

Volusia County Conservation Lands Outdoor Education Class Schedule 2009-10

Class size limit = 30 students. Grade levels are approximate and flexible.

There is no charge. Not limited to Volusia County residents.

Home School: Email or call to register. Register early, classes fill quickly.

Public and Private Schools: Email or call to discuss educational opportunities and plan a class field trip date. Field trip activities and sites can be selected and modified to suit your travel and curriculum needs.

Please be aware that these are structured classes that are held outside on Volusia County Conservation Lands. Students and adults need to be flexible with weather conditions and other unforeseen challenges of working in the natural world. Bring two important things—your sense of adventure and your sense of humor and we'll have a great experience!

Volusia County Land Acquisition and Management
Contact: Bonnie Cary (386) 736-5276, (386) 804-0437
bcary@co.volusia.fl.us

Check our website for other outdoor opportunities: www.volusia.org/growth/outreach.htm

Activity	Date -- Time	Site	Wear	Bring	Overview
Observation Scavenger Hunt Grades K-5	Wed., Aug. 26 9:30-11:30	Lake Beresford Park 2100 Fatio Rd. DeLand Between MacGregor and Beresford Rd.	Comfortable clothes that match the weather, sneakers or hiking shoes	Water to drink Note: Playground on site for recess afterward.	Introduction to observing the diversity of the natural world through the use of all your senses. Students take a hike and search for different specimens of texture, color and abstract shapes, and then create a display to share their discoveries with the class.

<p>Dead Log Condos</p> <p>Grades K-8</p>	<p>Thurs., Sept. 10</p> <p>9:30-11:30</p>	<p>Lake Beresford Park</p> <p>2100 Fatio Rd. DeLand Between MacGregor and Beresford Rd.</p>	<p>Comfortable clothes that match the weather, sneakers or hiking shoes</p>	<p>Water to drink.</p> <p>Note: Playground on site for recess afterward.</p>	<p>Introduction to the process of dead tree decomposition and how important it is for providing habitat and returning nutrients back to the earth. Students will explore and examine with microscopes and hand lenses the fungi and critters that live and hunt in rotting logs.</p>
<p>Wetland Hike</p> <p>Grades K- 8</p>	<p>Thurs., Sept. 24</p> <p>9:30-11:30</p>	<p>Hickory Bluff Preserve</p> <p>598 Guise Rd., Osteen End of Guise Rd., off Maytown Rd.</p>	<p>Old shorts or pants, old shoes or rubber boots</p>	<p>Water to drink</p>	<p>The best way to learn about a wetland is to walk through a wetland! Introduction to the wetland world of cypress domes and marshes. Students will hike through mud and ankle deep water to explore the soil, plants and critters of a wetland.</p>
<p>Flower Power</p> <p>Gr. 3-8</p>	<p>Thurs., Oct. 8</p> <p>9:30-11:30</p>	<p>Bicentennial Youth Park</p> <p>3300 New York Ave. DeLand (one mile east of VC Fairgrounds)</p>	<p>Comfortable clothes that match the weather, sneakers or hiking shoes</p>	<p>Water to drink</p>	<p>Introduction to the wondrous and diverse blooms of plants. Students will observe and dissect flowers to examine and understand their parts and how they develop seeds. They may bring examples of their own if they have them.</p>
<p>Seed Scavenger Hunt</p> <p>Gr. 3-8</p>	<p>Thurs., Oct. 22</p> <p>9:30-11:30</p>	<p>Wiregrass Prairie Preserve</p> <p>Off Lopez Rd., off Pell Rd., off Maytown Rd., Osteen</p>	<p>Comfortable clothes that match the weather, sneakers or hiking shoes</p>	<p>Water to drink</p> <p>Note: No bathroom facilities on site.</p>	<p>Introduction to fruits and seeds and the clever ways that they travel. Students will collect seeds and fruit from different habitats then examine and dissect them under magnification to learn their parts. We'll compare these to the fruits we eat. Students may bring fruit from home to dissect and examine their seeds.</p>

