

Naturalist Guided Field Trips 2015 - 2016



August A. Busch Conservation Area
Columbia Bottom Conservation Area
Forest Park Office
Rockwoods Reservation

How Do I Sign Up?

Naturalist Guided Field Trips

All Field Trips are Free!

Thanks to the Design for Conservation sales tax, providing 1/8 of 1% of Missouri sales to the Missouri Department of Conservation.

- Groups are responsible for providing their own transportation to/from our locations.
- Science GLE associations available upon request.
- Each field trip time will depend on group size. Field trips last two hours to an entire school day depending upon your availability.
- Only **one** field trip day available per class per school year. Maple Sugar at Rockwoods may be added as a second field trip. Just fill out a separate application for processing.
- Groups of three to four classes will require teacher-led activities. See Teacher-Led Activities on page 6 of this brochure.
- Up to two Naturalists will be available per field trip.
- Please ensure students wear closed-toed, sturdy footwear and weather-appropriate clothing.

Field Trip Applications:

All reservations are made by requesting and completing the "School Program Request Form." For Rockwoods Reservation or Forest Park, contact Amy.Wilkinson@mdc.mo.gov. For Columbia Bottom or Busch, contact Colleen.Scott@mdc.mo.gov

Fall 2015 School Program Requests accepted August 3 to August 21, 2015.

- Programs available September 21 to December 11, Tuesday through Friday, except holidays.
- Fall 2015 programs will be announced no later than August 28.

Winter and Spring 2016 School Program Requests accepted October 12, 2015 to December 11, 2015.

- February 10 through February 26, 2016 – Rockwoods Maple Sugar Field Trips
- 2016 Maple Sugar programs will be announced no later than December 18.
- Programs available at all sites March 15 to May 13, Tuesday through Friday, except holidays.
- 2016 Spring programs will be announced no later than December 18.

Questions?

Amy Wilkinson - Interpretive Center Manager, Forest Park and Rockwoods Reservation
Amy.Wilkinson@mdc.mo.gov or 314-877-1309 ext. 1987

Colleen Scott - Interpretive Center Manager, Columbia Bottom and Busch
Colleen.Scott@mdc.mo.gov or 314-877-6014 ext. 4241



Columbia Bottom Conservation Area

Each field trip content will be specific to the age and grade level of your students, supporting the Missouri Grade Level Expectations.

Life Cycles

All living things, big and small, have a life cycle. Discover nature as it grows through the exploration of one of the following: Amphibians, Plants, or Insects.

Grades Pre K through 2

Animal Adaptations

Discover unique adaptations that allow animals to thrive in their environment. Examine animal artifacts to better understand the role they play in survival. Choose from: Birds, Mammals, or Reptiles.

Grades Pre K through 2

Habitat Exploration

Discover the diversity of life in one of the following habitats: Forest, Prairie, or Wetland.

Grades 3 through 5



Hunting and Tracking

Learn how hunting and tracking are used to manage populations and provide food. Test your skills with home-made bows and arrows and find and identify animal tracks.

Grades 3 through 5

Surviving the Wild

How well can you survive in the woods? Try your hand at creating a primitive shelter, making a fire pit, and other techniques to help you survive.

Grades 3 through 5

Aquatic Studies

How healthy is the water around you? What kinds of things live there? Students put the scientific process to work to determine how biotic and abiotic factors affect the diversity of aquatic ecosystems. Chemical and macroinvertebrate sampling will be conducted.

Grades 6 through High School



Forest Ecology

What is the value of a tree? Learn about the importance of a forest through its lifetime. Become familiar with tree diversity, succession, forest management, and invasive species.

Grades 6 through High School



August A. Bush Conservation Area

Each field trip content will be specific to the age and grade level of your students, supporting the Missouri Grade Level Expectations.

Frogs, Dragonflies, and Metamorphosis

Metamorphosis is an amazing process to see and study. Learn about frog and dragonfly life cycles and try to catch them in their aquatic habitats. Meet different types of frogs and insects that all change as they grow from tails and gills to hopping and catching flies.

Grades Pre K through 2 only



Habitat Hunt

In a pond, under a rock or up in a tree, what is your idea of the perfect habitat? Meet some live animals and observe animal mounts to discover a perfect animal habitat. Venture outside to search for real habitats and learn how you can help animals survive.

Grades Pre K through 2 only.

Aquatic Studies

Discover the diverse life in a pond beyond fish. Students will visit an aquatic habitat to sample and identify critters they find. Learn about the complex food chains and how aquatic ecosystems depend on humans to remain clean and healthy. Includes a classroom session with aquatic wildlife.

Grades Pre K through High School

Who's for Lunch?

