

C. SKILLS: Recommended for Delivery of Community-based Programs

To successfully facilitate community-based environmental education, EPA and Extension employees need to be able to:

1. Understand how adults and youth learn.
2. Assess or facilitate assessment of community assets, vision, goals, and needs - both environmental and learning.
3. Understand and be able to apply social marketing principles.
4. Develop education goals and objectives that respond to community assets and needs.
5. Develop education goals that refer to environmental education theory, as described in the professional literature.
6. Design an education program that meets specified goals and objectives.
7. Relate community goals to specific environmental management objectives or know of someone who can, i.e. help citizens turn ideals into action.
8. Evaluate an education program and be able to modify the program based on results.
9. Facilitate a group meeting, rather than leading or teaching.
10. Encourage group participants to understand differences while at the same time encouraging participation and cooperation.
11. Recognize the biases in any particular policy or management recommendation. Help others to clarify concerns and values.
12. Explain the purpose and benefit of partnerships. Facilitate implementation of a partnership arrangement.
13. Explain the purpose and benefit of networks. Facilitate implementation of a local network.
14. Explain the purpose and benefit of consensus decision-making. Facilitate implementation of a local consensus decision-making process.
15. Explain the purpose and benefit of team planning. Facilitate implementation of a local team. Help determine qualifications for potential team members, including representation of all facets of the community.
16. Explain the purpose and benefit of strategic visioning. Facilitate a strategic visioning or planning activity.
17. Determine steps for turning a decision into an action. Help others make decisions.

18. Illustrate how decisions about one aspect of the community can affect other community qualities, for better or worse. Include social, economic, and environmental perspectives.
19. Be able to identify and use strategic planning tools appropriate for communities. Tools are available which help to: identify vision or purpose; generate ideas; organize ideas; analyze and prioritize ideas/issues; state tasks and responsibilities; team building; negotiation and conflict management; define and solve problems; external and internal assessments; data collection; monitor and evaluate.