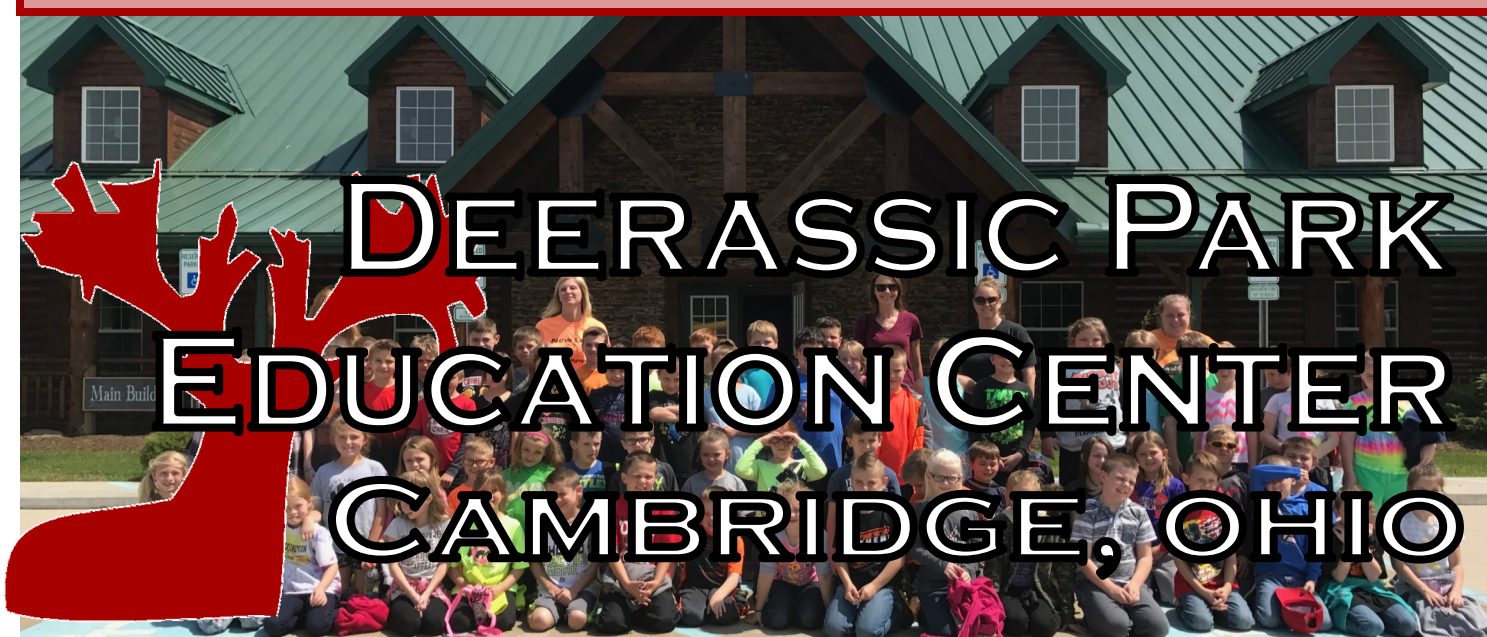




*Helping Youth & Families Reconnect
with the Outdoors Since 1996*

2018 Guide to
School, Youth &
Small Group Programs



DEERASSIC PARK
EDUCATION CENTER
CAMBRIDGE, OHIO



Philosophy

The guiding philosophy at Deerassic Park Education Center is to reconnect youth and families with outdoor activities and recreation, fostering and developing a life long appreciation for the outdoors and nature.

This is accomplished primarily through programs and events involving regional youth and their parents, and is done at little to no cost for the partici-

pants. Seeing a trend in the late 1990's and into the early 2000's of declining youth involvement in the outdoors, Deerassic Park Education Center was established to combat these declines. Since then, the staff at the facility have provided a myriad of programs and events designed for youth and families to experience the outdoors and become participants in a variety of outdoor activities.



Encouraging the curiosity of youth is a high priority at Deerassic Park Education Center. Nurturing their natural curiosity in the environment helps to grow their understanding of the world.

About Deerassic Park

Founded in 1996, The National Whitetail Deer Education Foundation is dedicated to providing outdoor education at little to no cost for programs and events. The education center is located on 155 acres, with a main building, a 3 acre pond, trails and event areas including 15,000 sq. ft of pavilion space. The Deerassic Park Education Center also maintains an educational herd of deer for youth and families to view, while the main building houses a unique collection of mounted animals and artwork.

