



Teacher's Guide

Hello from New England Science & Sailing (NESS)! We are delighted that your school has chosen NESS for your science and adventure education activities! This Teacher Guide contains information to help you and your students have a smooth and fun trip. Please feel free to contact us with any questions you might have.

Booking your Adventure

- Pick a program or design your own!
- Know the number of students and chaperones.
- Call with two dates in mind that would work for you school.
- Review, sign, and return group contract.

At Least Three Weeks Out

- Arrange a check payable to New England Science & Sailing. Payment must be made on or before the start of the program (**See Group Contract**).
- Gather your chaperones and review our chaperone policy (**Page 2**).
- Make sure EACH student (**Page 7**), teacher and chaperone (**Page 5**) has a participation agreement to be signed.
- Confirm bus transportation

At Least One Week Out

- Collect Participation Agreement, check both sides are signed.
- Review what students should wear/bring. Organize your lunch plan if you are eating at NESS. There are no food facilities at NESS.
- Review the "Safety, First Aid and Medications" section (**Page 2**).
- This is your last chance to reschedule or cancel without a fee (**See Group Contract**)!

The Morning of the BEST Adventure of your Life!

- Do you have all the Participation Agreements? Do you have payment for NESS?
- Do you have the directions to NESS and the Bus Parking Map (**Page 3 & 4**)?
- Lunch, do you have it?!
- Please plan to arrive no more than 15 minutes prior. Please notify NESS if you are running early or late so we can adjust student rotations.

You Made It!

- Unload and follow NESS staff to your home base.
- Hand over the Participation Agreements.
- Review pick up schedule with bus driver and stress that they must not arrive any earlier.

Chaperones

Chaperones are more than just along for the ride, they are the primary contacts and mentors for youth attending our programs. Ultimately, it is the chaperones responsibility to monitor students' behavior according to your school's student handbook. **Chaperones are expected to participate in any programs (field, water or lab) to help with supervision and student behavior.** Chaperones must be at least 21 years of age or at least 3 years older than the youth they are chaperoning, whichever is greater. One chaperone for every ten students is required. If you will be bringing more than 10:1 please contact us before you arrive.

What about the weather?

Classes are held rain, shine, wind or no wind!

The weather conditions for each day will dictate how much on-the-water time each class will have. Sometimes instructors will take the kids out in the rain, which is why we suggest foul-weather gear. Some days bring thunderstorms, fog, no wind, or even too much wind, all of which can limit time on the water. In these cases, instructors may modify the program after discussion with the teacher coordinator. NESS's first priority is safety. We will limit on-the-water activity if we deem it unsafe.

Safety, First Aid, & Medications

NESS staff are highly trained adventure educators, many with U.S. Coast Guard captain licenses and certifications in lifeguarding, first aid, CPR, and sailing, kayaking, and surfing instruction. Safety is high priority at NESS and there are a few things you can do to help us keep your students safe:

- Students are expected to follow all the school rules listed in the school's Student Handbook. Additionally students should also be aware that they must abide by all policies, rules, and regulations of NESS and obey all directives issued by NESS and NESS Program Leader(s).
- Inform us of any students that might have special needs or health concerns that might affect their ability to participate (ie. insect allergies, physical disabilities, learning disabilities). We are able to make many accommodations so please let us know.
- Please bring any emergency medications (Epi-pen, Rescue Inhaler) in a water tight bag. (Ziploc Bags work great!)

What to have students wear/bring for program:

(These items may change depending on program, please contact NESS with any questions.)

REQUIRED:

- **Clothing** that can get wet and/or dirty.
- **Dress in layers**
- **Closed toed shoes** that can get wet and can be worn in the water
- **Sunscreen** (please apply before arriving)
- **Reusable Water bottle**
- **Lunch** (if staying for lunch)

SUGGESTED:

- Hat
- Sunglasses
- Fleece top for chilly days
- Foul weather gear for rainy/wind days
- Athletic or technical clothing that dries quickly
- Towel and a change of clothing & shoes

WHAT NOT TO WEAR/BRING:

- NO jeans (too heavy when wet)
- NO pants/shorts with rivets (they scratch the boats/boards)
- NO cotton clothing (uncomfortable and cold when wet)
- NO valuables
- NO electronic devices should be used during program time

NESS: Stonington is located at 70 Water St. Stonington, CT.



