

School Group Program Information

Classes:

The programs were designed by local teachers and foresters to help students understand that forests are complex ecosystems that can be managed for many uses. Students will use the scientific methods of observation, measurement, and classification to learn and understand about the environment around them, their effect on it, and the environment's effect on their own lifestyles. Activities fall under Life Science, Earth Science, and Physical Science. All programs meet the Georgia Performance Standards (GPS).

Class Sizes:

To ensure a quality learning experience, Registration is limited to **100 students per day**. The students will be divided into smaller groups to complete the activities. Classes are rotated between Forest Educators and self-guided activities.

Time Blocks:

Programs are offered Tuesday through Fridays, from 9:30am to 2:00pm. Classes are divided into time blocks dependant on selected activities. Every group automatically receives the Boardwalk and Talking Tree Trail. Lunch is 30 minutes long.

Fees:

Spirit Creek Educational Forest is an approved Field Trip Facility, through your local School Board. With special funding, all of the programs offered are **free!** Schools are responsible for their own transportation. Transportation must remain on site while students are visiting, in case of an emergency.

Registration:

A two week prior registration is required, however, it is recommended to make reservations far enough in advance for dates during our prime months. All reservations are made on first come, first serve basis.

Through a special donation, there is an all-terrain wheel chair that is available. Please let our staff know of special needs your group has.

Chaperones:

The role of the chaperone is to help the students stay focused on the activity. Naturally the students will be excited, but the activities are lessons done in the outdoors. In order to be effective, students must listen to and respect the presenter. Be sure all chaperones know the rules so they may help enforce them. For elementary schools, the ratio is 1 adult per every 7 students for forest activities and 1 adult per every 5 students for creek activities. For middle school students, a ratio of 1 adult per 10 students for forest activities and 1 adult per 6 students for creek activities.

Please Note:

Everyone is required to wear long pants and closed shoes. **No sandals of any kind are allowed.** Sunscreen and bug repellent are welcomed. Avoid wearing any perfume, as bugs will be attracted to you. Be dressed for the weather. We will try to conduct programs as long as the comfort of your students will not be compromised. Rain ponchos and hats are good to bring just in case. In colder months, dressing in layers will help students stay warm. Don't forget hat and gloves!



Students prepare to
"Get in Touch with Trees"

"Wonderful field trip!! Everyone is always helpful, And you have thought of everything from hand washing to lesson plans!"



Terrapene carolina
Eastern Box Turtle