

WOLCOTT MILL METROPARK
**FARM CENTER &
HISTORIC CENTER**



SCHOOL PROGRAMS



GETTING STARTED

Group reservations can be made by calling:

FARM CENTER

586-752-5932
9 a.m. – 5 p.m.
Daily

HISTORIC CENTER

586-749-5997
9 a.m. – 5 p.m.
Friday – Sunday, or by appointment

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 and an alternate date
- Number of children and adults
- Activities you would like to schedule
- School address, email address and phone number
- Accommodations necessary for students with special needs

CONFIRMATION

A confirmation number for your program will be provided when you reserve your program.

COST

See page 2 for Farm Center tours, and individual programs for pricing. Vehicle permit required for park entry, excluding school buses

PAYMENT

We accept all forms of payment: cash, check, Visa, Mastercard and Discover. Checks can be made out to HCMA.

CANCELLATIONS & WEATHER POLICY

Tours take place rain or shine. Exceptions will be made for severely inclement weather.

CONTENT EXPECTATIONS

- All programs meet the Michigan Grade Level Content Expectations (GLCE), Next Generation Science Standards and supports and Common Core standards.
- Interpreters at both facilities are certified by the National Association for Interpretation and trained to adjust each tour to the grade level of each group.



ABOUT THE FARM CENTER

It is important for students to develop an awareness of the science behind the foods and fibers they use and to make a connection with their state and country's agricultural pasts. School programs at the Wolcott Mill Metropark Farm Center allow students to do just that, gaining a first-hand perspective on the basic elements of agriculture as they experience the sights, sounds and smells of farm life.

In-county tours (*Macomb, Oakland, Wayne, Livingston and Washtenaw*) are \$45 minimum per group. Out-of-county tours add \$1 per student with \$60 minimum (larger groups can be split). Individual tours can be packaged at the Farm Center or with the Historic Center tours. Ask an interpreter for details. Wagon rides and local ice cream are available for an additional charge.

FARM TOURS FOR THE LITTLE ONES

Where does milk come from? What does milking a cow look like? What does the cow eat? What does a beak feel like? What is that smell? Little ones will find out the answers to these questions and more when they join us for a fun filled educational tour. The children will learn what animals sound like, how they feel and more with hands on contact.

PRESCHOOL & KINDERGARTEN

OUTDOORS · 45 MINUTES – 1 HOUR
\$3/PERSON

Students will be able to ask informative questions based on experiences and observations. Students will be able to identify the physical needs of domesticated farm animals, and recognize products from the farm as goods they use or consume at home.

1ST GRADE & UP

OUTDOORS · YEAR-ROUND ·
1 HOUR · \$3/PERSON

Many of our elementary age children have never set foot on a working farm or know where their food and fiber comes from. This program introduces students to the animals living on a working farm and their contributions to society. Students are encouraged to greet the different animals face to face, while they learn about the job each specific animal does on the farm. Students will learn about the basic needs all animals have and also the differences between mammals and birds.



FOOD & FIELDS WAGON TOUR

MARCH – NOVEMBER • 10:45 AM & 1:15 PM •
45 MINUTES – 1 HOUR • \$3/PERSON

Students will climb into a draft horse or tractor drawn wagon for a trip out to the Wolcott Farm Center crop fields. They will learn about the different crops raised on the farm, methods of sowing and harvesting and where farm products are used once they leave the field. The use of draft horses, tractors and farm implements will be discussed. The wagon will make a stop allowing students to feel the soil and take a closer look at crop plants in various stages of growth and what makes healthy soil. A hands-on activity will challenge students to identify the plant source of items from their everyday lives.

FOCUS: life requirements • Earth materials • Earth systems • ecosystems • properties of matter • organization of living things • natural resources • evolution

GREENHOUSE & GARDENS

MARCH – OCTOBER • 11:30 AM • 45 MINUTES – 1 HOUR • \$3/PERSON

This program will introduce students to indoor growing methods, including sprouting from seeds, and basic hydroponics. They will learn about planning for growing season, raised bed gardening and basic plant care. They will see how a greenhouse functions to extend the growing season in the Michigan climate and explore the benefits of fresh food in a healthy diet. A hands-on activity will allow the student to create a sprout and grow kit to take home.

