OUTDOOR Campus

2019 | The Outdoor Campus
Spring Program Guide

4500 S OXBOW AVE | SIOUX FALLS, SD | 605.362.2777 | OUTDOORCAMPUS.ORG

REGISTRATION

PROGRAM REGISTRATION OPENS
at 7 a.m. on February 13, 2019

THREE WAYS TO REGISTER
1. Online at outdoorcampus.org
2. In person at The Outdoor Campus.
3. Call us at 605.362.2777

COST
All programs are free! Thank a hunter or angler for supporting our education efforts!

PRE-REGISTRATION
Preregistration is required of all classes and programs unless noted.

WAIVER
All participants signed up for programs must have a waiver signed in order to participate. The waiver is available on our registration site or in person at The Outdoor Campus.

CANCELLATIONS
Many programs fill quickly. PLEASE call us or cancel on the website as soon as possible if you cannot attend a class. Our waiting list automatically fills from your cancellation.

WAITING LISTS
Do not be afraid to sign up on our waiting lists. People often cancel and if you're on the list your name will automatically move into the class and you will be notified by email.

SPECIAL NEEDS
Please inform us of any special needs, mobility concerns, allergies or other health concerns when scheduling. ****WE ARE NOT A PEANUT FREE FACILITY****

OUR HOURS
The Outdoor Campus is open Monday—Friday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., Saturdays 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. and Sundays (April 1 to November 1) 1 to 4 p.m. We are closed on State and Federal holidays. Watch our Facebook, Instagram and Twitter feeds for the most updated information.

NOTE TO PARENTS
When dropping off your children for our programs, please remember that you must come into the building to retrieve them at the end of class. Please know that your child's safety is our greatest priority. Thank you!

Introduction to Backpacking and Back Country Camping

Note: this class is a prerequisite to the series classes Date Day Backpacking & Backcountry Camping class, as well as Just The Girls Backpacking & Backcountry Camping.
Dreaming of planning a wilderness getaway? Want to hunt in the backcountry but don't know how to backpack? Introduction to Backpacking & Backcountry Camping will get you comfortable with a new set of skills and ready to experience the wilderness areas of South Dakota and beyond in an entirely new way.
Age: adult/family, recommended 12 and up
Class size: 30
Class Date(s): Thursday, April 11, 6:30 to 8:30 p.m.

Date Day: Backpacking and Backcountry Camping

Must attend prerequisite class on Thursday, April 11, 6:30 to 8:30 and be able to attend both days in the series.
The rugged beauty of our wilderness spaces here in South Dakota and beyond is made that much more so by sharing it with your favorite human. At Date Day Backpacking & Backcountry Camping, you and a partner will learn the necessary skills to keep you healthy, happy, and exploring in the great outdoors, no matter the setting.
Age: Adults/16 and up
Class size: 20
Class Date(s): Saturday, April 27, 1:30 to 3:30 p.m. & Saturday, May 4, 1:30 to 3:30 p.m.

Date Night: Dutch Oven Cooking

(Two session class. Must be able to attend both sessions)
The first night will include cast iron history, tips and tricks and supplies you will need when cooking with a Dutch oven. We will test the ovens with some simple recipes. The second night of class we will prepare more advanced recipes and learn how to clean and store ovens when not in use.
Age: Adults/ 16 and up
Class size: 12
Class Date(s): Friday, April 26, 6 to 8 p.m. & Friday, May 3, 6 to 8 p.m.

Advanced Nature Photography

Are you ready to take your photography to the next level? Do you love the outdoors and want to capture stellar moments in nature? Are you already familiar with basic photo concepts, but want to learn how to utilize *ALL* the parts of your camera in manual mode? Then join us for Advanced Nature Photography to sharpen your skills. This class is for those experienced with some nature photography experience, but who are looking to learn more tips, tricks, and techniques to capture wildlife in even better ways. Participants in this class are required to bring their own camera that has a manual mode setting in order to best manipulate the tools we're using.
Age: Adults/ 16 and up
Class size: 6
Class Date(s): Tuesday, April 23, 6:30 to 8:30

FAMILY PROGRAMS

Family Bird Hike

This fun little adventure into the bird world will include a walk on The Outdoor Campus trails exploring and identifying our common and migrating birds throughout the spring. Wear sturdy shoes, binoculars will be provided, but you can bring your own.
Age: Family; youth with adult
Class size: 20
Class Date(s): Saturday, March 9, 9 to 10 a.m.
Saturday, April 13, 9 to 10 a.m.
Saturday, May 11, 9 to 10 a.m.

