



Blue Ridge Center for Environmental Stewardship Guidelines for Visiting Researchers

Although any person is welcome on the land overseen by the Blue Ridge Center for Environmental Stewardship (BRCES), many of the resources present on the landscape are non-renewable and easily damaged or destroyed if not investigated properly. We welcome proposals from qualified researchers and students working under the guidance of qualified mentors.

- A formal application for research, including a description of research plans and, if applicable, plans for publication or presentation must be submitted to and approved in writing by BRCES prior to the commencement of any investigation. The application may be in the form of a letter, and must include all relevant contact information, information about who is sponsoring the research (if applicable), and any costs associated with the research.
- Any data and objects collected must be turned over to BRCES once the research is completed.
- Although the researcher retains first rights of publication, BRCES requires a formal research report to be submitted to the organization within an agreed upon time frame following the investigation (not to exceed six months).
- It is understood by the investigator that BRCES may use information contained in this report as part of its ongoing research and volunteer programs, and that the report will be freely available to the public and to other organizations and researchers. However, the BRCES will have no rights over publication authored by the researcher.

It is important to remember that the study of the land's material culture and biology is a long-term process, which will stretch over many years. The Blue Ridge Center and our partners encourage qualified researchers to use our land for research and educational purposes. However, we insist that any and all research be conducted in a professional, responsible, and systematic way, as to respect and preserve the delicate ecological and cultural landscape.