

Len Foote Inn Sustainability Trip
Thursday, March 21 – Friday, March 22
<https://hike-inn.com/>

Who: 10th, 11th, and 12th Graders in the Engineering or IT Pathway

*In the application, students will need to show interest in the environment and sustainability and explain what/how they will incorporate their new knowledge

The Inn has a capacity of 40 people. We will have six chaperones and 34 students.

Application: <https://forms.office.com/r/WHd78M265p>

Where: Len Foote Inn, 5 miles by trail from Amicalola Falls, Dawsonville, GA

*Note: The Inn is only accessible by a five mile trail that students and chaperones will hike

How Much: Thanks to a generous donation by PTSO, students will be charged for \$50 on OSP

What's Included:

- Overnight stay at Len Foote Inn with all bedding and linens provided
- Dinner for Day 1, Breakfast for Day 2, and Trail Lunch for Day 2 provided
- Transportation to and from Amicalola Falls

Why: Do you have an interest in the environment? Do you have interest in sustainability practices? Future career aspirations in these areas? Completing or want to complete your junior year research project in this area? Want to do a senior year project based on this topic through Directed Study, 4th year Engineering, or 4th year IT?

The Hike Inn's secluded location allows a wide range of people to enjoy the peace and beauty of the mountains without the trappings of modern life.

The Inn — open year round — is a sustainably designed Georgia State Park facility nestled in the Chattahoochee National Forest, just a few hours north of Atlanta. Its four main buildings offer twenty private guest rooms, hot showers, fresh linens and home-cooked meals. The Hike Inn's mission is to make experiencing nature easy, and help protect it through education and recreation.

From the earliest architect's sketches to today, everything about the Hike Inn is designed to ensure that we're good stewards of Mother Nature's precious resources. The inn was constructed on stilts to lessen our footprint on the mountaintop and we use recycled barrels to collect rainwater to irrigate our native plants and trees.

Being a non-profit, we also have to be good stewards when it comes to finding ways to lower our operating costs. Photovoltaic solar panels lowers our total electricity usage and the hot water at the bathhouse comes from a solar-thermal systems to lower our fuel costs as well as the inn's carbon footprint. Odor-free composting toilets help save more than 200,000 gallons of valuable drinking water every year.

One of our most popular stops on our nightly tour of the Hike Inn is our worm beds, and vermiculture is one of our most valuable teaching tools. Instead of sending our organic waste to a landfill, the staff recycles it back into the soil using red wiggler worms — who can eat half their body weight a day in organic material. The beds compost everything from kitchen scraps to office paper, producing hundreds of pounds of valuable organic fertilizer.

Protecting Georgia's natural resources is the core of our mission, but we believe everyone can do their part as well. People don't necessarily come here for an education in nature and conservation, but we try to make sure they leave with one. Len Foote Hike Inn achieved a major sustainability milestone in 2019: LEED certification at the Platinum level from the U.S. Green Building Council.

Schedule of the Trip:

Thursday

8:45am – Meet at school with all needed supplies (bring a sack lunch)

9:15am – Leave for Amicalola Falls

10:45am – Arrive at Amicalola

- Hike the Falls and Eat Lunch

12:00pm – Start the 5 mile hike to the Inn

3:00pm – Arrive at the Inn

- Settle into bunk rooms
- Relax, Game Room, Read

5:00pm – Tour of the Inn

6:00pm – Family style dinner

7:00pm – Educational Programming

10:00pm – Quiet Hours Begin, Lights Out

Friday

6:30am – Sunrise Wake Up

8:00am – Breakfast

9:00am – Clean and Pack

10:00am – Start the 5 mile hike to Amicalola

12:00pm – Arrive at Amicalola, Eat sack lunch from Inn

1:00pm – Depart for Innovation Academy

3:00pm – Arrive back to Innovation Academy

Packing List:

Students pack in and pack out everything they bring in a backpack. Please see the attached packing list from the Inn. Minimal items needed as the inn provides all bed linens, pillow, and towels for the bath house.

Questions? Email Lead Chaperone Ms. Lundy at lundyjn@fultonschools.org