Throughout the year, Deerassic Park Education Center provides community and educational events and programs to reach out to youth and families. These include: school field trips to the park, annual family events such as Spring Fest and Fall Festival, summer programs and educational opportunities. The classes and programs taught include but are not limited to: canoeing, archery, riflery, nature hikes, deer lectures, kayaking, SAFE archery, paddleboarding, disc golf, archery tag, field games, ultimate Frisbee, aerial archery, creeking, and conservation education. These activities are also enjoyed by our summer camp attendees. Deerassic offers day camps that include: Archery Camp, Junior Day Camp, Big Foot Lock-In, Gun Safety Camp, and Senior Day Camp.

Over 6,000 youth come to the park annually for these education programs. Deerassic Park Education Center also provides Ohio Division of Natural Resources education programs such as Passport to Fishing, and Hunter's Education.

Educational Programs & Activities

Field Trips at Deerassic Park are fun! Who doesn't want to spend the day outdoors doing programs and activities that make lasting memories for youth?

Deerassic Park Education Center is dedicated to providing high quality outdoor education experiences to youth to encourage them to be active in the outdoors and to nurture an appreciation for all the opportunities nature and the environment have to offer.

A field trip day generally consists of 4-6 programs with a break for lunch (depending on your arrival/departure time). Our age/grade guidelines are only suggestions; you know your students and their educational level best.



Educational Topics for Schools

Educators can check out the grade specific listing of classes offered and their correlating Academic Content Standards. We are proud to work with you to provide hands-on learning opportunities tailored to your specific needs.

Our Planning guide and 48 page Lesson Plan guide is available for download at:

Deerassic.com



Youth learn from hands-on experiences that they treasure for a lifetime.





NATIONAL WHITETAIL DEER EDUCATION FOUNDATION
& DEERASSIC PARK EDUCATION CENTER ®

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www.deerassic.com

SCHOOL & GROUP FIELD TRIPS

Deerassic Park Education Center is dedicated to providing high quality outdoor education experiences to youth to encourage them to be active in the outdoors and to nurture an appreciation for all the opportunities nature and the environment have to offer.

Below is a list and description of the outdoor activities and education that school and group field trips can be involved in at Deerassic Park Education Center. Please let us know which programs and activities your group would be interested in pursuing.

Program	Description	Max/Min	Grades
400-Acre Wood (50 minutes)	Students will play the role of managers of a 400-acre (162 hectare) piece of public forest. Through this role, students will begin to understand the complex considerations that influence management decisions about forest lands.	26/4	7 th -8 th
Aerial Archery (30-60 min.)	Having previous archery experience is a prerequisite to this activity. Students will try some advanced archery techniques by using the NASP style compound bows to try and shoot circular foam targets out of the air thrown by a Deerassic worker. They will use flu-flu arrows (designed for aerial flight) to try and “shish-kabob” the foam targets.	12/4	5 th +
Are You Me? (20-40 min.)	Students will recognize various young stages of aquatic animals and match them with corresponding adult stages. Using picture cards, students match pairs of juvenile and adult aquatic animals.	26/6	3 rd +
Archery I (30-60 min.)	Hay bales and targets/balloons are set so students can use the NASP style (kid friendly) compound bows to work on their target shooting skills	26/4	3 rd +
Archery II: SAFE Archery (30-60 min.)	This inflatable option can be done inside or out depending on the weather. Four “floating” balls become the targets as students shoot modified arrows with recurve bows. Excellent option for “Beginners” with no shooting experience. This can also be turned into a competition for the advanced shooter.	26/4	Pre-K+

