



National Outdoor Recreation
& Conservation School

Exploring, Discovering, Learning



*Creating the opportunity
to get outdoors!*

Springfield WOW

April 15th & 16th, 2011

Ritter Springs Park
Springfield, Missouri

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Nature does not
hurry, yet
everything is
accomplished.

~Lao Tzu

PROGRAM INFORMATION

Mission Statement

W.O.W. National Outdoor Recreation and Conservation School is designed to teach participants how to enjoy a wide range of outdoor recreation activities while practicing personal safety and outdoor responsibility. Each W.O.W. course will include an outdoor skill, conservation, safety and ethics component.

General Information

W.O.W. School is designed as an annual event and offers a comprehensive educational program through selected courses and workshops. Some courses are designed to provide a complete range of instruction, while others deal with only one topic. Each year the program will vary depending on requests and previous participation.

Location

W.O.W. National Outdoor Recreation and Conservation School will be held April 15th & 16th at Ritter Springs Park. Ritter Springs Park is located just north of Springfield, Missouri at 3683 W. Farm Rd. 92.

Registration

1. Complete a registration form (one per person please).

Indicate first, second and third choice of classes – this is very important! If you do not indicate alternate choices, your registration will be placed at the bottom of all the other registrations received on that particular date. At that point, every attempt will be made to contact you; however, if you are unable to be reached, your registration will not be processed until proper contact has been made.

2. Enclose payment in full; make check payable to W.O.W. School.
3. Sign and enclose the W.O.W. liability/photo release form.

Please note: The deadline for registration is April 8, 2011. If any of the above is not received, your registration will not be processed.

Mail registration materials and payments to:

Wonders of Wildlife
Attn: W.O.W. School Springfield
500 W. Sunshine
Springfield, MO 65807
Or Fax to: (417) 890-9278

For more information please email:
gregistration@wondersofwildlife.org

Or call: (417) 225-1131 or (417) 225-1118

Cancellation Policy

Cancellation and refund requests must be submitted in writing to W.O.W. School, prior to Friday, April 8th. All refunds are subject to a \$10 nonrefundable service fee. Absolutely no refunds will be given after Friday, April 8th. When, if applicable, refunds will be processed after a three-week (minimum) waiting period.

Age Requirements

Participants must be nine (9) years of age or older to attend W.O.W. School classes. An adult must accompany children age nine (9) to twelve (12) to all classes and program activities. (This means the adult/guardian must be registered for and attend the same class as the child.) Discretion will be left to the parent or guardian to determine whether a child, age thirteen (13) or older, is capable of attending classes unsupervised. All individuals who attend any W.O.W. class must be registered.

Kids' Camp

Designed for children four (4) to eight (8) years of age, the kids' camp offers exciting outdoor activities. Located in Ritter Springs Park, the kids' camp is fun-filled and full of educational activities designed to teach and inspire a child's natural curiosity about nature and the great outdoors. For more details, please see page 14.

Confirmation Letter

Participants will receive a confirmation letter after registration has been completed (please allow several weeks for processing). The letter will provide a list of classes in which the participant has successfully been enrolled, any special instructions for the course (including clothing or equipment needs), a detailed map of the W.O.W. campus and special event information. The confirmation letter is meant to ensure participants are aware of their responsibilities and expectations before arriving at the W.O.W. School.

Program Changes

Organizers reserve the right to cancel, reschedule or relocate any proposed offering without prior notice. Insufficient enrollment or emergency cancellations by the instructor are examples of why a program could be cancelled. Organizers also reserve the right to substitute instructors if necessary.

Transportation

Individuals are responsible for their own transportation to classes and program activities. All classes are within walking distance of the camping area, except for horseback riding. **Horseback riding is held off park property and requires you to provide your own transportation.** Please keep this in mind as you schedule your classes. You will receive detailed information regarding off-site courses in the confirmation letter.

Physical Activity Guide

To help participants anticipate each course and know what physical requirements to expect of each course, a physical activity rating system has been created. Listed in the course catalog, you will find a physical level rating for each course.

- Low – Requires minimal physical skills/endurance
- Moderate – Requires moderate physical skills/endurance
- High – Requires high levels of physical skills/endurance

Special Needs

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, W.O.W. will make all reasonable efforts to accommodate persons with special needs. Please enclose a letter with your registration form stating any special needs you may have.

