



Monmouth County Park System



Environmental Education Programs for Groups

Group Leader Information

PAYMENT: Groups will be billed after the program has been completed. Please **do not bring payment on the day of the program** or send any payment before the program has taken place.

PICNIC FACILITIES: Outdoor tables are available at most park locations on a first come, first served basis. We ask that the area be left as clean or even cleaner than it was found. Unless otherwise noted, there are no indoor facilities available.

TRANSPORTATION: Buses must park in designated bus parking areas, when available, and should remain with the group the entire day. Depending on your program location, there may not be a safe shelter available if the weather turns inclement and your transportation must be available in case an early departure is required.

LATE FOR A PROGRAM: Please call the Huber Woods Environmental Center at 732-872-2670 so that your program leader can be informed of your estimated arrival time. Every effort will be made to accommodate your group. However, your program will be shortened and possibly forfeited.

PROGRAM CONFIRMATION:

- Your organization will be contacted the week before your scheduled date to confirm your program.
- The group leader will also be directly contacted by a Monmouth County Park System staff member a day or two prior to the program. During this important phone conversation, the group leader will be asked to review program specifics and discuss contingency plans in the case of inclement weather.

CANCELLATIONS: Please call our environmental education program information line at 732-872-7369 as soon as you know that you cannot attend your scheduled program date and we will try to arrange a new date for you.

DRESS:

- Participants must wear suitable clothing for the weather. Please ensure all participants come prepared for general temperature fluctuations and light rain.
- Sturdy closed toed shoes are required for all programs to ensure the participant's safety.
- If desired, participants should apply sunscreen and insect repellent prior to arriving at the park.

SUPERVISION:

- There is no fee for a limited number of supervising adults to attend our educational programs. Supervising adults are required to assist with programs. You must provide at least one supervising adult for every 25 participants, with a maximum of one (1) supervising adult per every eight (8) program participants. Special accommodations can be made for teacher's aides, school nurses, or other necessary staff by calling our environmental education program information line at 732-872-7369 in advance of your program date. Additional fees may apply for additional adults attending the program without prior approval.
- Please provide the following information to all supervising adults regarding their role on the trip:
 - Monmouth County Park System Staff are not present to discipline program participants. It is the group leader's responsibility to ensure discipline.
 - Program participants must be directly supervised at all times.
 - Supervising adults are present to assist and coach students, and must refrain from completing tasks assigned directly to program participants.
 - Cell phone use is prohibited.
 - Smoking is not permitted in program or picnic areas.
 - Use of video cameras is not permitted during program.
 - For safety and limiting disruption of program, please take only candid photographs of children participating in program, unless otherwise instructed by program staff.

SPECIAL ACCOMMODATIONS: The Monmouth County Park System does not discriminate on the basis of disability in the admission or access to, or treatment in, its programs or activities. We offer inclusive services, which provide another choice for individuals with special needs or disabilities who desire the opportunity to participate alongside peers with and without disabilities in an integrated setting. In order to enhance our capability of serving our participants in an inclusive setting, we request advance notification of any special accommodations. With advance notification, our professional staff has the skills and experience to provide support or accommodations provided that the essential eligibility requirements documented for the specific program are met (with or without an accommodation). It is our intent to provide a successful and enjoyable experience for all. Please call our environmental education program information line at 732-872-7369 in advance of your program date to inform us of any special accommodations that will be needed.

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Group Leader Information: Nature Presentations

Grades: PreK-Adult
Length: 35 minutes - 1 hour
Offered: Year-round
Maximum of 35 per group
2010 - 2011 Program Fee: \$62.50 per group
Groups from Monmouth County: \$50
At your facility in Monmouth County:
One program \$75
Two consecutive programs \$105
Three consecutive programs \$135

These interactive presentations are available in the following themes:

Forest: Our forests are alive with many beautiful and exciting plants and animals. A Park System Naturalist introduces various natural items that can be discovered in our forests. Participants may count tree rings, discover the difference between a bee's nest and a bird's nest, touch a turtle shell and more.

Seashore: A large portion of Monmouth County is bordered by the Atlantic Ocean and Raritan Bay. Learn what creatures live along our shores and view many of the seashells and other interesting natural items found along our shorelines.

Indians of Monmouth County: When the first Europeans arrived in Monmouth County, they were met by Lenape people who had lived here for thousands of years. This program introduces these intriguing people, how they lived, some of their culture and where they are today. Participants can take part in interactive activities using artifacts, clothing, and musical instruments.

- Please do not bring siblings. There is no room in the program areas for them.
- Please allow for additional time after the program has been completed if your program is scheduled at a park location and your group plans to use our outdoor tables to have a snack or lunch at the park.
- This program is available to be offered at your facility December - March. Please call our environmental education program information line at 732-872-7369 for details. Please select a location within your facility that will offer minimal distraction to program participants. Large open rooms (or rooms with dividers) in which other activities are occurring should be avoided.

