



Leisure Services Department **Greenways and Natural Lands**

Seminole County Natural Lands Environmental Education Program Information

Types of Environmental Education Programs:

- A. Field Trip
- B. In-School Program

Field Trip Information: Geneva Wilderness Area and the Ed Yarborough Nature Center can serve as wonderful outdoor classroom and provide a great opportunity for first hand learning. Students can explore this site with natural lands staff and learn about the environment around them.

The Ed Yarborough Nature Center is located at 3485 North County Rd. 426 in Geneva at Seminole County's 180 acre Geneva Wilderness Area. The Nature Center is a 2000 square foot air-conditioned building with a small kitchen and restrooms. It seats approximately 35 people. The typical educational program for groups of 30-60 students consists of demonstration and discovery time in the Nature Center followed by a guided hike through the Geneva Wilderness Area. Groups of 60-90 students go through a three rotation event including a demonstration and discovery time in the Nature Center, a nature-based activity, and guided hike. Groups of 90-120 go through a four rotation event including a demonstration and discovery time in the Nature Center, a nature-based activity, nature journaling and picnic, as well as a guided hike. Groups more than 120 students will be split up into a 2-day program. Sample schedules:

Sample Schedule I (30-60 students)

10:00 am	Arrival/Welcome/ Housekeeping
10:30 am	Rotation I
11:30 am	Rotation II
12:30 pm	Lunch
1:00 pm	Departure

Sample Schedule II (60-90 students)

10:00 am	Arrival/Welcome/ Housekeeping
10:30 am	Rotation I
11:15 am	Rotation II
12:00 am	Rotation III
12:45 pm	Lunch
1:15 pm	Departure

Sample Schedule III (90-120 students)

10:00 am	Arrival/Welcome/ Housekeeping
10:30 am	Rotation I
11:10 am	Rotation II
11:50 am	Rotation III
12:30 pm	Rotation IV
1:15 pm	Departure

All Field Trip programs include discovery time in the Ed Yarborough Nature Center. The Nature Center has several activities including microscopes, nature games, coloring and a bird watching stations. There are also terrariums set up as small samples of native habitats complete with live plants and animals to observe. The nature-based activity would be based on the area of study the students are currently covering in class, the Nature Journaling will be done in the outdoor chapel area while they eat lunch. We finish with a hike to see first-hand some of the things we learned about.

- **Number of Students** – Minimum of 30, Maximum of 120. Groups larger than 120 will be split into multiple days. The charge for this program is currently \$5.00 per student and chaperones are free.
- **Timing** – Field trips are booked from 10:00 am – 1:00 pm.
- **What to bring** – Bottled Water, lunch if appropriate
- **How to dress** – pants, closed-toed comfortable shoes, hat, sunscreen, bug spray



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In-School Program Information: The Natural Lands' staff can bring slides, Power Point presentation, live specimens, skulls, maps and other related visual aides to give students a hands-on experience as they learn more.

- **Number of Students** – Minimum of 30, Maximum of 120. Groups larger than 120 will be split into multiple class periods within the same day. The charge for this program is currently \$5.00 per student and chaperones are free. Small groups will have a more hands-on experience. In cases of large groups, teachers can choose a small group of students to join us up front to participate in the hands-on portion of the show.
- **Number of Programs** – We prefer to have large groups, however, if space doesn't allow this than we will do up to 3 shows in one day within a 3-hour period.

Program Curriculum Options:

Both programs include a discussion on a chosen topic. Topics include:

- **Native Wildlife Program** – Discussion could be on adaptations, habitats, exotic species, endangered species, food chain/webs, wildlife study, and animal tracks. Live animals (snakes, and turtles) are used for demonstration.
- **Bones and Fossils Program** – Discussion could be on adaptations and skull identification. Animal skulls and live animals (snakes, and turtles) are used for demonstration.
- **Florida's Ecosystems Program** – Discussion could be on ecosystems in Florida, habitats, land management, prescribed burns, etc. Visuals such as aerial photographs are used in demonstration.
- **Biodiversity Program** (7th grade program) – Discussions could focus on the rich biodiversity found in Central Florida Discuss, the concept of biodiversity and why it is important, show how field biologists use different types of measuring devices, understand that living things are composed of major systems that function in reproduction, growth, maintenance and regulation, discuss organisms, etc.
- **Gopher Tortoise Program** (4th grade program) – Discussion could be about the geographic range, legal status, habitats, role of fire in habitats, burrow, and adaptations of the gopher tortoise, etc. Visuals such as a shell and monitoring box are used.

How to Book Programs:

Programs should be booked at least two weeks in advance. Programs are booked on a 1st come 1st serve basis. If a request is made for a program within the two week time period, it is subject to staff availability. Schools must present a copy of the PO in order to firm up a reservation.

Confirmations:

Trips will be confirmed with the field trip organizer at least 2 weeks prior to the field trip. Final attendance numbers must be given no later than 7 days prior to the event for the purpose of booking staff for the event. Participation number is a guaranteed participation number and cannot go down but can go up as additional participation is confirmed. In this case, please notify us as soon as possible. Field trips will be cancelled and rescheduled within a one month period in case of inclement weather. No refunds or credits will be issued for trips not rescheduled within one month of the originally scheduled trip.

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and a Connection to Nature...**

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