



A division of Murfreesboro Parks and Recreation

GROUP PROGRAMS



Pre-visit Information

- Dressing for the weather is very important as most of our programs involve an outdoor component, and some are entirely outside. Closed-toed shoes are a must, as well as jackets and coats in cold weather. If inclement weather is expected, we reserve the right to alter the program, and in rare cases, cancel.
- Arriving on time is crucial for a successful program. Please aim to arrive 10 minutes early to allow children time to debus and line up.
- Student name tags that can be easily read by staff are encouraged. We love getting to know our students!
- Please make sure all cell phones are silenced and put away upon arrival.
- It is important that the Outdoor Murfreesboro staff members know of any special needs prior to the program so that we can plan to make the experience as positive as possible for all involved!

Scheduling

Call 615-217-3017 or email outdoormurfreesboro@murfreesborotn.gov. Please have the following information ready: program choice, school or organization name, grade level, number of students, and preferred dates.

Program Flexibility

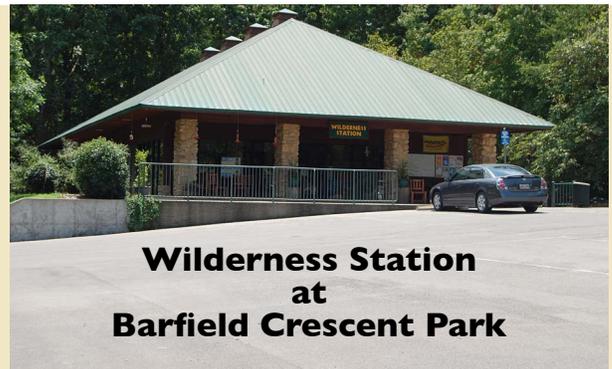
If you are interested in a topic that is not listed here, or are interested in one that is listed here but is not offered to your age group, please reach out to us. We are often capable of providing custom programs or adapting current programs for different age groups.

Scouts & Homeschooled Students

Outdoor Murfreesboro offers regular Scout workshops that cover all requirements for a certain badge or Adventure. Outdoor Murfreesboro can also provide custom programs for Scouts and Homeschool groups. Please contact us for more information.

Pricing

There is a program fee for each child that varies depending on the number of programs they attend. Please contact Outdoor Murfreesboro for more information.



Wilderness Station at Barfield Crescent Park

697 Veterans Parkway
Murfreesboro, TN 37128
(615) 217-3017

outdoormurfreesboro@murfreesborotn.gov
www.murfreesboroparks.com

Located in Barfield Crescent Park, the Wilderness Station is the city's unique outdoor awareness and adventure facility. It is nestled along the edge of the woods just a short drive past the disc golf area. Groups may camp in the primitive Backcountry Campground. Amenities include two educational classrooms, outdoor camping supplies, and campsites. The Retreat Room is available to rent; evening rentals and programs are based on staff availability.

Find us on 



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The City of Murfreesboro does not exclude anyone from participation, nor deny the benefits of, or otherwise subject to discrimination on the basis of race, national origin, color, age, or disability. Any complaint alleging discrimination may be filed with the City Manager of the City of Murfreesboro. It is the goal of Murfreesboro Parks and Recreation Department to make its programs and facilities available to the public. If you, or someone you know, has a disabling condition and would like more information about accessibility of programs or facilities, please call the main office of the Murfreesboro Parks and Recreation Department at 615-890-5333 or TDD 615-849-2689. Any city resident needing financial assistance to participate in any activity may contact the main office of the Murfreesboro Parks and Recreation Department located at 697 Veterans Parkway, to receive a copy of its financial assistance policy.

Programs - Groups of 60 or Less

***NOTE: DUE TO COVID-19, PLEASE CALL FOR TEMPORARY MAXIMUM PROGRAM SIZE.**



- These programs take place in or around the Wilderness Station in Barfield Crescent Park.
- ***Maximum program size is 20 students. A teacher with 60 students would choose 3 programs and the students would rotate through.**

Animal Adaptations- This program explores the amazing adaptations that make animals unique and help them survive! We look at animal furs, skulls, and other biofacts. The program concludes with meeting one of the Wilderness Station's live animal friends.

Animal Tracks & Signs- We share the world around us with so many different animals-it's important to know who your neighbors are! In this program, we learn how to identify different animal signs and then take to the trails to see what we can find!

Astronomy Basics-We will use models to explore the movements of the sun, moon, and planets. We will also learn the moon phases.

Endangered Species- This program explores the threatened, endangered, and extinct species designations and the reasons that animals become endangered and extinct. We play a game called Habitat Shrink that shows how hard it is for animals to survive as their habitat disappears.

Fossils-This program covers what fossils are, how they are formed, the different types of fossilization, and much more. The students will have the opportunity to pass around real fossil specimens. If time allows, we will also learn about the giant marine reptiles that called Tennessee home when this area was covered in a shallow sea!

Geology- Students will learn the layers of the earth and the importance of rocks and minerals in their everyday life. They will conduct rock testing to explore different rock characteristics.

Habitats & Food Chains- We will use games to explore habitats, food chains, and the relationships that animals have within an ecosystem. Migration Frenzy and Coyote Rabbit Tag are student favorites. If time allows, we also go on a short hike through several different habitat types.

Insect IQ-What makes an insect an insect? We will explore their characteristics, their life cycle, meet some hissing cockroaches, then go for a short hike.

Interpretive Hike- This hike is a general exploratory program in which we take to the trail and discuss various topics along the way, based on the cool things we see. This is often a good program to add on to another, so that we have time to further investigate a topic.

My Tennessee Home-Students will go on a hike exploring the Tennessee state symbols. They will have the opportunity to look at some animal biofacts as well.

Physics- Students will explore the way the world works through hands-on activities as they rotate through different stations! Teachers can choose 4 of the following: film canister rockets

(a student favorite), Sink/Float (density), Insulator/Conductor, Squishy Circuits, Floating Magnets, and Circuitboard. Teacher or chaperone assistance may be required to help run a station or two, depending on staffing. Instructions will be provided.

Plants- What are plants and why are they important? Hint: they keep us alive! We will go over plant parts, life cycle, and conclude the program with a plant hike.

Senses Hike- This hike explores differences in human and animal senses as we explore the forest trails around the Wilderness Station.

Teambuilding- This program involves multiple initiatives in which students must work together to achieve their goal. Teambuilding promotes communication, leadership, and teamwork.

Water Quality- This program includes a roughly 2-mile round-trip hike to the Stones River, where students will explore macroinvertebrate biodiversity and water quality. Students must wear shoes that can get wet!

Weather- Students will learn what causes rain and a tornado. They will collect data on the day's weather and then travel through the water cycle as a droplet of rain!

Programs - Groups over 60 *

These programs take place at one of Barfield Crescent Park's outdoor pavilions and include a \$40 pavilion rental fee.

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Reptiles Everywhere-

There will be a large group reptile program after which the students will break out into groups led by teachers and chaperones, with Outdoor Murfreesboro staff assistance. Activities and games will help students further explore concepts surrounding reptiles and their natural history. The students will have an opportunity to meet several of the Wilderness Station's live animals.



Wildlife Frenzy- After a large group mammal program, the students will break out into groups led by teachers and chaperones, with Outdoor Murfreesboro staff assistance, to further explore concepts surrounding reptiles and their natural history.

TN State Standards

All Outdoor Murfreesboro programs are designed to cover state curriculum standards for a variety of grades. Please contact us for a list of standards covered in each program.

Custom Programs

Outdoor Murfreesboro may also be able to provide a custom program on a subject not listed here. If you have an idea, please ask us about it!