Great Lakes & Natural Resources Camp is a pre-college program that is designed to provide experiential environmental education and boost campers’ interest in careers in environmental science. Participants spend one week learning from experts about coastal ecology, fisheries management, limnology, wildlife, invasive species, and forestry. Youth also participate in natural resource recreational activities like kayaking, sailing, snorkeling, and archery.

In 2017, 69 youth attended Great Lakes & Natural Resources Camp. Post-event evaluations showed that participating youth gained knowledge and skills in environmental science. Youth also reported aspiring towards scientific career fields.

**89% of youth feel more knowledgeable about careers in environmental science**

**88% of youth know where to get scientifically verified information**

**95% of youth believe that they can act to influence environmental issues**

**95% of youth plan to attend college**

“**My most memorable experience at camp was meeting the wildlife biologist that was from DNR. I want to follow in her footsteps.**”

“**[My most memorable experience was] making new friends while learning about nature and natural resources at the same time.**”

**DID YOU KNOW?**

Youth who participate in Michigan 4-H pre-college programs are more likely to go to college: 69% of youth who participated in Great Lakes & Natural Resources camp between 2009 and 2016 enrolled in college within six months of finishing high school. That’s 15% higher than the Michigan average!