

Through education, we aim to inspire appreciation and knowledge of Nebraska's natural and cultural resources while promoting greater understanding, support for and participation in conservation and outdoor recreation.

Spark curiosity and wonder by exploring features of the Schramm Education Center:

- Live animal exhibits featuring over 60 species of turtles, frogs, toads, snakes, salamanders, and fish found in Nebraska
- Aquariums showcasing fish diversity in Nebraska's freshwater aquatic habitats: cool water streams, rivers, reservoirs and farm ponds
- Digital games including color-a-fish, lake stocking, and build-a-fish
- Virtual reality mountain biking experience
- Wonder Woodland imaginative play area
- Pallid Sturgeon Touch Tank
- Reading Nook
- Maker Space
- Bird-watching area
- Interactive educational exhibits

Enjoy outdoor activities in the park during your group outing. The park features:

- Three miles of trails through eastern deciduous forests, a suspension bridge, and a river trail
- Abundant wildlife and bird species
- Canyon Ponds with fish, geese and more
- Picnic tables and picnic shelters
- Geological outcrop with 350 million-year-old rock exposures and fossils
- Modern and natural playground
- River access for canoes and kayaks
- Historic Fish Hatchery Museum *Limited Hours
- Treehouse Classroom Facility *Limited Hours



Follow us on Social Media for the latest park updates, programs and events!



Facebook: @schrammeducationcenter
Instagram: @schrammparknebraska



EDUCATION PROGRAMS

STANDARDS-BASED FIELD TRIP PROGRAMS

These programs consist of a group of activities that have been designed to meet Nebraska state science standards. They are grade-level specific and run 60 to 120 minutes.

What's That? Habitat! (Kindergarten)

NE Science Standard SC.K.7.2.A, SC.K.7.2.C

What do plants, animals and humans need to survive? Explore the needs of living things through games, art and scientific observation. While hiking on a trail, find the habitat of some native Nebraska animals and look for patterns in the forest and prairie.

Wildlife Functions (First Grade)

NE Science Standard SC.1.6.2, SC.1.6.2.A

How does an animal's form (wings, beak, fins and more) affect its function: how it moves, how it eats, how it survives? Explore the physical features of living things at Schramm and determine how these features impact how they move, eat and survive. Visit the aquarium, forest and field to see adaptations in action.

Wade, Walk, Wonder (Second or Third Grade)

NE Science Standard SC.2.7.2.C, SC.3.7.2.C

Spend time wading in the canyon ponds, walking in the woods, and exploring the Treehouse Classroom to compare living things in different habitats and ignite our sense of wonder.



Partners in Nature (Second Grade)

NE Science Standard SC.2.7.2.B, SC.2.7.2.C

How do plants and animals rely on each other? One way is through pollination, which we will learn about while visiting our pollinator garden and designing a pollinator. We will also explore habitats to discover patterns of interdependence in nature and the diversity of life in different habitats.

It's a Buggy World (Third Grade)

NE Science Standard SC.3.9.3.C, SC.3.9.3.D, SC.3.7.2.D

A camouflaged caterpillar is more likely to survive. A Monarch Butterfly's bright wings send a message to its predators. Investigate how an insect's traits allow it to either survive well, less well or not survive at all. Then, explore how those traits are influenced by the environment.

Turtle-tastic Traits (Fourth Grade)

NE Science Standard SC.4.6.3.B, SC.4.6.3.C

At Schramm, we love our turtles! Learn all about Nebraska's nine turtle species as we explore various outdoor habitats, including ponds and prairie. We'll also visit the aquarium and meet a turtle ambassador to examine adaptations and observe behaviors that help these amazing reptiles survive.

The Sun is the Source (Fifth Grade)

NE Science Standard SC.5.8.2.A, SC.5.8.2.C

The sun is where it all starts. Learn about food webs and the interconnectedness of our natural world. We will dissect owl pellets, seeking evidence of energy. While exploring the park, we will see the movement of matter among plants, animals, decomposers and the environment in action.

