

CLASS TRIPS FOR K3 - 12TH GRADE

2025-26

OUTDOOR EDUCATION

Field Trip Guide



A department of MPS

Hawthorn Glen | Oak Ridge Farm | Lakeshore State Park
Mobile Nature Outreach | Survive Alive House

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Field Trip Sites

1 HAWTHORN GLEN

1130 N. 60th Street
Milwaukee, WI 53208
Hawthorn Glen: (414) 777-7888
Office: (414) 647-6050

2 LAKESHORE STATE PARK (ENTER AT SOUTH END OF PARK ON ERIE STREET)

500 N. Harbor Drive
Milwaukee, WI 53202
Office: (414) 647-6050

3 OAK RIDGE FARM

S40 W35961 Highway C
Dousman, WI 53118
Farm: (414) 550-3862
Office: (414) 647-6050

4 SURVIVE ALIVE HOUSE

2059 S 20th Street
Milwaukee, WI 53204
Contact: (414) 777-7889



Outdoor Education Connections

Join us on the journey of experiential learning with Milwaukee Recreation’s Field Trips. Connect students with academic content in six unique settings. Visit Hawthorn Glen, Oak Ridge Farm, Survive Alive House, Lakeshore State Park- or let us come to you via our Mobile Nature Outreach!

Milwaukee Recreation field trips are designed to be an extension of your classroom. Our experiential education programs make academic content come alive through hands-on, sensory rich, immersive learning experiences. Students in grades K3-12 are welcome to attend our programs.

Milwaukee Recreation’s vision is to be the leading provider of high quality and affordable recreation and community services in Milwaukee. If you have a particular topic or academic standard that you would like to explore at one of our sites, please contact us to discuss additional programming options.

We look forward to bringing a variety of enriching and academic content to life in front of your learners through our field trip opportunities. If you have any questions, please contact Milwaukee Recreation’s outdoor education office at **414-647-6050** or **outdoor@mkerec.net**



Icons Key

 **NEXT GENERATION SCIENCE STANDARDS**
View pages 4-5 for full list of Next Generation Science Standards disciplinary core idea and offerings throughout the year.

 **AVAILABLE AS VIRTUAL FIELD TRIP**
Google Classroom platforms with STEM based activities that tie directly to classroom curricula and meet or exceed the state standards.

 **GRANT OPPORTUNITIES AVAILABLE**
The Milwaukee Metropolitan Sewerage District (MMSD) is sponsoring a limited number of field trips. Please call **(414) 647-6050** for more information.

SEASON AVAILABILITY

 FALL  WINTER  SPRING  SUMMER

Academic Connections



Milwaukee Recreation Field Trips meet or exceed state standards for educational requirements by connecting with Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS). If you have a particular academic standard that you would like to explore, contact us to discuss additional programming options.

EARTH AND SPACE SCIENCE DISCIPLINARY CORE IDEAS

Program Name	ESS1 .A	ESS1 .B	ESS1 .C	ESS2 .A	ESS2 .B	ESS2 .C	ESS2 .D	ESS2 .E	ESS3 .A	ESS3 .B	ESS3 .C	ESS3 .D
Dendrochronology (pg. 6)		●					●					●
Fossils (pg. 6)			●		●							
Solar (pg. 6)	●	●										
Dairy Day (pg. 8)								●	●		●	
Hooked on Fish (pg. 9)								●	●		●	
Prairie Prowl (pg. 9)								●	●		●	
Spring Migration (pg. 9)								●	●			
Animal Grocery Store (pg. 11)								●	●			
Basic H2O (pg. 11)						●			●		●	
Eat Me Nots (pg. 11)								●	●			
Geology (pg. 11)			●	●	●							
Our Watershed (pg. 11)						●			●		●	
Topography (pg. 11)				●		●						
Urban Safari (pg. 11)											●	
Web of Life (pg. 11)								●	●			
Who Goes There? (pg. 12)								●	●			
Reasons of the Seasons (pg. 7)	●	●										
Stories in the Sky (pg. 7)	●	●										

