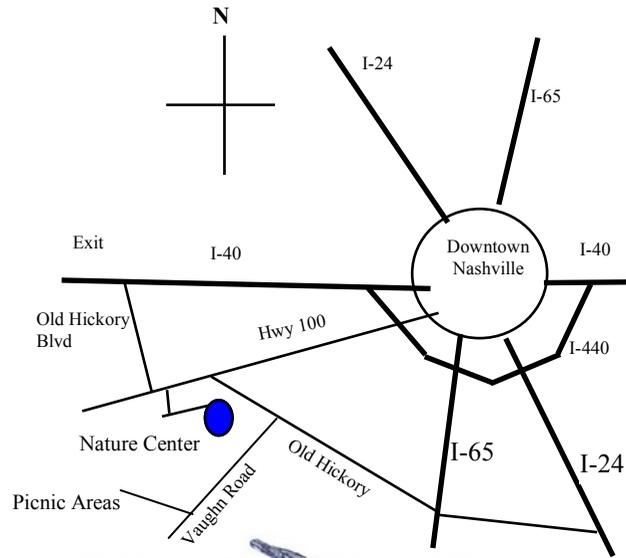


## Getting to Warner Park Nature Center

From Nashville, take Interstate 40 west to exit 199 (Old Hickory Blvd.). Turn left and follow Old Hickory Blvd. for 4 miles to Hwy. 100. Turn left and go 0.2 miles to the Edwin Warner Park entrance and turn right into the Park. Follow the Park drive to the left for 0.3 miles to the Nature Center.

Coming from the south or southeast, follow Old Hickory Blvd. north to Hwy. 100. Turn left and go 0.3 miles to the Edwin Warner Park entrance and turn left into the Park. Follow the Park drive to the left for 0.3 miles to the Nature Center.

The Nature Center is open Tuesday through Saturday from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Percy and Edwin Warner Parks are open seven days a week from sunrise to 11 p.m.



**Warner Park Nature Center**

7311 Highway 100  
Nashville, TN 37221

Phone: 615-352-6299~Fax: 615-880-2282

[wpnc@nashville.gov](mailto:wpnc@nashville.gov)

<http://www.nashville.gov/Parks-and-Recreation/Nature-Centers-and-Natural-Areas/Warner-Park-Nature-Center.aspx>



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WPNC Summer 2011

For TTY (relay service), please call 1-800-849-0299. For questions, concerns or requests regarding the American Disabilities Act call 615-862-8400.



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**Warner Park Nature Center**

## About the Nature Center

Warner Park Nature Center is a place where people and nature come together. Serving as the gateway for Nashville's Percy and Edwin Warner Parks, the Nature Center offers a wide range of free programs, activities and services to Park visitors. Since its creation in 1973, the Nature Center has become the area's foremost provider of environmental education and outdoor recreation programs.

As a facility of the Metropolitan Nashville Board of Parks and Recreation, the Nature Center receives most of its funding from the City. However, without the help of the non-profit support group, FRIENDS OF WARNER PARKS, the Nature Center would not be able to offer such a wide variety of programs and services.



## How to Make a Field Trip Reservation

Reservations for Nature Center field trips are easy to make by calling **615-352-6299**. Field trips are free of charge. Reservations are accepted in **January for the spring** and in **August for the fall**. Winter and summer field trips are offered on a limited basis; call for availability. Educators may schedule one field trip per season (one in spring and one in fall) for their classes.

To maintain the quality of our programs, the naturalist to student ratio is kept at 1 to 15 and only four groups may tour the grounds at one time. Our maximum group size per time slot is 60. Larger groups must be divided among time slots. Programs are offered rain or shine.

Groups interested in educational programs are welcome to schedule one field trip per season. Groups must have a minimum of 10 students spanning a two grade range (i.e., 10 children from 3rd and 4th grades) with a maximum of 60 students. One adult chaperone must accompany every 10 students. Siblings may not accompany students during the program. For more information about these programs, please check out "Educational Programs for Groups" on our website.