Birds of a Feather (Sixth Grade)

NE Science Standard SC.6.9.3.B

What determines if a living thing survives and thrives in the wild? Through exploration of various Nebraska bird species, explore their behavior and adaptations as we look for evidence of environmental and genetic factors that affect their success rate. In the center and on the trail find environmental evidence to guide our thinking.

EDUCATION PROGRAMS

EARLY CHILDHOOD PROGRAMS

These programs welcome our youngest learners to the outdoors through hands-on exploration and discovery. They are designed for children ages 3-5 years old and are 45 minutes long.

Critter Clues Discover animal tracks and signs as you learn about some of the animals in the forest.

Froggy Fun We happily invite you to hop in as we learn about our froggy friends. (Seasonal)

Sensory Scientists Use your senses to explore outdoors and discover nature through smell, touch and sight.

Seed Safari Go on a seed safari to find seeds and then observe their special sizes, shapes and strategies.

Turtle Time Meet a live turtle and learn about where they live and what they eat, then make turtle artwork.



NATURALIST PROGRAMS

These programs introduce participants to nature, outdoor skills and scientific topics of interest. They are designed for various ages and run 45-60 minutes.

Animal Tracks and Signs Be a detective on the trail as you search for the clues that animals leave behind.

Beginning Birding Learn to identify some common Nebraska birds and spot them in the wild.

Bioblitz Support community science efforts in Nebraska as you seek out and record species found in the park, including plants, animals and insects.

Fishing Learn fishing basics in this hands-on session. Cast a line, bait a hook and identify common Nebraska fish. Ages 8 and up; ages 16+ require a fishing permit. (Seasonal)

Hikes and Hunts Join a naturalist on a hike through the forest or on our river trail. Discover things along the path, ask questions and make observations.

How to Draw Birds Combine art and science while drawing a bird. The step-by-step process makes it fun and easy to illustrate a common Nebraska bird.

Insect Investigation Find insects as you explore habitats and examine them up close. Learn why insects are important and how to know an insect when you see one. (Seasonal)

Nature Journaling Record fascinating phenomena of the outdoors while combining art, science, and writing in a nature journal entry.

Owls of Nebraska Become an owl expert and dissect an owl pellet to gather evidence about what owls eat.

Pack Tactics Through several game-based activities, we will act out the way that animals form groups and work together to survive.

Pond Ecology With nets in tow, we'll investigate underwater organisms and explore aquatic habitats. Discover what life exists along the edges of ponds. (Seasonal)

Reading the Rocks Learn how to "Read the Rocks" at our Geological Display and interpret Earth's history while searching for fossils.

Sensory Scientists Learn about the five senses and use your sense of smell, touch, sight, and hearing as we explore nature.

Tree Trek Oaks, hickories, and hackberrys, oh my! Trek through the trees and get up close with the seeds, leaves, and bark of our forest friends.

Turtles of Nebraska Learn about Nebraska's nine turtle species, turtle adaptations and habitats, and meet a live turtle.

CUSTOM PROGRAMS

In addition to the programs listed, we can sometimes provide additional topics to meet curriculum requirements or to serve additional audiences. Please ask if you have a special request or need.

Programs above which are well-suited for seniors and special-needs audiences include Animal Tracks and Signs, Beginning Birding, How to Draw Birds, Nature Journaling, Owls of Nebraska and Turtles of Nebraska.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS



Parking Information & Park Entry Permits

A state park vehicle permit is not required in the Schramm Education Center Parking lot. Ample bus parking is available in this lot. The park area and Treehouse Classroom are about a 15 minute walk from the Education Center. State park permits are required on vehicles entering Schramm Park State Recreation Area. Permits are available online at outdoornebraska.gov, at the Schramm Education Center or at our park-entry kiosk.

Arrival and Payment

Upon arrival, your group leader is asked to check in at the front desk and will be asked for a total count of adults and youth in your group. You can pay the day of the field trip, or we will email an invoice after the visit. The total cost for your visit will be updated to reflect the actual number of participants that attend. We accept cash, checks (payable to the Nebraska Game and Parks Commission), or credit cards. We can not take American Express cards.