LIFE SCIENCE DISCIPLINARY CORE IDEAS

Program Name	LS1 .A	LS1 .B	LS1 .C	LS1 .D	LS2 .A	LS2 .B	LS2 .C	LS2 .D	LS3 .A	LS3 .B	LS4 .A	LS4 .B	LS4 .C	LS4 .D
Animal Adaptations (pg. 6)													●	
Backyard Babies (pg. 6)		●							●	●		●		
Bats (pg. 6)							●	●					●	●
Dendrochronology (pg. 6)							●							●
Fossils (pg. 6)											●			
Metamorphosis (pg. 6)		●							●					
Pollinators (pg. 6)					●									
Dairy Day (pg. 8)			●		●								●	
On the Farm (pg. 8)		●	●		●	●			●					●
Snowshoeing (pg. 8)							●						●	●
Wisconsin Farm History (pg. 8)					●									
Wool Day (pg. 8)			●		●								●	
Explore the Shore (pg. 9)			●		●	●								●
Great Lakes (pg. 9)			●		●	●	●							●
Hooked on Fish (pg. 9)			●		●								●	
Prairie Prowl (pg. 9)			●		●								●	
Spring Migration (pg. 9)		●	●		●		●	●						
Basic H2O (pg. 11)	●		●		●	●		●					●	
Big on Bugs (pg. 11)							●	●					●	●
Fantastic Flying Machines (pg. 11)							●	●					●	●
Hibernate or Migrate? (pg. 11)	●						●						●	
Leaf It To Us (pg. 11)	●	●	●	●	●	●			●	●				
Nature from A - Z (pg. 11)		●	●	●	●	●	●							●
Nature Recycles (pg. 11)						●								
Our Watershed (pg. 11)							●							●
Sensing Nature (pg. 11)		●	●	●	●	●	●							●
Signs of Fall (pg. 11)	●						●						●	
Signs of Spring (pg. 11)	●						●						●	
Urban Safari (pg. 11)							●						●	●
Web of Life (pg. 11)			●		●	●		●						
Cross-Country Skiing (pg. 12)	●						●						●	
Tobogganing (pg. 12)	●						●						●	
Who Goes There? (pg. 12)	●	●	●		●	●				●				

ADDITIONAL STANDARDS AND DISCIPLINARY CORE IDEAS

Program Name	PS4.B	SS.Hist2.a	SS.Hist2.b	Science and Engineering Practices
Solar (pg. 6)	●			
Wisconsin Farm History (pg. 8)		●	●	
Geocaching (pg. 9)				●

Survive Alive House

Summer Field Trip Opportunities!

The Survive Alive House is designed to teach students about fire safety through an interactive approach.



Register for your trip today!

Contact the Survive Alive House
414.777.7889 or learn more at mkerec.net/survivealive
Minimum 10 and Maximum 35 (including teachers and chaperones).

DATES:
June 22 - August 16

DAYS:
Monday - Friday

TIME:
9:30AM - 11:00AM or
11:30AM - 1:00PM

PROGRAMS FOR K5 - 12TH GRADES:

Summer Safety
(Grades K5-2) (Grades 3-6)

Career Opportunities
(Grades 7-12)

Hands-Only CPR Training
(Grades 7-12)

COST: \$75.00
Payment should be made to Milwaukee Recreation by cash or check only. Please submit payment to the Survive Alive House
2059 S. 20th Street, Milwaukee, WI 53204

CANCELLATION:
The Survive Alive House must receive 24 hour notice of cancellations or refund will not be issued.

MOBILE NATURE OUTREACH

GRADES K4-12



Experience outdoor education in your own classroom and schoolyard with a visiting naturalist. Whether you're preparing for a field trip to one of our sites or simply prefer to have us come to you, our Mobile Nature Outreach Programs will fuel your students' curiosity for nature and science and nurture a lifelong appreciation of our environment. Mobile Nature Outreach programs are offered year round.

When: Monday - Friday between 9:00AM - 3:00PM **Limit:** 40 total participants (chaperones included)
Length: 1 hour

Sign up for a field trip today! See **page 14** for registration details.