### Information to have ready when you call:

- Contact name, two phone numbers, & email
- Organization name & address
- Number of students and grade
- Date and time, & alternate dates and times
- Topic
- Any information about students with special needs

## Educator Boxes

Educator boxes are available for check out at the Nature Center. These boxes contain natural artifacts, posters, background information, and activities to supplement teachers' classroom lesson plans. Boxes are free of charge and can be reserved for two weeks at a time by calling the Nature Center at 615-352-6299. The following teacher boxes are available:

- ☆ Pondering Plants
- ☆ Investigating Insects
- ☆ Wade into the Wetlands
- ☆ Birds are Different
- ☆ Remarkable Reptiles
- ☆ Earth and Space Science
- ☆ Tennessee Wildlife Resources Agency Migratory Bird Box
- ☆ Scout Leader Box for Naturalist/Wildlife, Geologist and Forester Badges

## Metro Parks' Nature Centers Mission

- To provide quality environmental education and responsible recreation
- To help protect, preserve, restore and manage the Park ecosystem and all natural resources
- To raise awareness, foster respect and share enthusiasm for the natural environment

<http://nashville.gov/parks/nature/index.asp>



### Beaman Park Nature Center

5911 Old Hickory Boulevard  
Ashland City, Tennessee, 37015  
beamanpark@nashville.gov  
(615) 862-8580

### Bells Bend Outdoor Center

4187 Old Hickory Boulevard  
Nashville, Tennessee, 37218  
bellsbend@nashville.gov  
(615) 862-4187

### Shelby Bottoms Nature Center

1900 Davidson Street  
Nashville, Tennessee, 37206  
shelbybottomsnature@nashville.gov  
(615) 862-8539

### Warner Park Nature Center

7311 Highway 100  
Nashville, Tennessee, 37221  
wpnc@nashville.gov  
(615) 352-6299

## Labs for high school and college

Labs are offered by the Nature Center to meet the needs of students enrolled in biology, ecology, and environmental science. Lab field trips are available for high school and college students. These programs incorporate important curriculum requirements with outdoor study and investigation during a 1-3 hour lab. The Vaughn's Gap Field Station is also available to be used by instructors interested in teaching field courses on their own or in combination with a naturalist-led lab. Instructors may choose from the list of currently available courses or call the Nature Center at 615-352-6299 to discuss an alternative program.

- Wildflower Hikes
- Bird Banding Research
- Forest Succession and Tree ID
- Ecology Night Hikes
- Watershed Mapping
- Air and Water Quality Assessments
- Ecosystem Comparison Study
- Map, Compass and GPS Navigation
- Environmental Indicators
- Geology and Soils of Warner Parks
- Natural Resource Management
- Animal Signs and Tracking
- Nature Journaling
- Restoration Ecology
- Population Study



APES students collect data during a Ecosystem Comparison lab.

## Tennessee Science Standards

A visit to the Nature Center enables students to apply many of the curriculum objectives outlined in the State Science Standards. The standards listed below are an example of how the Nature Center can connect with your classroom.

### KINDERGARTEN

- Interact with the environment using their senses **GLE\* 0007.2.2**
- Distinguish between living and non-living things and observe both in the natural environment **GLE 0007.2.1**
- Compare the basic features of living things that help them survive in different environments **GLE 0007.5.1**
- Identify the Sun as the main source of Earth's heat and light energy **GLE 0007.10.1**
- Observe changes in weather during the seasons, affecting Earth and its inhabitants **GLE 0007.10.2**

### GRADES 1-2

- Recognizes living things are made up of smaller parts that grow and change over time **GLE 0107.1.1 & 0107.3.1**
- Observe the life cycles of plants and animals **GLE 0107.4.1 & 0207.4.1**
- Compare and identify living and non-living things **GLE 0107.2.1, 0207.2.1, & 0207.2.2**
- Discuss the basic principles of inheritance and observe these principles in plants and animals **GLE 0207.4.2**
- Examine interrelationships among plants, animals, and their environment **GLE 0207.2.3 & 0207.3.1**
- Investigate the relationship between an animal's characteristics and the features of the environment where it lives **GLE 0207.5.1**

### GRADES 3-4

- Categorize matter as living or non-living **GLE 0307.2.1**
- Explore competition for resources between organisms **GLE 0307.2.2**
- Observe the different stages of the life cycle of an organism **GLE 0307.4.1 & 0407.3.1**
- Analyze physical and behavioral adaptations that enable organisms to survive **GLE 0307.5.1 & 0407.5.1**
- Discuss the relationship between reproduction and the continuation of species **GLE 0407.4.1**
- Analyze the effects of changes in the environment on the stability of an ecosystem **GLE 0407.2.1**
- Study the basic parts of plants and investigate how plants produce food **GLE 0407.3.1**

