Ecology & Earth Systems Dynamics for Educators  
July 21-25, 2014  
CI 5540-003 (86282) 3 Credits

COURSE DESCRIPTION
This course focuses on a variety of specific ecological and environmental science content, concepts, laboratory and field skills that educators are required to address when teaching Life Science and Earth Science curricula in Minnesota public schools. It is designed primarily for middle and high school level pre- and in-service science teachers, and other educators who teach the public about ecology and environmental issues. Topics include a survey of general ecosystem and community level ecological principles, with an emphasis on energy flow, nutrient cycling and how natural disturbances and human impacts potentially affect the environment. Scientific methodology, field observation and experimental techniques will be incorporated in a hands-on manner to illustrate ecological principles and to set examples for teaching these concepts. This course is taught entirely at the University’s Cedar Creek Ecosystem Science Reserve located approximately 35 miles north of the Twin Cities in East Bethel.

Instructors:  Lead instructor TBA; Mary Spivey (spive007@umn.edu), and Barbara Billington (bill0041@umn.edu)

Dates:  July 21-25, 2014; M, Tu, W, Th, F (with a half-day follow-up session TBD)

Location:  Cedar Creek Ecosystem Science Reserve; East Bethel, MN (approx. 35 miles north of the Twin Cities). For more information: www.cbs.umn.edu/explore/cedarcreek