




Education Programs




*Preserving natural areas for public appreciation,
education, and recreational use.*

Scheduling a Program

 We suggest scheduling your program 3-4 weeks in advance. Our most popular months are October, April and May. These months typically fill early!

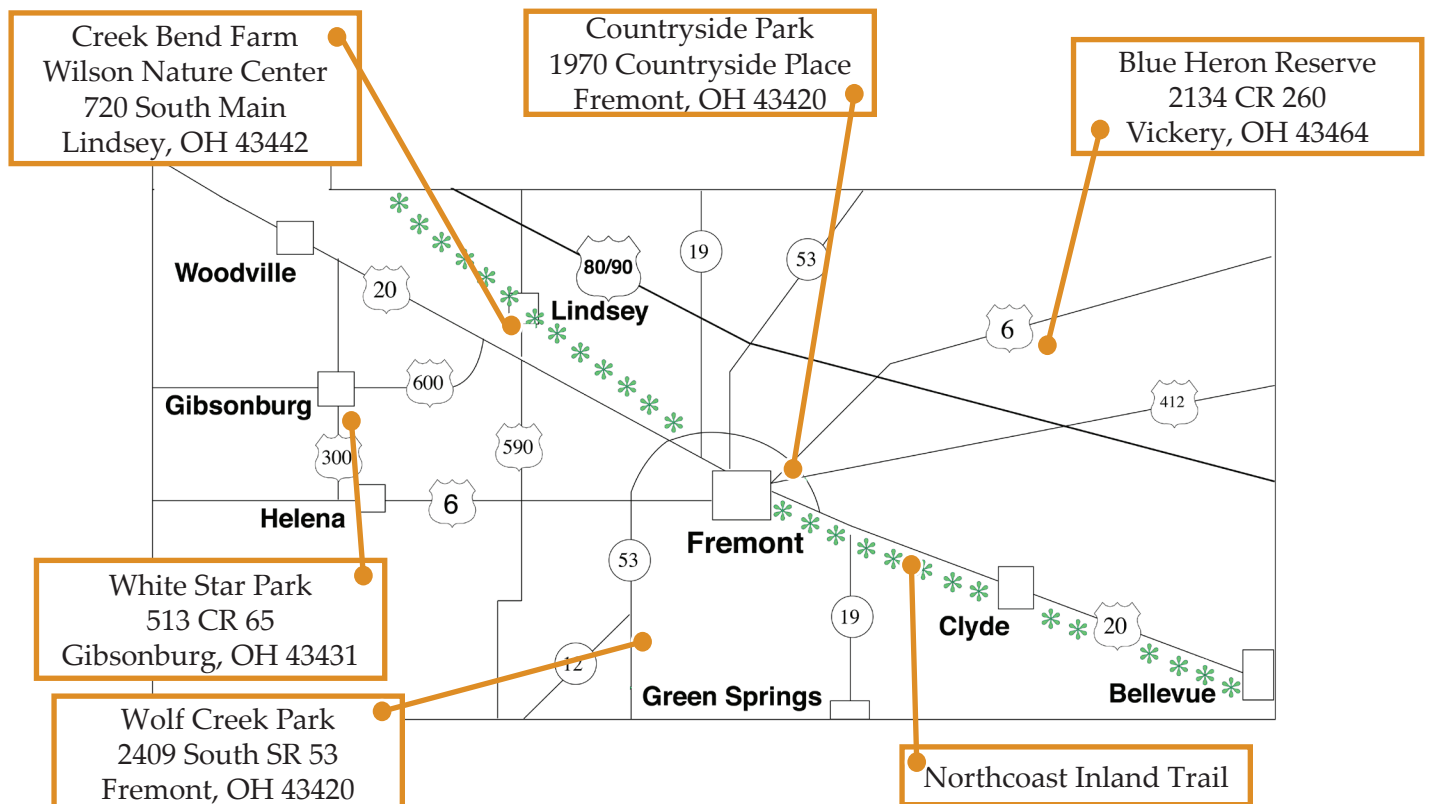
 When visiting a Sandusky County Park District facility, group size is limited to 75 students or 3 classes per visit. This may vary dependent upon staff availability.






 You may select one or more programs. To schedule a program contact Deb Nofzinger, Program Coordinator at 567-206-5600 or dnofzinger@sanduskycountyparks.com and have the following information ready:

- ✦ Contact person: includes name, address, phone number and email address
- ✦ Preferred date and a few back up dates
- ✦ Grade and number of students
- ✦ Program(s) being requested
- ✦ Location (can be at your site or one of ours)
- ✦ Are special arrangements needed?

