

**FREE
CLASSES!**

The Outdoor Campus-West
South Dakota Department of
Game, Fish and Parks

Group Programs



Winter 2014-15

Registration Information



Group Registration Information

Groups can schedule their own naturalist-led program by choosing from the programs in this brochure or a program from the **Community Program** brochure and calling 394-1753 for open dates and staff availability. Please be sure to read the information below regarding group requirements!

Program Registration Opens: 8:00 a.m. November 13th

Groups will not be scheduled before this date. Call 394-1753 for information and scheduling or email keith.wintersteen@state.sd.us.

- **Group size:** A minimum group size of 10 is preferred; maximum group size is 30.
- **Other programs:** Groups of 9 or smaller are encouraged to register for programs found in our community programs brochure.
- **Cost:** All youth programs are free! Thank a hunter or angler for supporting our education efforts!
- **How many programs?** Groups may schedule only one program per month to insure equal program availability to all groups.
- **Confirmation letter:** After scheduling, we will send the group leader a confirmation letter with instructions and a waiver. Please be sure to read this information thoroughly!
- **Waiver:** All individuals signed up for classes must have a waiver signed by a parent/guardian in order to participate. We will send the waiver form with the confirmation letter.
- **Chaperones:** We require at least one adult chaperone for each youth group, and one adult for each youth angler age 7 and under. All adults age 16 and older chaperoning fishing programs are encouraged to have a valid SD fishing license.
- **Special needs:** Please inform us of any special needs, mobility concerns or health problems (including allergies) when scheduling.

Group Programs

(Choose from this list)

Ages are estimates – programs can be adapted to meet the needs of your group.

Tracks!

Learn how to identify common animal tracks and stamp an identification key to take home with you. Hike the trail to find and identify tracks.

Ages: 3 and above

Time: 1 hour

Maximum Class Size: 30



Winter Camping Skills

Learn about fire safety, how to pitch a tent, outdoor cooking techniques and cold weather camping. Participants **MUST** wear closed-toes shoes (e.g. tennis shoes).

Ages: 8 to 12 years

Time: 1-1.5 hours

Maximum class size: 16



Sprout Safari

Our youngest hunters can learn firearms safety, game identification and hunting regulations before being issued a “license” to hunt 3D game targets with foam dart guns.

Ages: 3-7 years

Time: 1 hour

Maximum Class Size: 10



Shotgun Shooting Skills

Learn to safely operate, clean, store and shoot a shotgun. Graduates of this class will have the option of travelling to a local range for live fire training.

Ages: 18+

Time: 2 hours

Maximum class size: 10



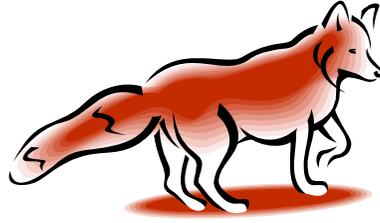
Introduction to Trapping

Learn the basic skills and equipment needed to harvest South Dakota's common furbearers. Topics covered will include trapping ethics, methods and common furbearers of South Dakota.

Age: 14 years to Adult

Time: 3 hours

Maximum class size: 8



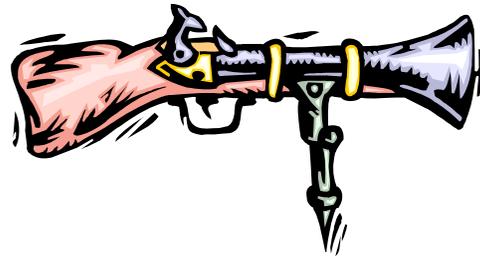
Marksmanship Skills for Hunters

Learn shooting techniques to improve your field accuracy. Instruction will include basic shooting positions, use of slings, bipods and shooting sticks as well as improvised shooting rests

Ages: 12 years to Adult

Time: 3 hours

Maximum class size: 10



Cartridge Reloading

Learn basic rifle and pistol cartridge reloading. Topics covered will include reloading safety, gear to get you started, the rifle and handgun cartridge reloading process and how to read & use reloading manuals. All equipment will be provided. No live ammunition will be produced during the class.

