



Group Programs and Field Trips

Give us 20 students, \$25, and 45 minutes. We'll give you the park, the Piedmont and the planet!

Scheduling a Group Program

1. Reserve a date and topic with the Nature Education Office staff. Contact us at mfisk@garnernc.gov. (See next page for topics.) Programs can be scheduled for Monday-Friday, 9am-5pm. We require at least **30 days' notice** for all program registrations; however, we will accommodate all requests if possible, depending on staff availability.
2. Fill out the Group Program Registration Form (see last page for form) and send to mfisk@garnernc.gov. Payments can be made online or mailed to:

Garner Parks, Recreation and Cultural Resources
Attn: White Deer Park
900 Seventh Avenue
Garner, N.C. 27529
E-mail: mfisk@garnernc.gov

Checks may be made out to "Town of Garner."

Your program is not reserved until we receive your Group Program Registration Form and payment.

Group Program Policies and Information

Format: Group Programs are designed for 20 students and run for approximately 45 minutes.

Topic: Choose any of the topics on the next page or request a specialty topic. Programs can be tailored to meet your curriculum or badge requirements. Please discuss your group's needs with an educator.

Cost: \$25 includes instructional time and materials. Some programs have an extra materials fee. An educator will notify you of any additional charges when you choose your topic.

Chaperones: Bring one chaperone or teacher for every five students.

Weather: Group Programs are held rain or shine. Please dress for the weather. If parks or schools are closed, we will reschedule. In inclement weather, call the park to discuss options.

Payment: We require a full payment and complete registration form to finalize your program. Please submit payment with the Group Program Registration Form if mailing or dropping off in-person. For an online payment, please email your registration form to mfisk@garnernc.gov. Online payment is due within one week of registration.

Refunds: For cancellations received 30 days in advance, you will receive a full refund, minus a \$5 processing fee. With less than 30 days' notice, we cannot issue a refund. We will reschedule your program if possible.

Buses: Enter the park and follow signs to the Nature Center. Please use restrooms at the Nature Center before the start of the program. There are no designated bus parking spaces. Buses may park at White Deer Park or at Lake Benson Park.

Shelter Reservations: Add a 2-hour shelter reservation to your group program reservation for an additional \$30. Shelters hold up to 50 people with 8 picnic tables, a grill, and an electrical outlet. If reserving a shelter for more than 2 hours, regular rates of \$20/hour for Garner residents or \$30/hour for non-residents apply.

Group Programs Topics – White Deer Park Classics

These classic topics focus on our native wildlife. Recommended grade for each topic is provided in description. We are happy to customize your program to work with any age group, including adults, or to meet your curriculum or badge objectives. Cost is \$25 per program, plus materials fees if noted.

Beginner Birdwatching: Learn about our native birds and use binoculars, books and bird calls to identify various species in the park. (K-5)

Home Sweet Habitat: What is a habitat? Visit our stream and fields to discover how animals make the homes they need. (K-5)

Insect Investigation: Collect insects with jars and nets, identify insects and explore the insects' role in the ecosystem. (K-8)

The Land We Live On: Learn about the area's Native American history, connect with the environment, and take a tour of the park's native plants and their uses. (3-8)

Meet the Animals: Learn about native wildlife of the North Carolina piedmont through hands-on interaction of live and mounted animals. (PreK-8)

Owl Odyssey: Discover these birds of prey through mounts, feather comparisons and owl pellet dissection. (1-8) (\$1.00 extra per pellet.)

The Path of Trash: Discover the impact of our waste on the environment. Explore topics like recycling, plastics, composting, and landfills. (3-8)

Water Quality: Investigate different types of water pollution and learn how the creatures of Lake Benson can help us determine the quality of the water. (3-8)

Group Programs Topics – Class Field Trips

These programs align to the North Carolina Standard Course of Study and are specifically designed to build background knowledge, vocabulary, and critical thinking skills. Some topics align with the Expeditionary Learning (EL) curriculum. Cost is \$25 per program, plus materials fees if noted.

Prolific Pollinators: Students learn about the structure of flowers and the role of pollinators. (Ecosystems 1-4)

Pushes & Pulls: Students will have a better understanding of force and how pushes and pulls change the motion of objects around us. (Physical Science K-4)

Energize Me!: Students will recognize that energy takes various forms that are grouped based on their interaction with matter. (Physical Science 2-3)

Landforms: Students will identify different types of landforms (hills, mountains, plains, etc.) and explore the landforms of White Deer Park. (Earth Systems 1-3)

Soil Sleuths: Students will learn about the functions of plant structures and soils. (Earth Systems 1-3)

How to Become a Meteorologist: Students will learn about weather concepts such as temperature, wind direction, wind speed, etc. (Earth Systems K-2)

Wild Weather: Students will learn about different types of weather phenomena and how they affect Earth. (Earth Systems 4-5)

How to Become a Paleontologist: Students will learn about historic paleontologist, Mary Anning, and explore fossils like a paleontologist. (Life Science 2-4)

For information, availability, or to reserve your program, please contact:

White Deer Park Nature Education Office

mfisk@garnernc.gov

Responsibilities of Coordinator

- Schedule Group Program(s) with White Deer Park at least one month in advance.
- Fill out and return Group Program Registration Form.
- Send payment for Group Program(s) to the park office.
- Inform educators of students' prior knowledge and any specific content desired in the program.
- Share program and schedule information with participating teachers.