<i>Program</i>	<i>Description</i>	<i>Max/Min</i>	<i>Grades</i>
Archery Tag (30-60 min.)	A fast paced game where two teams compete with recurve bows, foam tipped arrows, and safety masks to “knock” each other out of the ring. An octagon with inflatable barriers to hide behind is set for the teams to compete in this safe but fun game. Last one standing wins!	12/4	3 rd +
Butterfly Exploration (15-30 min.)	Youth are invited to examine examples of the changes that happen throughout the lifecycle of native butterflies. Seasonally available, our live butterfly enclosure allows students to walk through the habitat and see these creatures up close.	26/4	Pre-K+
Stream Studies “Creeking” (30-90 min.)	Walk in the bottom ravine of our property where the creek runs. Depending on the season and amount of rainfall, students will be able to catch salamanders and crawdads. Nets, containers, and identification sheets make identifying all the critters easy. This field inquiry lesson will introduce students to many aquatic vertebrates, invertebrates, and to the concept that their presence or absence can help us determine the quality of the water in streams, rivers, lakes, and ponds.	26/4	Pre-K+
Canoeing/ Kayaking (30 min. – 3 hrs.)	Available for small groups or as a station, participants have the opportunity to spend some time on the water exploring the sport of canoeing/kayaking. Classes range from a quick start on the water experience to a full ACA Introduction to canoeing/kayaking class.	14/4	3 rd +
Disc Golf (30 min. – 2 hrs.)	Coming soon! We will offer students the opportunity to try this one-of-a-kind sport that gets them active and outdoors. Students will throw Frisbees through a course set up with disc catchers (works like golf but catchers instead of holes).	24/6	3 rd +
Field Games (30 min. – 2 hrs.)	We are now bringing physical education outdoors! Choose from all sorts of games including but not limited to: whiffleball, kickball, dodgeball, capture the flag, and ultimate Frisbee! Get your students active and outdoors!	30/12	3 rd +
First Impressions (30-50 minutes)	Children combine movement and art to show how they think and feel about animals	25/6	Pre-K+

<i>Program</i>	<i>Description</i>	<i>Max/Min</i>	<i>Grades</i>
<i>Fishing</i> (30-90 min.)	Utilizing our large floating dock, three acre stocked pond, cane poles and worms; youth will be exposed to the basics of fishing, with an opportunity to catch bluegill and bass. All materials are provided by the park.	24/4	Pre-K+
<i>Forest Consequences</i> (30-45 minutes)	This activity portrays that good habitat is the key to wildlife survival, a population will continue to increase in size until some limiting factors are imposed, limiting factors contribute to fluctuations in wildlife populations, and nature is never in “balance,” but is constantly changing.	25/10	1 st +
<i>Get in Touch with Trees</i> (30 minutes)	Using a “mystery box,” students will explore their sense of touch and discover different shapes and textures in nature	26/6	Pre-K+
<i>Got Water?</i> (40 min.)	Have you ever considered what an ant has to go through just to get a drink of water?	25/6	3 rd -5 th
<i>Hiding in Plain Sight</i> (30-40 min.)	Students play a game of hide and seek to learn about important adaptations in many wild animals.	25/6	Pre-K+
<i>Invasive Species</i> (30-50 minutes)	Students will research invasive species to determine how these species got to their new locations and what characteristics make them so challenging.	26/6	5 th -8 th
<i>Lunch for a Bear</i> (30-50 minutes)	Children identify the kinds of food that black bears eat by creating a plate of “bear food.” Students are introduced to the concept of limited resources. Students are also introduced to the concept of omnivores and how they require a variety in their diet to survive.	25/4	Pre-K+
<i>Marksmanship & Firearm Safety</i> (30-60 min.)	Working with air rifles, students learn the basics of firearm safety along with basic marksmanship utilizing hay bales and targets/balloons.	26/4	3 rd +

<i>Program</i>	<i>Description</i>	<i>Max/Min</i>	<i>Grades</i>
<i>Migration Headache</i> (45 minutes)	If you were a bird, would you survive your winter trek down south?	26/6	6 th -8 th
<i>Nothing Succeeds Like Succession</i> (30-50 minutes)	Students will read a story about succession and investigate the connection between plants, animals, and successional stages in a local ecosystem	26/4	4 th -8 th
<i>Oh Deer!</i> (30-45 minutes)	Students portray deer and habitat components in a physical activity. This activity portrays that good habitat is the key to wildlife survival, a population will continue to increase in size until some limiting factors are imposed, limiting factors contribute to fluctuations in wildlife populations, and nature is never in “balance,” but is constantly changing. Can be a standalone activity or combined with “Wonders of the Whitetail.”	25/10	1 st +
<i>Owl Pellets</i> (30-50 minutes) <i>ADDITIONAL \$1.00 CHARGE PER STUDENT</i>	Students will dissect an owl pellet and learn about what owls eat. An owl pellet is a dense mass of bones, fur, and feathers an owl coughs up after digesting a meal. It is odor-free and safe for children when properly prepared, offering a real-life look at owls and their diet. An owl pellet also illustrates who eats what in a simple food chain.	26/6	Pre-K+
<i>Paddleboarding</i> (30 min.-3 hrs.)	Available for small groups or as a station, participants have the opportunity to spend some time on the water exploring the sport of paddleboarding. Classes range from a quick start on the water experience to a full ACA Introduction to paddleboarding class.	14/4	5 th +
<i>Plant Diversity</i> (50 minutes)	Students will pretend they are visitors from outer space, viewing life on Earth for the first time. By describing in minute detail all the life they find in a small plot of land, they will become more aware of the diversity and abundance of life on Earth and will better understand its importance.	26/6	4 th -6 th
<i>Pollution Search</i> (30-50 minutes)	Students take a hike around and through the woods to get a closer look at pollution: what it is, what its sources are, and what people can do to reduce it.	25/5	2 nd +