MOBILE NATURE OUTREACH EDUCATIONAL EXPERIENCES

Animal Adaptations | 📖 🌿 🌞 🐾 🎨
Grades 3-5, March-Nov.
Discover how changes in color, shape, size and behavior help animals find food and protect themselves. One of Hawthorn Glen's Wisconsin native animal ambassadors will visit your classroom so students experience animal adaptations hands-on.

Backyard Babies | 📖 🌿 🌞 🐾 🎨
Grades K4-3, March-June
Schoolyards and backyards are habitats, too! Learn about the animals who share our neighborhoods, including which ones lay eggs and how to spot when an animal needs help.

Bats | 📖 🌿 🌞 🐾 🎨
Grades K4-3, March-Nov.
Learn about bats through a slide presentation and game that helps students recognize characteristics of mammals, including bats. We'll experiment with echolocation to better understand these helpful creatures.

Dendrochronology | 📖 🌿 🌞 🐾 🎨
Grades 6-12, March-Nov.
The science that uses tree rings dated to their exact year of formation to analyze temporal and spatial patterns of processes in the physical and cultural sciences. Unravel the science of climate change while introducing your students to urban forestry through observations and calculations.

Fossils | 📖 🌿 🌞 🐾 🎨
Grades 5-8, March-Nov.
Paleontology and fossils come alive as we learn about the geological time table. Hands-on exploration of the three types of fossils, including Wisconsin's state fossil will help students understand the past and present of these special types of rocks.

Solar | 📖 🌿 🌞 🐾 🎨
Grades 2-5, March-Nov.
Our sun is a powerful star. Students make sun prints, explore light using a prism and experiment with shadows and light to further understand Earth's rotation.

Metamorphosis | 📖 🌿 🌞 🐾 🎨
Grades K4-3, March-Nov.
This series of changes that some animals must undergo to mature might seem like magic! Looking closely at the phenomena of tadpoles turning into frogs and caterpillars morphing into butterflies, hands-on experiences will help students understand the science behind this phenomenon.

Pollinators | 📖 🌿 🌞 🐾 🎨
Grades 3-6, March-Nov.
Pollinators are responsible for assisting over 80% of the world's flowering plants, including over 150 food crops in the United States, yet pollinator populations are declining. Students have the opportunity to observe, compare, infer and apply knowledge of bees, butterflies, birds and even some mammals



Dousman, Wisconsin

OAK RIDGE FARM

GRADES K3-12

Visit a 200 acre "working farm" near Dousman, WI.

Children experience farm life up close, with opportunities to touch many of the animals. Oak Ridge Farm is a real working farm with large animals, moving machinery and a barn with dairy operations.

Where: S40W35961 CTH-C, Dousman, WI 53118

When: Tuesday - Friday between 9:00AM - 2:00PM year round

Length: 4 hours or less

For more information regarding prices and registration see **page 14** or visit mkerec.net/OutdoorEducation

OAK RIDGE FARM EDUCATIONAL EXPERIENCES

Dairy Day | 🌱🌞🌾🍺🎨

Grades K3-12, Year Round

Students are introduced to the life of a dairy farmer. While touring the farm, students see where the cattle graze the fields; learn about cows and how they are milked as well as what we use their milk for. A milking demonstration and the milk house are available for viewing. Students also get the chance to churn cream into butter, or make ice cream (summer).

On the Farm | 🌱🌞🌾🍺🎨

Grades K3-12, Year Round

The farm is a fun and exciting place for children of all ages. This working farm is home to a variety of animals, crops, building structures, equipment, and antiques. Students get a wagon ride (weather permitting) out to the fields to see where our crops are grown, tour the old and new barn areas and see the antiques in the old farm house.

Snowshoeing | 🌨️🌞🌾🍺🎨

Grades 4-12, Nov.-Feb.

Snowshoe through the kettle moraine forest on a guided tour searching for animal tracks and winter wildlife. Explore what is left of the original farm house built in 1845 all while staying above the snow. If you can walk, you can snowshoe. If weather does not permit snow, students will learn about snowshoeing, how to put on snowshoes, and hike the snowshoe route.