From I-95

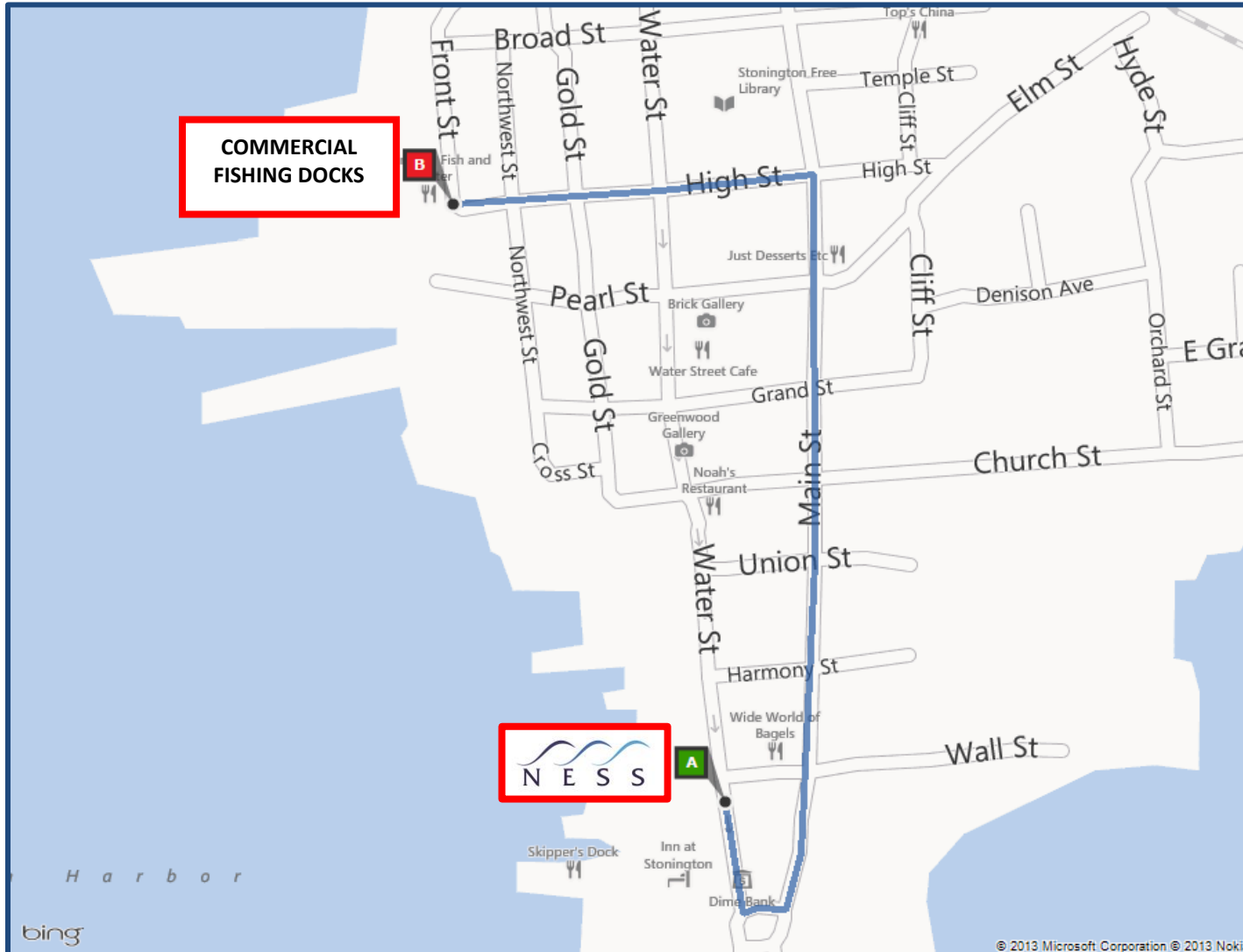
- Take **Exit 91** from I-95 (just West of Rhode Island) and turn South toward the ocean.
- Proceed approximately .3 mile and turn left on North Main Street (sign on left says Route 1).
- Proceed 1.6 miles to stop light and cross US Rte. 1 to first stop sign, .7 mile.
- Turn left at stop sign for 200 yards; then right at next stop sign.
- Proceed over bridge and go straight onto Water Street which curves to the left.
- Drive slowly down Water St. approximately .5 miles and you will see NESS on the right. It is a large gray building with white trim.

