



OUTDOOR Campus



2018 | The Outdoor Campus Spring Program Guide

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OUTDOORCAMPUS.ORG

Hey, Friends and Fans!

Over the last two years SD Game, Fish and Parks has been working on a new strategic plan, including education. After months of hard work under our new education supervisor, Taniya Bethke, in Pierre, and with help from focus groups, we completed our new education plan.

We are excited to implement it, starting this spring. Some changes you might notice... more opportunities for family units, classes for adults from 18 to 102, new and outdoor-driven home school opportunities and a passionate staff who wants to share their outdoor knowledge like never before!

In short, we are offering some different classes and some new ways to enjoy the outdoors!

See you soon!

Thea Miller Ryan
Director, The Outdoor Campus

Upcoming Deadlines:

Spring Registration: Feb. 14, 7 a.m.
Summer Programs available April 25
June Registration, May 9, 7 a.m.
July Registration, June 6, 7 a.m.
August Registration, July 11, 7 a.m.



Save the Date:

Women's Try-It Day, June 23
Sioux River Folk Fest, Newton Hills State Park, August 3
Outdoor University, August 4
Buffalo Round Up, Custer State Park, September 28

What's New In This Brochure?

- How to Hunt: Spring Turkey Season
- Trapping Wild Animals
- Off-Campus Hikes through area State Parks
- Campus Bird Walks
- More to come!



REGISTRATION

PROGRAM REGISTRATION OPENS

at 7 a.m. on February 14, 2018

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.

How to Hunt—Spring Turkey Season

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. Family class. Please register all attending members. Class size limited to 25.

Class date: Saturday, March 24, 1 to 2:30 p.m.



Owl Tell You 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. Family class. Please register all attending members. Class size limited to 25.

Class date: Saturday, March 24: pick 10 to 11 a.m. OR 1 to 2 p.m.

How to Hunt—BB Gun Target Shooting and Orienteering

We are combining two of our favorite programs here at The Outdoor Campus to create a bi-athlon! This program includes safety instruction and practice with our BB guns and orienteering course. Then, put what you learned to use and try the bi-athlon! Please register all attending members. Class size limited to 25.

Class date: Saturday, May 12, 10 a.m. to 12 noon OR 1:30 to 3:30 p.m.

How to Hunt—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. Please register all attending members. Class size limited to 25.

Class date: (choose ONE)

Saturday, April 7, 10 to 11:30 a.m.

Saturday, April 7, 1 to 2:30 p.m.

Saturday, May 5, 1 to 2:30 p.m.

How to Fish—Catch and Release

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! Family class. Please register all attending members. Class size limited to 25.

Class date: (choose ONE)

Saturday, April 21, 10 to 11:30 a.m.

Saturday, April 28, 1 to 2:30 p.m.

Saturday, May 12, 10 to 11:30 a.m.

Saturday, May 19, 1 to 2:30 p.m.



How to Outdoor Cook—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. Wrap it all up with a tasty dessert. Family class. Please register all attending members. Class size limited to 20.

Class dates: (choose ONE)

Saturday, April 7, 10 a.m. to 12 noon

Saturday, April 7, 1:30 to 3:30 p.m.

Saturday, May 19, 10 a.m. to 12 noon

Earth Day Cleanup Project

Celebrate Earth Day outside! We will grow in our understanding of sustainability through gardening, games and planting a special tree. Please register all attending members. Family class size limited to 60. **Class date:** Saturday, April 21, 1 to 3 p.m.

Trapping Wild Animals

This family program will cover the basics of trapping the popular furbearers of South Dakota. We will discuss different styles of traps and snares, how to take care of them and most importantly, and how to use them! Placement, bait and safety will also be covered. Family class limited to 25 students.

Class date: Saturday, April 28, 10 a.m. to 12 noon.

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

I is for Invisible Animals

Even animals are good at playing hide and seek. They use this skill to hunt for food and hide from predators!

Class Dates: (pick **one** of the following)

Saturday, March 10, 10 to 10:45 a.m. OR 11 to 11:45 a.m.

Saturday, March 17, 10 to 10:45 a.m. OR 11 to 11:45 a.m.

Wednesday, March 21, 10 to 10: 45 a.m.

Wednesday, March 28, 10 to 10:45 a.m.

J is for Jumpers

Imagine if you were only able to jump to get from one place to another! Animals can move in many different ways. Some fly, some walk and some even swim. This class is going to focus on those that jump. Can you think of any?

Class Dates: (pick **one** of the following)

Wednesday, April 4, 10 to 10:45 a.m.

Saturday, April 14, 10-10:45 a.m. OR 11-11:45 a.m.

Wednesday, April 18, 10-10:45 a.m.

Saturday, April 28, 10- 10:45 a.m. OR 11-11:45 a.m.



K is for Kings of Discovery Pond

We have a lot of fish that live in Discovery Pond at The Outdoor Campus. We will learn about bass and blue gills, our most popular fish.