FOCUS: Earth materials • ecosystems • organization of living things • solid earth • organization of living things • life science

MEET THE ANIMALS

YEAR-ROUND • 10 AM & 12:30 PM •
45 MINUTES – 1 HOUR • \$3/PERSON

Explore how animals live and function on a farm and their contributions to society and nature. Through observation and hands-on experiences, students will learn about the job that each specific animal does on the farm as well as where food and fiber come from. Students will learn about the basic needs all animals have and also the differences between species and breeds. There will be opportunities to see and touch farm animals, both mammals and fowl. A hand-on activity will allow students to see, feel and smell different animal feeds and identify their source.

FOCUS: physical needs of animals • life cycles • heredity traits • farm equipment & technology • physical attributes • the business of livestock • farms in Michigan history • requirements for energy & growth in animals • food chain • ruminant vs. non-ruminant animals • how animal systems work • economics of food & fiber

EDventures programs take place at your school or facility.
Each program can accomodate up to 35 students.

OFF-SITE INCUBATOR PROGRAM

\$100 FOR THE FIRST PROGRAM, \$75 FOR EACH ADDITIONAL PROGRAM. ADDITIONAL STAFF CHARGES MAY APPLY

This program will educate students on the life cycle of a chicken from fertile egg to live baby chick. A portable incubator brought to the classroom will be used to allow the students to monitor the heat, humidity and rotation of the fertile eggs and to observe the hatching of chicks. There will be a discussion on how and when adult chickens lay eggs and the properties of the eggs from various breeds of hens. A visit to the classroom as the chicks are hatched will engage students on how the downy chicks grow out their feathers and allow the students to touch the chicks at different stages. Basic care and feeding will be discussed.

FOCUS: heredity · life cycles · functions of structures · observable parts & physical characteristics · survival & reproduction

FARM DAY AT YOUR SCHOOL

\$100 OFFSITE FEE & \$3/STUDENT.
ADDITIONAL STAFF CHARGES MAY APPLY

During this in-school, live animal program, students will meet some of the animals that live at the Wolcott Mill Farm Center and learn about their unique features. They will find out why domesticated animals are a blend of inherited traits from their ancestors and what humans have wanted from them. Students will explore farm animals with a look at their anatomy: what it does for the animal, how it works, how it may change through life, how it is inherited from their parents and how we can group animals based on what their anatomy.

FOCUS: heredity · life cycles · functions of structures · observable parts & physical characteristics · survival & reproduction



The Historic Center, listed on the National Register of Historic Places through the National Park Service, Department of Interior, is one of the few fully intact grist mills remaining in Michigan.

Just 20 minutes north of the M-59 corridor, the majestic mill sits on the banks of the North Branch of the Clinton River. Built in 1847, the Historic Center operated as a grist and feed mill until 1967. All buildings are original except the gazebo, restrooms and the toll road building.

We hope to protect this facility for the use and enjoyment of all future generations. We ask that teachers, group leaders and parents help us in this endeavor by instilling appreciation and respect for the site in their students.

PROGRAM FEES

There are educational programming fees for both students and chaperones. Admission for teachers is free. See individual program for cost.

There is a minimum of 15 students per group and maximum of 30. For groups smaller than 15 students, the group fee of \$45 is charged.

PROGRAM ENHANCEMENTS

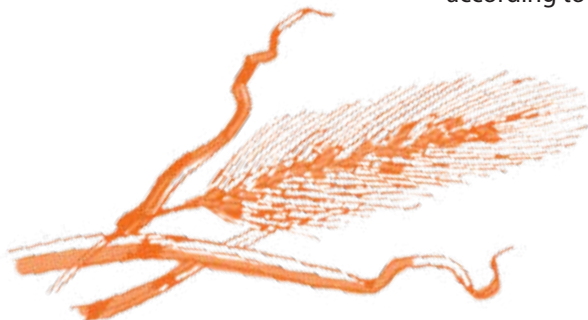
- Candle-dipping
\$3/student, \$3/adult if dipping
- Log cabin making
\$5/cabin

GENERAL INFORMATION

- Temperatures in the grist mill are cool to cold, especially in May and October. There is no heat in this building; however the program area is heated.
- Public restrooms are not located inside the Historic Center. They are just a short walk from the building.
- Drinking fountains are available.
- Picnic tables are available.
- If your group would like to purchase ice cream, we carry small cups of Crooked Creek. Arrangements must be made prior to your arrival.