Wisconsin Farm History | 🌱🌞🌾🍺🎨

Grades 4-12, Year Round

In the past, one farmer could feed 3-5 people, today they can feed 60 people. Farms play a very important role in our lives and this program helps students to understand how. From starting out with a single plow pulled by a horse to now having huge tractors and machinery, students follow Wisconsin's farm history timeline right into today's world.

Wool Day | 🌨️🌞🌾🍺🎨

Grades K4-12, Nov.-Feb.

Students are introduced to the process of turning wool into a usable product from start to finish. Hands on activities include: cleaning, carding and dying wool. Lambs are available for viewing and a shearing demonstration may be given (season permitting).

Milwaukee, Wisconsin

LAKE SHORE STATE PARK

GRADES 2-12

Lakeshore State Park is located on the shores of Lake Michigan and is almost completely surrounded by water. The 22-acre park is the only urban state park in Wisconsin. An accessible, paved trail twists past prairie restorations, a watercraft beach area and connects to the Hank Aaron and Oak Leaf state trails. After experiencing nature at Lakeshore State Park, enjoy the gorgeous scenery while having a picnic style bag lunch at the shore.

Please note: Inclement weather may require rescheduling, as this site does not have shelters.

When: Monday-Friday, between 9AM-2:30PM

Limit: 60 total participants (chaperones included)

Length: Up to 2.5 hours

PREPARE FOR YOUR TRIP:

Dropoff Location - Field trip groups will meet at the **south entrance** to the park. South entrance is located where Erie Street ends at the river. Follow the park road east along the water and under the Hoan Bridge.

MPS Schools- Inform the bus company that your group should be dropped off at the **south entrance on Erie Street, NOT the north end by Discovery World.**

Limited Amenities - The park does not have running water; portable bathroom facilities are available on the south end of the park.

State Park Rule-Carry in; carry out. No trash collection available.

LAKE SHORE STATE PARK EDUCATIONAL EXPERIENCES

Explore the Shore | 🌱🌞🌾🍺🎨

Grades 5-12, April-Oct.

Fish swim in it, birds bathe in it and mammals of all kinds drink it. This program is designed to develop an appreciation for Lake Michigan's coastal ecology. Participate in water sampling and discuss water quality, pollution and invasive species. Uncover the glacial past of Milwaukee's shoreline and learn the importance of protecting this natural resource.

Geocaching | 🌱🌞🌾🍺🎨

Grades 6-12, April-Oct.

Experience Geocaching - a type of GPS-aided treasure hunt. Geocaching is fun way get students to exercise both their minds and bodies while hiking to solve clues and find hidden caches. Geocaching only requires the use of an app on a smartphone and your powers of observation to create a world-wide community.

Great Lakes | 🌱🌞🌾🍺🎨

Grade 4, April-Oct.

Milwaukee is on the shore of Lake Michigan, one of the five Great Lakes formed by glaciers. Milwaukee is a major port city with a history rich in shipping, shipwrecks and even pirates. Water quality is very important to this large source of fresh water. Students will examine the negative effects of pollution and invasive species while developing an understanding of and appreciation for native aquatic plants and animals.

Hooked on Fish | 🌱🌞🌾🍺🎨

Grades 3-8, May-Oct.

Peer below the surface! Learn all about Lake Michigan fish and their roles in the web of connections between living things in and around the Lake. Discover how the splashy entrance of non-native newcomers is changing these close-knit communities.

Prairie Prowl | 🌱🌞🌾🍺🎨

Grades 2-5, July-Oct.

Scavenger hunt while learning about prairies and the organisms that call them home. Naturalists engage students in discussions about the great diversity of species living on the prairie, the history of land use, and prairie restoration.

Spring Migration | 🌱🌞🌾🍺🎨

Grades 3-6, April-June

Lake Michigan is part of a major fly-way, a migration route for numerous species of birds. Witness this majestic wonder! Discover bird characteristics and the importance of birds in an ecosystem. We may have an opportunity to observe birds that travel. The birds that spent the winter months here are now heading back north and the birds that flew south are returning as our weather warms. March through June is the peak of migration and local nesting, with lively and noisy birds everywhere.