Bi-Athlon: BB Guns and Orienteering

Combining two of our favorite activities here at The Outdoor Campus this program will include safety instruction and practice with our BB guns and orienteering course. Then, putting what you learned to use, we will have a bi-athlon race!
Age: Families / recommended ages 5 and up
Class size: 25
Class Date(s): Saturday, April 13, 1:30 to 3 p.m. OR Saturday, May 11, 1:30 to 3 p.m.

Spring Turkey Hunting

This family program will go over the basics of getting ready for spring turkey season. We will discuss hunting tactics, set up decoys and practice your turkey calls so that you are ready for a successful hunt.
Age: Families/ ages 8 and up
Class size: 25
Class Date(s): Saturday, March 23, 10 to 11:30 a.m. OR Saturday, March 23, 1 to 2:30 p.m.

Owl Tell You All About It

Meet Ace and Mr. Lincoln. These two special feathered guests will help us have a fun, hands-on learning experience about owls and their adaptations.
Age: family/recommended ages 5 and up
Class size: 25
Class Date(s): Saturday, April 6, 10 to 11 a.m. OR Saturday, April 6, 1 to 2 p.m.

Archery Target Shooting

Learn proper technique for successful arrow placement using our compound and long bows. We will discuss safety and other equipment you may need.
Age: Families, recommended ages 5 and up
Class size: 25
Class Date(s): Saturday, April 6, 10 to 11:30 a.m., Saturday, April 6, 1 to 2:30 p.m. OR Thursday, May 9, 6:30 to 8 p.m.

Introduction to Backpacking & Back Country Camping

*****Note: this class is a prerequisite to Date Night Backpacking & Backcountry Camping class, as well as Just The Girls Backpacking & Backcountry Camping.*****
Dreaming of planning a wilderness getaway? Want to hunt in the backcountry but don't know how to backpack? Introduction to Backpacking & Backcountry Camping will get you comfortable with a new set of skills and ready to experience the wilderness areas of South Dakota and beyond in an entirely new way.
Age: adult/family, recommended 12 and up
Class size: 30
Class Date(s): Thursday, April 11, 6:30 to 8:30 p.m.

Beginner Nature Photography

Learn to capture wildlife like the pros! In this beginner class, you'll learn basic photography concepts; lighting, composition, and more. This class will give you the starting knowledge to create unique nature photography. All you need to bring is a good attitude and a basic camera; any cell phone or basic consumer grade camera will work for this class, since we will be working more on photo concepts and less on the individual camera details.
Age: Family/ recommended ages 8 and up
Class size: 12
Class Date(s): Tuesday, April 9, 6:30 to 8 p.m.

Just the Girls: Backpacking and Back Country Camping

Must attend prerequisite class on Thursday, April 11, 6:30 to 8:30 and be able to attend both days in the series.

Exploring the wilderness can be intimidating – but not with a wing woman or two! From bear-bagging to safety as a solo woman in the outdoors, Just the Girls Backpacking & Backcountry Camping will teach you everything you need to know in order to feel confident in a backcountry setting (and make front country adventures more fun, too). Bring your daughter, your mom, your sister or your pals and start dreaming up your girls-only camping getaway!

Age: Adult/Family/ recommended ages 12 and up
Class size: 20
Class Date(s): Saturday, April 27, 10 to 12 p.m. **AND** Saturday, May 4, 10 to 12 p.m.

Wetland Ecology

A search for the little things that swim and crawl in the water, along with finding a name for them, why they are so important and the best part… wearing puddle boots! This class will include learning about the common macroinvertebrates (things without backbones) in our pond and oxbow and making your own sifter, a tool to help discover our aquatic life.

Age: Family/ recommended ages 5 and up
Class size: 20
Class Date(s): Thursday, May 9, 6 to 8 p.m.

Intro to Fishing

Get your spring started off right with a little fishing. We'll start with a basic introduction including what equipment you need and practice knot tying and casting. Down at the pond, we will put our new skills to use and, with a little luck, bring in a big one!

Age: Families
Class size: 25
Class Date(s):
Tuesday, May 14, 4 to 5:30 OR 6:30 to 8 p.m. OR
Saturday, May 18, 10 to 11:30a.m.

Outdoor Cooking

Open fire, foil and pie irons - Come hungry to learn about cooking over an open fire. We will begin our class with fire starters, followed by belly busting tips and tricks and wrap it all up with a tasty dessert.

Age: Families
Class size: 20
Class Date(s): Saturday, May 18, 10 to 11:30 a.m.

Beginner Outdoor Photography

More details coming soon!

Age: Family/ recommended ages 8 and up
Class size: 20
Class Date(s): Tuesday, April 9, 6:30 to 8 p.m.

