



DNR Education Programs Catalog and Poster



mndnr.gov/education



Outdoor Classrooms

School Forest Program www.mndnr.gov/schoolforest

A partnership program that helps schools establish and support outdoor classrooms so students can learn daily about ecosystems through hands-on experiences.
Pre K–12 Educators. No Fee

State Park Activities, Programs, and Events

www.mndnr.gov/state_parks/naturalist.html

Guided hikes and walks, naturalist led canoeing and biking programs, snowshoe workshops, history shows and activity guides for kids are just a few of the great offerings at state parks. Check out the DNR Calendar of Events for individual program offerings.
Ages Pre K–Adult. Most programs are free.

Ecosystem Education

Ecosystem Education

www.mndnr.gov/eco/ecosystemed

Videos, interactive CD-ROMs, printed materials, and information on sustainable management of Minnesota’s natural resources.
Ages 12–Adult Fees Vary

Junior Park Naturalist Program

www.mndnr.gov/state_parks/kids.html

Learn about the plants and animals around you as you explore Minnesota State Parks. Earn patches and certificates as you complete activity booklets on prairies, pinelands, and hardwoods. Available at any state park office or visitor center.
Ages 8–12 No Fee

Minnesota Conservation Volunteer

www.mndnr.gov/volunteer

Bimonthly magazine about Minnesota’s natural resources includes Young Naturalists articles for readers age 10 and up, plus corresponding online resources for teachers.
All Ages. No Fee. Funded by reader donations.

State Park Explorer Program

www.mndnr.gov/state_parks/kids

Expand on the Junior Park Naturalist program by choosing from the *Nature Explorer*, *History Explorer*, or *Earth Explorer* activity books. Earn an official Explorer patch by participating in naturalist presentations and completing activities. Available at state park nature stores and selected park offices.
Ages 8–12. Fee



Forest Education

Arbor Month www.mndnr.gov/arbormonth

Educational posters, activity guide, and tree seedlings available to schools, communities, and nonprofit civic organizations for Arbor Month celebrations.
Grades Pre K–9 No Fee

Project Learning Tree www.mndnr.gov/plt

Hands-on, inquiry-based activity guides focused on trees and forestry. Program delivered through an elementary guide, series of high school modules, an early-childhood module, and a Minnesota-specific primer with discovery guide. Available through workshops.
Pre K–12 Educators. Fee

Wildfire Prevention

www.mndnr.gov/education/wildfire

A variety of wildfire prevention items are available including posters, curriculum, coloring books, and Smokey Bear materials.
Grades Pre K–6 No Fee

Land & Water Education

MinnAqua www.mndnr.gov/minnaqua

Programs on Minnesota fishes, aquatic habitats, water stewardship, fisheries management, fishing, and fishing safety. Learn fishing skills and go fishing. Programs for organized groups, community sponsored education and events. Curriculum training for educators in formal and non-formal programs 3rd–5th grade (K–2 options). Activity kits on fishing, aquatic invasive species, aquatic macroinvertebrates, and watersheds.
Ages 5–Adult Fees Vary

Minnesota Minerals Education Workshop

www.mndnr.gov/education/geology/workshop

An annual three-day workshop offering geology and earth science training through classroom sessions, geology field trips, and tours of mining operations. Graduate credit available.
K–12 Educators Fee

Project WET www.mndnr.gov/projectwet

Hands-on, interdisciplinary, and easy to use activity guides focused on all aspects of water. Includes K–12 Project WET guide and additional guides focused on wetlands, water conservation, and water quality. Available through workshops. Also offer activity kits on water testing.
K–12 Educators Fee

Wildlife Education

Invasive Species Education www.mndnr.gov/invasives

A variety of information and resources including traveling trunks, videos, posters, brochures, and lesson plans on invasive plants and animals.
Ages 12–Adult Fees Vary

Project WILD www.mndnr.gov/projectwild

Hands-on interdisciplinary conservation and environmental education guides emphasizing terrestrial and aquatic wildlife. Available through workshops. Also, landscaping and woodworking for wildlife demonstration site and activity kits on bats, loons, black bears, animal tracks, and rattlesnakes.
Pre K–12 Educators. Fee

Roadsides for Wildlife www.mndnr.gov/roadsidesforwildlife

Twelve learning activities related to planning, establishing, and managing prairie grasses and wildflowers along roadsides. Posters and handouts also available on prairie plants and animals.
Grades 7–10 Educators No Fee

Helping the Environment

Adopt-a-River www.mndnr.gov/adoptriver

Program to help volunteer organizations keep Minnesota waters clean by removing trash from “adopted” rivers, lakes, wetlands, and ravines. One cleanup per year required, free bags/gloves.
Grades 4–Adult No fee

Master Naturalist Program

www.minnesotamasternaturalist.org

Joint volunteer program between DNR and U of M Extension. Hands-on, 40-hour course at nature centers provides curriculum guide and training on Minnesota’s natural resources. Volunteer service required annually to maintain status.
Adult Fee

Student Internships www.mndnr.gov/jobs/internships.html

Educational training in natural resource careers.
College Students No DNR Fee

Natural Resource Stewardship www.mndnr.gov/backyard

Tips and programs for providing stewardship on your land, no matter what the size.
Adults Fees Vary

Volunteer Programs www.mndnr.gov/volunteering

Opportunities for public to participate in DNR activities as campground hosts, safety instructors for youth firearms, all-terrain vehicle programs, fisheries volunteers, wildlife surveyors, invasive plant controllers, lake-level data collectors, conservation stewards, and more.
All Ages. No Fee



