

Boy Scouts/ Varsity Scouts / Explorer Scouts

Special Events

Great Outdoor Weekend: Campfire, Orienteering, Canoeing, Camping Skills, Creeking & Fun Activities

Who: All Scout Levels
Location: Various locations in Cincinnati Parks
Dates/Times: Friday – Sunday, September 27 – 29. Various times.
Info: <https://www.greatoutdoorweekend.org/>

This special weekend presents opportunities for children and adults to sample the best outdoor recreation and nature awareness programs available in Greater Cincinnati region. There are over 100 events available; FREE and open to the public.

National Park Trust's Kids to the Parks Day

Who: All Cub Scouts
Location: Various locations in Cincinnati Parks
Dates/Times: Saturday, May 17, 2020. Various times.
Info: <https://www.cincinnatiiparks.com/explore-nature/>

Join us in celebrating the 10th annual National Park Trust's, Kids to Parks Day (KTP Day). Our Explore Nature! staff is hosting a variety of FREE activities for families and kids of all ages to find their own outdoor adventure. Activities are FREE and open to the public.

General Programming Information

Let us help you plan the perfect scouting program for your scouts! Program areas include Nature Study, Ecology, Environment, Science, Local History, Outdoor Skills, and more. From hands-on career experiences to fulfilling requirements of merit badges, we can tailor any program to meet the needs or interests of your group.

Weekday After-School Programs at Our Nature Centers or Neighborhood Parks: Up to two hours in length depending on arrival time. Fee: \$5 per scout & chaperones; primary leaders are FREE. An additional fee may be charged for program/craft materials. Minimum fee equivalent to 15 scouts/paying adults. Fee does not include badges.

Weekday After-School Outreach Programs at Your Facility:

Depending on the facility resources, we may not be able to complete badge activities such as hiking, habitat investigations, etc. Activity details should be discussed with the Naturalist before confirming the program.

Within City Limits: Up to two hours in length depending on starting time. Fee: \$75 for the first 30 - 60 minute program. \$25 for additional programs (same topic, location, day). An additional fee may be charged for program/craft materials. Fee does not include badges.

Out of City Limits: Up to two hours in length depending on starting time. Fee: \$75 for the first 30 - 60 minute program. \$25 for additional programs (same topic, location, day). An additional fee may be charged for mileage and program/craft materials. Fee does not include badges.

Half or Full Day Programs at Our Nature Centers: From 3 - 5 hours in length depending on arrival time.

Fee: \$15 – 25 per scout & chaperones; primary leaders are FREE. Minimum fee equivalent to 15 scouts/paying adults. Fee does not include badges. These programs can be scheduled on weekdays during school breaks (but not on national holidays). Weekends are limited due to public programs and special events; call our main office at 321-6070 for staff availability.

Programs require prepayment. Payment can be made with a money order, cashier check or credit card (Visa or Mastercard). Personal checks and troop checks are not accepted. Please make money orders / cashier checks payable to "Treasurer, City of Cincinnati". Credit card information can be given to the Naturalist scheduling the program with you.

Many public weekend programs are related to badge work but are best suited for registration by individual boys & their families. All require pre-registration and may have a fee. Check our website at www.cincinnatiiparks.com for the current list of programs.

Nature Centers also have opportunities for community service projects for troops of all ages and can work with Eagle Scout candidates on projects. No fee is charged for these projects.

To schedule a program date for your scout group or to discuss program specifics, call the Nature Center (listed below) most convenient for you.

Avon Woods Nature Center 4235 Paddock Rd. (Paddock Hills/Avondale) 513-861-3435

- Provides hikes and activities in nature, study local wildlife, outdoor skills and science topics such as weather.

Caldwell Nature Center 430 West North Bend Rd. (Carthage/Hartwell) 513-761-4313

- Provides hikes and activities in nature, study, local wildlife, Ohio Native Americans, geology, outdoor skills, weather and stream studies. Special program: Maple Sugaring (February only).