Black Hills Raptor Center Presentation

Are owls really wise? Expand your wisdom about owls, falcons, and hawks during this interactive program presented by the co-founder of the Black Hills Raptor Center, John Halverson. See South Dakota species up close. Learn about their amazing adaptations. Uncover the truth about the threats they face as they go about their day to day lives being predatory birds

Age: Family; youth with adult
Class size: 100
Class Date(s): Saturday, April 6, 2:30 to 3:30 p.m.

FAMILY PROGRAMS

Sprouts - for Preschoolers and Adult Partners

Sprouts are a program designed for preschoolers and their adult family partner. The goal of the program is to introduce families with 3 and 4 year olds to the outdoors in a fun, active and non-threatening environment.

Age: 3 and 4 year olds with adult partners

U is for Underground Animals

When underground is your home, you cannot be afraid of the dark! We will learn what special trick these animals have
Age: 3 to 4 year olds with adult partner
Class size: 15
Class Date(s): Saturday, March 9, 10 to 10:45 a.m, Saturday, March 9, 11 to 11:45 a.m., Wednesday, March 27, 10 to 10:45 a.m. OR Wednesday, March 27, 11 to 11:45 a.m.

V is for Vultures and Voles

These two animals are very important but many different reasons. Learn their what they do and why it so great.
Age: 3 to 4 year olds with adult partner
Class size: 15
Class Date(s): Wednesday, April 10, 10 to 10:45 a.m., Wednesday, April 10, 11 to 11:45 a.m., Saturday, April 13, 10 to 10:45 a.m. OR Saturday, April 13, 11 to 11:45 a.m.

W is for Walleye

Walleyes love the dark! They even have special eyes that allow them to find their food at night. Learn all kinds of fun things about these cool fish!
Age: 3 to 4 year olds with adult partner
Class size: 15
Class Date(s): Wednesday, May 8, 10 to 10:45 a.m., Wednesday, May 8, 11 to 11:45 a.m., Saturday, May 11, 10 to 10:45 a.m. OR Saturday, May 11, 11 to 11:45 a.m.

YOUNG NATURALIST PROGRAMS

Our goal is to teach youth about South Dakota's natural environment and resources.

Age: 5-7 years. ***Parents may stay or go during these programs. Dress for the weather.***

Tracks

These are clues,
I leave behind,
learn how to tell,
Which ones are mine!

Age: 5 to 7 year olds
Class size: 15
Class Date(s): Saturday, March 9, 10 to 10:45 a.m, OR Saturday, March 9, 11 to 11:45 a.m

Spring Seeds

What do you need to grow a seed?
Did you know some seeds have special needs?
In this class, we'll talk about the needs of seeds...
and will even get to plant some of these!

Age: 5 to 7 year olds
Class size: 15
Class Date(s): Saturday, April 13, 10 to 10:45 a.m. OR Saturday, April 13, 11 to 11:45 a.m.

Hiding in Plain Sight

I'm over here! I'm over there!
Can you see me? Do you care?
I blend into a color collage
This is called camouflage!

Age: 5 to 7 year olds
Class size: 15
Class Date(s): Saturday, May 11, 10 to 10:45 a.m. OR Saturday, May 11, 11 to 11:45 a.m.

JUNIOR NATURALISTS PROGRAMS

Our goal is to teach youth about South Dakota's natural environment and its inhabitants through interactive games and activities as well as outdoor exploration. ***Dress for the weather.***

Age: 8-12 years.

Carnivores

Animals that only eat meat are called carnivores. Learn about the many types that live in South Dakota.

Age: 8 to 12 year olds
Class size: 24
Class Date(s): Saturday, March 9, 1 to 2:30 p.m.

Herbivores

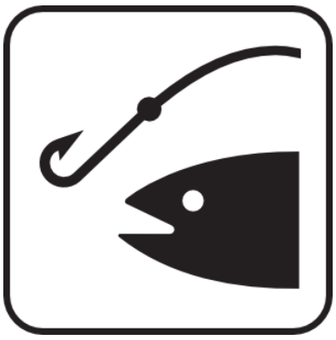
Animals that eat only plants are called herbivores. They have special teeth, mouth parts and digestive parts that help them survive. You will get to learn about all of this!

Age:8 to 12 year olds
Class size: 24
Class Date(s): Saturday, April 13, 1 to 2:30 p.m.

Omnivores

Animals that eat both plants and meats are called omnivores. They have a combination of herbivore and carnivore type teeth and can be found throughout our state. Maybe some you didn't even know!

Age: 8 to 12 year olds
Class size: 24
Class Date(s): Saturday, May 11, 1 to 2:30 p.m.



Family Fishing Club

Let's do some fishing! Join outreach naturalist Jason for Family Fishing Club this spring. Gear and bait will be provided for a fun family friendly evening of fishing at area hot spots. Registration is not required for the Family Fishing Club.

