

## Outreach Programs For PK—8

Need a guest speaker to shake things up?

The Essex County Environmental Center will be glad to help! We use our field trip programs to create an interactive learning experience right in your classroom, library or recreation center! With hands-on activities, lively games, and discussion we make the curriculum come alive.

### Seasonal Discovery

Choose your season of interest and discover how plants and animals change to survive the extremes we endure here in New Jersey. Learn how nature gives us clues when the seasons are changing and use natural materials to investigate animal adaptations.  
NJCCCS: 3.4A; 3.5A; 4.2A; 4.4C; 4.5B; 5.5A-C; 5.7A; 5.8B; 5.9A; 5.10A-B; 6.6C,E

### Sensory Survival

Use all of your senses to explore how plants and animals survive in the wild. Investigate how life cycles and food webs determine how plants and animals adapt to their surroundings. Camouflage, seed dispersal and habitat all play a role in our survival.  
NJCCCS: 3.4A; 3.5A; 4.2A; 4.4C; 4.5B; 5.5A-C; 5.7A-B; 5.8A,B; 5.9A; 5.10A; 6.6E

### 4R's & You

**Reduce, Reuse, Recycle and Rethink!** Play our Trash Time Line game, learn how to figure out your town's solid waste load, and how to properly sort your garbage in this exciting and hands-on lesson about what happens to our waste.

NJCCCS: 4.3A-C; 4.5B,E,F; 5.2A; 5.3D 5.4A,C; 5.5A; 5.6B; 5.10B; 6.2A,B; 6.4L; 6.5A-B; 6.6D-E

### Amazing Water

Learn what makes water so special by conducting lab experiments and investigating the water cycle and the states of water. Get up and move around with our fun and interactive games and activities.  
NJCCCS: 2.1A,D; 5.1A-C; 5.3A-B; 5.4B-C; 5.7B; 5.8A-C; 5.10A-B

## Program Details

Fees:\*

**Field trips:** \$4 per visitor; max 45 students for each 1.5 hour program and \$8 per visitor for each 3 hour program.

**Outreach:** Max 5 classes of 25 students. \$150 for first class, \$100 for additional classes during the same day.

Length and Setting:

**Field trips:** Each program is approximately 1.5 hours long. Choose up to 2 programs for your field trip. All programs have an outdoor component except in extreme weather.

**Outreach:** Each program is approximately 45 minutes long. Choose 1 program that can be repeated up to 5 times. Outdoor activities dependant on school setting and weather. No auditorium programs.

More Information:

- ✓ Pre and post activity packets are included for programs upon request.
- ✓ All programs include hands-on, multidisciplinary activities that encourage classroom connections.
- ✓ All programs are correlated to the New Jersey Core Curriculum Content Standards.
- ✓ Work with Center Staff to tailor programs to your needs and the ability level of your students.
- ✓ Pre-registration and advance payment required for all programs.
- ✓ Cancellations must be made in writing 10 business days prior to your visit date or you will be billed for 50% of your program fee.
- ✓ At least 1 adult chaperone per 10 students is required. Kindergarten classes must have 1 adult chaperone per 6 students.
- ✓ To best enjoy your trip please remember to dress for the weather and wet conditions at the Center.

The Essex County Environmental Center is a facility of the Essex County Parks System and is located in West Essex Park. The immediate grounds include over 1 mile of trails, a boardwalk, and a wooded wetland habitat with access to the Upper Passaic River.

Since our opening in May 2005, we have been documenting the local flora and fauna found on our site. We have found raccoons, painted turtles, clams, crayfish, river otter, deer, turkey, coyote, salamanders, green frog, garter snake, screech owl, barred owl, mushrooms, milkweed, spicebush, asters, oaks, maples, cedars, pines, beech, birch and more!



Every month of the year, families and children of all ages can learn something new about nature at the Environmental Center—right in their own Essex County back yard. We are never too young to learn how to protect our world—so sign up and join us for an environmental adventure.

- Joe D.

## TO REGISTER

Call today to set up your field trip or outreach program.