Responsibilities of Teachers

- Ensure that children act responsibly and follow park rules.
- Ensure that classes arrive on time to Group Programs and any other scheduled activities during your trip.
- Ensure that children are accompanied by adults at all times. We require one chaperone per five children.
- Share activity and schedule information with chaperones before your trip to the park.

Responsibilities of Chaperones

- Ensure that children act responsibly and follow park rules.
- Accompany children at all times, including to and from the bathroom.

White Deer Park Rules

- Nature Center public hours:
 - April – September, 10:00 AM - 7:00 PM, Tuesday through Saturday. Closed Sunday and Monday.
 - October – March, 12:00 PM - 5:00 PM, Tuesday through Saturday. Closed Sunday and Monday.
- White Deer Park hours: Sunrise to sunset, seven days a week
- No alcohol, weapons, or fireworks allowed on park property.
- No open fires: grill only in designated areas.
- No unauthorized motorized vehicles on trails.
- Pets must be kept on leashes at all times.
- Pet owners must clean up pet waste.
- Stay on designated trails for your safety and the protection of plants and animals.
- Do not pick, remove or disturb plants or wildlife in the park.
- Littering is illegal: dispose of trash in the appropriate containers.
- Please dispose of recycling in the appropriate containers.
- In the event of an emergency, call 911.
- For general questions, contact Garner Parks, Recreation and Cultural Resources at 919.773.4442.





Group Program Registration Form

This form is 2 pages and requires a signature

We must receive this registration form AND payment within 1 week of scheduling to finalize your program.

Date: _____ Program Time: _____

Program Topic: _____

Number of Participants Expected: _____ Grade Level/Age: _____

Host Group: _____

Mailing Address: _____

City _____ Zip _____ County _____

Contact Person Name: _____

Main Telephone # _____ Alternate # _____

Email: _____

Shelter Reservation Yes Shelter Name: _____ Start time _____
(\$30 for 2hr rental) No

Please let us know how we can best accommodate any students with special needs.

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY

Date Received: _____ Payment Type: Cash Credit Card Check # _____

Fees received: \$ _____ Receipt E-mailed On: _____ Staff Initials: _____

Receipt #: _____ Shelter Reserved: Yes N/A

Date confirmed: _____

Notes: _____



Group Program Policy Reminders:

- Programs are designed for 20 students or less. Larger groups may be asked to split into separate groups and pay an additional program fee.
- Format: Group Programs are designed for 20 students and run for approximately 45 minutes.
- Chaperones: Bring one chaperone or teacher for every five students.
- Refunds: For cancellations received 30 days in advance, you will receive a full refund, minus a \$5 processing fee. With less than 30 days' notice, we cannot issue a refund. We will reschedule your program if possible.
- Weather: Group Programs are held rain or shine. Please dress for the weather. If parks or schools are closed, we will reschedule. In inclement weather, call the park to discuss options.
- Buses: Enter the park and follow signs to the Nature Center. Please use restrooms at the Nature Center before the start of the program. There are no designated bus parking spaces. Buses may park at White Deer Park or at Lake Benson Park.
- Shelter Reservations: Add a 2-hour shelter reservation to your group program reservation for an additional \$30. Shelters hold up to 50 people with 8 picnic tables, a grill, and an electrical outlet. If reserving a shelter for more than 2 hours, regular rates of \$20/hour for Garner residents or \$30/hour for non-residents apply.

Our standard liability policy is in place for group programs:

Warning, Liability Release, Acknowledgment & Assumption of Risk: I understand that participation in this recreation program involves risk of injury or loss of property. These risks include but are not limited to collision with other participants, being hit by ball or bat, allergic reaction, theft, tripping or falling, contact with other participants that may have infectious (communicable) diseases, physical exertion or other accidents. I further understand that before participating in this or any program, I should consult a physician for advice. By signing this form, I acknowledge all risks of loss, injury or death and affirm that I am willing to assume responsibility should loss, injury or death result from them. I also agree to follow all rules and procedures of the program and to follow reasonable instructions of the teachers and supervisors of the program. Furthermore, in return for the opportunity to participate in this program, I agree for myself, and for my heirs, assigns, executors and administrators, to waive any legal rights I may have to seek payment from the Town, its employees or its agents for bodily injury, death, or other loss resulting from this program, and to release those parties from any liability for damages resulting from the loss, injury or death. I understand that no insurance coverage is provided by the Town of Garner.

Permission to Use Image: I grant the Town of Garner permission to use, for any legitimate reason, any photographs, motion picture or recording of my participation in this activity.

Signature: _____ Date: _____