

U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

Trempealeau National Wildlife Refuge is a place where learning comes naturally! The wild setting invokes a sense of place and enables students of all ages to make *their* connection to the world outside!

Nature just happens here and students get connected by being part of it.

Spread Your Wings
And Come Learn!



If you are interested in bringing a class to the Refuge, there are a variety of programs available to fit your curriculum needs.

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Photo Credit - Stan Bousson

At
Trempealeau National
Wildlife Refuge



Programs to Meet Your Needs

Below is a list of the many programs the Refuge offers. Programs can be adjusted for all grade levels. If you are trying to fit a field trip into your curriculum and need a specific topic, let us know and we'll see what we can work up.

- ✦ **Leave No Trace** – learn about simple choices to tread lightly on the land—the basics of good land stewardship!
- ✦ **Basic Birding Techniques** – learn basic birding skills and how to use field guides and binoculars to identify birds.
- ✦ **All About Birds** – students will learn all about our feathered friends and what makes them so unique.
- ✦ **Frog Chorus** – a program about the many frogs found on the Refuge, their special calls, and about their habitats.
- ✦ **Migration Headaches** – Students will role play as migrating water birds and realize the limiting factors and hazards that impact bird survival.
- ✦ **Where Your Water Goes** - Presentation will demonstrate what happens when pollutants enter the watershed and how it affects our water source.
- ✦ **Making Tracks** – Animal tracks and study skins help students put mammal studies into perspective. Students will see tracks and feel mammal furs while learning associated facts about animals and how they adapt.
- ✦ **What's in the water** – Scoop up the water and see what lives within! Students are amazed and excited to see the smallest water bugs and learn about their little world down under!
- ✦ **Insulation Sensation** – Ever wonder how animals survive the winter? Find out how fur, winter homes, and habits help them survive the cold winter months.
- ✦ **Ducks on a Stick** – Flying high makes duck identification tough. Get a close up look at waterfowl – their unique identifying features, learn the difference between a diver and a dabbler and much more!
- ✦ **Betty the Bat** – Want to learn about how cool and beneficial bats really are? These amazing nocturnal mammals are the only true flying mammal and Betty the Bat would love to come tell you all about it!
- ✦ **The Un-nature trail** – A hike along the “un” nature trail will teach how to really take a closer look at your natural settings. Is it natural? Should it be there?
- ✦ **Nature Hike** – Explore the Refuge! A guide will lead you on a nature hike to discover the wonders the Refuge holds. A bald eagle, a muskrat, a snake warming itself upon a log, anytime of year a hike on the Refuge can be exciting.
- ✦ **Animals at home in winter** – Hibernate, Migrate, or Adapt...learn how animals nestle down, fatten up, or fly the coop when temperatures plummet!
- ✦ **It's Your Refuge System - Let's Build A Refuge!** – Our national wildlife refuge system is an amazing collection of lands set aside for the protection of wildlife and their habitat! Learn more about the story behind a Refuge and why conservation is so important.
- ✦ **Teacher's Choice** – Stuck in the same old rut trying to make your curriculum exciting and new? Schedule a visit to the Refuge or invite a Refuge ranger to enhance a unit of study. With a little advance notice, let a Ranger bring the Refuge to your class!
- ✦ **River Education Days** – Each May, the Refuge opens its doors to over 800 fifth grade students to join us for an amazing outdoor education event! Students learn about wildlife, habitat, river ecology, and much more! Schools join us from all over the river region for this two day event! Watch for your postcard or contact the Refuge to enroll.



Tips To Plan A Field Trip



- ✓ Discuss your field trip with your class and how the presentation relates to the course of study.
- ✓ Teachers are responsible for the control of their class. Whether it is in the class or on the grass, discipline is the teacher's role. Lack of cooperation may result in the program concluding early.
- ✓ When scheduling a program, try to allow for at least a two week advanced notice.
- ✓ To ensure a safe and orderly visit, each group should have at least one teacher or chaperone per every 12 students.
- ✓ Unless otherwise advised, buses should plan to unload students in front of the Refuge office. Bus parking is available at that location. If bus drivers leave during the school visit, have them leave a phone number in case of threatening weather and program cancellation.
- ✓ Students need to dress appropriately for weather, biting insects, and the presence of poison ivy.
- ✓ Pack it in, pack it out...we do not have trash receptacles, so if you plan to have lunch here, plan to take your trash back with you.
- ✓ An observation deck and seating area is available and utilized for many programs and to orient and welcome schools upon arrival.
- ✓ There are restrooms available outside near the deck. If students come inside, no more than four students at one time and must be accompanied by an adult.
- ✓ Do you have...sunscreen; plenty of water; insect repellent; kleenex; first aid kit; emergency phone numbers; and the Refuge office phone number in case you are running late?

Take Flight for Refuge Learning Today!