Meals

The registration fee covers all meals served during the event. Dinner will be provided on Friday, April 15th, and breakfast and lunch on Saturday, April 16th. Please enclose a letter with your registration form stating any special dietary restrictions you or members of your party may have. We will do our best to accommodate you and make alternative arrangements.

Camping

Sites will be available to participants for tent and small camper camping only. Camping will be primitive as there are no electrical or water hook-ups. We ask that you bring your own tents and bedding. However, both tents and sleeping bags are available on a limited basis, and will be provided based on need and the date registration was received. Staff will be on hand to help anyone who needs assistance setting up their campsite. If you would prefer, there are Springfield area hotels available.

- Econo-Lodge (417) 869-5600
- Marriott (417) 869-6700
- Comfort Inn (417) 869-8246
- Drury Inn (417) 863-8400

Financial Assistance is Available!

Financial assistance for registration will be available for Missouri residents who are in need. To apply, submit a one-page request letter along with a completed registration form and liability release waiver for each person in your party on or before April 8th, 2011. In your letter include the following: why you want to attend, the ages of your family members and a phone number.

Submit a one-page request letter to:
Wonders of Wildlife
Attn: W.O.W. School Springfield
500 W. Sunshine
Springfield, MO 65807

COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

Friday Evening

6:30 p.m.

Twilight Nature Walk

Enrollment Limit: 30 (Low)

On this short, easy walk you will learn about some of Ritter Springs Park's ecosystems and habitats, i.e.: bats, glades & native species, pond & streams, and other wildlife. With enough daylight left it is hoped that you will observe the Missouri Bladderpod, a Concern Species; observe a Federal Endangered Gray Bat Flight up close and personal and see what is killing our bats. You will also learn where to watch for an alligator snapper, deer, an eagle, owls, and turkeys.

Instructor: Melvin Johnson, Community Recreation Outdoor Initiatives Supervisor, & Staff.

Stargazing

Enrollment Limit: 30 (Low)

Get away from the city lights and come explore the universe on a guided tour of the night sky. Learn the stars names, see the constellations, and hear folklore and mythological stories of the night sky.

Instructor: Dale Flippo, President Springfield Astronomical Society

Birds of Prey

Enrollment Limit: 20 (Low)

Come see some of nature's highflying birds of prey. You will be introduced to the keepers of the night; a keen eyed daytime hunter, and the garbage man of the environment. Each with their own defining characteristics that make them important.

Instructor: Sue Schuble, Wonders of Wildlife

Introduction to Forestry

Enrollment Limit: 30 (Low)

This course will cover basic tree identification, basic forestry principals, tree pests, diseases, how to measure trees and uses of trees. Specimens will be brought for hands on activities.

Instructor: Sueanne Cmehil-Warn and Phillip Taggart, U.S. Forest Service

Saturday

Session 1

8:30 A.M. - 10:30 A.M.

Kayaking

Enrollment Limit: 15 (High)

This course is designed for beginner paddlers. Learn the basics of entering and exiting a kayak, basic strokes, safety practices and equipment selection. Individual instruction will be provided. Be prepared to get wet and have lots of fun on the water.

Instructor: TBD

Introduction to Shooting Sports

Enrollment Limit: 12 (Low)

Don't think you could ever pick up a gun, shoot it and hit a target? After this course, you will be well on your way to becoming a competent shooter. You will receive time-tested safety instructions, determine your dominant eye for shooting and get practical instruction on correct shooting techniques. Also covered in this course will be the different types of firearms available for shooting sports such as air rifles, .22 caliber, handguns, shotguns, etc. Air rifles will be used for target practice.

Instructor: Sueanne Cmehil-Warn and Phillip Taggart, U.S. Forest Service

Stream Ecology

Enrollment Limit:20 (Moderate)

Come and bring the whole family, as we get muddy looking for cool bugs and fish. This class will introduce you to all the creatures that call the stream home and connect participants with their watersheds. Small children will need life jackets while in the water.

