

Dear Student:

You are invited to participate in the *Environmental Science Literacy Project* undertaken by teachers and students at Michigan State University. You will be asked to participate in research about science, and if you choose to participate, your answers will be shared with researchers. Your school may also share other information about you and your classmates, such as scores on other assessments and demographic information.

Your participation in this study will help teachers learn about effective ways to teaching science. This will provide benefits to many students and teachers beyond those directly participating in the project. You may benefit from participating in this project by having the opportunity to have your ideas recognized and valued by others.

Your teacher will not use the researchers' findings to give you grades. You will not receive any extra credit if you choose to participate in the study, and you will not lose credit if you choose not to participate in the study.

There are minimal risks involved in participating. Your confidentiality will be protected so MSU researchers who see your work, or any information about you, will not know your real name.

Participation will require about 4-6 hours of your time during the school year. Your participation in this project is completely voluntary. You may choose not to participate at all, or you may refuse to answer certain questions or discontinue your participation at any time during the project period (June 2013- August 2014) without consequence. Your refusal to participate or decision of discontinuing the participation will involve no penalty or loss of benefits to which you are otherwise entitled.

Your confidentiality will be protected to the maximum extent allowable by law. The data will be stored in locked filing cabinets at 319A Erickson Hall, East Lansing, MI for at least 3 years after project closes. The project investigators will have access to the data for research purposes. At Michigan State University, an Institutional Review Board (IRB) reviews all research studies that involve human subjects before the research can be started. Their mission is to protect the rights of research participants. IRB will have access to the research data and results.

If you have concerns or questions about this study, such as scientific issues, how to do any part of it, or to report an injury (i.e. physical, psychological, social, financial, or otherwise), please contact Dr. Charles W. (Andy) Anderson, 319A Erickson Hall, Michigan State University, East Lansing MI 48824, (517) 432-4648, [andya@msu.edu](mailto:andya@msu.edu).

If you have any questions or concerns about your role and rights as a research participant, would like to obtain information or offer input, or would like to register a complaint about this research study, you may contact, anonymously if you wish, the Michigan State University Human Research Protection Program at 517-355-2180, FAX 517-432-4503, or e-mail [irb@msu.edu](mailto:irb@msu.edu), or regular mail at: 207 Olds Hall, MSU, East Lansing, MI 48824.

If you agree to participate in this research project, please print and sign your name below.

I voluntarily agree to participate in this study.

Print Name \_\_\_\_\_

Sign Name \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_