Lunch, Food and Water

Shaded picnic tables are available outside the center and throughout the park for lunch or snack. No food or drink (other than water) is allowed in the center. If you are bringing sack lunches to the park, we can store lunches and coolers for you upon arrival. Water bottle filling stations are available. All lunch waste should be put into a park trash container or packed out. If you need a garbage bag, please ask for one at the center.

Photography Consent

Please notify us in advance if there are students in your group that should not be photographed.

What should participants wear/bring?

We will be outside for some or all of your field trip depending upon your schedule. Please check the weather forecast the week of your field trip and encourage students to dress appropriately for the weather, including coats, hats, gloves, sunscreen, bug spray, etc. Students may wish to bring a refillable water bottle. Closed-toed shoes are recommended.

What if the weather is bad?

Dress for the weather forecast. We will be outside rain or shine unless there is dangerous weather such as thunder/lightning.

Chaperone Expectations

Teachers/chaperones are responsible for the behavior and safety of their students. We recommend an adult to student ratio of at least 1 to 10. Please pay particular attention to the Maker Space and restore this area after use, and model for students how to pick up after lunch/snack.

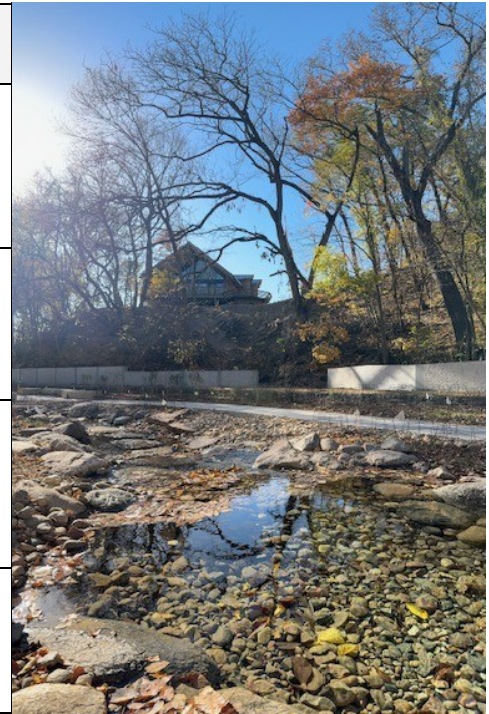
Accessibility/Mother's Room

There is a lockable family restroom with a changing table, sink, chair, & outlet near the classroom.

HOW TO SCHEDULE

Reservations are required for field trips and group visits in order to receive the group pricing below.

Type of Field Trip	Cost per Person
Self-Guided Visit Groups of 10 or more with an advance reservation.	\$5.00
Field Trip—Option 1 Up to 1 hour of programming and time to explore the Education Center	\$6.00
Field Trip—Option 2 Up to 2 hours of programming and time to explore the Education Center	\$7.00
Field Trip—Option 3 Up to 3 hours of programming and time to explore the Education Center	\$8.00



Our education team is here to help plan your outing.

Contact one of the Outdoor Education Specialists or fill out the field trip request form on our website:
<https://outdoornebraska.gov/parks/visit-a-nature-center/schramm-education-center/>

**Field Trip
Request Form**



Jen Ruyle
Outdoor Education Specialist
Jennifer.Ruyle@nebraska.gov

Schramm Education Center &
 Schramm Park State Rec. Area

- Field Trips
- Group Visits
- Birthday Parties
- Classroom and Facility Rentals

Kelly Ekue
Outdoor Education Specialist
Kelly.Ekue@nebraska.gov

Venture Park Region

- Field Trips at Platte River SP
- Field Trips at E.T. Mahoney SP
- Public Park Programs
- Scout Badges, 4-H Projects



Schramm Education Center
 Address: 21502 W. Hwy 31
 Gretna, NE 68028
 Main Line: 402-332-3901
 Education Line: 402-332-5022

Hours: 10 am to 5 pm daily
 Field trips can start as early as 9 am.