- ✓ Contact us with your name, school name, grade or ability level, number of students, topic, times and requested dates.
- ✓ You will receive a follow-up phone call, confirmation packet and our "Field Trip Tool Kit" with everything you need to know for your trip!

It's that simple!

973.228.8776



## Essex County Environmental Center

621 B Eagle Rock Avenue  
Roseland, NJ 07068  
www.essexcountynj.org

**973.228.8776**

Joseph N. DiVincenzo, Jr.  
County Executive &

The Board of Chosen Freeholders



~ Putting Essex County First ~

## Field Trip Programs For Schools and Groups

**4R's & You** **All Grades**  
**Reduce, Reuse, Recycle and Rethink!** Play our Trash Time Line game, learn how to figure out your town's solid waste load, learn how to properly sort your garbage, make paper and take a hike! Activities depend on grade level. 1.5 hours  
NJCCCS: 4.3A-C; 4.5B,E,F; 5.2A; 5.3D 5.4A,C; 5.5A; 5.6B; 5.10B; 6.2A,B; 6.4L; 6.5A-B; 6.6D-E

**Seasonal Discovery** **Grades PK to 2**  
*Fall Discovery (Sept.—Nov.)*  
Witness the changes the autumn season brings. Students will learn how plants and animals are making preparations for winter. Topics will include seed dispersal, food caches, leaf color and hibernation. 1.5 hours

*Winter Discovery (Dec.—Feb.)*  
Through indoor and outdoor activities students investigate animal adaptations and behavior during the winter. Identify animal tracks and become snow scientists as we learn about the winter world. 1.5 hours

*Spring Discovery (March—June)*  
Search for changes taking place as nature gets ready for another growing season. Investigate the frog pond, migrate with the monarchs and look for signs of spring. 1.5 hours

NJCCCS: 3.4A; 3.5A; 4.2A; 4.4C; 4.5B; 5.5A-C; 5.7A; 5.8B; 5.9A; 5.10A-B; 6.6C,E

**Sensory Survival** **Grades PK to 2**  
Use all of your senses to explore how plants and animals survive in the wild. Investigate how life cycles and food webs determine how plants and animals adapt to their surroundings. Camouflage, seed dispersal and habitat all play a role in our survival. 1.5 hours

NJCCCS: 3.4A; 3.5A; 4.2A; 4.4C; 4.5B; 5.5A-C; 5.7A-B; 5.8A,B; 5.9A; 5.10A; 6.6E

**Native New Jersey** **Grades 3 to 5**  
Discover how New Jersey's native people, the Lenape, lived by using the natural resources found along the Passaic River. Look for native plants and animals, build a Lenape-style lean-to, make traditional musical instruments and dance in a Pow-Wow. 1.5 hours  
NJCCCS: 3.4A; 5.1A; 5.4A,C; 5.5A-B; 6.1A; 6.2D; 6.4A,B,D; 6.5; 6.6D-E

**Mighty Migrations** **Grades 3 to 5**  
*Monarch Butterflies*  
Become a Monarch and migrate to 'Mexico'. Discover how their lifecycle and unique habitat needs have created conservation efforts in the United States and Mexico. 1.5 hours

*NJ: A Flyway for Birds*  
Did you know that New Jersey is one of the most important migratory stops for hundreds of species of birds? Learn what makes New Jersey special in the journey of bird migration. 1.5 hours  
NJCCCS: 3.1C,G; 3.3A-C; 3.4A-B; 4.1A; 5.5A; 5.10A-B; 6.6E

**What's That, Habitat?** **Grades 3 to 8**  
*Discovering Wetlands*  
What do wetlands do for us? Why are they so important? Through lab, field and classroom activities students will investigate the value of wetlands in NJ and what we can do to protect them. 1.5 hours

*Discovering the Passaic*  
The Passaic River is an important habitat running through 17 of our 22 municipalities. Learn the significance of watersheds and investigate how water can be polluted and cleaned through natural processes. 1.5 hours

*Discovering Forests*  
Explore the wonders of trees and forest habitats in this interactive program. Learn about how trees function, tree identification and the importance of forests and forest products in our lives. 1.5 hours  
NJCCCS: 3.3A-C; 3.4A-B; 5.1A-B; 5.5A-B; 5.10A; 6.6E