Bus & Parking

DROP-OFFS & PICK-UPS are curbside at 70 Water Street.

Street parking is available on Water Street and Main Street for chaperones and teachers individual cars.

Please do not block street traffic or park in the Inn at Stonington parking lot.



Thank you for getting kids safely to and from programs at New England Science & Sailing (NESS)!

Our town is very small!

Please remember:

- Parking along water street and side roads is for cars only
- Speed limit is 20 mph but people stray from sidewalks so **“slow is pro!”**
- Bus parking is available at the commercial fishing docks or back over the bridge and out of town
- Please **do NOT** park at Stonington Point
- Chat with teacher to determine pick-up time! Please don't arrive any earlier.

DIRECTIONS TO THE COMMERCIAL FISHING DOCKS

- 1) Drop kids off at NESS
- 2) Take a LEFT onto Cannon Square
- 3) Take a LEFT onto Main Street
- 4) Directly before the Library green, take a LEFT onto High Street
- 5) Proceed STRAIGHT down to the large parking lot at the Town Docks/Commercial Fishing Fleet and enjoy the view!

Participation Agreement 2017

Student Participant

PROGRAM: _____ **Date:** _____

Student Name: _____ **Age:** _____

Parent/Guardian #1:

Parent/Guardian #2:

Name: _____

Name: _____

Phone # 1: _____

Phone # 1: _____

Phone # 2: _____

Phone # 2: _____

Email: _____

Email: _____

Emergency Contacts

	<u>Name</u>	<u>Relationship</u>	<u>Phone Number</u>
1.	_____	_____	_____
2.	_____	_____	_____

Please list any special conditions:
(i.e. specify injuries, weakness, eyeglasses, contacts, hearing aid, anxieties, fears, hyperactivity, learning disabilities, etc.):

Please list any current medication(s): (inhaler, epi-pen, diabetes medicine, allergies, etc.):

Please read the following, initial each one and sign where required.

EMERGENCY MEDICAL AUTHORIZATION FOR STUDENTS

In the event of a medical emergency, I hereby authorize and consent to any x-ray, examination, anesthetic, medical or surgical diagnosis or procedure rendered under the supervision of any qualified health care professional. It is understood that this authorization is given in advance of any specific diagnosis, treatment, or hospital care being required but is given to provide authority and power to render care which the aforementioned health care professional in the exercise of his/her best judgment may deem advisable. It is understood that effort shall be made to contact the undersigned prior to rendering treatment to the patient, but that the above treatment will not be withheld if I cannot be reached.

Initial: _____

PHOTOGRAPHY RELEASE

I understand that NESS routinely takes videos and photographs of participants in NESS programs. I hereby authorize and give my full consent to NESS to copyright and/or publish any and all photographs, videotapes and/or film in which my child appears while attending NESS events for NESS instructional and/or promotional purposes. I further agree that NESS may transfer, use or cause to be used, these photographs, videotapes, or films for instructional, promotional or advertising purposes.

Initial: _____

OTHER TERMS

All NESS Programs involve certain inherent risks. Natural risks result from weather, wind, waves and water. Man-made risks include docks, ramps, ladders, buildings, boats, engines, spars and sails. Other risks are inherent in group activities and/or activities on publicly accessible waters and land. I understand and acknowledge the risks involved in NESS Programs. In consideration of the opportunity for my child to participate in the marine science, adventure sports, and sailing programs conducted by NESS, either with or without instruction, I have read, understand, and agree to bound by the Emergency Medical Authorization, Photography Release, and Other Terms including the Participation Agreement Other Terms at the end of this Participation Agreement (next page).

Parent Name: _____ **Signature:** _____ **Date:** _____

PARENT SIGNATURE IS REQUIRED – Page 1 of 2 – Continued on next page.

PARTICIPATION AGREEMENT OTHER TERMS

The parties to this Participation Agreement are the "Student," the Student's parents or legal guardians, and New England Science & Sailing Foundation, Inc. ("NESS"). The Student, with the consent of the Student's parents or legal guardians, has chosen to participate in a NESS program (the "Program"). The Student and his/her parents/legal guardians:

- will complete all required forms and provide the necessary information,
- hereby certifies that the information provided to NESS is correct, and
- agrees to keep it updated, as necessary.