### GRADES 5-8

- Observe how organisms interact through symbiotic, commensal, and parasitic relationships **GLE 0507.2.2**
- Investigate how plants and animals use and produce food, water, and air to sustain life **GLE 0507.2.1**
- Observe connections between human activities and natural disasters and the impact on the environment **GLE 0507.2.3**
- Create food chains using plants and animals observed to demonstrate how all living things rely on photosynthesis **GLE 0507.3.1, 0707.3.1 & 0707.3.2**
- Compare characteristics of living things that are inherited versus those resulting from interactions with the environment **GLE 0507.4.1 & 0507.4.2**
- Observe geologic features of Warner Parks and associate geologic events responsible for these features **GLE 0507.7.1**
- Examine the roles of consumers, producers, and decomposers in a biological community **GLE 0607.2.1**
- Observe energy transfer within an ecosystem **GLE 0607.2.2**
- Compare and contrast the fundamental features of sexual and asexual reproduction **GLE 0707.4.1**
- Identify characteristics used by scientists to classify organisms and use a simple key to identify specific organisms **GLE 0807.5.1 & 0807.5.2**
- Investigate physical characteristics of different groups of animals that enable them to survive in their environment **GLE 0507.5.1 & 0807.5.3**

\*GLE GRADE LEVEL EXPECTATION CORRELATIONS TAKEN FROM TENNESSEE STATE SCIENCE STANDARDS, 2010.

## **Student Programs Grades K - 8**

The Nature Center's field trips are designed to provide students with meaningful, enjoyable outdoor experiences which enhance their study of science in the classroom and appreciation of nature. The field trip curriculum was developed in alignment with Tennessee State Science Curriculum Standards. Special requests will be accommodated to the greatest extent possible.

### **SIGNS OF THE SEASONS (GRADES K-1)**

During this guided exploration of the Nature Center museum, garden, pond, and trails, students will identify and describe the characteristics of the four seasons, and look at how each season affects plants, animals and people. **1 hour**

### **LIVING THINGS IN NATURE (GRADES 1-2)**

Students will observe differences between living and non-living things while exploring the forest, field, pond, stream and garden. Characteristics of plants and animals, life cycles, and basic needs of organisms will be discussed. **1.5 hours**

### **INVESTIGATING INSECTS (GRADES 2-3)**

Students will review the common characteristics of insects, identify interesting local insect species and examine how the life cycles of these creatures are linked with Nashville's environment. **1.5 hours**



### **THE GREEN MACHINES— PLANTS! (GRADES 3-8)**

While exploring forest, field and aquatic habitats, students will investigate distinct stages in plant structure and life cycles, review plant reproductive strategies, examine pollination and pollinators and re-create the process of photosynthesis. **1.5 hours**

## **SUITABLE SURROUNDINGS**

### **(GRADES 3-8)**

Students will analyze physical and behavioral adaptations that enable organisms to survive in distinct habitats in the Park - forest, field, stream, and pond. They will also identify basic ecological concepts in these habitats such as competition, energy transfer, and life cycles.

**1.5 hours**

### **GEOLOGY ROCKS! (GRADE 5)**

Students will learn the geology of Middle Tennessee by visiting rock outcrops, examining local fossils and observing geologic processes happening today. This program will focus on the geologic history of the Nashville Basin and identification of local sedimentary rocks and fossils.

**1.5 hours**

### **WHAT IN THE WORLD IS AN ECOSYSTEM?**

#### **(GRADES 5-12)**

This inquiry-based ecosystem study allows students to work in teams gathering field data about the living and non-living components of three different ecosystems; then teams compare, contrast, and report their findings. **2 hours**

### **CLASSIFICATION 101 (GRADES 8-12)**

Through an exploration of the various habitats surrounding the Nature Center, students will identify characteristics used by scientists to classify organisms and use a simple key to identify specific organisms. **1.5 hours**



### **Field trip reminders**

- Call early to schedule your trip
- All participants should dress for the weather
- Maximum group size is 60
- Have one adult per 15 students
- Divide your group in advance
- Arrive on time; call if you are running late
- Programs are offered rain or shine
- Plan to picnic elsewhere in the Park- call 862-8408 between 8 a.m.-noon to reserve a site

**Call 615-352-6299 to schedule a field trip**

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