Hawks, snakes, mice and seeds... they're all connected and dependent on each other for survival. Remove one piece and the food chain falls apart. Students will study food chains and food webs and even investigate real owl pellets.

Grades 3 through 6



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Grades Pre K through 2

Habitat Exploration

Discover the diversity of life in one of the following habitats: Forest, Prairie, or Wetland.

Grades 3 through 5



Hunting and Tracking

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Grades 3 through 5

Surviving the Wild

How well can you survive in the woods? Try your hand at creating a primitive shelter, making a fire pit, and other techniques to help you survive.

Grades 3 through 5

Aquatic Studies

How healthy is the water around you? What kinds of things live there? Students put the scientific process to work to determine how biotic and abiotic factors affect the diversity of aquatic ecosystems. Chemical and macroinvertebrate sampling will be conducted.

Grades 6 through High School



Forest Ecology

What is the value of a tree? Learn about the importance of a forest through its lifetime. Become familiar with tree diversity, succession, forest management, and invasive species.

Grades 6 through High School



Rockwoods Reservation

Naturalist Guided Field Trips

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Frogs, Dragonflies, and Metamorphosis

Metamorphosis is an amazing process to see and study. Learn about frog and dragonfly life cycles and try to catch them in their aquatic habitats. Meet different types of frogs and insects that all change as they grow from tails and gills to hopping and catching flies.

Grades Pre K through 2 only



Habitat Hunt

In a pond, under a rock or up in a tree, what is your idea of the perfect habitat? Meet some live animals and observe animal mounts to discover a perfect animal habitat. Venture outside to search for real habitats and learn how you can help animals survive.

Grades Pre K through 2 only.

Who's for Lunch?

Hawks, snakes, mice and seeds... they're all connected and dependent on each other for survival. Remove one piece and the food chain falls apart. Students will study food chains and food webs and even investigate real owl pellets.

Grades 3 through 6



Aquatic Studies

Discover the diverse life in a pond and stream beyond fish. Students will visit aquatic habitats to sample and identify critters they find. Learn about the complex food chains and how aquatic ecosystems depend on humans to remain clean and healthy.

Grades Pre K through High School

Beginning Map and Compass

GPS units are the new navigational tools, but what if the weather doesn't cooperate or your batteries fail? This class will teach students the fundamentals of using a compass and how to understand the basics of a map. Students will then test their skills moving through a fun beginners' orienteering course.

Grades 6 through High School



Maple Sugaring at Rockwoods

Dates: February 10, 2016 – February 26, 2016, Wednesday through Friday

Times: 9:30 – 11 a.m. or 12 – 1:30 p.m.

Group Sizes: Minimum 15, Maximum 100

Ages: All Ages, Pre-K and up

Applications Accepted: October 12, 2015 – December 11, 2015

The maple sugar season is Rockwoods Reservation's premier event! Offered only in February, your students won't forget this unique mix of science, conservation, history, and outdoor experiences! Students will help collect tree sap, boil off water to keep sugar, and taste the sweet rewards that the forest has provided. Students will also observe how processing and boiling has changed over the ages with advancements in technology. Grab your coats... because it's going to be a fun day.



Teacher-Led Activities

Naturalist Guided Field Trips

All Teacher-Led Activities will include a backpack or container of supplies with instructions to help guide you and your students through the activity. When tied to a Naturalist program, these activities are excellent additions to any field trip. Teacher-Led Activities are also great options for self-guided field trips when Naturalist staff are unavailable. Each is intended for 30 minutes to 1 hour of activity.

1. Discover Nature School Activity – Are you a Discover Nature School? Want to learn more? We can tailor a teacher-led activity for you to learn and practice with the curriculum unit appropriate for your students.
All Ages



2. Discovery Hike – Walk in the woods and make observations to discover plants, wildlife, and habitats.
All Ages

3. Creative Kids! – Create frog masks, fish puzzles, clothespin butterflies or even draw and paint wildlife using our mounts as models! Your students will create unique crafts and works of art to take home to show their family and friends.
Grades Pre-K through 2

4. Nature Play – Students discover the natural world in the best way that they know... through play! Turning twigs into toys or leaves into art, children's imaginations are critical for development of creative problem-solving and learning.
Grades Pre-K through 2



5. Nature Games – Bats and Moths, Oh Deer, Turtle Troubles, Aquatic Assassins and more. These exciting Naturalist games connect students to the realities of living in the wild by becoming the animals they are studying.
Grades Pre-K through 8

6. Litter Gitter! – Help support the Conservation Area you are visiting with a service project to clean up litter along trails, lakes or ponds. Tongs, gloves and trash bags will be supplied.
Grades 3 through High School

7. Aquatic Food Chains and Food Webs – Fish, frogs and birds... they all live in aquatic ecosystems, but they each survive differently. Discuss herbivores, carnivores and omnivores of aquatic systems and create a food chain necklace for students to wear.
Grades Pre-K through 2