<i>Program</i>	<i>Description</i>	<i>Max/Min</i>	<i>Grades</i>
<i>Sounds Around</i> (15-30 minutes)	This activity helps students “tune in” to the sounds in their environment and helps them identify and lessen local noise problems. They also learn how different sounds in nature have inspired cultural stories.	26/6	Pre-K-K
<i>The Closer You Look</i> (50 minutes)	All students, no matter how young, have an idea of what a tree looks like. But, many are unfamiliar with the actual structure of a tree. In this activity, students will go outdoors or view pictures to take a closer look at trees and their parts.	26/6	Pre-K-6 th
<i>Pond Studies “Tadpoling”</i> (30-90 min.)	Utilizing nets, students will be able to catch some of the macroinvertebrates that inhabit our pond. Identification guides are provided to determine if pond life is at a good level or in need of assistance. Amphibians are also on the possible to be caught list, depending on the season. Many tadpoles are caught in various stages of metamorphosis.	26/4	Pre-K+
<i>Trees as Habitats</i> (50 minutes)	Students will inventory the plants and animals that live in, on, and around trees and discover how plants and animals depend on trees in many ways.	26/4	3 rd -8 th
<i>Water Canaries</i> (45 minutes)	What are the “water canaries” telling you about local water quality?	26/6	6 th -12 th
<i>Where Does Water Run?</i> (45-60 minutes)	Take a closer look at what happens when it rains.	26/6	6 th -12 th
<i>Wonders of the Whitetail Deer</i> (30-60 min.)	Students visit our live deer herd and learn fascinating facts about the whitetail deer including its interrelationship with humans through history, life cycle and habits. Can be combined with field game, Oh Deer! This presentation can also include a classroom component if the weather isn’t cooperating.	25/6	Pre-K+



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Ohio Science Standard	Lesson Plans
ESS Kindergarten PS Kindergarten LS Kindergarten	Get in Touch with Trees, The Closer You Look Are You Me?, Butterfly Exploration, Stream Studies: Creeking, First Impressions, Hiding in Plain Sight, Lunch for a Bear, Owl Pellets, Sounds Around, Wonders of the Whitetail
ESS 1 st Grade PS 1 st Grade LS 1 st Grade	Get in Touch with Trees Are You Me?, Butterfly Exploration, Stream Studies: Creeking, Lunch for a Bear, Oh Deer!, Owl Pellets, The Closer You Look, Wonders of the Whitetail
ESS 2 nd Grade PS 2 nd Grade LS 2 nd Grade	Pollution Search Are You Me?, Butterfly Exploration, Stream Studies: Creeking, Get in Touch with Trees, Lunch for a Bear, Owl Pellets, The Closer You Look, Wonders of the Whitetail
ESS 3 rd Grade PS 3 rd Grade LS 3 rd Grade	Got Water?, Pollution Search Are You Me?, Butterfly Exploration, Stream Studies: Creeking, Get in Touch with Trees, The Closer You Look, Trees as Habitats, Wonders of the Whitetail
ESS 4 th Grade PS 4 th Grade LS 4 th Grade	Got Water?, Pollution Search Butterfly Exploration, Stream Studies: Creeking, Get in Touch with Trees, Nothing Succeeds Like Succession, Planet Diversity, The Closer You Look, Trees as Habitats, Wonders of the Whitetail
ESS 5 th Grade PS 5 th Grade LS 5 th Grade	Butterfly Exploration, Stream Studies: Creeking, Get in Touch with Trees, Got Water?, Oh Deer!, Nothing Succeeds Like Succession, Planet Diversity, Pollution Search, The Closer You Look, Trees as Habitats, Wonders of the Whitetail
ESS 6 th Grade PS 6 th Grade LS 6 th Grade	Pollution Search Where Does Water Run? Butterfly Exploration, Stream Studies: Creeking, Forest Consequences, Get in Touch with Trees, Migration Headache, Nothing Succeeds Like Succession, Planet Diversity, Pollution Search, The Closer You Look, Trees as Habitats, Water Canaries, Wonders of the Whitetail
ESS 7 th Grade PS 7 th Grade LS 7 th Grade	Where Does Water Run? 400 Acre Wood, Butterfly Exploration, Trees as Habitats, Migration Headache, Nothing Succeeds Like Succession, Oh Deer!, Stream Studies: Creeking, Water Canaries, Wonders of the Whitetail
ESS 8 th Grade PS 8 th Grade LS 8 th Grade	Where Does Water Run? 400 Acre Wood, Butterfly Exploration, Trees as Habitats, Migration Headache, Nothing Succeeds Like Succession, Oh Deer!, Stream Studies: Creeking, Water Canaries, Wonders of the Whitetail



