

Call (603) 366-5695 NOW to register for a Field Trip!

Prescott Farm
Environmental Education Center
928 White Oaks Road
Laconia, NH 03246



Place
Postage
Here

Prescott Farm

Environmental Education Center

Field Trip Program Guide

Schools, Clubs, Youth Organizations, Community Centers,
Child Care Centers



928 White Oaks Road
Laconia, NH 03246
(603) 366-5695
info@prescottfarm.org

www.prescottfarm.org

*Exploring and preserving the natural world,
one adventure at a time!*

Welcome to Prescott Farm!

Welcome to Prescott Farm Environmental Education Center! We are excited to work with you to give your students an unforgettable experience in the natural world. Our 160-acre property and learning centers provide the ideal setting for year-round environmental education programs and includes woodland and field trails, indoor spaces with geothermal and solar energy systems, a five-station teaching kitchen/makerspace, a restored 1883 historic barn, an old-fashioned maple sugaring operation geared towards at-home production, heritage gardens, and a forested pond.

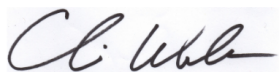
Our school and youth group programs are designed to supplement your curriculum. As such, we have aligned our programs with the Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS) and NH Social Studies Frameworks. We believe that our programs are best used to enhance and reinforce information that you are already working on in your classroom.

All of our programs are structured around sparking a life-long curiosity for exploring natural spaces and understanding one's place within their local and global environment.

Our programs are led by experienced environmental educators with the goal of fostering an appreciation and understanding of the natural and cultural history of Prescott Farm, and by extension, students' own special places as well. By giving a child a sense of place, we are giving them a sense of self.

To start booking your trip, use the online field trip request form on our website. Days and timeslots are limited and early booking is often necessary. If you cannot make it to us, let us come to you! See page 7 for more information about our traveling programs.

Please call us at (603) 365-5695 with questions— We hope to see you soon!



Chris Wellens
School Age Programs Director
cwellens@prescottfarm.org



Policies

Scheduling & Payment

Pre-registration is required for all programs. Programs are scheduled on a first-come, first-served basis. Please call at least four weeks in advance. Payment is expected for all programs at least 2 weeks in advance of the program.

Cancellations

If you must cancel or reschedule a program, we ask that you give us as much notice as possible. We have a busy schedule of programs and early notice ensures greater flexibility to change time slots to meet everyone's needs. If cancelled 8 or more days prior to the program, the full program fee will be refunded. If cancelled 7 days or less prior to the program, half of the program fee will be refunded.

Weather

Students dressed for the weather are happy students. All programs at our site are outdoor experiences, so please have students and accompanying adults prepared for the temperature and weather extremes of New Hampshire. This includes jackets, hats, rain gear, and appropriate close-toed footwear. If the weather is severe, we will try to reschedule the program where openings are available, only if you call beforehand. If you do not call ahead, there may be a fee to reschedule as noted in our cancellation policy (above).

First Aid and Safety

School and group leaders are responsible for any first aid needs during their trip. Three AEDs are located on the property: in the Pardoe Education Center near the main parking lot, the Innovation Center, and the Connector.

Adult Monitors

We require your group to provide one Adult Monitor per ten students for field trips to Prescott Farm. These can be other teachers, parents, relatives, etc., but we ask that they understand that before arriving they will be responsible for: 1) assisting our educators and assuring that all students are participating in any given activity; 2) crowd control and 3) participating in all activities and helping to engage the children in the learning experience. Additional adults (beyond the required 10:1 student/adult ratio) pay the same rate as the students). Paraeducators serving as 1-on-1 aids are free.



Please notify our staff when registering of any needs for accommodations or program adaptations to best serve your students.

Beyond K-6

Other Groups:

Homeschool groups, church groups, scout groups, and other youth groups are welcome to register for any of the programs in this booklet. You get the group together, we do the program!

Middle & High School:

Our educators can work with you to design an inquiry-based experience for middle and high school students that fits the needs of your curriculum. We also have valuable opportunities for individual students including volunteer positions, occasional internships, and our Leader-in-Training program during our summer camps. Many of our Community Connections Programs can be taught as a private class (group minimums requires).

Professional Development:

We can also provide professional development experiences in environmental education for teachers at your school so they will feel more comfortable integrating the outdoors into their curriculum. Call (603) 366-5695.



