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Sustainable Energy Leaders of the Future (SELF) Day UMaine

Engineering Information Foundation has funded a grant to connect middle school girls of rural Maine to STEM careers through active research, mentoring and

community service in Forest Bio-Products. About 80 girls will be spending a day at the Forest Bioproducts Research Institute's Technology Research Center in Old Town to learn **beyond paper making about the use of Maine forest in developing advanced materials, chemicals and fuels in an economically and ecologically sustainable manner.**

The objectives of this project are:

- To promote interest in STEM education and careers for girls by raising awareness about the responsible use of a forest eco-system as a building block for sustainable and renewable energy resource
- to engage, mentor and prepare female middle school students from rural communities in cutting-edge Forest BioProducts research programs at the University of Maine
- To connect the participating girls with the college sophomores for a continued knowledge of the UMaine Engineering Programs thereby to advance girls from rural areas to pursue post-secondary education in STEM fields

Schools/organizations can bring a group (up to 20) of middle school girls to campus for a day. The group can decide the day to come. Transportation cost and lunch will be provided.

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