California Woods Nature Center 5400 Kellogg Ave. (California/ Mt. Washington) 513-231-8678

- Provides hikes and activities in nature, study local wildlife, Ohio pioneers, outdoor skills and science topics such as weather and stream studies. Special programs: Maple Sugaring (February only) and Green Up Day.

LaBoiteaux Woods Nature Center 5400 Lanius Lane (College Hill/ Northside) 513-542-2909

- Provides hikes and activities in nature, study local wildlife, outdoor skills, compass and map skills and Native American life. Special Program: Local history of the Underground Railroad.

Trailside Nature Center and Wolff Planetarium, 3251 Brookline Avenue (Clifton) 513-751-3679

- Provides hikes and activities in nature, study local wildlife, and outdoor skills such as fishing and canoeing. Special Program: Planetarium shows.

Other Cincinnati Parks - Naturalist programs can be scheduled in most Cincinnati Parks. Contact the Nature Center closest to the specific park.

Tours of Krohn Conservatory 1501 Eden Park Dr. (Eden Park) 513-352-4080 ext. 21

- Tours available through the showroom, desert, tropical and orchid rooms of the greenhouse during the weekdays of Monday- Friday. Admission fee is charged.

Call our Main Office at the Bettman Center (321-6070) regarding these opportunities:

- Community Service Projects: Centers can provide these for dens/packs of all scout levels.
- Volunteering Opportunities are available for troops or individuals at special events.
- Hiking Trails: at regional parks and the Nature Centers. Trails range from the very short up to 10+ mile LaTrainee de L'Explorateurs in Mt. Airy.
- Outdoor Scouting Overnights: at regional parks and the Nature Centers.

Merit Badges

The Naturalist staff can assist you in starting to fulfill or the completion for several of the Merit Badge requirements. These badges and the requirements that can be worked on during a scheduled program are listed below:

American Heritage (*available only at LaBoiteaux*) – **4b, 4d and 4e**

Astronomy (*available only at Trailside*) – **1c, 2, 3a, 3d, 4a, 4b, 4d, 5a, 5c, 6c, 7a, 7c and 8a.**

Backpacking (*available only at Caldwell*) – **1, 4a, 4b, 4c, 5a, 6a and 7.**

Bird Study – **1, 3a, 3b, 3c, 4a-g, 5a-d, 6, 7a and 8a.**

Camping – **1a, 5a, 6b, 6c and 9c.**

Canoeing (*available only at Trailside*) – **1a, 3a-c, 4a-g, 5a-b, 6, 10 a-f and 11a-d.**

Environmental Science – **2, 3a1, 3a3, 3b3, 3d1, 3f2, 4a and 6.**

Fish and Wildlife Management – **1, 2, 3, 4, 5b, and 6a-b.**

Fishing (*available only at Trailside*) – **1a, 1c, 1d, 2, 3, 5, 6a-b,7 and 9.**

Forestry – **1a-c, 2b, 2c, 3a1-8, 3b and 6a-b.**

Geology (*available only at Avon, Caldwell and California*) – **1, 2, 3, 5a1, 5a5, 5c1, 5c2, 5d2, 5d4 and 5d5a-c.**

Hiking – **1a-b and 2.**

Indian Lore (*available only at Caldwell and LaBoiteaux*) – **1, 2d, 3a, 3c and 4f.**

Insect Study – **1a-b, 2, 3, 5a, 6a-b, 7, 8, 11, 12 and 13.**

Mammal Study – **1, 2, 4e and 4g.**

Nature – **1, 2, 3, 4a, 4b, 4g and 4h.**

Orienteering (*available only at Caldwell and LaBoiteaux*) – **1, 2, 3, 4a-b and 5a-f.**

Plant Science – **1, 2, 3, 4, 6, Field Botany Option of A1, C, D, E and F5.**

Reptile and Amphibian Study – **1, 3, 4, 5, 6, 9b, and 10.**

Soil and Water Conservation – **1a-c, 2a-c, 3a-b, 4a-d, 5a-e, 6a-b and 7e-f.**

Weather (*available only at Avon, Caldwell and California*) – **1 – 8 and 9a.**