Other Program Topics

Our staff are equipped to teach a wide variety of lessons beyond those listed in this pamphlet. We are happy to work with you to create custom classes that fit your specific needs! Some programs may have additional costs or lower maximum of students. Talk to our staff about other programs in the following or related topics:

animal tracking/snowshoeing	mapping/orienteering
archaeology	Indigenous cultures
camouflage/animal defenses	nature crafts/candle making/soap making
climate science/renewable energy	nature journaling
cooking from the garden	NH mammals/birds/reptiles/amphibians
fiber arts (spinning, weaving, felting, dyeing with natural dyes)	non-flowering plants (mosses/lichens)
food webs/predator-prey relationships	seasonal changes
forest/field/pond ecology	seeds/seed dispersal
gardening/compost/local foods	shelters/survival
geology & soil science	STEAM/science experiments
honeybees/pollinators/beeswax crafts	tree/plant ID
insects/butterflies/spiders	using your five senses
landscape history/forest forensics	water cycle/weather
maple sugaring	wild food/medicine/dye plants
	winter animal adaptations

New in 2023

- Innovation Center— Our newly constructed Innovation Center houses a 5-station teaching kitchen and makerspace in a 4-seasons building.
- Parking—We expanded our parking lot which now features a pave, one-way loop for easy drop off and parking for buses.
- Additional Restrooms—We now have year-round restroom facilities three buildings: the Samuel P. Pardoe Education Center, Innovation Center, and in a new classroom connected to the 1883 barn.

General Information

Timing

- Year-round program opportunities for all ages!
- Field Trips last about 2 hours. Start times are flexible between 9am-2pm. Groups are encouraged to arrive about 15 minutes before their scheduled start time for restroom use.
- Groups are welcome to extend your time here to include your lunch and/or snack time and time in our Natural Playscape.

Cost (see policies page for additional details)

- \$8/student, unless otherwise noted.
- One adult for every 10 student is included. Additional adults are charged the same rate as students. Paraprofessionals serving as a 1-on-1 are no charge.
- Specially-designed programs requiring supplies may have an additional charge.
- There is a minimum charge of \$96 per field trip.
- Book your students for a second program in the same day (same students as the first program) and receive a 25% discount on the second program.

Other Details

- Most programs have a maximum of 50 students. Specially-designed programs may have a lower maximum.

Maple Sugar Madness!



Join us to experience an old-fashioned Northeastern tradition—making maple syrup!



Our most popular field trip! From tapping a tree to tasting delicious maple syrup, students will learn from hands-on participation in the complete sugaring process. Students will build tree ID skills and learn the parts of a tree and their functions, use measuring tools to find an appropriate tree to tap, see and use historical and modern tree tapping tools, learn the history of maple sugaring including Indigenous legends, discover the math, chemical and physical science in the boiling process. And of course, enjoy a taste of fresh maple syrup!



The program lasts 2 hours in total and involves bit of a walk to our Sugar House—about 15 minutes each way. Please note that you will be hiking on woodland trails and back up hill after the program. Accommodations for mobility concerns may be possible with advance notice. Wear boots and dress appropriately for the weather. Groups are welcome to stay longer for lunch on your own.



The program can be tailored to be age-appropriate for students in grades PreK-12. Programs can be booked Monday—Friday for the late February through the end of March—first come, first served. Reservations are required. Call (603) 366-5695 to save your date.

At Your School

Can't get to Prescott Farm? Don't worry—we realize how hard it can be to schedule a field trip, so we can come to you! Programs can range from a one hour visit to a long-term Naturalist in the Classroom project. Programs are not limited to those listed here—we can work with you to design a program at your site that meets your needs.

In Our Own Backyard

It doesn't always take a field trip to discover a whole new world! What natural wonders lie in your own school's backyard? Take a walk with one of our environmental educators and you'll be amazed at what you'll find! (All Seasons)



Wildlife Tracking

In this three-part class, our educators first meet with students for two in-class programs and then go on an outdoor tracking field experience. The in-class programs will include the NH Mammals program below, as well as wildlife track ID and gait patterns, in prep for the field experience. Snowshoes are provided as needed. (All Seasons)

NH Mammals

Whether it's animal adaptations, life cycles, or predator/prey relationships, NH mammals tell the state's science and ecology story. Using mounts, skulls, and pelts, students get a close look and hands-on experience with many of NH's well known but misunderstood wildlife species. (All Seasons)



Naturalist in the Classroom Program

Prescott Farm offers long-term place-based education programs through our Naturalist in the Classroom program. Our educators work directly with students on everything from seasonal snowshoeing treks to school gardens, and have also been involved in a wide range of projects including professional development for teachers and creating outdoor learning spaces. Funding for the programs comes from the school, PTA, and grants. We currently work approximately 5 hours per week in the Inter-Lakes, Gilmanton, Gilford, Loudon, and Belmont Elementary Schools. We'd love to develop a relationship with your school, too!

Call our School-Age Programs Director, Chris Wellens, at (603) 366-5695 to begin the discussion. We can provide an informational meeting for school staff and parents.

