



OUTDOOR CAMPUS

— SIOUX FALLS, SOUTH DAKOTA —



Critter Crates and Loaner Equipment

4500 S Oxbow Ave | Sioux Falls, SD | 605.362.2777
gfp.sd.gov/toc-east/

Critter Crates & Activity Crates

Critter and Activity Crates are totes filled with educational materials or activity materials that can be checked out for **FREE** to the public.

To Check a Crate Out:

- Call the Outdoor Campus at **605.362.2777** to check availability and reserve.
- On the day of pickup, a signature on a waiver will be required prior to taking the crate.

Special Considerations:

- Most crates can be checked out for 2 weeks. Snowshoe crates can only be checked out for 1 week and require at least 3 inches of snow.
- Reserve crates early. Spring and Fall months are heavily booked.
- All crates must be picked up by registrant. The Outdoor Campus will not ship crates.
- GFP Employees can use crates without signing a waiver.

For more information, scan the QR Code and click “Loaner Equipment.”



Critter & Activity Crates



Aquatic Invasive Species Crate

Crate pairs with the GFP Middle School Aquatic Invasive Species Curriculum and is helpful with leading the field portion of Stream Ecology. Includes: Invertebrate sorting trays, d-frame nets, forceps, thermometers, Macroinvertebrate ID books, and clipboards.

To Learn more about the Aquatic Invasive Species Curriculum, go to:
gfp.sd.gov/fishsd/

Bat Crate

Includes: books, activities, an echo-locator, a bat skeleton, and 2 bat skulls.

Beaver Crate

Includes: activity books, beaver pelts and pelts from other aquatic mammals, skulls, a chiseled tree piece and bark strips, a DVD of beavers building a dam. Also includes the Eco-Beaver activity for dressing a volunteer in the many beaver adaptations.

Binocular Box

Includes: 12 pairs of binoculars with instructions for adjusting and maintenance, an activity using binoculars, information on bird shapes and several Stokes guides to bird identification.

Biodiversity Box

Utilizing the crate and iNaturalist, gather biodiversity data specific to SD. Includes: instructional sheet, field notebook, pencil, binoculars and clip-on lens set for smartphones. This box was made possible through partnership with the SD State Library.

Bird Box

Includes: Activities, books, posters, bird song identifiers, beaks, feet and feathers, 3 fragile bird skulls, owl and raptor studies, a chick life cycle set, 3 turkey calls, and pictures of common land and water birds.

Camera Crate

Includes: 10 Canon PowerShot SX 160 IS Cameras, 2 tripods available, interface cables and a card reader, activity on photo composition, a nature photography example, and more.

Critter & Activity Crates



Coyote Crate

Includes: coyote activities, print materials, coyote and beaver pelts, skulls, scat and tracks, coyote track mold, coyote bands.

Discovery Bag A and B

Includes: pelts/skulls/track replicas of 10 common native species, photos of the animals. Discovery Bag B pairs well with the Track Sack.

Endangered Species Crate

Includes: examples of products made from exotic species that were poached and seized by the federal government, photos of those animals, print materials on protected species, a copy of The Wildlife Detectives, a black-footed ferret skull and pelt, activity suggestions.

Fishing Crate

Contains: 10 rods/reels, tackle box, and plastic Backyard Bass practice fish.

GPS Crate 1 and 2

Includes: 8 Garmin eTrex GPS units, an interface cable, a Quick Start Guide, laminated copies of simplified instructions, Cash Stash and Swap game, print materials on actives and the history of the GPS.

Grassland Education Tote

Includes: Critter Scene Investigation, Grassland Mural Scavenger Hunt, Web of Grassland Life, Plant Press, and Tall Grass Print Making Activities, This tote made possible through partnership with SD Grassland Initiative.

Mammal Crates

2 crates containing 20 pelts of common native species with corresponding natural and replica skulls, tracks and scat. Includes: suggested activities, animal photos and print, and resource materials.

Prairie Crate

Includes puppets, many prairie activity suggestions, books on prairie life, flannel boards of prairie plants and animals with text narration, pelts, skulls, photos of animals included or mentioned in crate.

