

NJC to offer study trip

Written by Holyoke Enterprise

As part of its travel study programming, Northeastern Junior College will offer an ecology and conservation-based trip to Costa Rica in May, 2010. NJC science professor Connie Henderson will lead the trip.

An informational meeting will be held Tuesday, Sept. 22 at 6:30 p.m. in room 217 of Phillips-Whyman Hall.

Specific dates for the trip have not been set but will be determined after those who want to participate are surveyed regarding preferred dates.

Cost of the trip is \$1,991 for students and \$2,326 for adults. The fee includes round-trip airfare, eight night hotel stay, three meals daily, a full-time tour director as well as experiential learning activities, one lecture and entrance to special attractions on the itinerary.

The nine day trip will take travelers to the stunning ecological terrain of Costa Rica including active volcanoes, forested mountains and palm-lined beaches. Participants will explore some of the world's most magnificent plant and animal habitats, experience vibrant cultural traditions and discover the ways in which the people living there continue to produce this environmental "wonderland."

On the itinerary is the Poas Volcano, Arenai, which is home to the world's major coffee producers, Sarapiqui, LaFortuna Waterfall, Monteverde's Santa Elena Cloud Forest and two days on the Central Pacific Coast including an excursion to Manuel Antonio National Park. Seeing the largest craters in the world, banana farms, squirrel monkeys and two-toed sloths can be expected. Other activities include doing a series of zip lines as part of a canopy tour in the cloud forest as well as white water rafting down the Sarapiqui River.

For more information, email Henderson at connie.henderson@njc.edu.