

2019 Summer Camp Programs at the Vermilion County Conservation District

The Vermilion County Conservation District's Summer programs offer outdoor fun for children ages 3 and older. With almost 4,500 acres between Kennekuk County Park and Forest Glen Preserve, children will gain appreciation and knowledge of wildlife and the great outdoors. Our camp programs give children the opportunity to explore their natural world through hands-on discoveries, hiking excursions, and art experiences.

If you have any questions regarding our camp programs, please call Kennekuk County Park at 217-442-1691. You can register online at www.vccd.org. You can also mail or drop off your registration using the order form found at our website, or at the Kennekuk and Forest Glen Visitor Centers.

Toddling Into Nature

Kennekuk Environmental Education Center, Kennekuk County Park

This camp will introduce young children, ages 3-5, to the natural world, exploring through songs, activities, crafts, and more with a parent or guardian. Each class is organized around a theme and emphasizes active learning through sensory experiences, and movement activities. Children create with art materials, enjoy simple stories, and explore the great outdoors. Toddlers may sign up for one camp or both. Fee is \$5.00 per child per session, due upon registration. Each session is approximately one hour long:

Feathered Flyers - June 19 at 10:00am or 2:00pm; June 20 at 10:00am or 2:00pm

Soar into the world of birds as we learn about their amazing adaptations!

Animal Hide-and-Seek - June 26 at 10:00am or 2:00pm; June 27 at 10:00am or 2:00pm

We will explore and discover all the fascinating ways animals can hide in nature!

Nature Connect

Grades K-2nd, June 24, 9:30am - 11:30am

Kennekuk Environmental Education Center, Kennekuk County Park

Sign up for this new camp where children will explore nature and how it all works together: from the trees to flowers, and the not-so-creepy, creepy insects to other wildlife. We will hike a trail and make a craft to take home. Fee is \$10/child, due upon registration, fee includes craft.

Pioneer Kids Camp

Grades 1st-3rd, June 25, 9:30am - 11:30am

Gannett Outdoor Education Center, Forest Glen Preserve

What was it like to be a kid in the 1850's? Come out and join us for Pioneer Kids Camp to find out! Campers will hike to the Pioneer Homestead and make a candle to take home. Before leaving, we will cook a sweet treat on the hearth and enjoy it too. Fee is \$10/child, due upon registration, fee includes craft and snack.

Paddling Around Lake Mingo

Grades 4th-7th, July 9, 1:00pm - 3:00pm ****NEW TIME****

Lake Mingo Boat Ramp, Kennekuk County Park

We will explore Lake Mingo in canoes and kayaks on a guided tour with District naturalists. Learn about the diversity of plants, fish, birds, mammals, and more that call Lake Mingo home. Canoe and kayaking basics will be covered before we head out onto the water. All participants are required to wear a provided life jacket. Fee for camp is \$10/child.



Young Explorers

Grades K-5th, 9:00am - 3:00pm

Kennekuk Environmental Education Center, Kennekuk County Park, July 16

Gannett Outdoor Education Center, Forest Glen Preserve, July 17

We are bringing back our classic Young Explorers Camp for 2019! Throughout the fun-filled summer camp day, your child will participate in a nature hike, hayride, arts and craft session from the Young Explorers archives with experienced camp counselors. The July 16 camp session at Kennekuk will include fishing while the July 17 camp session at Forest Glen will have an up-close visit with some reptiles and amphibians. Fee is \$35.00/child, due upon registration which includes wiener roast lunch, snacks, and a nature craft to take.

Creek Stomping Ecology Camp

Grades 4th-6th, July 19, 9:00am - 2:00pm

Gannett Outdoor Education Center, Forest Glen Preserve

Spend the day getting wet while exploring Willow Creek. Follow our Naturalists on an adventure while searching for aquatic life and observing animal tracks along the way. After eating lunch a hayride will be given back to the Gannett Outdoor Education Center. Participants must bring their own lunch, water bottle, and should wear shoes and clothes that can get wet. Fee is \$25/child, due upon registration; fee includes snack.

Kids Cooking Class

Grades 3rd-5th, July 25 or July 31, 9:00am - 12:30pm

Gannett Outdoor Education Center, Forest Glen Preserve

Back by popular demand, the Kid's Cooking Class will be offered on three different dates this year. Each camp will have the same format, so please only register for one date. This camp is for kids who want to try their hand at cooking. Campers will take a short walk to the homestead garden to cut herbs for pizza. Back in the kitchen they will create their own pizza and help with making hand-churned ice cream. At lunch everyone gets to eat their handy work and make an ice cream sundae for dessert. Fee is \$15/child, due upon registration; Fee includes lunch.

You can register online at www.vccd.org. You can also mail or drop off your registration using the order form found at our website, or at the Kennekuk and Forest Glen Visitor Centers.

Other Summer Programs That Do Not Require Pre-Registration

"Paddling Around Lake Mingo"

Come out to the Lake Mingo Boat Ramp at Kennekuk County Park on July 10 or July 11 to learn about the diversity of plants, fish, birds, and mammals that call Lake Mingo home. Canoe and kayaking basics will be covered before we head out onto the water. This event is open to all ages and is on a first come, first serve basis for canoe and kayak use or feel free to bring your own. The lake cruise will run from 9:00am - 11:00 am. Fee is \$10/person.

"Wander Through the Woods at Forest Glen"

Join a District Naturalist on a guided hike showing you the unique locations throughout Forest Glen Preserve. These hikes will begin at 10:00am, lasting a couple of hours, on June 29, July 27, and August 31. The hikes will be different each month and are open to people of all ages, adults are required to attend with children under 16 years of age. Fee is \$5/person.