



Wetland Explorers

Dates: July 11-15, 2022

Time: 9 am - 12 pm

Location: Half Day Forest Preserve, *meet at Shelter A*

What to wear: Sturdy closed toe shoes that can get wet and muddy; Clothing that is appropriate for the weather, movement, and exploration; Optional- hat and sunglasses.

What to bring: Snack, water bottle, optional- sunscreen, insect repellent

Itinerary

Monday, July 11

Learn about the water cycle and the different states of water, journey as a water molecule, and explore a wetland during a wetland census exploration activity.

Tuesday, July 12

Collect samples with soil probes to investigate soil types, identify water-loving plants along with their unique features, and meet wetland residents.

Wednesday, July 13

Use dip nets and microscopes to explore the underwater world of macroinvertebrates. Learn how to identify them using scientific tools. Adaptations, predator-prey relationships, and metamorphosis are highlighted.

Thursday, July 14 - *Long pants and socks are recommended*

Today is about making connections to animals that may not live in water year-round but still use it for nurseries, food, and safety. Use field nets to safely catch and release insects. Explore with binoculars while learning about their unique lifecycles.

Friday, July 15

Transform into migratory birds, traveling flyways to discover how wetlands are vital to species survival. Walk to the river to use dip nets and a seine net to sample the biodiversity found there. End the week with a better understanding of the importance of wetland habitats for plants, animals, and people.

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Please email AskAnEducator@LCFPD.org for general questions.

**Please complete and return all forms at least one week prior to the start of the program.*

**Please note that some activities may be substituted or modified due to time constraints, site resources, participant interests, or inclement weather. Cancellations of this program will be sent to the email(s) listed on the form*