General Admission: \$10 Adults, \$7 youth ages 4-12, 3 and under free

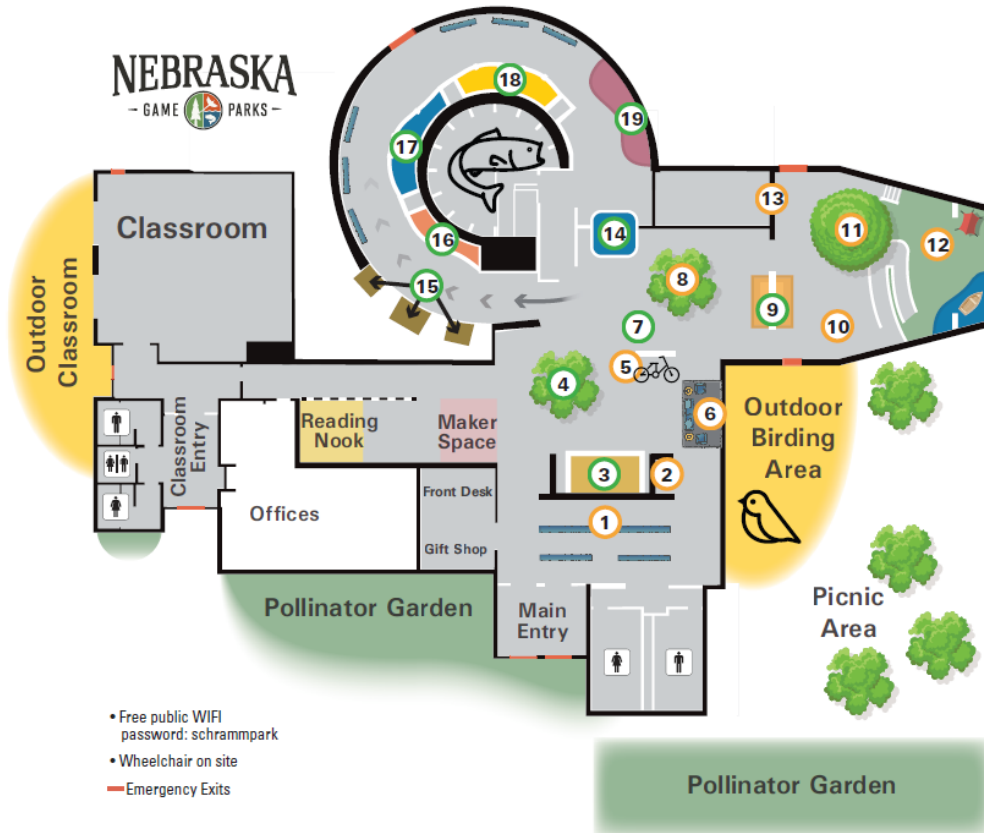
MAPS FOR YOUR VISIT

Schramm Park

State Recreation Area and Schramm Education Center



- 1 Schramm Education Center
- 2 Treehouse Classroom
- 3 Canyon Ponds
- 4 Fish Hatchery Museum and Edward Owen Picnic Area
- 5 Serenity Garden
- 6 Pond Trailhead
- 7 Meditation Shelter
- 8 Suspension Bridge
- 9 Upper Trailhead
- 10 Geological Outcrop
- 11 Canoe and Kayak Launch
- 12 Larry Elston Archery Range
- 13 Scenic Platte River Outlook
- Bridge
- Picnic Shelter
- Playground
- Restroom
- Shelter
- Stairs
- Hatchery Ponds A-F
- Buildings
- Sidewalks
- NGPC Trails



- 1 Digital Nebraska Plants & Animals Exhibit
 - 2 Digital Park Map
 - 3 Terrariums
 - 4 Small Terrariums
 - 5 Mountain Bike Experience
 - 6 Birding Area
 - 7 Bees
 - 8 Educational Exhibits
 - 9 Small Terrariums
 - 10 Educational Exhibits
 - 11 Tree Slide
 - 12 Play Area
 - 13 Quarantine Room
 - 14 Touch Tank
 - 15 Turtle Tanks
 - 16 Cold Water Stream Habitat
 - 17 River Habitat
 - 18 Lake Habitat
 - 19 Farm Pond Habitat
- Green (Live Animal Exhibits)
Orange (Nature Exhibits)

- Free public WiFi
password: schrammpark
- Wheelchair on site
- Emergency Exits

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