Grades 3-5

Garden Ecology

NGSS: 3-LS3-1; 3-LS4; 4-ESS3-2; 5-LS2-1; 5-ESS3-1; MS-LS2; NH Social Studies SS:GE:2
Where does our food come from? Plants! Growing food is highly dependent on nature — from soil to the water cycle to plant photosynthesis. Students learn how these important natural processes contribute to a healthy garden ecosystem. (Spring, Summer, Fall)

Wild Orienteering

NH Social Studies SS:GE:1
 After learning the basics of using a compass, students will complete an orienteering course and solve a natural history mystery. This program focuses on the basics of map and compass orienteering, natural history facts and stories, observation and identification and team cooperation and communication. (All Seasons)

Wolf Trees

NGSS: 3-LS3-2; 3-LS4-3; 3-LS4-4; 5-ESS3-1; 5-ESS3-1
Explore our woods searching for some of our largest and most interesting trees: wolf trees! Students will recognize the importance of trees in a forest ecosystem and how wolf trees can help tell a historical story of the land. Other topics may include forest succession and human impacts on forests. (All Seasons)

Bee Friendly to Our Bees

NGSS: 3-LS2-1; 3-LS3-2; 3-LS4-3; 3-LS4-4; 4-LS1-1; 4-LS1-2; 5-PS3-1
Learn all about bees and other pollinators: who they are and how they contribute to the beauty and stability of our natural world. Students will have an opportunity to meet our honeybees in an observation hive (weather dependent) and taste local honey. (Spring, Summer, Fall)



Seasonal Discovery Walks

NGSS: 3-LS1-1; 3-LS2-1; 4-LS1-1; 4-LS1-2; 4-ESS2-1; 5-PS3-1; 5-LS1-1

Nature tells a new story in every season as the annual cycles bring changes to the world. Each program incorporates active imagery, sensory exploration, and hands-on discovery of the natural world. Enjoy the colors, smells and sounds of the season!

Seasonal Discovery Walks can be tailored by our Environmental Educators to focus on specific nature topics. Please let us know about your learning objectives when booking your program.

Autumn Adventures

Why do leaves change color? How do animals get ready for the cold winter ahead? Let's go on a walk to explore fall's mysteries!

Winter Track Detectives

Tracks always tell a story! Students will go out on our trails to see what our animal neighbors are up to (frequently mice, squirrels, foxes and deer; sometimes if we're lucky, porcupines and bobcats!). Snowshoes included.

Signs of Spring

Discover the colors, sounds, and smells of all that spring has to offer as you hike in the woods and explore amphibians in vernal pools.

Summer Sightings

Summertime is rich with pollinators on blooming followers, amphibians scurrying near wetlands, birds soaring among the trees, fungi decomposing, and so much more!

Grades K-2

Spider Quest

NGSS: K-LS1-1; 1-LS1-1; 1-LS3-1; 2-LS4-1

Did you know there are about 350 different kinds of spiders in New Hampshire? On this creepy-crawly series of team building adventures, students will learn cool facts about spiders including how they camouflage themselves and how they hunt their prey. (Spring, Fall, Summer)

Mammals & Maps

NGSS: K-ESS3-1; 2-LS4-1

Animals that live in New Hampshire have special adaptations that make able to live in New Hampshire during the various seasons. Following a map and clues along the way, solve a mystery about NH mammals. (All Seasons)

Snow Science

NGSS: K-ESS2-1; 2-ESS2-3

Learn awesome properties of snow by identifying common shapes of snow crystals, dissecting a snowpack, and more. Use your new skills during our next blizzard to wow your friends with cool snow facts! Note: In the event of a thaw, we will still have plenty of options to explore the science of water in winter. (Winter)

Monarch Monitors

NGSS: K-ESS3-1; 2-LS2-2; 2-L4-1

The monarch butterfly is a vital and regal creature that has many incredible features. Come learn about this marvelous insect, and how to help it, in this hands-on, up-close-and-personal field trip with live monarchs in our certified Monarch Waystation. (Spring, Summer, early Fall)



Seasonal Discovery Walks

NGSS: K-LS1-1; K-ESS2-2; 1-LS1-1; 1-ESS1-2; 2-LS4-1

Nature tells a new story in every season as the annual cycles bring changes to the world. Each program incorporates active imagery, sensory exploration, and hands-on discovery of the natural world. Enjoy the colors, smells and sounds of the season!

Seasonal Discovery Walks can be tailored by our Environmental Educators to focus on specific nature topics. Please let us know about your learning objectives when booking your program.

Autumn Adventures

Why do leaves change color? How do animals get ready for the cold winter ahead? Let's go on a walk to explore fall's mysteries!

Wonders of Winter

Brrr! Even though it is cold outside, there are lots of amazing things to discover—from animal tracks to nature's icy artwork! Snowshoes are provided, weather permitting.

Signs of Spring

The world is waking up! Use your five senses to discover what animals and birds are up to and what exciting things are happening in the garden.

Summer Sightings

Summertime is rich with pollinators on blooming followers, amphibians scurrying near wetlands, birds soaring among the trees, fungi decomposing, and so much more!

Map of Prescott Farm

Trails are open daily
from dawn to dusk

