



Assateague Island National Seashore www.nps.gov/ASIS

Education

The following centennial proposal is certified as eligible for Centennial Challenge funding consideration in fiscal year 2008. Funding for the Centennial Challenge requires legislation.

Partnership for Marine Resource Environmental Education and Conservation

Location: Worcester County, Maryland and Accomack County, Virginia
Partner(s): Maryland Coastal Bays Foundation, Worcester County Board of Education, and Community Foundation of the Eastern Shore
Total Cost: \$1,010,000.
Proposal # 137624

Summary: The project will establish a permanent endowment to support a continuing program of marine resource environmental education and conservation focusing on Assateague Island National Seashore and the MD/VA Coastal Bays. Endowment income will be used to expand and institutionalize a partnership between the National Seashore, the Maryland Coastal Bays Foundation (MCBF) and the University of Maryland Eastern Shore (UMES), a historically black university with teaching facilities adjacent to the park's visitor center. The project will target minority youth through expanded outreach in schools and community groups, and provide a series of educational and recreational activities exposing participants to marine resources and issues. The outcome will be long-term, individual-based learning opportunities, the cultivation of young people with an interest in nature and science and, over time, an improved understanding of and appreciation for marine resources within the community.

For more information contact:

Carl Zimmerman at (410) 641-1443, x213 or by email at carl_zimmerman@nps.gov



This project immerses minority students in experiential educational opportunities with the goal of inspiring them to consider science based careers, community leadership in environmental issues and resource stewardship,