Instructor: Mike Kromrey, Watershed Committee of the Ozarks

Conservation Hike

Enrollment Limit: 20 (Moderate)

Join Park Ranger Mike Simpson for a two-hour hike and discussion on cultivating a relationship with the outdoor world, resource management issues, Leave No Trace Principles, trail etiquette, carrying capacity, erosion control and low impact nature outings.

Instructor: Mike Simpson, Park Ranger – National Park Service

FAMILY INITIATIVE – TEAM Building ACTIVITIES.

Enrollment Limit: 30 (Low)

An opportunity for families to participate in Confidence – Team Building. Low Level Initiative Activities. From tinker toys to physical challenge, with good communication and team skills your family will creatively solve each initiative challenge. Challenges will be both physically and mentally challenging. Is your family up to the challenge?

Instructor: Kara Warren, Community Recreation Outdoor Initiatives Specialist, & Staff.

Basic Caving and Restoration

Enrollment Limit: 12 (High)

A family oriented “wild” caving experience at Ritter Springs Park’s Junction Cave. A hands-on learning experience about cave groups / grottos, cave habitat, caving, cave life, and cave restoration. Dress for the outdoors and the potential of getting dirty and wet. Optional crawling.

Instructor: Springfield Plateau Grotto

Session 2

12:00 P.M. - 2:00 P.M.

Beginning Archery

Enrollment Limit: 16 (Moderate)

Experience the excitement and realism of 3-D target shooting. Learn how to set up and fine-tune your equipment for 3-D shooting or archery hunting. Other topics that will be covered include target panic, range estimation, shot placement, bow hunting ethics and safety. Individual instruction will be provided during practice time. Participants are encouraged to provide their own bows, arrows and personal equipment to ensure a proper fit. Some equipment will be available for participants if needed.

Instructor: Archery Quest

Orienteering

Enrollment Limit: 16 (Moderate)

Do you ever get lost or lose your sense of direction? Learn how to find your way with confidence using a map and compass. Designed for beginners, novices, or as a refresher course, you will learn how to use a compass, read a map, and use both together. With this new skill, you should never have to fear getting lost in the wild outdoors.

Instructor: Tom Sayers, U.S. Forest Service

Crafts: Wind Chimes

Enrollment Limit: 16 (Low)

Wind chimes have been in existence for over 5000 years. They are one of the oldest musical instruments in the world and are known world-wide today to help soothe and calm people by their sweet and melodic sounds. Wind chimes traditionally are an outdoor decoration but can be also indoors.

Instructor: Mary Helen Fisher, Wonders of Wildlife

Beginning Canoeing

Enrollment Limit: 20 (Moderate)

Canoeing, either on a lake or stream, can be an enjoyable activity for one person or the entire family. It is a way to relax and enjoy the many forms of wildlife that live within and frequent the stream ecosystem. Learn the basics you need to know to enjoy this activity. Wear clothing suitable for the weather and getting wet.

Instructor: TBD

Introduction to Shooting Sports

Enrollment: 12 (Low)

Don't think you could ever pick up a gun, shoot it and hit a target? After this course, you will be well on your way to becoming a competent shooter. You will receive time-tested safety instructions, determine your dominant eye for shooting and get practical instruction on correct shooting techniques. Also covered in this course will be the different types of firearms available for shooting sports such as air rifles, .22 caliber, handguns, shotguns, etc. Air rifles will be used for target practice.

Instructor: Sueanne Cmehil-Ward and Phillip Taggart, US Forest Service

Fly Tying

Enrollment Limit: 10 (Low)

This course is an introduction to the art and science of fly tying. Learn about the basic tools and materials used for tying flies. Participants will receive hands-on instruction and should bring a fly box along to put their creations in. You will be able to look at some of the insects and other creatures that fly tiers try to imitate.

Instructor: Charlie Stock, Midwest Flies

Double Session Course

TRAIL CONSTRUCTION/ PRIMITIVE TRAILS:

12:00 P.M. – 4:30 P.M.

Enrollment Limit: 20 (Moderate)

Session will cover basic trail construction guidelines and procedures, equipment – tools and safety, and hands-on construction. Tools and equipment provided. Participants will learn how they can obtain a copy of the Trail Construction booklet.

Instructor: Robert Crampton, Volunteers for Outdoor Missouri Inc. & Springfield – Greene County Park Board's Volunteer Trails

WILSON CREEK BATTLEFIELD DAY TRIP:

Saturday 12:00 – 4:30 p.m.