Milwaukee, Wisconsin

HAWTHORN GLEN

GRADES K3-12

As Milwaukee Public Schools' outdoor education center, Hawthorn Glen is visited by more than 12,000 students each year.

Outdoor education programs tie directly to classroom curricula and meet or exceed state standards. Naturalists guide students through experiential learning, including nature hikes and time with resident animal ambassadors, all Wisconsin natives.

When: Monday-Friday, between 9AM-2:30PM **Limit:** 60 total participants (chaperones included)
Length: Up to 2.5 hours

Sign up for a field trip today! See **page 14** for registration details.

EXPERIENCE HAWTHORN GLEN

Meet the naturalists at our nature center to explore the forest, restored prairie, and the Little Nature Museum -- all hidden within city limits! Bring your own bag lunch or food for a cookout. A campfire outside (or inside during inclement weather) and roasting forks are provided. Please indicate when registering if you wish to have a cookout. Cookouts offered from April-November.

Sessions may be scheduled for up to 2.5 hours between 9:00AM and 2:30PM. This includes a lunch break and a short playground visit (if requested and weather permitting). When booking your trip, please inform us of any time variations.

With two weeks' advance notice, our naturalists can focus learning experiences on material related to your classroom curricula.



SPRING-FALL HAWTHORN GLEN EDUCATIONAL EXPERIENCES

Animal Grocery Store | 📖 🌿 🌞 🍷 🍷 🍷

Grades K5-1, March-Nov.

Naturalists help further student understanding of the environment by looking at food used by different animals. Discover what animals need to survive, especially food. This also introduces the concepts of food chains and food webs.

Basic H2O | 🌿 🌞 🍷 🍷 🍷

Grades 5-12, March-Nov.

Learn the importance of clean water for all living things while discovering the damage caused by water pollution and taking a closer look at aquatic life to help determine the health of water.

Big on Bugs | 🌿 🌞 🍷 🍷 🍷

Grades K3-3, March-Nov.

Lead students on a bug hunt to discover decomposers and identify helpful insects as well as those that may be harmful. Learn what distinguishes an insect from a bug and learn about camouflage and metamorphosis.

Eat Me Nots | 🌿 🌞 🍷 🍷 🍷

Grades 1-3, March-Nov.

Why does the Viceroy butterfly mimic the coloring of a Monarch? Many plants and animals have developed defenses to protect them from becoming someone else's dinner. This program allows students to examine plant and animal adaptations. A visit to the Little Nature Museum will help students explore the concept of food chains, as well as predator/prey relationships.

Fantastic Flying Machines | 🌿 🌞 🍷 🍷 🍷

Grades 3-6, March-Nov.

Discover what makes birds different from other animals, and even different from one another. Explore bird adaptations and how they support survival.

Geology | 🌿 🌞 🍷 🍷 🍷

Grades 4-6, March-Nov.

Observe the three types of rocks: sedimentary, igneous, and metamorphic. Discover how these rocks are formed and classified, with a focus on the rocks that can be found in Wisconsin. A short slide show introduces students to glacial landforms and fossils.

Hibernate or Migrate? | 🍷 🍷 🍷

Grades 1-2, Sept.-Nov.

Go on a hike to observe which animals hibernate and which migrate and why. The problems faced by migratory animals, mainly birds, are discussed. Meet some Wisconsin animals in the Little Nature Museum and discover what adaptations allow some to hibernate while others must migrate.

Leaf It To Us | 📖 🍷 🍷 🍷

Grades K5-2, Sept.-Nov.

Learn the different parts of a tree. A guided hike through the wooded trails helps students realize how one tree is different from another. Terms introduced: "coniferous" and "deciduous." Seasonal effects on trees are observed while we gain an appreciation for the value of trees to all living things.

Nature from A - Z | 🌿 🌞 🍷 🍷 🍷

Grades K3-1, March-Nov.

Improve students' awareness of nature through use of the alphabet and phonetics. Naturalists guide children on an "alphabet hike" and introduce plants and animals.

