



West Morris Mendham teacher to assist scientists on tundra

By [Christina Giannantonio/The Star-Ledger](#)

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MENDHAM — There will be very little down time for West Morris Mendham High School science teacher Bruce Taterka this summer.

Taterka is one of 15 teachers chosen to participate in PolarTREC, an educational research experience funded by the National Science Foundation that invites K to 12 teachers to work with scientists on polar research.

Taterka will spend four weeks at the University of Alaska's Toolik Field Station, north of the Arctic Circle, with a team from the University of Michigan and the University of North Carolina studying the impact of warmer temperatures on the tundra.

He will help collect samples of permafrost, soil below the freezing point, and melt water and will help analyze the samples in the laboratory at Toolik .

Follow Taterka's online journal of his expedition at: <http://www.polartrec.com/expeditions/arctic-sunlight-and-microbial-interactions>.

To submit school news send an e-mail to morris@starledger.com.

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