Enrollment Limit: min 10, max 20 (Low)

Come along as we explore historical Wilson Creek National Battlefield and experience first hand the site of the famous civil war battle. You will witness artifacts, a civil war museum, and battlefields with live tour guides along the way: transportation included.

Instructors: Springfield – Greene County Park Board Staff.

Session 3
2:30 P.M. – 4:30 P.M.

Beginning Canoeing

Enrollment Limit: 20 (Moderate)

Canoeing, either on a lake or stream, can be an enjoyable activity for one person or the entire family. It is a way to relax and enjoy the many forms of wildlife that live within and frequent the stream ecosystem. Learn the basics you need to know to enjoy this activity. Wear clothing suitable for the weather and getting wet.

Instructor: TBD

Fly Fishing

Enrollment Limit: 15 (Moderate)

This course is designed for the beginning fly fisher. Learn the basics of different fish habitats, fly selection, knot tying and equipment selection. You will receive individualized fly-casting instruction and learn different methods and skills needed to catch fish. Participants will benefit from using their own equipment; however, a limited number of rod outfits will be available for those without. Waders are not needed.

Instructor: Rob Dickerson, Bass Pro Shops

Crafts: Sun Jars

Enrollment Limit: 16 (Low)

Would you like to capture the sun's glow in a jar? Remember catching lightening bugs or fireflies and the glow they gave off. We can catch that glow with the Sun Jar.

Instructor: Mary Helen Fisher, Wonders of Wildlife

Horseback Riding

Enrollment Limit: 20 (Moderate)

Trot on over to Sac River Stables, LLC. Riders will learn safety while working around horses, grooming, saddling a horse and horsemanship while riding. All events will occur in an indoor riding arena regardless of weather. Students must wear boots or sturdy shoes and long pants. Riding helmets will be supplied by the Sac River Stables.

This course requires an additional \$20 fee.

Instructor: Dawn O'Connor, Sac River Stables

Beginning Archery

Enrollment Limit: 16 (Moderate)

Experience the excitement and realism of 3-D target shooting. Learn how to set up and fine-tune your equipment for 3-D shooting or archery hunting. Other topics that will be covered include target panic, range estimation, shot placement, bow hunting ethics and safety. Individual instruction will be provided during practice time. Participants are encouraged to provide their own bows, arrows and personal equipment to ensure a proper fit. Some equipment will be available for participants if needed.

Instructor: Archery Quest

Kids' Camp

Saturday: 8:15 a.m.—4:45 p.m.

Enrollment Limit: Open (Low)

Designed for children four (4) to eight (8) years of age, the kids' camp, located in Ritter Springs Park, offers lots of exciting outdoor educational activities that will help inspire a child's natural curiosity about nature and the great outdoors. All day is sure to be fun-filled and will include an outing such as a trip to a cave, archery, or to the woods for a nature walk, nature crafts, and some fun games.

Please Note: Participants should wear hiking boots or sturdy shoes and dress for the weather. Snacks and drinks will be provided. Parental attendance is not necessary for children to attend assigned courses, but parents/guardians must be on location participating in other classes.

Instructors: Wonders of Wildlife Staff

SPECIAL THANKS TO OUR LOCAL PARTNERS

Springfield Greene-County Park Board
 Sac River Stables, LLC.
 Springfield Astronomical Society
 Watershed Committee of the Ozarks
 Missouri State University
 Springfield Plateau Grotto
 U.S. Forest Service
 Archery Quest
 Ozark Mountain Paddlers
 National Park Service
 Midwest Flies
 Bass Pro Shops
 Wonders of Wildlife

LOCAL DONORS

Bass Pro Shops
 Silver Dollar City
 Discovery Center

Check out our other W.O.W schools!

Columbia / April 29th & 30th
 St. Louis / June 4th & 5th
 Kansas City / September 23rd & 24th
 Roaring River State Park / October 7th – 9th

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National Park Service

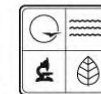


U.S. Army Corps of Engineers



US Army Corps of Engineers

Missouri Department of Natural Resources



Missouri Dept. of Natural Resources

Missouri State University

