

LAKE ST. CLAIR METROPARK
NATURE CENTER



SCHOOL PROGRAMS



Nestled at the end of Metropolitan Parkway, in the heart of suburban Macomb County, Lake St. Clair Metropark offers visitors access to Lake St. Clair and the surrounding ecosystems. Lake St. Clair Metropark Nature Center hosts programs for school groups, homeschoolers, families, scouts, adults and community groups. Programs are by appointment and are usually offered year-round, unless otherwise noted.

Make a day of it! While at the park, visit the Tot Play Area, Squirt Zone, beach and picnic areas.

GETTING STARTED

Group reservations can be made by calling 586-463-4332 between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m. All reservations must be made at least two weeks in advance.

To schedule a program, have the following information ready:

- Date and time you would like to visit
- Number of children
- Activities you would like to schedule
- School address, email address and phone number

CONFIRMATION

A confirmation email, chaperone information and a map will be sent after you schedule an appointment.

COST

IN-PARK

Programs are \$4 per student for a 1½ hour program, \$60 minimum per group. Vehicle Permit required for park entry, excluding school buses.

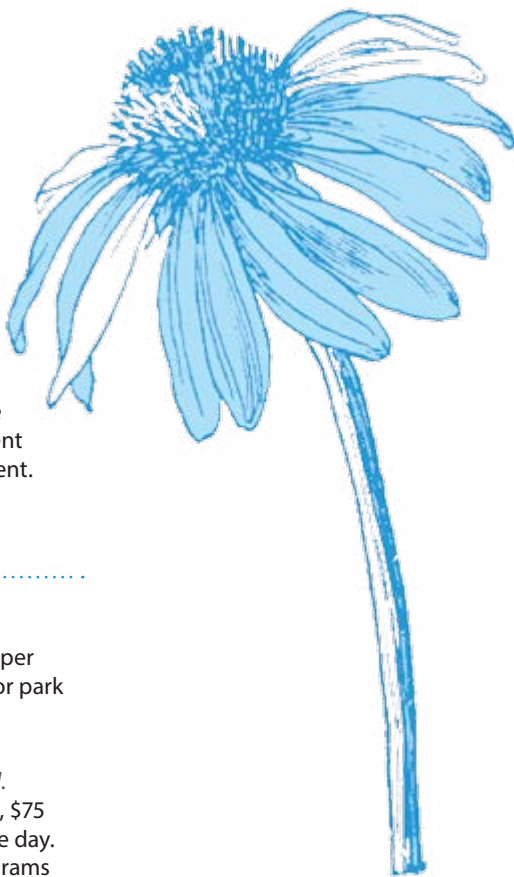
EDVENTURE

These programs are at your school.

Cost is \$100 for the first program, \$75 for additional programs the same day. There is a maximum of four programs per day, with 30 students per program (*subject to change due to topic choice*).

CONTENT EXPECTATIONS

All programs meet the Michigan Grade Level Content Expectations (GLCE), the Next Generation Science Standards and supports Common Core standards.



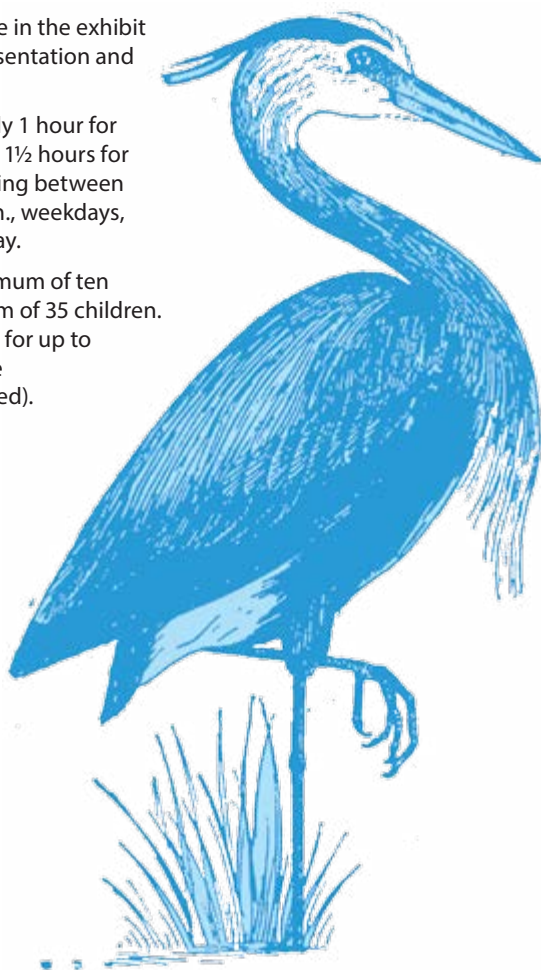
GENERAL INFORMATION EDVENTURES

- All programs are led by an interpretive naturalist and are grade-level appropriate. Programs can be adapted for different grade levels and abilities.
- If you have a topic that you are interested in, ask the Nature Center staff for availability.
- To introduce participants to animals, their features and adaptations, we use taxidermied and other preserved specimens to bring realism and scientific observation into the program. Live animals are also often incorporated into programs.
- Programs include time in the exhibit gallery, an indoor presentation and outdoor guided hike.
- Programs are generally 1 hour for pre-kindergarten and 1½ hours for all other groups, starting between 9:30 a.m. and 2:30 p.m., weekdays, Tuesday through Friday.
- There is a group minimum of ten children and maximum of 35 children. Programs can be held for up to three groups at a time (unless otherwise noted).