Critter & Activity Crates



Prairie Grass Bag

Includes: several posters that show cross sections of soil/its colors/root systems, photos of native prairie grasses, and noxious weed materials.

Reptiles and Amphibians

Includes: card game, magnetic frog life cycle, lizard and turtle skeleton, rattlesnake skin and skull, snapping turtle shell, snake science book, Professor Noggin's Reptiles Card game, and other activities.

Snowshoe Crates

2 Group Crates containing 15 or 20 pairs in youth/medium/adult sizes.

3 Family Crates containing 7 pairs youth/adult sizes (Individual snowshoes can be checked out for use in Sertoma Park. Inquire with the front desk).

Track Sack

Includes: molds for 11 animals in Discovery Bag B, 11 large track stamps, 18 small track stamps of 5 native and 13 exotic animals, 16 rubbing plates of animal tracks, and activity suggestions.

Tree Trunk

Includes: Activities from Project Learning Tree, Mystery Tree Challenge with 14 dichotomous keys to learn to identify trees, books, field guides, tree cookies, What Leaf is This? Activity, and a video from Eyewitness Explorers.

Wetlands Trunk

Includes: Activity guides (Peek at a Pond, Wetland Food Web, and Wetland Metaphors), puppets, 3 puzzles for 3 different age groups.

Scan QR code for a visual of items included in Critter Crates.



Other Loaner Equipment

The Outdoor Campus and Region 3 Wildlife Office checks out a variety of other items for FREE to the public as aids in their outdoor pursuits.

To Check a Crate Out:

- Call the Region 3 Office at **605.362.2700** to check availability and reserve.
- On the day of pickup, a signature on a waiver will be required prior to taking the crate.

Special Considerations:

- Items checked out are expected to be utilized in the state of South Dakota and in a manner related to their intended purpose.
 - Amount of times items can be checked out varies, see specifics for each item below.
 - Know before you go. Utilization of many items, assume an understanding of hunting, fishing, and boating regulations and safety. Users assume personal liability when checking them out.
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For more information, scan the QR Code and click “Loaner Equipment.”



Other Loaner Equipment



Life Jackets

A variety of life jackets are available for checkout thanks to a generous grant from the Sea-Tow Foundation and includes sizes: Infant, Toddler, Youth, Adult, and Adult Oversized.

Life Jackets can be checked out for up to 2 weeks at a time. Checkout is only available from May 1 to September 30 each year.

Live Traps

A variety of sizes of live traps are available for checkout to the public. Traps can be checked out for up to 2 weeks at a time and are available year-round. Check out is limited to 1 trap per individual at a time.

Waterfowl Loaner Decoy Bags

7 Waterfowl Decoy Loaner Bags are available to check out. 4 of these bags contain duck floating decoys and 3 of these contain goose floating decoys.

Waterfowl loaner bags can be checked out for up to 1 week at a time.

Canada Goose Field Decoy Loaner Trailer

2 Loaner trailers are available for checkout. 1 is placed at the Outdoor Campus in Sioux Falls and 1 is located at the Brookings County Outdoor Adventure Center in Brookings. Each trailer includes: full body decoys, silhouettes, decoy shells, flags, and layout blinds.

Checkout is available for up to 5 days at a time and requires a valid drivers license and proof of insurance. Please ensure you have both of these with you when you come to check out the trailer.

Both trailers were made possible through generous donations from Jan Nicolay (in memory of Jerry Nicolay) and Delta Waterfowl-Sioux Falls.

Other Loaner Equipment



Action Trackchair®

The Action Trackchair® is a hardy, off-road wheel chair which is intended to allow access to South Dakota's wild places. These chairs can be utilized for hunting, fishing, and other recreational opportunities.

Checkout is available for 1 week at a time and includes both an Action Trackchair® and a trailer to haul it. Those checking out this, will need to ensure they have a valid drivers license and proof of insurance. Please ensure you have both of these with you when you come to check out the trailer.

The Sioux Falls Action Trackchair® and Trailer was donated to the Game, Fish and Parks Outdoor Campus Sioux Falls in memory of Cathy Peterson by Steve Peterson and Kids: Jessi, Kent, and Drew.



Find Us Online



Find our website
gfp.sd.gov/toc-east/