



# **The Outdoor Campus Sioux Falls**



## **The Outdoor Campus 2024 | Outreach Programs**

**4500 S OXBOW AVE | SIOUX FALLS, SD | 605.362.2777**

**OUTDOORCAMPUS.ORG**



# OUTREACH PROGRAMS



The goal of the outreach program is to provide outdoor activities to anyone and everyone in towns across our 20-county region. If you are interested in setting up an outreach program please contact Jason Nelson at (605) 362-3524 or email at [jason.nelson@state.sd.us](mailto:jason.nelson@state.sd.us). If you would like to take advantage of one of these great opportunities but don't have the access or space needed, we can always make arrangements to do these classes at the Outdoor Campus.

## Fishing

### Fishing Basics

This class starts with an overview of gear, safety, and fish identification. Then, you will be able to practice your casting and go fishing! Must have access to fishable water for the fishing portion. If access isn't available, just practice casting is still a great option! You only need room to cast a line (outdoors or empty gym).

### Advanced Fishing

Learn the different types of techniques and equipment that can be used to catch fish. We will cover different types of rod and reel set ups, differences in line choices, and learn a few different knots to use. We will also learn about different types of set ups, tackle, and when to use them. Be prepared to bait your own hook. This is an excellent knowledge building workshop, but fishing can be added if fishable water is available.

### Fly Fishing Basics

Learn the ins and outs of fly rods, reels, line, and flies. We will also discuss some of the terrestrial and underwater creatures many fish in South Dakota are eating. You will learn proper casting techniques and get to practice casting. No water is required but will help in catching a lunker!

### Fly Tying

Have you ever wanted to get into fly fishing? Have you ever wanted to learn how to tie your own flies? This class covers all of the introductory topics including entomology, tools, materials, and techniques and then you will learn how to tie a popular pattern for the current season.

### Explore Bow Fishing

This exciting class covers all things bow fishing! We will cover the specialized gear, the common species and regulations in South Dakota, and learn a few tips and tricks to have a successful outing. You don't need water to enjoy this class but an open area where archery can be safely shot is required.

## Fishing cont.

### Snorkeling / Spearfishing

Snorkeling is a fantastic new offering where you can get face to face with some of South Dakota's underwater habitats and creatures. You will learn all about masks, snorkels, and fins along with some tips and tricks for proper fit. We will also discuss how to stay calm and relaxed while in the water. Lastly, we will cover safety, ethics, diver down flags, the buddy system, and optional gear before getting our feet wet. After some practice in shallow water, the adventure truly begins. As a group, you will be lead around looking for interesting underwater life before being given the chance to explore on your own. Life jackets will be worn at all times so don't worry if you aren't a strong swimmer.

If harvesting fish while snorkeling sounds like something you would be interested in, then the next component, spearfishing, is right up your alley. After getting well acquainted with the gear and techniques of snorkeling, you will learn about the different types of spearguns and pole spears used in harvesting fish in South Dakota. Laws, regulations, limits, and more will also be covered in great detail before we safely re-enter the water in search of our quarry...

- Valid SD fishing licenses required
- This is an off-site class but locations can vary around the area
- This class is age restricted to 18+



## Shooting Sports

### Archery Basics

Learn the basics of becoming an archer using a compound bow. Topics covered include parts of a bow, maintenance, range safety, and proper shooting technique. You will then get to practice your marksmanship on 3D targets! Must have an open area to set up archery net.

### BB Gun Basics

Learn firearm safety and proper shooting techniques. You will get a chance to shoot multiple targets from multiple positions with a BB gun. Must have an outdoor area suitable for a small shooting range.

### Shotgun Basics

Learn firearm safety and proper shooting techniques using a shotgun. You will be shooting clay pigeons from multiple positions. Must have access to a shooting range or be able to travel to an open range in the area. Guns, clay pigeons, ammo, hearing protection, and eye protection will be provided.

### .22 Rifle Basics

Learn firearm safety and proper shooting techniques while using a .22 rifle. Can you hit the bullseye? Must have access to a shooting range or be able to travel to an open range in the area. Guns, targets, ammo, hearing protection, and eye protection will be provided.

### Scoped Rifle Shooting

Everything from how to sight in a scoped gun to proper shooting techniques will be discussed. You will then get to practice shooting in multiple shooting positions used in target shooting and hunting. Must have access to a shooting range or be able to travel to an open range in the area. Guns, ammo, targets, hearing protection, and eye protection will be provided.





## Hunting Skills

### Explore Hunting

This comprehensive class is an introduction to hunting and bow hunting in South Dakota. We will cover gear, game, and what is needed to know to be successful. A few of the topics discussed will be wind, blinds, habitat, and tracking. This can be an indoor class but is much more hands-on if there is an outdoor area to do some activities and shooting, either archery or air rifles. This class can be tailored for any species you are hoping to harvest.

### Firearm Safety and Hunting

Learn all about gun safety. This includes the different types of firearms, ammunition, safe handling, storage, maintenance, and proper use. Hunting topics will cover each species appropriate for the current season. Hands-on learning and short videos also accompany the class where possible.

## Outdoor Skills

### Trapping Basics

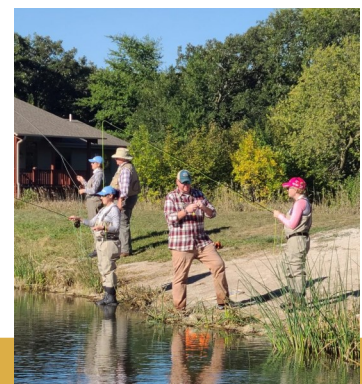
Learn about the different animals that can be trapped in South Dakota and the tools needed to be successful. This class will cover animals, tracks, furs, traps, and important safety information. An outdoor component can be added where the students can make their own sets.