SOUVENIRS

We carry a small amount of settler toys and old-fashioned candies that may be purchased. Prices vary according to item.



MAPLE SWEETNESS

MARCH · INDOORS & OUTDOORS ·
1½ HOURS · \$5/STUDENT,
\$3/CHAPERONE

Learn how to recognize a maple tree without leaves, discover the history and art of sap collection. Learn the process of making maple syrup, taste the difference between store bought and real maple syrup.

FOCUS: plant parts & functions · states of matter · American Indian stories · American Indian/settler interactions & relationship to environment · weather · seasons · movement of goods in a community

MICHIGAN SETTLERS

\$6/STUDENT, \$3/CHAPERONE
Discover what life was like as a settler in Michigan. Make butter, sample cornbread, make a log cabin and wash clothes as a settler did. Discover the world of wooden toys. This program takes you back in time to a simpler life.

FOCUS: time & chronology · comprehending the past · diversity of people, places & cultures · human/environment interaction · location, movement & connections

GRIST MILL: MICHIGAN'S FIRST FACTORY

\$3/PERSON

From mortar and pestle to roller mills and water power, the history of the first factory will be the main focus of this tour. Tour the mill which was built in 1845, then participate in hands-on activities in the warehouse. See a milling demonstration and travel back in time through sight, smell and touch.

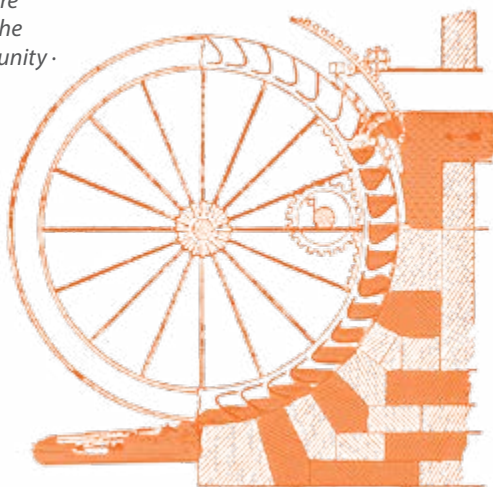
FOCUS: historical thinking · families now & long ago, & how they lived or worked · understand how regions were created & why · how the increase in the population changed the rural community · how water & simple machines were used before electricity

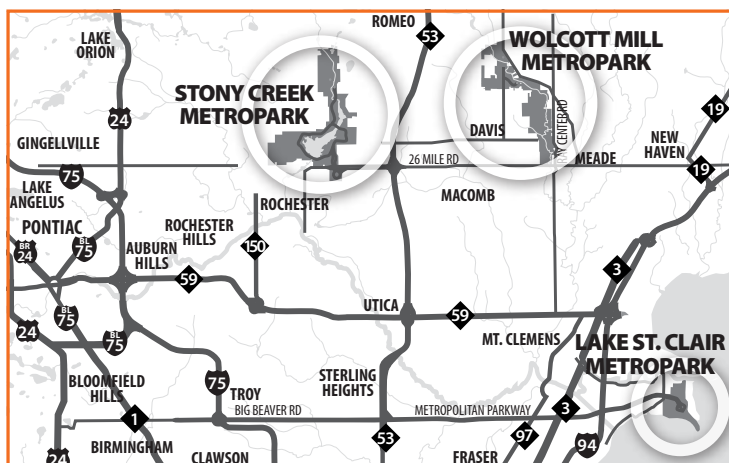
LUMBERING IN MICHIGAN

\$3/PERSON

Lumber jargon, log markings and rivers in Michigan are all part of our lumbering program. In the hands-on area, you can use a cant hook, a two-man saw and pulleys. See what an actual lumber shanty looked like.

FOCUS: history of Michigan (through statehood) · Use historical thinking to understand the past · how do people adapt to, use and modify their environment?





WOLCOTT MILL METROPARK



Farm Center: 65775 Wolcott Road, Ray, MI 48096

Historic Center: 64000 Kunstman Road, Ray, MI 48096



Farm Center: 586-752-5932

Historic Center: 586-749-5997



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metroparks.com



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