About Field Days

This is the fifth Annual Field Days, sponsored by the Division of Student Affairs and Academic Affairs, in an effort to bring new students together with ESF faculty and staff. The events listed are all geared towards exposing new students to the wonderful research opportunities and areas of expertise among our faculty to build relationships between everyone.

Be sure to SIGN IN at each session you attend!

Attend 3 OR MORE sessions and you are automatically entered to win great prizes!

QUESTIONS?
Check out the Information Booth located on the Quad!
We will have an information booth set up on the Quad so you can get any questions answered throughout the event. Cookies and drinks will also be provided.

Division of Student Affairs
110 and 14 Bray Hall
1 Forestry Drive
Syracuse, NY 13210
studentinvolvement@esf.edu

Sustainable Energy Tour (CHP Tour and Lucid Building OS Demo) Joshua Arnold
2pm and 3pm—Tour departs from the Gateway Center, south entrance—Max tour 15 students
ESF is now one of the top ranked colleges for sustainability and we’ll explore the campus facilities that got us there. We will tour the Gateway combined heat and power system which powers 30% of the campus using efficient and renewable energy. We will then explore the solar photovoltaic array atop Walters hall, the first PV system on the ESF campus.

Path to Zero Waste: On Campus & in Life Susan Fassler
1pm, 2pm, and 3pm—Tour departs from the Gateway Center, by the Trailhead Cafe—Max tour 15 students
We are launching campus-wide composting this semester! Join us to learn what Trailhead Cafe items are compostable and how you can compost on campus, at Centennial and at home. We will also take a brief walking tour around campus to check out newly installed compost bins and discuss the behind the scenes compost operation. Finally, we will head to live demo where you will learn how to make all natural, low waste deodorant and also learn other tips/resources to help you transition to a low/zero waste lifestyle.

Oakwood Cemetery Tour Dr. Rachel Leibowitz and John Auwaerter
3:30pm—Tour departs from the front of Moon Library
Join the Center for Cultural Landscape Preservation faculty for a walk through historic Oakwood Cemetery, ESF’s other next-door neighbor. Designed in 1859 by Howard Daniels, the cemetery served as one of the city’s first parks and remains a beautiful place for students to enjoy walking, running, or biking. Oakwood is also an excellent place to study trends in architectural history and to learn about the local history of Syracuse and its prominent citizens. Learn to identify significant historic landscape features, and what you can do to help maintain them for future generations.
Plant Parenthood 101—Propagating “Queen of the Night” Cactus — Terry Ettinger
1, 2, 3, 4pm - 530 Illick Hall - Max 20 students
Native to forested regions of southern Mexico through Guatemala and Honduras to Costa Rica. A true cactus, it grows as a sprawling epiphyte through the canopies of trees one hundred feet or more above the forest floor, rooting into detritus that collects in the crotches of large branches and pockets of damaged and decaying wood. Dinner-plate sized, creamy-white blooms open for one night only from June through September. Participants will start their own specimens by means of stem cuttings taken from the two plants in the Illick greenhouse collection.

Birds on Campus — Ravyn Neville
1 & 2pm - Front of Moon Library (Rain Location: 238 Illick)
We will be taking a leisurely stroll through and around campus to explore what birds we can find on and near our own campus. Participants should bring binoculars if they have them (we will provide a few extra pairs). (45-55min)

Join the Forest Ecology Lab! — Dr. Ruth Yanai
2-4:30pm (Drop in any time) - B-9 Marshall Hall
Our overall goal is to understand ecosystem response to nitrogen and phosphorus limitation, using a forest fertilization experiment. Join us today to sort tree leaves by species, identify fungal spores with a microscope, pick roots from soil and size them, or determine soil textures. Join weekend field trips to New Hampshire to collect this year’s litter samples.