Nature Recycles | 🌿 🌞 🍷 🍷 🍷

Grades 2-5, March-Nov.

Did you know that reduce, reuse and recycle occur in the natural world around us? Recycling, conservation and renewal of natural resources can be found in a pond (water cycle), rotting log (decomposition) and even a bird's nest (litter). Go on a "litter hike" to discover the "products" that can be found in our forest and how people affect nature by disposing of trash (waste disposal).

Nature's Numbers and Patterns | 🌿 🌞 🍷 🍷 🍷

Grades K3 - 3, March-Nov.

The natural world is full of opportunities to notice and wonder about numbers, patterns, shapes and mathematical ideas. Bring your students to Hawthorn Glen to use natural materials as manipulatives and nature as a springboard for math talks about the world around us!

Our Watershed | 🌿 🌞 🍷 🍷 🍷

Grades 5-12, March-Nov.

The water that flows into Lake Michigan, is like a liquid memory of the path it took through land, rivers and streams. Understand our local watershed by hiking along the restored fen and flood plain forest.

Sensing Nature | 🌿 🌞 🍷 🍷 🍷

Grades K3-1, March-Nov.

The main focus is to help students become more aware and appreciative of the natural environment around them by using their five senses: sight, sound, smell, touch and taste.

Signs of Fall | 🍷 🍷 🍷

Grades K5-2, Sept.-Nov.

This program is designed to help children understand the transitions between seasons and to become aware of what plants and animals are doing to prepare for a Wisconsin winter.

Signs of Spring | 🌿 🍷 🍷 🍷

Grades K5-2, March-May

This program promotes an awareness of the seasonal changes in lives of plants and animals. Spring is a time of rebirth in nature: animals awoken from hibernation and plants emerge from dormancy. A naturalist leads a hike to observe what happens during this time of year in different habitats, including the prairie and woods.

Topography | 🌿 🌞 🍷 🍷 🍷

Grades 4 - 8, March-Nov.

This program explores Wisconsin's glacial landscape. Students learn all about kettles and Wisconsin's unique geological history.

Urban Safari | 🌿 🌞 🍷 🍷 🍷

Grades 2-4, March-Nov.

Students are introduced to the different habitats that can be found in an urban setting such as Hawthorn Glen. Hike through a restored prairie, woodlands, and visit our small pond. Discover what makes each habitat unique and what animals may be found in the different environments. In the Little Nature Museum, interact with Wisconsin animals to discover how they adapt to their habitats.

Web of Life | 🌿 🌞 🍷 🍷 🍷

Grades 1-3, March-Nov.

This program introduces students to food chains and food webs. More importantly, it emphasizes the interconnectedness of all life, including human impact on the natural environment. "Spin" a web of life, then hike through different natural communities to help understand how everything is connected.

HAWTHORN GLEN

GRADES K3-12



WINTER EDUCATIONAL EXPERIENCES

Cross-Country Skiing | 🌨️🏂

Grades 2-12, Dec.-Feb.

Experience Wisconsin in winter! Orientation to equipment and introductory cross-country ski lessons are included in this outdoor recreation program, ending with a trip through the wooded trails. Skis and boots are provided.

Tobogganing | 🌨️🏂

Grades K3-1, Dec.-Feb.

Practice observation skills in a unique winter setting. Learn that the snow-covered ground can reveal different tracks and that each tells a tale. Students not only enjoy tobogganing; they also interact with a winter story.

Who Goes There? | 🌨️🔍

Grades K5-3, Dec.-Feb.

Encourage awareness of nature in winter by studying animal signs visible in snow. Learn how to become nature “detectives” by viewing a presentation. A naturalist then leads a hike to apply the concepts introduced during the presentation. Younger students create tracking booklets they can keep, while older students create murals that can be displayed back at school.