Ages: 16 years to adult

Time: 2 hours

Maximum class size: 8



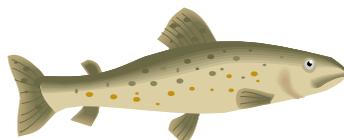
Hook'em, Cook'em and Eat'em!

Families will learn how to catch, clean and cook a trout. Fishing, fish cleaning and cooking gear will be provided. You bring the appetite. This program is open to individuals, families and adults supervised by at least one child.

Ages: 4 to adult

Time: 1.5 hours

Maximum class size: 16



A Night in the Wild

Our naturalists and trained volunteers will teach you basic survival skills to help you enjoy that unplanned overnight stay in the wilds of the Black Hills. Learn basic shelter construction, campfire building techniques and other fun survival skills.

Ages: 16 years to adult

Time: 2 hours

Maximum class size: 30



Ice Fishing Basics

Get hands-on instruction with ice fishing equipment, shelters and tackle. Ice fishing safety will be covered extensively. Valid SD fishing licenses are encouraged for participants age 16 and older. This includes all adults and chaperones.

Ages: 12 years to adult

Time: 1-1.5 hours

Maximum class size: 8



Handgun Safety and Hunting

Discover the challenge of hunting with handguns. Topics covered will include handgun action types as well as safely loading, unloading and storing handguns. We'll practice shooting pellet guns built to the same size and weight as center fire handguns.

Ages: 18 years and up

Time: 2 hours

Maximum class size: 10



Two is One, One is None :Team Work for Success

Discover how team work can enhance your hunting and fishing experience and increase your odds of success. Strategies for hunting and fishing with a partner will be explored and explained.

Ages: 16 years and up

Time: 2 hours

Maximum class size: 20



Orienteering

Orienteering is a fun activity for all ages. Younger participants can hone map reading skills on the beginning map courses. Older participants can learn how to use the map and compass together to navigate in the backcountry, in orienteering meets or in adventure races.

Ages: 8 years to adult

Time: 2 hours

Maximum Class Size: 12



Introduction to Archery Hunting

Experience archery at The Outdoor Campus-West! We will learn about safety and archery equipment used for hunting big and small game, then use Genesis Bows to practice on 3D targets.

Ages: 10 years to adult

Time: 1 - 1.5 hours

Maximum class size: 8



Air Rifle ABC's

Join us on The Outdoor Campus-West BB gun range as we learn basic safety, shooting positions for hunting and firearms safety.

Improve your accuracy with every shot while learning the basic shooting techniques.

Ages: 8 years to adult

Time: 1.5 hours

Maximum class size: 10



Special Requests

If your group has a special program request, contact Keith Wintersteen. *He will try his best* to accommodate your needs for programs.

keith.wintersteen@state.sd.us; (605) 394-1753

Other Options at The Outdoor Campus-West

Self Tours for Groups

Groups may visit our habitat displays, aquarium and grounds on their own. This option is popular with groups who are not able to schedule a program led by our staff.

- **You must call and schedule your group in advance!** This prevents conflicts with other groups and programs at The Outdoor Campus-West.
- Plan 45 minutes to 1 hour for visits to The Outdoor Campus-West habitat displays and aquarium.
- Take time to walk the trails! We have short trails, long trails and trails in between! See all kinds of South Dakota habitats including short grass prairie, ponds, creeks, pine and deciduous forests, western riparian areas and many kinds of wildlife!

Borrow These Teaching Tools

We have crates of teaching materials you can borrow for up to two weeks by leaving or sending a security deposit of \$75. We are not able to take credit cards. When the crate is returned and after a satisfactory inventory of its contents, we will destroy or return your check. These are the crates we lend:

Cougar Crate
Elk Trunk

Critter Crates
Fishing Kit

Swift Fox Box
Bat Trunk

To reserve these crates, contact staff at 605.394.2310 or tocwest@state.sd.us.





Contact Information

The Outdoor Campus-West

4130 Adventure Trail

Rapid City, SD 57702

(605) 394-2310

Email: tocwest@state.sd.us

www.outdoorcampus.org