every 3 years to continue in the **Program**.
- Work directly with refuge education staff to develop personalized fieldtrip plans that support classroom learning in science as well as other academic areas.
- Receive free multi-disciplinary, standard-based refuge curriculum that highlights biological events of each season, provides literature connections, and rainy day alternatives.



- Participate in a variety of outdoor experiences like hiking, fishing and wildlife observation using refuge binoculars, poles, and spotting scopes.



What Does It Cost?

It's **FREE!** Participation in the **Program** and all teacher workshops, trainings and associated curriculums are **FREE!** There are also **NO**

STUDENT PARTICIPATION FEES! **Refuge Partner Teachers** may reserve classroom space and all teaching equipment and materials associated with refuge curriculum during regular visitor center hours.

In addition, the *Refuge Friends, Inc.*, a 501-C3 non-profit organization, has established the **Blue Goose Bus Fund**. **Refuge Partner Teachers** are eligible to apply for scholarships for busing expenses through this fund.

To Register Please Contact

Bloomington Education and Visitor Center (Bloomington, MN) 952-858-0710
Rapids Lake Education & Visitor Center (Carver, MN) 952-361-4511