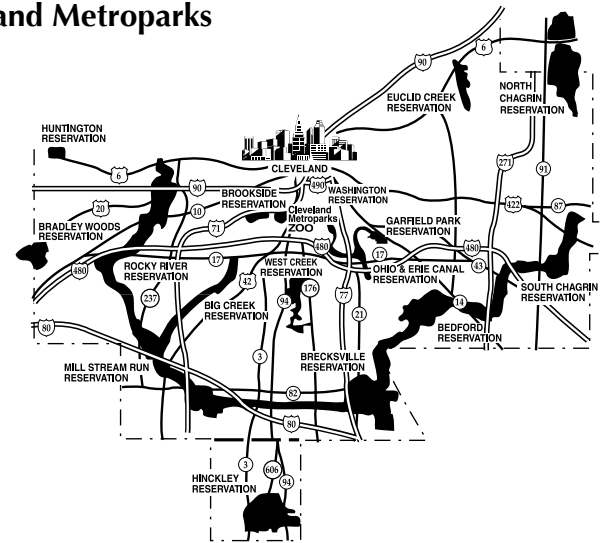


North Chagrin Nature Center Group Program Guide



Cleveland Metroparks



Cleveland Metroparks is Cleveland's "Emerald Necklace," an open space of natural beauty and diversity. The Park District is dedicated to conservation, education and recreation. It offers an array of facilities and opportunities from picnicking, golfing and fishing to water and winter recreation areas, wildlife areas, and outdoor education and recreation programs.

Cleveland Metroparks was established on July 23, 1917 to provide open space for the people of Greater Cleveland, as well as to conserve and preserve the natural valleys of the area. Today, Cleveland Metroparks consists of over 21,000 acres of land in 16 reservations, over 100 miles of parkways, and Cleveland Metroparks Zoo.

Cleveland Metroparks events are featured in the Emerald Necklace. This free monthly publication is available to residents of Cuyahoga County and Hinckley Township in Medina County. (There is an annual \$10 subscription fee for others.) To be placed on the mailing list, send your name and address to the address below.

Cleveland Metroparks does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, gender, religion, age, or disability in employment, services or access to programs or activities. Special assistance for Cleveland Metroparks programs or facilities is available by calling 216-635-3264 in advance.

In case of accident or emergency, call Ranger Headquarters 440-333-4911.

Administrative Offices
4101 Fulton Parkway
Cleveland, Ohio 44144-1923
216-635-3200
FAX 216-635-3286



Programs are provided Monday through Friday from 9:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. and last 1 hour for preschool through 1st grade and 1.5 hours for 2nd grade and up. Reservations are required for any naturalist-led program. Reservations must be made at least two weeks in advance. Two months advance notice is recommended for programs requested during the spring and fall seasons.

For school groups, it is best not to schedule a field trip the day before a holiday, school vacation, or on the last day of school. One naturalist can work best with a maximum of 30 students. Larger groups may be accommodated as staffing permits.

Please have the following information ready. . .

- Program choice
- Preferred and alternative dates and time
- Group name, address, telephone number, e-mail address, and name of contact person
- Age/grade level and number of children
- Any special needs of the group

Things to remember the day of your field trip. . .

- Please call if you are unable to keep your scheduled appointment
- Programs are held rain or shine
- Dress for the outdoors

Many existing programs can be customized to suit your group's needs. Looking for something other than what is offered in this program guide? Schedule early and we will try to meet your needs.

Programs in Your Classroom –Visiting Naturalist

If you are unable to bring your class to North Chagrin Nature Center, a naturalist can visit your Cuyahoga County classroom up to three times per year. The majority of the programs listed can be adapted for your classroom. Call to discuss options.

All programs are provided free of charge.



Habitats

Preschool - 1st (1 hour) 2nd grade (1.5 hour)

Students will understand that all living things have basic needs, including food, water, space and shelter. Animals live in different habitats based on their needs. We will explore several habitats.

Wonderful Wetlands

2nd - 8th grade (only at the nature center unless your school has a wetland)

Students will explore the biodiversity and importance of wetlands to the health of our community through hands-on aquatic investigation, some simple water tests, and interactive activities.