 Programs can be done in your classroom or at any of the following Sandusky County Parks.

- ✦ Our primary location for school programs is Creek Bend Farm.
- ✦ Programs can also be done at White Star Park, Countryside Park, Wolf Creek, Blue Heron Reserve, and the North Coast Inland Trail. Restrooms and/or shelters may not be available at these locations.



-  Unless noted, programs are 45 minutes in length.
-  Programs are held in the rain or snow. We only cancel in the event of extreme weather or conditions. If a program is cancelled, it can be rescheduled but is subject to availability.
-  There are no fees, unless designated for materials (i.e. apples) for Sandusky County schools or groups. Out of county schools or groups should call to inquire about fees.
-  If you are interested in a topic and you do not see it, let us know and we will try our best to meet your needs.
-  All programs align to the grade level indicators of the Ohio Academic Content Standards.

 Meets one or more SCIENCE content standards

 Meets one or more SOCIAL STUDIES content standards

 Change of clothes and shoes is **REQUIRED**



Nature Hike *All Grades*

Get your kids outside and moving with a hike! Students will discuss the plants, animals and habitats they see along the way. Students will get to use our Adventure Backpacks, which contain identification guides, binoculars, etc., during the hike.



Animals of Your Backyard

All Grades

Students will get to meet our LIVE animal ambassadors as well as explore furs and other animal artifacts to learn more about the common animals of their neighborhood.



All About Bats! *All Grades*

Discover mammalian characteristics while investigating the wonderful world of bats. Students may get to meet a LIVE bat!



Herp Happenings *All Grades*

Using LIVE animals, students will learn the differences between amphibians and reptiles. Discover what makes them unique. We will discuss characteristics, lifecycles and habitat requirements.



Rock Investigators *3rd Grade and Up*

Through hands-on exploration students will investigate the differences between several rock specimens and discover how they were formed.



Eagles *1st Grade and Up*

We are lucky in northwest Ohio to have a thriving population of bald eagles. Students will learn about bird characteristics as well as the eagle's life history.



Swamp Story *4th Grade and Up*

How did the Great Black Swamp get here and where did it go? Discuss how glaciers helped to form the swamp as well as Lake Erie. Students will also examine animal furs and discuss how the animals were impacted by the settlement of the swamp.



Ohio's First People

3rd grade and Up

Discover how the Native Americans of Ohio lived prior to European settlement with hands-on exploration of animal skins, tools and games.



Creek Critters *3rd Grade and Up*

Explore Muddy Creek for signs of life. Search for and identify macroinvertebrates and discover how they tell us more about the health of the creek. Students will be IN the creek and WILL get wet. (Creek Bend Farm Only)



Mammal Mania *1st Grade and Up*

Students discuss mammalian characteristics and explore furs, tracks, skulls and scat to learn more about the common mammals of Ohio.



Apples *1st Grade and Up*

Where did all the apple trees come from? Learn about Johnny Appleseed and the process of pollination. Students will also get to make their own fresh cider. Classes need to provide their own apples; two per student. (Creek Bend Farm Only)



Nibbles *pre-K-1st grade*

Meet Nibbles, the nature center rabbit! Learn what group of animals she belongs to, what she needs to survive and what makes her different from wild animals.

Fossils *2nd Grade and Up*

What types of creatures lived here millions of years ago? Examine fossils to discover how they were formed and what they can tell you about Ohio's past.



Finding Our Way *3rd grade and Up*

No GPS? We're going old school with a compass! Discover how a compass works and learn how to use it to find your cardinal points and your way with fun activities. This is an outdoor program.



Chore Time *1st Grade and Up*

Ever wondered what it was like to be a settler? Here's your chance to find out! Students will discuss what life was like for the early settlers of Sandusky County and try their hand at making butter, grinding corn and using old-time tools.



It's a Bee Thing *3rd grade and Up*

Learn about the lifecycles of bees and plants and how they are connected. Discover how bees benefit humans thru pollination and honey making. Students will get to see bee-keeping equipment. Programs at Creek Bend Farm will visit a working hive (spring/fall)



What's For Lunch? *5th Grade and Up*

Through hands-on investigation students will examine animal skulls and use a dichotomous key to classify them as herbivores, carnivores or omnivores



Trees are Terrific *5th Grade and Up*

Learn about all the amazing things trees do for us. Discover how a tree works and tree anatomy with fun activities. Learn easy ways to identify trees. Can be adapted for the classroom.



Cabin Fever *1st Grade and Up*

Experience what it was like to live in a log cabin and learn about life as a Black Swamp settler. (White Star Park Only)