8. Mapping Hide and Seek – Map reading and navigation will test students' communication and teamwork. Students will find their way among their natural and man-made surroundings while hiding an object and creating a map for others to follow.
Rockwoods only, Grades 6 through High School

9. Cache On the Trail – Hike a trail to find several caches that our Naturalists have hidden in the forest. Students will rely on teamwork and observation of the land to find each hidden cache.
Rockwoods only, Grades 6 through High School



Discover Nature Schools

Naturalist Guided Field Trips



All Naturalist guided field trips at Busch and Rockwoods support the Discover Nature Schools program. Many topics and activities that we provide are the same that can be found in the curriculum units available in your classroom. Take the next step beyond your field trip and ask for Discover Nature Schools!

Get connected!

Contact your local Conservation Education Consultant to learn more about Discover Nature Schools, sign up for teacher workshops, gain access to field trip grants and more!

St. Charles, Lincoln and Warren Counties:

Steve Juhlin
Steven.Juhlin@mdc.mo.gov
636-300-1953 ext. 4120

St. Louis County (South)

David Bruns
David.Bruns@mdc.mo.gov
314-301-1506 ext. 4212

St. Louis County (North)

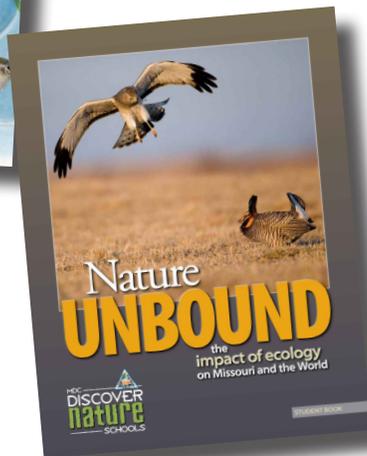
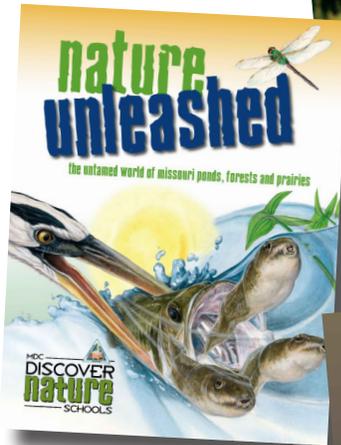
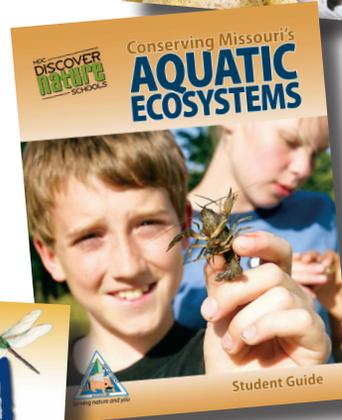
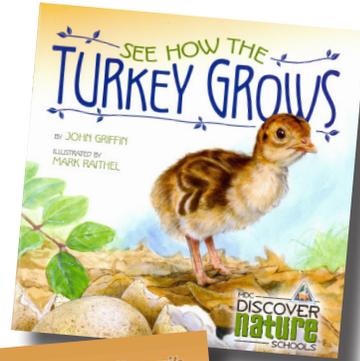
Dick Turner
Dick.Turner@mdc.mo.gov
314-301-1506 ext. 4215

St. Louis City

Matt Magoc
Matthew.Magoc@mdc.mo.gov
314-877-1309 ext. 1985

Crawford, Franklin, Jefferson and Washington Counties

Sam Faith
Sam.Faith@mdc.mo.gov
636-451-3512 ext. 6031



Where are the Field Trip Sites?

Naturalist Guided Field Trips



Forest Park

5595 Grand Dr.
St. Louis, MO 63112
314-877-1309
For area map and directions, go to:
<http://mdc.mo.gov/node/10254>

August A. Busch Memorial Conservation Area

2360 Highway D
St. Charles, MO 63304
636-441-4554
For area map and directions, go to:
<http://mdc.mo.gov/node/300>



Rockwoods Reservation

2751 Glencoe Road
Wildwood, MO 63038
636-458-2236
For area map and directions, go to:
<http://mdc.mo.gov/node/272>



Columbia Bottom Conservation Area

801 Strodman Road
St. Louis, MO 63138
314-877-6014
For area map and directions, go to:
<http://mdc.mo.gov/node/298>



All our Conservation Areas are excellent places for students to return with family and friends to explore and learn.

Send your students on an adventure beyond the classroom by viewing our public program schedules at: www.mdc.mo.gov/regions/st-louis



Naturalists connect students to nature.



Serving nature and you®