Metroparks' interpretive staff are available to visit your classroom. The cost is \$100 for the first program and \$75 for additional programs the same day. (Maximum of 4 programs per day.) Call the Nature center at 586-463-4332 to schedule a visit to your school.

We can adapt our programs to fit into your curriculum. Programs topics include:

- The Wonders of Wetlands
- Animal Adaptations
- Birds and Migration
- Michigan Fur Trade History



ANIMAL GROUPS

Focus on one group of animals (mammals, birds, reptiles & amphibians, fish or insects) to find out how they are classified and how they survive, thrive and continue from generation to generation. Or, compare and contrast several groups, such as vertebrates and invertebrates.

FOCUS: classification · characteristics · life cycles · adaptations

HABITATS ARE HOMES

Every living thing needs a few basics – water, food, shelter – and people are no exception! Find out how local area plants and animals obtain what they need and some of the clever ways that they do it. Then use your new knowledge to find animal homes along the trail.

FOCUS: needs of living things · adaptations · habitats

LIFE CYCLES

MID-APRIL – OCTOBER

In spring, the birds are singing (and so are the frogs), insects are humming, plants are budding and life continues anew. Each animal and plant begins a family in its own way. Later in the year, amphibians and insects are transforming and seeds are dispersing. Find out how they do it, then hike the trails with your senses on the alert!

FOCUS: needs of living things · adaptations · life cycles

PLANT LIFE

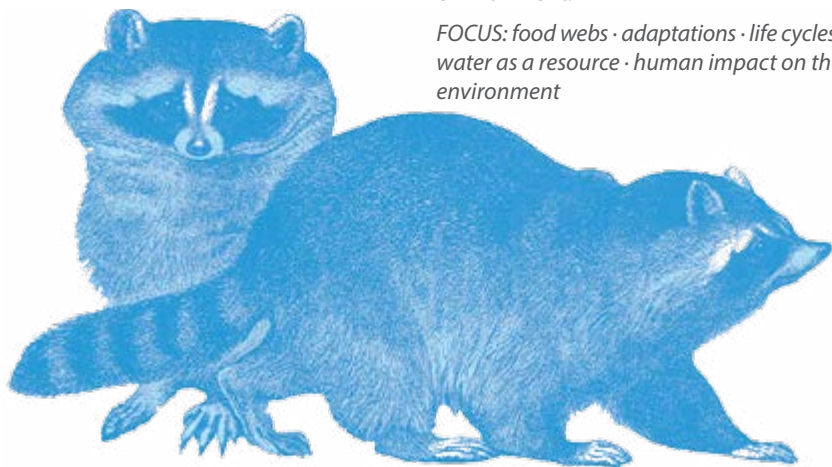
Because they are not able to move, plants have developed an interesting variety of adaptations to survive Michigan's climate and use by animals. People also need plants for a variety of uses.

FOCUS: classification · life cycles · adaptations

POND LIFE & WETLANDS WILDLIFE

Many animals spend all or part of their life in and around the water. Learn more about their adaptations and how they interact with one another and their environment.

FOCUS: food webs · adaptations · life cycles · water as a resource · human impact on the environment



SEASONAL PROGRAMS

ANIMALS PREPARE FOR WINTER

FALL

Migrate, hibernate or stay active and tough it out. Animals have a variety of adaptations and behaviors to help prepare themselves for our Michigan winters.

FOCUS: observing the natural world using senses & simple tools · life cycles · needs of living things · adaptations

WINTER WILDLIFE SURVIVAL

WINTER

Animals have a variety of adaptations and behaviors to survive Michigan's winters. Find out how they do it, then look for signs of animals along the trails.

