



Let's talk about the climate crisis and take action together as a community!

The San Mateo County Sustainability Department is now offering expanded trip offerings for the **Youth Exploring Climate Science (YECS)** program! This program provides no-cost climate science educational programming to middle and high schools across San Mateo County. The program empowers students to explore why the climate crisis is happening, what and who will be impacted, and how individual actions can tackle climate change impacts to protect our communities. Programming is available to focus on sea level rise, wildfire science, and biodiversity, and includes an in-person 120 minute trip to a local natural space, such as Coyote Point, Cooley Landing, San Bruno Mountain, and more!.

Book Your YECS Program Now!

The YECS program is now accepting bookings from San Mateo County high school and middle school teachers for the 2023-24 school year. All offerings are available for 7th - 12th grade students to engage with local environmental specialists and climate science topics. Access to the YECS program curriculum and technical support is also available upon request. Contact Jess Dominick at jdominick@smcgov.org with any questions. This opportunity is first come, first served so act fast to secure your YECS program today. [Book here!](#)

Please check out the additional tips and instructions at the end of this document for more detailed information about the booking process. If you have any mobility concerns for your students, please let us know in your booking.

Below is a table highlighting the key components of the YECS program. Customization to fit the needs and interests of your class may be available upon request.

Youth Exploring Climate Science Subject	NGSS Grade Range	NGSS Standard Discussed	Components: In-Class Guided Activity On-Site Lesson On-Site
Option 1: <u>Youth Exploring Sea Level Rise Science</u> 120 minutes Students will... <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop a baseline understanding of the climate crisis and sea level rise globally and locally Explore either Coyote Point or Cooley Landing with local specialists from either San Mateo County Parks and Grassroots Ecology 	Middle School	MS ETS1.B MS ETS2.B MS ESS2.D MS ESS3.C MS ESS3.D	15-20 minute in-class video lesson provided by the Sustainability Department and facilitated by the teacher 45 minute guided hike
	High School	HS ETS1.B HS ETS1.C HS ETS2.B HS ESS2.D	10-15 minute lesson 25-30 minute lunch or snack time (depending on student needs for lunch times)

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Discuss mitigation and adaptation actions to address local climate impacts <p>Open to 60 students per trip.</p>		HS ESS3.B HS ESS3.C HS ESS3.D	
Option 2: <u>Youth Exploring Wildfire Science</u> <i>120 minutes*</i> Students will... <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Understand the intersection between human impact and wildfires as it relates to the climate crisis Explore a local park and learn about wildfire fuel reduction and fire safety <p>Open to 60 students per trip.</p> <p><i>*Russian Ridge YECS trips are extremely limited and will be 3 hours long.</i></p>	Middle School	MS ETS1.B MS ESS2.D MS ESS3.C MS ESS3.D	20-25 minute in-class video lesson provided by the Sustainability Department and facilitated by the teacher 45 minute guided hike
	High School	HS LS2.B HS ETS1.B HS ESS2.D HS ESS3.B HS ESS3.C HS ESS3.D	10-15 minute lesson 25-30 minute lunch or snack time (depending on student needs for lunch times)
Option 3: <u>Youth Exploring Biodiversity Science</u> <i>120 minutes</i> Students will... <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Understand the intersection between human impact and biodiversity Use the iNaturalist mobile app to photograph, identify, and track species diversity (please ensure that students and/or chaperones are able to access this app in small groups during the trip) Learn about community science initiatives in San Mateo County <p>Open to 60 students per trip.</p>	Middle School	MS ETS1.B MS ESS2.D MS ESS3.C MS ESS3.D MS LS4.D	20-25 minute in-class minute in-class video lesson provided by the Sustainability Department and facilitated by the teacher. 20 minute on-site introduction and lesson
	High School	HS LS4.C HS LS3.B HS LS4.D HS ETS1.B HS ESS2.D HS ESS3.B HS ESS3.C HS ESS3.D	40 minute hike activity and discussion 30 minute optional lunch/snack time and breaks

Details, Tips, and Instructions for the Booking Process

- Most field trips will be 120 minutes on-site. This does not include the time needed for transportation to and from the site.
 - For the Wildfire Science trips at Russian Ridge, the trip will be 3 hours long. A longer hike and activity will be included in this trip.
- A Calendly confirmation is tentative. Program Coordinator Jess Dominick will confirm the trip via email and, if needed, coordinate transportation upon confirmation.
- Your trip start time must be between 10:30am and 11:30am to ensure timely transportation options during school hours.

- Trips are required to have at least 1 teacher/chaperone per 13 students for 9th - 12th grade classes, and 1 teacher/chaperone per 10 students for 7th & 8th grade classes.
- Field trip dates are unique to the subject, so if you do not see an open date for one program, check out the other topics and locations for alternative options.
- All trips have a capacity limit of 60 students for each trip.
 - For the Wildfire Science and Sea Level Rise trips, students will be split into two groups who will do alternating activities
- There will be no facilitated in-person component before the field-trip. Instead, there will be 15-20 minutes of recorded in-class materials for teachers to introduce to the class before the trip. Instructions and materials will be sent to teachers prior to the field trip. Teachers are required to show this material to students to prepare them for the trip.
- Bus transportation can be provided at no-cost and arranged with Program Coordinator Jess Dominick. After booking a trip, you will be contacted regarding trip confirmation and transportation options. Please contact them at jdominick@smcgov.org with any questions.
- These field trips are offered at **NO COST** to 7th through 12th grade classes in San Mateo County by the Sustainability Department.
- Field trip dates and offerings are subject to change and more dates may be added, especially between semesters (Fall/Spring).

For more information about the YECS program please visit [our website](#) or contact Jess Dominick at jdominick@smcgov.org.