<p>Teeny Critters of the Pond</p> <p>Grades K-8</p>	<p>Thurs., Nov. 5</p> <p>9:30 – 11:30</p>	<p>Lyonia Preserve</p> <p>Behind Deltona Library 2150 Eustace Ave. Deltona</p>	<p>Shorts, old sneakers or water shoes or rubber boots</p>	<p>Water to drink</p>	<p>Introduction to aquatic insects and other critters that live in aquatic habitats. Students will use dip nets to collect aquatic macroinvertebrates and then use microscopes and ID books to identify their specimens.</p>
<p>Ant Lunch & Ants for Lunch</p> <p>Grades K-5</p>	<p>Thurs., Nov. 19</p> <p>9:30 – 11:30</p>	<p>Lyonia Preserve</p> <p>Behind Deltona Library 1250 Eustace Ave. Deltona</p>	<p>Comfortable clothes that match the weather, walking or hiking shoes.</p>	<p>Water to drink</p>	<p>Introduction to the ants and ant lions of scrub and their behavior. Students will design and carry-out a foraging ant feeding and behavior experiment. Students will observe ant lion larva and their predatory trapping technique.</p>
<p>Nature Into Art & Poetry</p> <p>All ages</p>	<p>Tues., Dec 1 Dec 2</p> <p>9:30-11:30</p>	<p>Bicentennial Youth Park</p> <p>3300 New York Ave. DeLand (one mile east of VC Fairgrounds)</p>	<p>Comfortable clothes that can get paint or other fun things on them.</p>	<p>Water to drink</p>	<p>Introduction to using things collected from the natural world to create art and inspire poetry writing. With some instruction students will be free to use materials and their collections to create art and poetry. A great time to make Christmas gifts for special folks.</p>
<p>Signs of Wildlife— Tracks & Scat</p> <p>Grades 3-8</p>	<p>Thurs., Jan. 7</p> <p>9:30 – 11:30</p>	<p>Longleaf Pine Preserve</p> <p>Service gate entrance, North side of Hwy 44, 300 feet west of Pioneer Trail.</p>	<p>Comfortable clothes that match the weather, sneakers or hiking shoes.</p>	<p>Water to drink</p> <p>Note: No bathroom facilities on site.</p>	<p>Introduction to identifying animal tracks. Introduction to animal scat and its use as a tool for identifying animals in the area. Students will hike and look for tracks of various animals then recreate them through plaster casting.</p>

<p>Geo-Eco Challenge</p> <p>Grades 3-12</p>	<p>Thurs., Jan. 21</p> <p>9:30 – 11:30</p>	<p>Hickory Bluff Preserve</p> <p>598 Guise Rd., Osteen End of Guise Rd., off Maytown Rd.</p>	<p>Comfortable clothes that match the weather, sneakers or hiking shoes</p>	<p>Water to drink.</p>	<p>Challengers will learn to use a GPS to geocache, solve physical and mental challenges through team building skills and learn about ecosystems of the site, plus have a great time!</p>
<p>4th Annual Air Potato Round-up</p> <p>Grades K–12 and parents and friends..</p>	<p>Thurs., Feb. 4</p> <p>9:30 – 11:30</p>	<p>Gemini Springs Park</p> <p>37 Dirkson Rd., DeBary</p>	<p>Comfortable clothes that match the weather, Sneakers or hiking shoes</p>	<p>Water to drink.</p> <p>Note: Playground on site for recess afterwards.</p>	<p>Introduction to invasive exotic plants and the problems they cause. Introduction to the air potato vine. Students will divide into groups and collect air potatoes from infested areas. Tallies of group collections and contests in different categories of air potato uniqueness will be held as a finale.</p>
<p>Art & Science of Soils</p> <p>Grades 3-8</p>	<p>Thurs., Feb. 18</p> <p>9:30 – 11:30</p>	<p>Longleaf Pine Preserve Service Entrance</p> <p>Old Sawmill Rd. Off Hwy 44</p>	<p>Comfortable clothes that match the weather, sneakers or hiking shoes</p>	<p>Water to drink</p> <p>Note: No bathroom facilities on site.</p>	<p>Introduction to soil sampling and soil characteristics such as texture, color, and percolation. Students will divide into groups and dig a soil profile then analyze the soil horizons using scientific equipment. Student groups will assemble a comparative test for soil percolation.</p> <p>Students will work with native clay from the site to create a simple pot.</p>
<p>Bike Hike</p> <p>Grades 3-100</p>	<p>Thurs., Mar. 4</p> <p>9:30-11:30</p>	<p>Lake Beresford Park</p> <p>2100 Fatio Rd., DeLand Between MacGregor and Beresford Rd.</p>	<p>Comfortable riding clothes</p> <p>Helmet</p>	<p>Water and snack</p>	<p>Experience the natural world while having fun riding your bike! The paved bike trail is an avenue through beautiful hardwood hammock habitat.</p>