If there’s not enough snow on the ground, we will adapt our programs as follows:
Grades K5-3 : ‘Who Goes There?’ (pg. 12)
Grades 4-12 : ‘Geology’ (pg. 11)

YEAR-ROUND HAWTHORN GLEN EDUCATIONAL EXPERIENCES

Understanding the Universe for High School & Science Clubs | 🌌🔭🌠

Grades 9-12

Engage in an inquiry based discussion about astronomical topics. Students are encouraged to ask questions as we discuss both historical and current advances in our attempt to understand the universe we all inhabit.

Reasons of the Seasons | 🌱🌞🍂🌨️

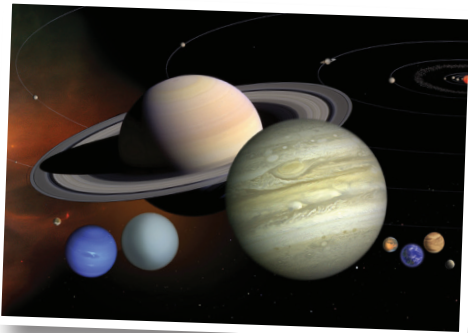
Grades 2-8

Did you know that the Earth is about two million miles closer to the Sun in winter? At least during our winter. The motion, and position of the Earth in space is responsible for why we experience warmth in summer and cold in winter, the way we measure time, and how we find our way around on this planet. We discuss why these things happen and show why the stars at night change at different times of the year.

Stories in the Sky | 🌱🌞🍂🌨️

Grades 2-8

In the days before television and video games, before city lights obscured most of the stars, elders told stories of the constellations to their young. These stories not only entertained but taught them valuable lessons such as how to tell time, when a new season was approaching, and even how to find their way home at night. This practice has waned in a world with clocks, calendars, and GPS systems. Join us as we explore this time honored tradition of passing down lore filled with romance, monsters, morality and how to find your place in the world.



YEAR-ROUND HAWTHORN GLEN EDUCATIONAL EXPERIENCES CONTINUED

Outdoor Citizen Science | 📱🌱🌞🍂🌨️

Any grade

Bring your students to Hawthorn Glen to engage in citizen science in an outdoor setting. Topics include plant and animal inventories, water quality testing, weather data collection- or request a topic that relates to your work in the classroom!

Outdoor Service Learning | 📱🌱🌞🍂🌨️

Any grade

Integrate action and reflection with academic learning while contributing to Hawthorn Glen Outdoor Education Center through service learning. Projects include cleanups, invasive species removal, habitat restoration- or request a project that connects to your class needs/interests!

Schoolyard Nature | 📱🌱🌞🍂🌨️

Any grade

Want to incorporate more experiential learning or outdoor time into your classroom? Our naturalists can come to you to share experiential learning tools and techniques in your indoor and/or outdoor classroom. Any field trip in this guide can be adapted for a Mobile Nature Outreach visit- or we can work with you to come up with something that supports your current learning goals. Activities may include visiting with our native animal ambassadors, exploring your outdoor classroom, working in your schoolyard garden- and more!



NOW HIRING

Naturalists, Attendants and Land Stewards!

Milwaukee Recreation is currently hiring for a variety of part-time positions! People with a passion for nature, outdoors and/or environmental education are encouraged to apply.

Naturalist

Hours: 5-40 per week
Pay: \$16 per hour

Milwaukee Recreation is seeking people to develop and implement outdoor education learning opportunities for youth through hands-on activities. Individuals with a passion for environmental education are encouraged to apply.

Land Steward

Hours: 4-40 per week
Pay: \$16 per hour

This position assists with Milwaukee Recreation's land restoration projects and invasive species removal. Open to ages 16+.

Animal Care Attendant

Hours: 4-20 per week
Pay: \$16 per hour

This person assists with daily operations at Milwaukee Recreation's Hawthorn Glen Outdoor Education Center, including the Little Nature Museum and the care of resident animals.



Apply online at mkerec.net/jobopenings

These jobs allow people to experience a wide range of working environments, such as for independent work, working with a team, or providing instruction to young people! Please contact Jessica Tipkemper at Jessica@mkerec.net with any questions.



A department of MPS

Ready to experience Milwaukee Recreation's Outdoor Education Field Trips? REGISTER TODAY!

