

Welcome to AP Environmental!

I am incredibly excited to see/ meet all of you at the beginning of the year! In this class we will be exploring a lot of different topics that will bring together all of the sciences you have been in so far!



In order to start preparing you for this class, you do have a couple of assignments to complete before school starts. They both **will** affect your grade, so please make sure you do them!

Environmental science is an amazing field to study, with minimal math, but a LOT of concepts to cover! My only expectation of you is that you are willing to put in the work, and no matter how this year goes, you try your very best.

A couple things to know about this class is that it is not a ton of memorization (although we will have lab practicals that are 100% memorization), but more about hands-on learning, and thoroughly understanding the concepts we cover. This class will be the most applicable-to-life science class you will have taken, and as long as you put your best foot forward, I know you will get a lot out of it!

A little about me, is that this is my 8th year of teaching, and in the past I have worked out in the field doing ecological restoration around Illinois. It is something I am very passionate about, and **hopefully** will be able to teach you lots about! I am also an EHS grad, and fell in love with environmental science my junior year in Ms. Trimble's environmental science class! I am super passionate about everything we cover in this class, helping you to become informed voters, and knowledgeable about the world around you!

If you think you were put in this class by mistake, or you want to drop it, it is imperative that you contact myself or your counselor.

MS. MALLEN

brittneymallen@u-46.org
The best way to contact me over the summer is through our remind:
To join our remind send this:
Phone Number: 81010
Text: @c3d6cb



APES Summer Work

Both due on 8/21!

Part I: Soil Samples

You will be required to go to *3 different natural areas* this summer! (think more natural than Lords Park). These could be state parks, national parks, county preserves, or any area that could be considered relatively untouched by humans. **You will collect a soil sample from each site** and collect it in something (a snack size ziplock bag works). You only need about a $\frac{1}{2}$ cup of soil, and please make sure it is labeled with the date, location, and type of environment (forest, prairie, wetland, lakeside, riverbank, etc). You may absolutely go to these 3 sites with a friend from class, but you must collect **your own sample**.

PLEASE DO NOT DISTURB THE SITE TO COLLECT THIS SAMPLE. Look for a spot where there are no plants, where you will not disturb anything (and don't tromp all over plants to get to it). You will bring these with you the first week of school for us to use for a lab!



BE ADVENTUROUS!

Part of the point is to get used to being outdoors!

Part II: In the News

Another important part of this class is staying current with things happening in the world. There is a lot going on right now around the world, and staying current is important! For this second part, you will be finding one news article a week for each week in June and July that relates to any of the following topics (if you're not sure, feel free to ask). You will then write up the article on a google doc and attach a link to the article at the top. You can keep all your write up's in one doc, and turn that doc in once we have a class canvas. **Make sure you are using any popular news media source (think- CNN, CBS, NBC, WGN, npr, etc...).**

Topics your article can be about (please avoid articles about COVID19).

- biodiversity
- climate change
- ecology
- land use
- water use
- population
- energy use
- pollution
- agriculture

Your write up should include:

Who: are the key players/ who is involved?

Where: Where is this happening?

What: is the actual problem being addressed?

Why: Why is it important? Why is it in the news

When: is this happening?

How: How is it being resolved? How is it being treated?

**You must include a link to the article you are summarizing or I cannot give you credit for it!*

At the end of the summer, I would like you to evaluate the overall presence of environmental science in the news. Were your topics widely covered? Why do you think that is? How could news media do better at reporting environmental science? This should be at least 6 sentences.

You can use this as a template!

If you have any questions please feel free to email me at brittnymallen@u-46.org. If you feel you will have trouble going to various sites, or obtaining articles, please let me know. I can point you to free resources to help with that. As it is summer, I will be taking a much needed break from checking email as much, so I made a remind that we will use next year. You can use that to send me a message and I will get back to you much faster than email.

To join our remind send this:

Phone Number: 81010

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See you in August & have a great summer!

♥ Mallen