Outdoor Skills & Safety Training

Archery in the Schools www.mndnr.gov/grants/epr/archeryinschools

Introduces Minnesota students to archery by providing schools with the best equipment, training, and curriculum available at the lowest possible price. Grants available.
Grades 4–12 Educators Fee

Becoming an Outdoors Family www.mndnr.gov/education/bow

Families of all types are welcome to attend a weekend workshop to learn basic outdoor skills together. Bring your 6- to 14-year-old child, grandchild, niece, nephew, or even scout troop.
Ages 6–Adult Fee

Becoming an Outdoors Woman www.mndnr.gov/education/bow

Workshops for women of all skill levels interested in learning a wide range of outdoor activities including fishing, hunting, snowmobiling, canoeing, backpacking, and more.
Ages 14–Adult and women/children classes Fee

Boat & Water Safety www.mndnr.gov/safety/boatwater

An independent study course on boat and water safety to earn a Minnesota Watercraft Operator’s Permit.
Ages 12–17. Fees Vary

Community Outreach www.mndnr.gov/contact

Programs for Southeast Asian, Hispanic, and other communities on hunting, fishing, and recreational opportunities.
All Ages No Fee

Firearm Safety, Bow Hunter Education, Advanced Hunter Education www.mndnr.gov/safety

Courses that offer instruction in hunting techniques, safety, responsibility, and other skills. Instructor clinics also available.
Ages Vary Fee

Fishing Clinics and Safety www.mndnr.gov/minnaqua

MinnAqua Program (see listing under Land & Water)

Snowmobiles, ATV’s, Off-Highway Motorcycles, Off-Road Vehicles www.mndnr.gov/safety/vehicle

Safety courses that stress responsibility, safety, and environmental protection. Instructor clinics also available.
Ages Vary Fee

Wildlife Species Clinics www.mndnr.gov/safety

Courses on biology and hunting techniques regarding a variety of species including turkey, black bear, waterfowl, and white-tailed deer.
Ages Vary Fee

Get Outside

Scientific and Natural Areas (SNAs) www.mndnr.gov/snas

Over 140 sites are open to the public for nature observation and provide opportunities for scientific research. Most SNAs are undeveloped areas managed to protect rare plants, animals, natural communities, and geological formations.

All Ages. No Fee

State Fair www.mndnr.gov/events/statefair

Visit our building and grounds during the Minnesota State Fair. See live native fish, tour the wildlife wing, get your natural resource questions answered, and enjoy programs on our outdoor stage.

All Ages. No Fee

State Forests www.mndnr.gov/state_forests

Fifty-eight state forests, open year round, provide sites for field trips and thousands of miles of multiple-use trails. State forest lands and waters are generally open to hunting and fishing.

All Ages. No Fee

State Parks www.mndnr.gov/state_parks

Over 70 state parks and recreation areas provide a window to original Minnesota, with outstanding natural and cultural resources to explore. Some parks have naturalists to help you plan your visit, offer suggestions on activities, and conduct tours and guided field trips. Passport and Hiking Club available.

All Ages. Fee

State Trails www.mndnr.gov/state_trails

State trails combine recreation with outdoor learning. Conveniently located near cities and rural settings.

All Ages. No Fee

Wildlife Management Areas (WMAs) www.mndnr.gov/wmas

More than 1,300 WMAs totaling over 1.2 million acres are managed for wildlife production and are open to the public for hunting and wildlife watching.

All Ages. No Fee



mndnr.gov/education

☞ Listings marked with this symbol have been correlated to the Minnesota Academic Standards in science, social studies, mathematics and Language arts.

Other Useful Stuff

All DNR Educational Resources

www.seek.state.mn.us/sb_partner.cfm?seekid=MDNR

See a comprehensive list of over 60 DNR educational resources and programs for educators and others.
Pre K-Adult. Fees Vary

CyberNews www.mndnr.gov/news/cybernews

Sign up for “environmental and stewardship education” and receive periodic updates about DNR’s education programs and/or the “volunteering news” to receive seasonal notices of volunteer opportunities with the DNR. Other topic areas also available.

Adult No Fee

E-Resources

www.mndnr.gov/news

Electronic audio, print and video resources such as podcasts, DNR videos and more are available on a variety of natural resource topics.
All Ages No Fee

Financial Assistance Directory www.mndnr.gov/grants

Summarizes all DNR financial assistance programs.

Adult No Fee

Publications www.mndnr.gov/publications

We have a lot, take a look!

All Ages Fees Vary

Speakers www.mndnr.gov/contact

Currently the DNR does not have a formal speakers network. Contact your local DNR office for limited availability.

For more information on the offerings in this brochure:

DNR Information Center
500 Lafayette Road
St. Paul, MN 55155-4040
651-296-6157
Toll Free 1-888-646-6367

TTY 651-296-5484
TTY Toll Free 1-800-657-3929
email: info@dnr.state.mn.us
mndnr.gov/education
www.seek.state.mn.us/sb_partner.cfm?seekid=MDNR

This document is available in alternative formats to individuals with disabilities by calling (651) 296-6157 (Metro Area) or 1-888-MINNDNR (MN Toll Free) or Telecommunication Device for the Deaf/TTY: (651) 296-5484 (Metro Area) or 1-800-657-3929 (Toll Free TTY).

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