1. Code of Conduct and Adherence to Standards

- The Student and his/her parents/legal guardians understand that by participating in a NESS Program, the Student is subject to both rules and regulations of NESS and may be subject to NESS's disciplinary action.
- The Student agrees:
 - to abide by all policies, rules, and regulations of NESS including the NESS Code of Conduct.
 - to obey all directives issued by NESS and NESS Program Leader(s).

2. Financial Obligations - The Student and his/her parents or legal guardians agree to pay any money owed to cover any Program fees on or before the date the Program commences.

3. Program Modification and Cancellation -The Student and his/her parents/guardians understand and agree that NESS reserves the right to cancel or modify the Program before or during its operation for any reason including, but not limited to, emergencies, low enrollment, unavailability of one or more facilities or personnel, weather conditions or other safety concerns.

4. Termination of Participation

- The Student understands and agrees that, while participating in the Program, he/she will not engage in inappropriate conduct, including, but not limited to, the use of physical or verbal threats or violence, open abuse of other participants in the Program, or unauthorized absences from Program activities.
- The Student and his/her parents/legal guardians understand that, in its sole discretion, NESS or the Program Leader(s) may terminate the Student's participation in the Program at any time. Reasons for termination may include, but are not limited to, inappropriate conduct or other behavior by the Student deemed detrimental to the best interests of the Program, emergencies or health or safety conditions.

5. Assumption of Risk

- Except to the extent that an injury, loss, or damage is caused by the sole negligence or willful misconduct of NESS or its Program Leaders, the Student and his/her parents/legal guardians:
 - understand that the activities associated with the Program present risks to the Student personally and to his/her property, some of which may result in serious personal injury or death, and that these risks can be a consequence of not only the Student's actions or negligence, but also the actions or negligence of others, weather conditions or equipment.
 - acknowledge that they are responsible for evaluating the risks that the Student may face and agree that any activities that Student may take part in, whether as a component of the Program or separate from it, will be considered to have been undertaken with the Student's and his/her parents'/legal guardians' approval and understanding of any and all risks involved.
 - acknowledge that NESS is not responsible for any injury, loss, or damage to the Student's person or property, whether resulting from acts or omissions of any persons, from the operation or condition of facilities or premises, from acts of war or terrorism, or from acts of God or nature.

6. Release of Claims – In consideration of NESS accepting the Student into the Program, except to the extent that the liability, damage, injury, loss, accident, or illness is caused by the sole negligence or willful misconduct of NESS or its Program leaders, the Student, his/her heirs, executors, administrators, representatives, and assigns, and the Student's parents or legal guardians, hereby release and discharge NESS, its Program leaders, officers, directors, employees, agents, and representatives (hereafter "Released Parties") from:

- any and all claims that may arise from any cause whatsoever, whether resulting from acts or omissions of any persons, from the operation or condition of facilities or equipment, from acts of war or terrorism, or from acts of God or nature;
- responsibility for any accident, illness, injury, or any other damage or consequence arising or resulting directly or indirectly from the Student's participation in the Program;
- any liability, damage, or injury that may be caused by Student's negligence or willful acts committed prior to, during or after participation in the Program; and
- any liability, damage, or injury caused by the intentional or negligent acts or omissions of any other participant in the Program, or caused by any other person.

7. Severability - It is understood and agreed that, if any provision of this Agreement or the application thereof is held invalid or unenforceable, the invalidity shall not affect other provisions or applications of this Agreement which can be given effect without the invalid provisions or applications. To this end, the provisions of this Agreement are declared severable.

8. Governing Law; Venue - This release shall be construed in accordance with, and governed by, the laws of the State of Connecticut.

Construction and Scope of Agreement

The language of all parts of this Agreement shall in all cases be construed as a whole, according to its fair meaning, and not strictly for or against any party. This Agreement, with the attached Program Description and forms, is the entire and complete agreement of the parties relating in any way to the subject matter hereof. This Agreement supersedes any earlier written or oral understandings or agreements between the parties.

Parent Name: _____ Signature: _____ Date: _____

PARENT SIGNATURE IS REQUIRED