Hands-on Paper Recycling and Testing — Ms. Kelly Watson-Collins and Mr. George Westby
1, 2, 3, 4pm - 102 Walters Hall - Max 20 students
Paper was recycled into new sheets as far back as 1031 C.E. in Japan. Come try this ancient technique with your own hands using newspaper. In addition, come and measure how much force it takes to crush, punch a hole into, and pull apart various paper products. (30 min)

Paper and Bioprocess Pilot Plant Tour — Sean Hohm
1:30, 2:30, 3:30pm - 102 Walters Hall - Max 20 students
Take a guided tour of our pilot-scale facilities producing a variety of bioproducts. Learn how raw sustainable materials such as tree fibers are processed into paper on our 130’ long paper machine and how grasses are processed into biochemicals using our 500 gallon cooker and ethanol from our 100 gallon fermenter. (30 min)

Explore the Flow of Water in Streams and Rivers — Dr. Steve Shaw and Karen Karker
1:30, 2, 2:30, 3pm - Hydraulics Lab, 106 Baker Lab - Max 15 students
Learn about hydraulic structures, channel erosion, and stream flow measurement techniques. (30 min)

Fun with iTree — Eric Greenfield, Robert Hoehn, & David Nowak
1, 2, 3pm - 310 Baker Lab - Max 20 students
United States Forest Service researchers will introduce and provide a “hands-on” overview of iTree tools which measure the ecosystem services of our forests and provide guidance for forest management planning. The session starts in the computer lab where we will demonstrate and allow exploration of the tools. In the second half of the session, we switch to an outdoor demonstration and application MyTree on your cell phones.

Testing Wood Strength — William Smith & Neil Kohan
1, 2:30, 4pm - 166 Baker Lab - Max 20 students
Wood is the premier renewable and sustainable, as well as environmentally and economically preferred, material for building and many societal products. And engineered wood composites enable broader and more efficient utilization of materials, and create useful structural products otherwise not possible. We will demonstrate several products and determine actual ultimate strength by breaking typical 2”x8”x10’ floor joists. Prizes will be awarded to closest prediction.

What are you Smoking? — Dr. Jaime Mirowsky
1, 2, and 3pm - ESF Quad - Max 15 students
In this hands-on demonstration we’ll show you how a hookah works, and measure some of the chemicals released from hookah charcoals. Then we will conduct some basic health tests that may be impacted when people are exposed to hookah smoke. (30 min)

Explore the Moon — Ruth Owens, Casey Koons, Matt Smith, Nan Clark, Ellen Edgerton, Tom McGrath, Karin Patzke
1:30-4pm (Drop in) - Front Area Couches Moon Library
Come visit the friendly librarians and staff of Moon Library! We will have a brief scavenger hunt which will help you learn about spaces and resources available to you in the library (including a new study space, the Writing Resource Center, the Public Speaking Lab, and more). Find the clues and be entered in a drawing to win some fun prizes!

Forestry’s First Freshmen: Fun Facts — Kevin Reynolds
1 & 3pm - 141 Baker Lab - Max 20 students
What was it like to be a freshmen at our College the first few years after it opened in 1911? What academics were taught? How much was tuition? What were the College entry requirements? How did the students socialize? What role did Syracuse University have in our College’s beginning? These FUN FACTS and more are revealed at this presentation! Come learn about your own student history! (45 min)

Patterns in Nature — Nasri Abdel-Aziz
1pm - 212 Marshall Hall
You will be introduced to the relationship between Fibonacci Sequences and the Golden Ratio, then we will go out to explore and identify their patterns in nature.

Water: Ever Flowing, Never Knowing, Where It’s Going? — Dr. Russ Briggs
1:30 & 2:30pm - Quad bench slab in front of Bray Hall - Max 15 students
How rapidly will water move into the soil at two places on our campus that are not too far apart? We will consider the implications for plants, storm water, and people.

Importance of Insects — Dr. Melissa Fierke
1:30, 2:30, 3:30pm - Quad - Max 20 students
We will be sweep netting to ID insects and looking through pinned insects to talk about how important and wonderful they are! (Rain: 117 Illick)

MAKE IT! — Tour of the Digital Fabrication Lab — Aidan Ackerman
3 & 4pm - 231 Baker Lab - Max 12 students
Stop by the ESF Digital Fabrication Lab and learn more about this exciting new maker space! The lab is a 24-hour facility which houses a high-speed laser cutter, 3-axis CNC router, and two 3D printers. See the machines in action and learn more about becoming trained on the fabrication lab equipment yourself. Participants will get to make a quick laser-cut project to keep!

Vermicomposting Food Waste — Douglas Daley
2:30 & 3:30pm - 107 Baker Lab - Max 20 students
Set up a vermicomposting bin for at-home food scraps. Make friends, learn about worms, and overcome your squeamishness.

Tree Identification on Campus and Oakwood Cemetery — Dr. Don Leopold
2pm - Tour departs from the ESF Quad
We will cover the basics to identify common trees on campus and in the Oakwood Cemetery. (90 min)