

## 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

## Outreach Programs For K—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! With hands-on activities, lively games and thoughtful discussion, we make the curriculum come alive.

The most popular indoor programs include:

- ◇ Amazing Water
- ◇ Sensory Survival
- ◇ Mighty Migrations
- ◇ Too Close for Comfort
- ◇ Cycles of Nature

Call today to see how you can have an outdoor adventure in your very own classroom!

## Program Details

Fees:\*

**Field trips:** \$3 per student; max 45 students for each 1.5 hour program.

**Outreach:** Max 4 classes of 25 students. \$125 for first class, \$75 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 4 times. Outdoor activities dependant on school setting and weather. No auditorium programs.

When:

**Field trips:** Tuesday thru Friday between 9:00 am and 2:00 pm. Bring your own lunch.

**Outreach:** Mondays between 9:00 am and 2:00 pm.

More Information:

- ✓ Pre and post activity packets are included for all programs.
- ✓ All programs include hands-on, multidisciplinary activities that encourage classroom connections.
- ✓ 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.

\*All fees are for Essex County residents. Additional fees apply for out of county residents. Contact Center for details.



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.

## What can you see here?

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 approximately 1 mile of trails, a raised 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!

# Environmental Education Programs



## 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 ~

# Discover the Wilderness of Essex County

## Programs for Grades PK—2

### Seasonal Discovery

#### *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.

#### *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.

#### *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.

### Sensory Survival (Sept.—June)



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.

### Amazing Water (Sept.—June)



Water is our most important resource, without it nothing would survive on Earth. Learn what makes water so special by conducting lab experiments and investigating the water cycle and the three states of water.

## Programs for Grades 3—5

### Tricky Travelers (Fall and Spring)



Japanese Knotweed, European Starling, and Purple Loosestrife are just a few tricky travelers that have made NJ home. Find out how these plants and animals are able to adapt to new environments and how you can restore native habitats.

### What's That, Habitat?



#### *Discovering Wetlands* (Fall and Spring)

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.



#### *Discovering the Passaic* (Sept.—June)

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.



#### *Discovering Forests* (Sept.—June)

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.

### Mighty Migrations



#### *Monarch Butterflies* (Fall and Spring)

Become a Monarch and migrate to 'Mexico'. Discover how their lifecycle and unique habitat needs have created conservation efforts in the US and Mexico.



#### *NJ: A Flyway for Birds* (Sept.—June)

Did you know that NJ is one of the most important migratory stops for hundreds of species of birds? Learn what makes NJ special in the journey of bird migration.

## Programs for Grades 6—8

### What's That, Habitat? II (Sept.—June)



Get into more detail studying wetlands, forests and the Passaic with soil sampling, dichotomous keys, plant physiology, data analysis and water quality monitoring. Investigate how humans and natural systems interactions have caused plants and animals to adapt.

See grades 3-5 for thematic details.

### Too Close for Comfort (Sept.—June)



How many blades of grass are in your lawn? Certainly too many to count, but there is a limit. This limit, or carrying capacity, is determined by what the grass needs to survive. Explore how populations of living things obtain what they need and how organisms interact with the environment.

### Ecosystems Science (Fall and Spring)



Nothing in our frog pond ecosystem is wasted. Even when living things die, they will be recycled by other organisms like mushrooms. This natural breakdown process is called decomposition. Explore ecosystems energy flow, cycles of matter, biogeography (see "Tricky Travelers") and local biomes in this comprehensive ecosystems study.

### Cycles of Nature (Sept.—June)



Demystify weather, climate and seasons with this interactive program. Use new and old technologies to study our local microclimates, investigate ways in which humans impact local climate and create solutions to reduce these changes.

## Programs for High School

Expand your Environmental Science Curriculum with field-tested labs and activities in our wooded wetland habitat just steps away from the Passaic River. Customize your trip around the following topics:

- ◇ Exploring Municipal Solid Waste
- ◇ Environmental Risk Assessment
- ◇ Forests and Forest Ecology
- ◇ Biodiversity and Population Dynamics
- ◇ Biogeography: Native vs. Invasive Species
- ◇ Water Supply, Use and Management

## K—12 Programs

### Passaic River Studies

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.

### Reduce, Reuse, Recycle & Rethink!

There is more you can do to help the planet than you think! From action projects to everyday choices learn how you can become ambassadors for your home and school environments. Learn how the 4 R's are more than just separating trash through interactive games, hands-on activities, make-and-take projects and natural history hikes.