Forest Ecology

2nd - 8th grade

North Chagrin Reservation has an incredible example of a "Beech-Maple Climax Forest." Learn why this area is so special and what Ohio looked like hundreds of years ago. This program takes place at A.B. Williams Memorial Woods in North Chagrin Reservation.

Communities

3rd - 5th grade

Organisms within a community are interdependent and their interactions are essential to community success. Children will learn how organisms are connected by exploring food chains, food webs, and cycling of resources.

Adaptations

Using Our Senses

Preschool (1 hour)

Students will explore the marvels of nature around the pond and marsh through the use of their senses. This program is designed to expand and encourage a child's sense of wonder.

Animal Adaptations

1st grade (1 hour) 2nd - 4th grade (1.5 hours)

Children will learn that animals look different because they are uniquely adapted to live in their environment. We will look at different animals to discover how their special adaptations help them to survive.

Patterns and Cycles

Seasonal Discoveries

Preschool - 1st grade (1 hour)

Each session brings new discoveries to explore. Children will learn how seasonal changes affect all living things. We will walk around the pond and marsh to see what makes each season in Northeast Ohio special.

Life Cycles

1st grade (1 hour) 2nd - 5th grade (1.5 hours)

This program enhances students' understanding that all living things grow and change. We will walk around the pond and marsh to discover various plants and animals at different stages of their lives.



Classification

Who am I?

Kindergarten - 1st (1 hour) 2nd - 3rd grade (1.5 hours)

Students will learn to distinguish between living and non-living things. Then, using the characteristics of various plants and animals, students will learn to sort them into groups.

Advanced Classification

4th - 7th grade

Students will learn to distinguish characteristics that aid in classification. We will then spend time using keys and other tools to assist in identifying plants or animals found in Northeast Ohio.

Additional Programs

Green Living

2nd - 5th grade

Look to nature to learn lessons on how to reduce, reuse, and recycle. Through our own personal choices, we can become better stewards of our environment. Even small steps make a difference.

Geology in Our Everyday Lives

3rd - 7th grade

Explore the history of Northeast Ohio as told by the rocks. Learn how geology influences what lives and grows here today. Students will discover how geology gives us clues to the past and plays a very important role in our everyday lives.



The following programs can be adapted for any age

Mammals of Northeast Ohio

Through pelts, mounts, tracks and/or scat, students will learn about the diversity of mammals in Northeast Ohio now and in the past. Older students will examine environmental issues such as animal overpopulation, extinction, and habitat destruction.

Owls - Hunters of the Night

(indoor program)

This program takes a look at several species of owls found in Northeast Ohio. We will examine their unique characteristics and adaptations for survival. A live owl is part of this program.



Beneficial Bats

This program will instill an appreciation of bats as important and beneficial mammals in the ecosystem. Learning about their interesting behaviors and characteristics will dispel many of the misconceptions people have about bats.



Reptiles and Amphibians

Students will explore the characteristics and adaptations that make these cold-blooded animals so unique. They will examine similarities and differences between amphibians and reptiles and the threats to their survival. Live animals are part of this program.



Insects and Spiders

Students will learn that insects and spiders are extremely diverse. While there are some insects we may not like, they provide many important services to the environment. Live animals are part of this program.

Our Mission

The Mission of Cleveland Metroparks Outdoor Education Division is to provide educational opportunities, experiences and services which encourage the understanding of the interdependencies in nature.

One of the primary goals within the Park District's mission is to provide high quality interpretive programs to school children of Cuyahoga County. The staff at North Chagrin Nature Center strives to create experiences that will instill an appreciation and understanding of the wonders of nature and support Ohio's Science Academic Standards.

North Chagrin Nature Center serves as the primary interpretive facility in North Chagrin Reservation; featuring educational displays, resource library, auditorium and nature shop. The Nature Education Building offers teachers the unique opportunity to reserve classroom space for the entire day or part of a day and is available Monday through Thursday. Building rental fees are waived for school groups, but reservations are required.

Mailing Address Only:
North Chagrin Nature Center
3037 SOM Center Road
Willoughby Hills, Ohio 44094
440-473-3370