<p>Insects are Everywhere!</p> <p>Grades K-6</p>	<p>Thurs., Mar. 18</p> <p>9:30-11:30</p>	<p>Hickory Bluff Preserve</p> <p>598 Guise Rd., Osteen End of Guise Rd., Off Maytown Rd.</p>	<p>Comfortable clothes that match the weather, walking or hiking shoes.</p>	<p>Water to drink</p>	<p>Introduction to some of the insects of Central Florida. Students will learn about and observe insects on a hike through several habitats then make puppets that illustrate what they have learned.</p> <p>Materials provided.</p>
<p>Talk to the Trees</p> <p>Grades 3-8</p>	<p>Thurs., Mar. 25</p> <p>9:30 –11:30</p>	<p>Lake George Wildlife Management Area</p> <p>998 Ninemile Point Rd., Seville End of Ninemile Point Rd.</p>	<p>Comfortable clothes that match the weather, walking or hiking shoes.</p>	<p>Water to drink</p>	<p>On an eco-buggy tour with stops, students will explore the importance of trees in a forest habitat and their importance to humans as a resource. They will experiment with some of the tools that foresters use.</p>
<p>Gopher Tortoise Survey</p> <p>Gr. 3-8</p>	<p>Thurs., April 8</p> <p>9:30-11:30</p>	<p>Wiregrass Prairie Preserve</p> <p>Rudman Rd., off Pell Rd., Osteen</p>	<p>Long pants, walking or hiking shoes.</p>	<p>Water to drink.</p>	<p>Introduction to gopher tortoise biology and life habitats. Student groups will observe, measure and record data on gopher tortoise burrows they discover while monitoring.</p>
<p>Leaves— Fingerprints of a Plant</p> <p>Grades K–8</p>	<p>Thurs., April 22</p> <p>9:30 – 11:30</p>	<p>Lyonia Preserve</p> <p>Behind Deltona Library 2150 Eustace Ave. Deltona</p>	<p>Comfortable clothes that match the weather, walking or hiking shoes.</p>	<p>Water to drink.</p>	<p>Introduction to types of leaves and the names that scientists give to their shapes and parts. Students will learn to categorize leaves by their shapes and characteristics.</p> <p>Students will create animal mosaics using pressed native plant leaves.</p>

<p>Mollusks and Their Shells</p> <p>All Ages</p>	<p>Tues., April 27</p> <p>1:00-3:00</p>	<p>Smyrna Dunes Park</p> <p>2995 N. Peninsula Dr. New Smyrna Beach</p>	<p>Comfortable clothes that can go ankle deep in water, sandals or water shoes.</p>	<p>Water to drink</p>	<p>Introduction to mollusks, where they live and how they live and the beautiful shells that they create. A mollusk expert will lead a wading hike along the shoreline to search for and identify these diverse critters.</p>
<p>Water Quality Testing</p> <p>Grads 3-8</p>	<p>Thurs., May 6</p> <p>9:30 – 11:30</p>	<p>Lake Ashby Park</p> <p>4150 Boy Scout Camp Rd. New Smyrna Beach (closer to Samsula)</p>	<p>Comfortable clothes that match the weather, sneakers or hiking shoes.</p>	<p>Water to drink</p> <p>Note: Playground on site for recess afterwards.</p>	<p>Introduction to testing the physical and chemical properties of water. Students will use scientific equipment to test Lake Ashby water temperature, transparency, pH, and conductivity along with weather conditions.</p>