FOCUS: observing the natural world using senses & simple tools · life cycles · needs of living things · adaptations

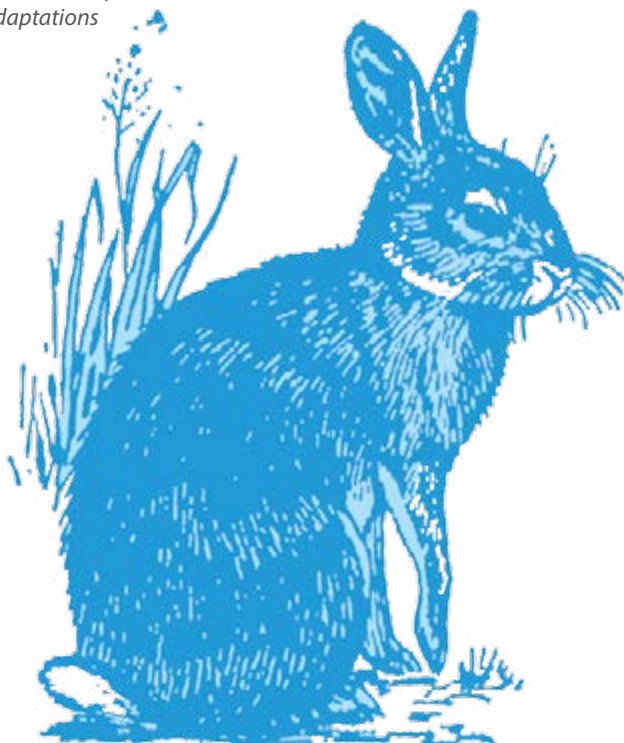
SIGNS OF THE SEASON

YEAR-ROUND

AVAILABLE FOR ANY AGE,
RECOMMENDED FOR PRE-K TO 2ND

Learn what to look for, then use your senses and observation skills along the trail.

FOCUS: observing the natural world using senses & simple tools · life cycles · needs of living things · adaptations





VOYAGEUR CANOE RIDES

LATE APRIL – JUNE & SEPTEMBER – OCTOBER · \$75/CANOE OUTING ·
12 STUDENTS & 6 ADULT CHAPERONES/CANOE

RIDES DEPENDENT ON LAKE LEVELS & WEATHER CONDITIONS, PERSONAL FLOTATION DEVICES & PADDLES PROVIDED

Choose a program emphasis:

PADDLE THROUGH THE MARSH

Take our wetland explorations directly out into the marsh! Paddle our 34-foot Voyageur canoe through the North Marsh while we look for wetland wildlife and go dipping.

*FOCUS: ecosystems · adaptations ·
food webs & other · relationships · human
impact on the environment*

FRENCH VOYAGEURS & THE FUR TRADE

Now calling all prospective voyageurs! Sign up for a “voyage” through the marsh paddling our 34-foot Voyageur canoe after you have discovered what life was really like for these intrepid travelers.

FOCUS: Michigan history & the fur trade era



ECOSYSTEMS ALL AROUND

What is an ecosystem? How are ecosystems different from one another? How do plants and animals in an ecosystem interact? Explore the ecosystems along the trail while we investigate the answers to these questions.

FOCUS: ecosystems · food webs and other relationships · human impact on the environment

PREDATOR-PREY ADVENTURE

JANUARY – MARCH

In this special program, students play “nature detective” to determine the identity of a mystery animal, meet its nearest relatives, and find out how it survives. We might even see signs of its presence along the nature trails!

FOCUS: populations & food webs · characteristics of animals & identification · using observation skills

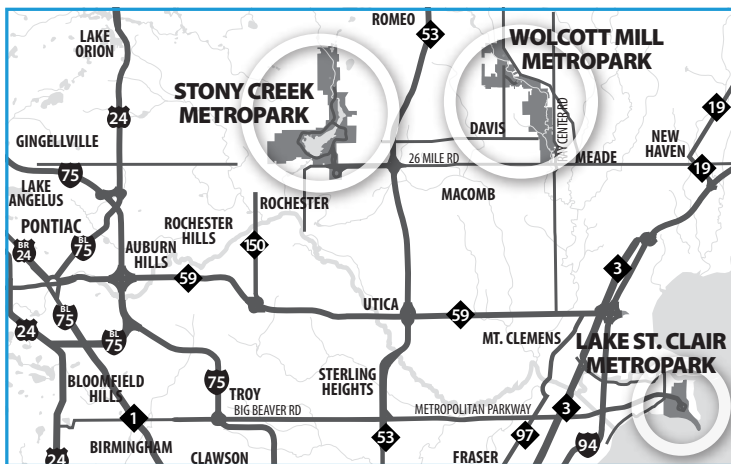
WETLANDS ARE WONDERFUL!

Water covers more than $\frac{2}{3}$ of the Earth and is essential for all living things. Wetlands are the place where the land meets the water – and the wildlife hangs out! Learn how important this ecosystem is, what animals we often find there and how they interact with one another.

This program is also offered in conjunction with Michigan Sea Grant’s Great Lakes Education Program (GLEP).
<http://www.miseagrant.umich.edu/glep>

FOCUS: food webs · adaptations · life cycles · water as a resource · human impact on the environment





LAKE ST. CLAIR METROPARK



31300 Metro Parkway, Harrison Township, MI 48045



Call
586-463-4332



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metroparks.com



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