Register for 2025-26 Milwaukee Recreation Outdoor Education Field Trips by filling out online forms listed below. Use one application per field trip location or group. In advance of your trip, please communicate any necessary information to our staff so that we can provide your group with the most enjoyable and educational experience possible. Connect with us early so we can add your group to our calendar! Field trip spaces fill quickly.

REGISTER FOR HAWTHORN GLEN, LAKESHORE STATE PARK & MOBILE NATURE OUTREACH PROGRAMMING

Submit your field trip request by scanning the QR code below or visit bit.ly/OEfieldtrip.



Program	Duration	Rates	Total Attending
Spring Summer and Fall Field Trips	2.5 hours or less between 9AM-2:30PM	MPS Schools/City of Milwaukee groups: \$50 Groups outside City of Milwaukee: \$4 per person	60 maximum
Winter Field Trips	2.5 hours or less between 9AM-2:30PM	MPS Schools/City of Milwaukee groups: \$50 Groups outside City of Milwaukee: \$4 per person	40 maximum
Mobile Nature Outreach	60 minutes between 9AM-3PM	MPS Schools/City of Milwaukee groups: \$50 Groups outside City of Milwaukee: \$75	40 maximum

REGISTER FOR OAK RIDGE FARM FIELD TRIPS

Submit your field trip request by scanning the QR code below or visit bit.ly/OakRidgeFieldTrips.



Program	Duration	Rates	Total Attending
Spring Summer and Fall Field Trips	4 hours or less between 9AM-2:30PM	MPS Schools/City of Milwaukee groups: \$50 Groups outside City of Milwaukee: \$4 per person	60 maximum
Snowshoeing	2.5 hours or less between 9AM-2:30PM	MPS Schools/City of Milwaukee groups: \$50 Groups outside City of Milwaukee: \$4 per person	35 maximum

MILWAUKEE RECREATION OUTDOOR EDUCATION FIELD TRIP ADDITIONAL INFORMATION



Transportation

After your reservation has been confirmed **you are responsible for ordering your own bus**. Bus companies cannot guarantee available buses on short notice, so it is advised to schedule your bus immediately. MPS Bus Bids (MPS schools only): Please work with your school administrator to identify which bus companies are permitted to be used for MPS field trips.

Note: Individual schools (including MPS) are responsible for transportation costs.



Confirmations and Payments

Please read the confirmation letter carefully to make sure all the information is accurate. On the bottom of your confirmation will be an invoice. Payments are due three weeks after you receive the confirmation letter.

Please Submit Cash or Check to: OASIS Building
Outdoor Education
2414 W. Mitchell St.
Milwaukee, WI 53204



Cancellation Policy

For cancellations: Please notify staff 24 hours prior to your field trip or no refund will be issued. If you need to cancel or make changes to your field trip, please contact the following:

Outdoor Education Office: 414-647-6050 | **Oak Ridge Farm:** 414- 550-3862

REGISTRATION TIMELINE



1. Review Guide
Select offerings that align with classroom curriculum



2. Fill Out Form
Visit links on page 14 to register for trips



3. Confirmation
Receive letter confirming details



4. Payment
Submit cash or check (information above)



5. Learn!
Our naturalists lead experiential learning



HELPFUL TIPS:

- Connect with us early so we can add your group to our calendar! Field trip spaces fill quickly.
- For the Hawthorn Glen, Oak Ridge Farm, and Lakeshore State Park locations, programs take place in all weather conditions. Please be sure participants are dressed appropriately.
- Please integrate our pre- and post-trip activities into your planning to ensure students benefit from the full learning experience! Prior to your visit, you will receive a planning packet that will help you prepare for both learning and student comfort.
- In advance of your trip, please communicate any necessary information to our staff so that we can provide your group with the most enjoyable and educational experience possible.



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Milwaukee Public Schools
P.O. Box 2181
Milwaukee, WI 53201-2181

Return Service Requested

Dated Material

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U.S. Postage
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Permit No. 3240



2025-26 Outdoor Education
**Field Trip
Guide**

CLASS TRIPS FOR K3 - 12TH GRADE



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