### Survival

Learn about what is needed to survive in South Dakota. Many topics will be covered including fire preparation, shelter building, first aid, and most importantly, being prepared. This class is incredibly hands on and can be done year round!

### Hatchet Throwing

Learn the basic steps to throwing a hatchet safely and then take aim. We will talk technique but the best way to improve at hatchets is to get in there and do it. Must have an open area suitable for a small shooting range.



## Winter Activities

### Snowshoe Basics

Learn about the history of snowshoes and the proper technique for putting them on and walking in them. We will then head outside to give them a whirl! Snow required!

### Ice Fishing Basics

Learn about the differences in ice fishing compared to open water fishing. We will cover set ups, tackle, and safety. You will then get on the ice, learn to drill holes, and use your new knowledge to try and catch a keeper. Appropriately thick ice is required.

### Winter Survival

Learn about what is needed to survive a cold night in the Winter in South Dakota. Many topics will be covered including fire preparation, shelter building, first aid, and most importantly, being prepared. This class is incredibly hands on and can be done year round!

### Cross Country Skiing

Learn about proper technique for gliding on our groomed trails. You will also learn about cutting new trails in fresh snow and even how to fall properly. This is a great wintertime sport that you will soon fall in love with.

## Borrow these Teaching Tools!

We have crates of teaching materials than you can borrow for up to two weeks. These are the crates we currently have available:

Bat Crate, Grasslands Bag, Beaver Crate, Land Navigation (GPS) Crates I & II, Binoculars Box, Mammal Crates A & B (similar contents), Bird Box, Prairie Crate, Camera Crate, Reptile and Amphibian Crate, Coyote Crate, Track Sack, Discovery Bag A & B, Tree Trunk, Endangered Species Crate, Fishing Crate, Snowshoe Crate

You can find the inventory sheet for any of these crates on our website at [www.outdoorcampus.org](http://www.outdoorcampus.org), calling the office at (605) 362-2700, or emailing our secretary at [jean.olson@state.sd.us](mailto:jean.olson@state.sd.us)

## “In the Classroom” Presentations

These presentations are all information packed and hands-on. They mix a lot of different concepts together to keep learners engaged. We strive to keep things interesting and current and believe they are great presentations for all ages of learners. We tailor each presentation for the group we are in front of so if you have specific needs or topics you wish to discuss, we are happy to work with you.

### Animals of SD

What kinds of animals live in South Dakota? Animal adaptations, along with their relationships and importance in our unique ecosystem are a strong theme. This is a very informative and hands-on presentation that can include furs, skulls, tracks, scat, and live animals.

### The Migration Nation

Who flies south for the winter? Where do they go in the summer? Learn about migration and the role South Dakota plays in the annual migration of many species of birds. This is a very interactive and fun program involving bird identification, games, props, and calls.

### High Quality H2O

In this highly informative and hands on class, topics will include the water cycle, wetlands, watersheds, pollution, and indicator species. This class is also an introduction to reptiles and amphibians, local fish species, waterfowl, aquatic mammals, and aquatic invasive species.

### Creatures of the Night

This class covers many of the nocturnal creatures that call the dark their home. Many animals including bats will be discussed, along with owls and an owl pellet dissection. It is very exciting, informational, and hands on.

### Food Chains and Adaptations

It is important to understand the relationships between living things and their habitats. This presentation covers how different species of animals have unique adaptations to help them survive. We will also go in depth about food chains and play an interactive game to drive home how habitats and species are connected.

### Endangered and Invasive Species

This class covers threatened, endangered, and extinct species. We not only look at South Dakota examples but also think globally about the many factors that lead to population decline. We will also discuss invasive species and learn how they can take a stronghold on a habitat. Their relationship with native species and how humans are working to manage them is at the center of this program.

# ADDITIONAL OPPORTUNITIES



## FALLS FLYRODERS CLUB

This is a brand new club that meets on the last Thursday of each month. The current program is to tie flies in the winter months at The Outdoor Campus and travel around to fish local water in the summer months. We require participants to be 16 years of age or older, but if you have a younger participant who you would like to share this opportunity with, reach out and we will try to make accommodations.

The first meeting will be March 28th at The Outdoor Campus from 6-730PM. We will be tying the pheasant tail nymph. (All equipment and materials provided)

Our goal is two fold. We want to share our passion for fly fishing with locals who are interested and we want to prove that fly fishing can be fun and approachable, even in Eastern South Dakota.

Whether you are a seasoned pro who is simply looking for fishing buddies and community, or you are just a little fly curious, you belong with the Falls Flyroders.

There are no fees, no commitments, and no long term contracts. I know this sounds like a cell phone add but we just want to offer an opportunity to get folks together and geek out about fly fishing. You are encouraged to bring your own gear but we do have loaner equipment available to get you started.

For more details and current information, contact Jason Nelson at 605-940-8486 or email at [Jason.nelson@state.sd.us](mailto:Jason.nelson@state.sd.us).

Make some REEL friends with the Falls Flyroders Club.





# FIND US ONLINE



## **Find us on Facebook @outdoorcampusSF**

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 Instagram @outdoorcampus\_sioux falls**

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



## **Find our website! [outdoorcampus.org](http://outdoorcampus.org)**

## **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.