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SAMPLE LESSON PLAN

Wonders of the Whitetail

Students visit our live deer herd and learn fascinating facts about the whitetail deer, including its interrelationship with humans throughout history, life cycle, and habits.

Levels **Duration**
Grades k-8 15-30 minutes

Background

The state mammal for Ohio, the whitetail deer has been ingrained into the lives of Ohioans for centuries. Traditionally used as a food source by humans, the population of this species has been kept under control since the loss of their main predators from the state. Hunting seasons are particularly important to local economies of the state, so it is important for Ohioans to understand and respect this incredible animal.

Objectives

Students will:

1. Learn the different names for male, female, and young deer, which deer have antlers, and why they the name “whitetail”
2. Discuss modern day population issues and learn about carrying capacity
3. Understand the different types of habitats that deer can inhabit and why
4. Learn about deer lifecycles and what they eat
5. Students will become detectives and learn of the different signs whitetail deer leave in areas that have inhabited
6. Students will have the opportunity to see and touch live whitetail deer

Equipment

Antlers (Deerassic Deer Trunk)	chewed antler (Deerassic Deer Trunk)
deer skin (Deerassic Deer Trunk)	fox fur (Deerassic Deer Trunk)
deer fur (Deerassic Deer Trunk)	coyote fur (Deerassic Deer Trunk)
deer bones (Deerassic Deer Trunk)	buckeye nuts (Deerassic Deer Trunk)
Powerpoint (inside lecture only)	Photos of deer (outside lecture only)
Oh! Deer! Instructions	

Directions

1. Begin by discussing safety rules with students, making sure they understand the boundaries of the investigation (loud noises will scare the deer, approach them slowly, etc.).
2. Show students pictures of deer and ask if they can identify the differences between males, females, and young. Ask if they know the names. Elaborate on what antlers are, which deer have them, and the purpose of them. Explain why they are called whitetails.
3. Discuss history in Ohio and what has changed over the years. Many historical predators no longer live in the state (bear, wolves, etc.). Ask students if they or their families hunt and discuss carrying capacity (play Oh! Deer! – Project Wild – if time allows). Humans are doing their part of maintaining a healthy deer herd.

4. Where do deer live? Deer are generalists and can adapt to many different kinds of habitat. Ask students what they like to eat and compare it to what deer like to eat.
5. Explain deer life cycle and how bucks lose their antlers. Discuss what happens to shed antlers and show the chewed antler.
6. Ask students if they know different signs of whitetail (rub, scrape, tracks, scat, etc.).
7. Discuss the deer herd on the Deerassic Property. How many deer? What do we feed them? Explain that deer only need 5 acres of land to survive. Explain why they have tags. Explain how we received the deer and that they are not taken from the wild.
8. Invite students to touch the furs and antlers and offer to answer any questions they may have



Cost of Programs

The programs at Deerassic Park Education Center are made possible through the generosity of our supporters at the Deerassic Classic Give-away & Outdoor Expo held annually in August.

When we have a trip scheduled to the park, we will have between 4 and 8 staff working with your students. This fee helps cover the staffing costs of the programs at the park.

We ask for a fee of \$5 per participant in a field trip or small group setting, however, we never want to deny a child a trip to the park. Please let us know if you have concerns with this cost regarding the program costs.

**Starting at \$5
per Youth**

**Chaperones are
always free!**

Transportation Grants

We understand that one of the biggest challenges that schools and youth programs face is transportation costs. The cost of getting your students to the park can be daunting.