Age: Families, all ages!
Class Date(s):

- Tuesday, April 30, 6 to 7:30 p.m. meet at The Outdoor Campus
- Tuesday, May 7, 6 to 7:30 p.m. meet at Wall Lake
- Tuesday, May 14, 6 to 7:30 p.m. meet at Lake Alvin

Treasures of the National Parks Yesterday & Today

Photographer Paul Horsted spent 5 years in 24 National Parks (including 2 in South Dakota) looking for sites where pioneering photographers set up their cameras in the late 1800s. His "then and now" photo pairs reveal the beauty and history of our parks as they appear today and as they looked 100 years ago. Horsted will share behind-the-scenes stories and surprising conclusions in his slide program. His recent book "Treasures of the National Parks Yesterday & Today" will be available at a book signing following the presentation. For more information about his work visit paulhorsted.com.
Age: Family; youth with adult
Class size: 100

Class Date(s): Sunday, April 7, 2 p.m. to 3 p.m.

BE A VOLUNTEER!

Volunteer Opportunities

By becoming a volunteer at The Outdoor Campus, you will experience a variety of opportunities that will increase your own and other's awareness of South Dakota's great outdoors!

Examples include:

- Program Assistance (fishing, paddling, outdoor cooking, etc.)
- Gardening
- Animal Care
- Special Events (Outdoor University, Women's Try-It Day, Halloween Hike, etc.)
- Front Desk Duty

Give back to your community

How To Get Started!

1) Submit a completed application form on The Outdoor Campus website.

www.outdoorcampus.org

2) Brynn, our volunteer coordinator will call to set up an interview once your application is received and reviewed.

3) Once your interview is completed and a background check is completed, Brynn will schedule an orientation to get you more familiar with The Outdoor Campus and what you'll be doing here!

4) Finally, after the orientation, you'll be ready to start volunteering! You will be able to sign up online for whatever available programs you choose.

Our volunteers are the best!

ABOUT THE OUTDOOR CAMPUS

How are these classes FREE?

Our funding comes from the sale of hunting and fishing licenses in South Dakota. If you like our classes thank a hunter or an angler.

How can we support The Outdoor Campus?

Buy a hunting and fishing license in South Dakota. Nationwide the sale of licenses are declining rapidly as we lose the Baby Boomer Generation. They were the last large group of hunters and anglers. We need to replace the funds they put toward habitat, wildlife management, conservation, recreation and education. Every single license you buy in your family helps fisheries, pheasant habitatand so much more—including The Outdoor Campus.

Do you get any other funds?

We do receive some funding from a Federal excise tax on hunting and fishing equipment sales. A small portion of each fishing pole or shotgun you buy can go toward hunting and fishing programs here.

MISSION STATEMENT

The South Dakota Game, Fish and Parks provides sustainable outdoor recreational opportunities through responsible management of our state's parks, fisheries and wildlife by fostering partnerships, cultivating stewardship and safely connecting people with the outdoors.

2018 Full Time Staff

Thea Miller Ryan, director

Derek Klawitter, group and home school program coordinator

Sandy Richter, community program coordinator

Shelly Pierson, school programs coordinator

Brynn Muir, volunteer coordinator

Jason Nelson, outreach coordinator

Jean Olson, senior secretary

Lynn Purdy, night and weekend manager

FIND US ONLINE

Find us on Facebook @outdoorcampus

Our Facebook page is updated daily. Follow us for the latest in outdoor news, pop up classes and photos from our programs.

Find us on Twitter @outdoorcampus

We’ve always got something to say! Tweet with us. We tweet back!

Find us on Instagram @outdoorcampus

We post a lot of photos. Want to see what’s happening out here? This is the place to look!

Find us on Snapchat @outdoorcampus

Snapchat take-overs by interns? YES! Watch some of our activities as they happen here!

Find our blog outdoorcampus.wordpress.com

Our blog is a great way to find the story behind the story. Meet people, animals, see behind the scenes photos of Game, Fish and Parks at work.

Find our website outdoorcampus.org

HUNT SAFE

SD Department of Game, Fish & Parks

What ages can attend the HuntSAFE classes?

South Dakota's HuntSAFE (*Safety And Firearms Education*) courses are designed for persons age 12 through 15.

Persons who are 11 may participate, but will not be issued a Hunter Safety certification card until they turn 12, unless the card is clearly marked that the card is not valid in South Dakota until their 12th birthday.

If a student's 12th birthday falls on or between Sept. 1 and Dec. 31, they may be issued a card and eligible to obtain a license and hunt beginning Sept. 1 of that year. Adults are also welcome and invited to attend.

Where do I find a listing of HuntSAFE classes in my area?

http://gfp.sd.gov/outdoor-learning/hunter-education/hunt-safe.aspx