



U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

# Minnesota Valley National Wildlife Refuge Refuge Partner Schools Program APPLICATION



## ***Connecting Young People with Nature***

Minnesota Valley National Wildlife Refuge is currently accepting applications for Elementary Schools (K-5<sup>th</sup> grade) to participate in the ***Refuge Partner Schools Program***. The partnership provides teachers and students multidisciplinary, standard-based curriculum. The curriculum emphasizes hands-on, real-life experiences with plants, wildlife, and recreational opportunities that immerse students in nature throughout the seasons.

## ***Profile of a Typical Refuge Partner School***

- The teachers are looking for high quality, multi-disciplinary curriculum-based fieldtrips that meet curriculum standards.
- The administrative staff and teachers are committed to using the outdoors as a classroom.
- At least 30% of the student body is enrolled in the free or reduced lunch program.
- The school does not have access to nearby nature areas or naturalist teaching staff.

## ***Partnership Requirements***

- All grade levels at the partner school participate in the program.
- Students visit the refuge 3 times each school year, once in fall, winter and spring, for multiple years (*busing reimbursement for 2012-13 is available through the Refuge Friends, Inc. Blue Goose Bus Fund*).
- Fifth grade students participate in the refuge's annual Youth Fishing Day.
- All students participate in one Service Learning Project during the course of the partnership.
- Teachers participate in at least one free refuge workshop offered during the partnership.
- Teachers provide refuge staff with feedback as requested and share their curriculum expertise to enhance the refuge program.



## ***To Apply***

Applications must be received by April 16, 2012. Selections will be completed by May 15, 2012

Revised 2012

# Refuge Partner Schools Program

## APPLICATION

### SCHOOL INFORMATION

School Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Principal: \_\_\_\_\_

School Mailing Address

Street: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Individual Completing this Application: \_\_\_\_\_ Day Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

### STUDENT BODY INFORMATION

Total Number of Students Enrolled: \_\_\_\_\_

Approx. # of classes at each grade level

K: \_\_\_\_\_ GR1: \_\_\_\_\_ GR: \_\_\_\_\_ GR3: \_\_\_\_\_ GR4: \_\_\_\_\_ GR5: \_\_\_\_\_

% Limited English Proficient: \_\_\_\_\_

What languages other than English are spoken at your school? \_\_\_\_\_

% students on free and reduced lunch: \_\_\_\_\_

Please explain your interest in the Refuge Partner School Program.

Which site are you applying for?(circle one)

Rapids Lake

Bloomington

Either site

Please Mail Your Completed Application to:

Minnesota Valley National Wildlife Refuge

Partner School Coordinator

15865 Carver Highlands Drive

Carver, MN 55315

952-361-4502