Class Dates: (pick **one** of the following)

Wednesday, May 2, 10-10:45 a.m.

Saturday, May 5, 10-10:45 a.m. OR 11-11:45 a.m.

Wednesday, May 16, 10-10:45 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.*

Backyard Bird ID

We will learn how to identify some of the most frequent birds at our feeders and also what they eat by looking at their beaks and where they live by looking at their feet.

Class dates: (pick **one** of the following)

Saturday, March 10, 10-10:45 a.m. OR 11-11:45 a.m.

Saturday, March 17, 10-10:45 a.m. OR 11-11:45 a.m.

SD Fish ID

Learn about some of South Dakota's most popular fish, what they like to eat and where they live.

Class dates: (pick **one** of the following)

Saturday, April 14, 10-10:45 a.m. OR 11-11:45 a.m.

Saturday, April 28, 10-10:45 a.m. OR 11-11:45 a.m.

Spring Nature Hike

Spring is finally here! Let's go outside to explore the trails using our eyes and ears and noses.

Class dates: (pick **one** of the following)

Saturday, May 5, 10-10:45 a.m. OR 11-11:45 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.

Sertoma Park Bird ID

"Birds of a feather stick together." This is especially true during migration! Grab your coat and binoculars to explore our park, looking for our backyard birds, some permanent residents and and some are just passing through. Class limited to 24

Class dates: (pick **one** of the following)

Saturday, March 10, 1:30 to 3 p.m.

Saturday, March 17, 1:30 to 3 p.m.

All About Fish

Before you go fishing this spring, you have to know what you are fishing for. This class will be filled with basic fish biology and habitat needs along with tips and tricks on how to identify South Dakota's fish population. Class limited to 24.

Class dates: (pick **one** of the following)

Saturday, April 14, 1:30 to 3 p.m.

Saturday, April 28, 1:30 to 3 p.m.

Spring Nature Hike

Adventure awaits as we explore the trails and "secret pathways" in our park. We will document it all in our homemade nature journals. Class limited to 24.

Class date:

Saturday, May 5, 1:30 to 3 p.m.



Bird Walks and Tonna Squawks

We are so excited to offer this new bird watching class with our very own bird watching expert, Tonna. 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 provided, but you can bring your own. Adults only. (Class size limited to 20)

Class Dates:

Wednesday, March 7, 9 to 10:30 a.m.

Wednesday, April 4, 9 to 10:30 a.m.

Wednesday, May 2, 9 to 10:30 a.m.

Saturday Strolls (an Outdoor, OFF-Campus experience)

Experience what the trails at our local state parks and nature areas have to offer. Meet our team at the designated state park for a personalized adventure. At Good Earth we will learn about the history of our newest state park. A hike through Newton Hills will give you just the rush you need to start off your Earth Day Weekend in April. In May, we will explore the natural and historic resources at Beaver Creek Nature Area. This class is for adults only. (Class size limited to 15)

Class dates and locations:

March 24: Good Earth State Park (state park entrance license required) 9 to 10:30 a.m.

April 21: Newton Hills State Park (state park entrance license required) 9 to 10:30 a.m.

May 19: Beaver Creek Nature Area 9 to 10:30 a.m.



Walking Story Sticks

Storytelling has always been an important part of the Native American cultures, as well as many other cultures throughout the world. They use sticks, decorated with pictures that symbolized important events and tell about their adventures. This is a way to pass down personal history. Begin your own story stick with us, creating your own personal walking stick. Use it to visit all of South Dakota's state parks and recreation areas. Capture your story, wherever the walking stick takes you. All supplies provided. Adults only. Class size limited to 12.



Class date: Monday, April 9, 6:30 to 8:30 p.m.

Dutch Oven Cooking (must attend both sessions)

- The first night of this class will include cast iron history, tips, 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.

Adults only. Class is limited to 12.

Class dates: April 19, 6 to 8 p.m. AND April 26, 6 to 8 p.m.

Trapping Wild Animals

This adults only program will cover the basics of trapping the popular furbearers of South Dakota. We will discuss different styles of traps and snares, how to take care of them and most importantly, how to use them! Placement, bait and safety will also be covered. Class limited to 10 adults only.

Class date: Saturday, April 14, 10 a.m. to 12 noon



Trailer Your Boat or Camper

Join us for a no-judgement trailering class. Nobody will yell or tell you you're doing it all wrong. This class is for beginners and will have classroom and driving time combined into a 2-hour session. Licensed Adults, 16/up with driver's license.

Class date: May 12, 9 to 11 a.m.

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



How To Get Started!

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

www.outdoorcampus.org

2) Kyle, 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, Kyle 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 habitat and 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

Kyle Grogan, volunteer coordinator

Jason Nelson, outreach coordinator

Tonna Hartman, senior secretary

Lynn Purdy, night and weekend manager

Founded by GFP in 1997



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



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>