

PINEY RUN NATURE CENTER

PROGRAM THEMES



TEACHER & GROUP LEADER GUIDE TO PROGRAMS AT PINEY RUN NATURE CENTER

GROUP SIZE

Group size is limited to 75 children or less unless otherwise indicated. Larger groups can be accommodated by splitting the group into separate field trip dates or times.

CAN'T MAKE IT TO PINEY RUN?

We'll come to you! Those programs marked with asterisk (*) can be brought to your classroom. Call for additional information and program fees.

CUSTOM PROGRAMS

If you would like to explore a topic that is not listed, we may be able to design a customized program to better fit your needs. Let us know how we can help you!

INVESTIGATING WILDLIFE

* Animal Homes and Signs

Students meet some of the Nature Center's critters up close and personal. On our hike through the woods we'll look for nests, scat, and other evidence of animals.

* Reptiles and Amphibians

Learn about the fascinating and sometimes strange world of these often misunderstood animals. Are snakes really slimy? Do toads give you warts? Can turtles leave their shells?

Going Buggy

Students learn about insects, the most diverse group of animals on earth. Discover how these six legged creatures are architects, paper makers, and hunters. Students will also learn about the importance of insects and how they affect our everyday lives.

* Raptor Encounter

Hawks and owls are some of nature's greatest hunters. Birds of prey have many special adaptations to live at the top of the food chain. Students will meet our resident hawks and owls and learn about their habits and habitats.

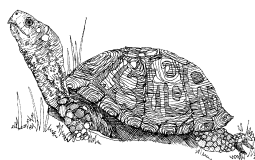
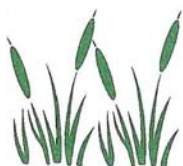
* Amazing Owls

These nighttime hunters are the subject of myth and legends. While many owl myths are false some owl facts are even more amazing. Students will meet some of Maryland's owl species up close.

GETTING GROUNDED

Seasons in the Forest

As the seasons change, the forest changes as well. Each season is a unique and exciting part of nature's cycle. We'll explore the changes that make each season different.



WORLDS OF WATER

Pond & Wetland Exploration (April through October)

Learn about the diverse and exciting environment of ponds and wetlands. Students will use dip-nets to search for life in and around our pond. Be prepared to get wet and muddy.

Cane Pole Fishin' (April through October)

We'll head down to the lake with basic fishing equipment to see what we can catch. Participants learn how to bait a hook, which fish species are found in the lake, and how to safely release a hooked fish. Plan to get a little wet and muddy. **Limited to 20 participants.** *Suggested for grades 2 and up.*

Kayak Piney Run Lake (April through October)

Our kayaks provide a different way to view the park. We give an introductory lesson to kayak paddling and then practice on the lake while we watch for wildlife. **Limited to 15 participants.** *Grades 5 and up. Fee of \$10/person.*

CONSERVATION CONNECTION

* Explorers and Restorers

Students investigate land and wildlife as junior naturalists as they gather important data for the Nature Center. Projects might include removing invasive plants, monitoring bluebird houses, tree planting, and monarch butterfly tagging. *Suggested for grades 2 and up.*

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

Program reservations: Programs are available by reservation only on a first come, first served basis. Reservations can be made over the phone or in person at the Nature Center and should be made at least one month in advance by calling the Nature Center at **410-795-6043**.

Program Topics: Please select the program topic, date, and time desired. *Please have several dates in mind in case your 1st choice is not available.*

Program Fees: Fees of \$2/person or minimum \$25 applies to Carroll County Groups. Fees of \$3/person or minimum \$50 applies to out of county groups.

Inclement Weather: In case of inclement weather we follow the status of Carroll County Public Schools.

Program Cancellation: Please notify us immediately if you need to cancel your trip.

Self-Guided Groups: Groups are welcome to visit the Nature Center on a self-guided basis but priority use of the Nature Center, amphitheater and other learning resources is given to scheduled groups.

ACCESSIBILITY NOTICE: The Americans With Disabilities Act applies to the Carroll County Government and its programs, services, activities, and facilities. If you have questions, suggestions, or complaints, please contact Jolene Sullivan, the Carroll County Government Americans With Disabilities Act Coordinator, 410-386-3600 or 1-888-302-8978, or MD Relay at 7-1-1/800-735-2258. The mailing address is: 10 Distillery Drive, First Floor, Suite 101, Westminster, MD 21157.