In 2014, this was the greatest concerns of the educators we met with to help shape our educational programs. They said it didn't matter how great we made our programs if the educators couldn't get their students to the facility.

As part of our commitment to education, the Board of the National Whitetail Deer Education Foundation annually funds over \$10,000 in Transportation Grants to get youth out to the park.

This simple one page application for assistance can be found at Deerassic.com under the Education Programs tab.

We look forward to partnering with you!



Recognizing Excellence in Achievement Deerassic Park Student of the Month Program

Our Student of the month program is built to be as convenient for the schools as we can possibly make it.

Whether you have a student of the month program already in effect or are looking to start one within your school we want to work with your school to develop a plan that fits your needs.

The Deerassic Park Student of the Month Program is offered at no cost to participating districts.

For more information please contact our Education Coordinator at: luke@deerassic.com



Education at Your School

If you are limited in the time that you can make available for your students to come to the park, or don't want to bring your students out to the park, we can come to you!

Many of our programs are designed for us to take on the road. We can be a stand alone event at your school setting up an onsite field trip with rotating classes or we can do course specific lectures and programs based on your needs.

NEW THIS YEAR! With the help of our "Deerassic-On-The-Go" Grant, you can get full funding to bring the outdoors to your school! Not to mention, our programs correlate with school's curriculums and common core classes.

The possibilities really are endless, and we're excited to bring outdoor education to your school and students. Even if you're not sure of what you want to do, contact us and we can help you plan a great class



Education at Your Event

We love taking our show on the road. You can find us at many places through out our community, at trade shows, PTA programs, festivals and other programs.

We are equipped to provide Archery, our Educational Fur Trunk, S.A.F.E. Archery, Archery Tag, BB Gun Trailers, BB Gun Inflatable Range, Shooting Simulators along with other programs all geared towards providing high quality, safe educational experiences at the events.

Our education team loves to travel, so let us know how we can be of help for your next event. Contact at luke@deerassic.com or give us a call at 740.435.3335



Small Group Programs & Trips



While Small Group Programs & Trips can be scheduled just like field trips, hosting a small group allows more time and flexibility in programming options. We encourage you to consider some of the following opportunities when planning your visit.

Group planning starts with a minimum of 12 participants.

Classes & Programs

Hunter's Education

Our hunter and trapper education programs are designed for every age and ability. We will help you understand where and when it's legal to pursue the game you'd like to hunt.



Passport to Fishing

This curriculum developed by the Ohio Division of Wildlife is dedicated to introducing youth to fishing. By covering topics such as habitat, handling, knot tying, rigging, casting, and regulations, these students leave the class with the knowledge required for a lifetime of fishing enjoyment.

Pond to Table

This unique class offers students an opportunity to fish in our stocked pond of bass, catfish, and blue gill. Youth will master the art of catching their fish, followed by a lecture and demonstration of cleaning their fish. They will then have the opportunity to fry their catch. Finally, they'll get the chance to eat their catch. This course helps promote the understanding our relationship to nature and our food source.



Ohio Boaters Education Course

The Ohio Boaters Education Course is the State of Ohio's required course to help persons become a licensed boater. This eight hour course will certify the student to obtain their boating license.

Canoeing & Kayaking

Deerassic Park Education Center offers Canoeing & Kayaking courses that will help students gain an understanding of the basics of canoeing or kayaking. This class can be a quick introduction or a more in-depth training depending on the needs of the group. This program is also mobile, and we can meet you at a selected sight if necessary.



Ongoing Educational Opportunities

Deerassic Park Education Center is committed to making the most of it's facilities and programs throughout the year. We offer many programs and events that are free and open to the public.

Some examples are:

The Outside is IN!

This has shifted to something we take to the schools. With our Deerassic-On-The-Go Grant, your school could be the next to book Deerassic bringing the outside IN!

Wild Wednesdays

Wild Wednesday's is our lecture/hands-on series geared towards adults and kids alike. This program explores a topic of interest regarding the outdoors and changes monthly.

Spring Fest

Spring Fest is our annual Spring Kick-Off event with a youth giveaway and thousands of dollars worth of prizes. This event has activities throughout the day and is a great day for families to get outside!

Kicking Bear

Kicking Bear One-on-One is an overnight archery experience with camping, meals and activities throughout the evening and into the next day.

**For a complete Calendar of Events
Visit Deerassic.com**





Where the Outside is in!

DEERASSIC PARK EDUCATION CENTER

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