*Our Naturalists can work with you to design programs to fit your needs.*

*All programs can be adapted to any age and ability level.*

**Go with the 'Energy' Flow** **Grades 4 to 8**  
Energy is everywhere in nature. Energy conservation means more than turning off the lights. Investigate the food web and how energy flows through the tropic levels. Discover what it means to conserve energy and why that is important to our future. 1.5 hours  
NJCCCS: 3.3A-C; 3.4A-B; 4.1A; 5.3A; 5.5A; 5.10A-B; 6.6E

**Scavenger Hunt** **Grades 4 to 8**  
Teams work together to complete challenges and use maps, compasses and clues to find hidden natural treasures along our new trail system. Through this dynamic scavenger hunt children will encounter all sorts of wonderful wildlife! 1.5 hours  
NJCCCS: 3.4A; 3.5A; 4.2A,D; 5.1A-C; 5.3B; 5.4A,C; 5.8D; 6.1A, 6.5; 6.6A,E; 6.7

**Uncover & Discover** **Grades 5 to 8**  
This 'wild' hike on our trails will get you excited about the wildlife in West Essex Park. Dig holes, flip logs and sift mud to uncover and discover who *really* lives here. We'll get a closer look with magnifying glasses, binoculars and microscopes! 1.5 hours  
NJCCCS: 3.4A; 3.5A; 4.2A,D; 4.4A,C; 5.1B-C; 5.4A-B; 5.5A-C; 5.7A-B; 5.8B; 5.9A; 5.10A-B; 6.1A; 6.6C-E

**Frog Pond Science** **Grades 5 to 8**  
Use the *tools of the scientist* to explore the depths of our 'famous' frog pond. Using nets, microscopes, hand lenses, and chemical tests you will complete our "Pond Inventory" and discover what lives in the pond as well as the health of the pond. 1.5 hours  
NJCCCS: 3.4A; 3.5A; 4.2A,D; 4.4A,C; 5.1B-C; 5.4A-B; 5.5A-C; 5.7A-B; 5.8B; 5.9A; 5.10A-B; 6.1A; 6.6C-E

## Citizen Science for Students

**Citizen science** is a term used for a project or program of scientific work where a network of volunteers perform research-related tasks such as observation, measurement or computation. Join our staff for a 'training' on how these programs work and learn tips and techniques for collecting and inputting credible data. **These programs can be 1.5 or 3 hours.**

**Passaic River Studies** **Grades 6 & Up**  
Take a journey through the Passaic River system. Students analyze soils, aquatic life and water quality of this Urban River through hands-on field and lab experiences. The history and human impacts of the Passaic River will be studied as well. **3 hours only**  
NJCCCS: 2.1A,D; 2.5A,D; 3.5A; 5.1B-C; 5.3D; 5.4B-C; 5.6A; 5.8B; 5.10A; 6.6E

**Backyard Bird Count** **Grades 6 & Up**  
Learn the skills of birding by using binoculars and your hearing in order to count birds to create a real-time snapshot of where the birds are across the continent. Your actions truly make a difference in helping to spotlight changes in bird populations and distribution from year to year.  
NJCCCS: 3.1C,G; 3.3A-C; 3.4A-B; 4.1A; 5.1A; 5.2A-B; 5.5A; 5.10A; 6.6E

**Phenology Journaling** **Grades 6 & Up**  
Phenology is the study of the seasonal timing of life cycle events such as the date a certain plant flowers, a tree's leaves emerge, an insect hatches, or a migratory bird appears on its nesting grounds. By studying these dates we can **look for clues about our changing climate and its impact on living things.**  
NJCCCS: 4.4A,C; 5.3A,D; 5.5A-C; 5.10A-B; 6.6A-E

**Great Star Hunt** **Grades 6 & Up**  
This international event encourages everyone to go outside, look skywards after dark, count the stars they see in certain constellations, and report what they see online. This program is designed to encourage learning in astronomy! **Evening only.**  
NJCCCS: 4.4A,C; 5.3A,D; 5.9A-D; 5.10A-B; 6.6A,E