Fish Creek Provincial Park

2015-2016 School Programs

Inspire Your Students
Fish Creek Provincial Park provides the ideal outdoor classroom to inspire your students and bring your curriculum to life through active inquiry, investigation and exploration. Programs immerse students in the beauty of the park’s natural and cultural heritage and foster a sense of wonder and curiosity.

Programs For All Seasons
Beat the spring and fall rush. With classrooms that open right onto park trails, programs are feasible no matter what the season. Try some of our winter offerings and discover the park in a different season.

Programs for All Grades
School programs are available for kindergarten, elementary, junior and senior high classes. They are cross-curricular and based on Alberta Education's Programs of Studies. Teachers can tailor programs to meet their class needs and learning goals.

Fish Creek Provincial Park is one Canada’s largest urban parks, stretching from the western edge of the city to the Bow River. The park is part of a larger system of protected lands in the Alberta Parks network. Our school programs support Alberta Parks’ vision - to inspire people to discover, value, protect, and enjoy the natural world and the benefits it provides for current and future generations.

Fish Creek Environmental Learning Centre
is home to great educational experiences where students can explore a variety of habitats and learn about the natural world. Many public programs and events are offered at the Centre, including “Art in the Park”, that exhibits Alberta-focused art shows throughout the year.

Bow Valley Ranch Visitor Centre
is located in the east end of the Park. It offers an indoor seating area, small theatre and an exhibit area. Exhibits showcase the cultural history of the Fish Creek valley including First Nations use, early European settlement and ranching history.

Both facilities and surrounding asphalt pathways are wheelchair accessible.

For more information visit www.fish-creek.org.

Program Bookings
Program bookings are available for the entire 2015 – 2016 school year.

Junior and Senior High Bookings
To reserve a program contact
Email: Roland.Kirzinger@gov.ab.ca
Phone: 403-297-7927
Bookings for all Junior and Senior High field studies and programs for the entire 2015 – 2016 academic year will open on June 15th on a first - come, first - served basis.

Kindergarten to Grade 6 Bookings
To reserve a program, email: Fishcreek.Education@gov.ab.ca

Early Bird Registration
Bookings for elementary programs in the period of August 5th – Sept 11th, 2015 ONLY will be taken between June 15th – June 23rd.

Bookings for the remainder of the 2015 –2016 school year will open on Thursday, August 27th, 2015 on a first-come, first-served basis.

Please provide the following information when requesting a program:
• school name, telephone and fax
• teacher name(s) and email address(es)
• grade(s) participating
• number of students; number of classes
• program requested
• preferred dates
A confirmation and teacher orientation notice will be sent to you once you have booked a program, or email Fishcreek.Education@gov.ab.ca for details.

Teacher Orientations
Regularly scheduled orientations are available for teachers to:
• Plan for “safety and seasonal conditions” by visiting the site prior to your field trip as required by your School Board [Off-site Activities (CBE) or Regulation JOA (CSSD)].
• Understand the roles and responsibilities of Park staff and adult volunteers.
• Familiarize yourself with the park, the facilities, the trails, and the equipment we provide.
Teacher orientation information will be sent to you once you have booked a program, or email Fishcreek.Education@gov.ab.ca for details.

Visiting the park with a class on your own?
Please complete a School Group Use form and return it to us (http://bit.ly/1K6pO64). This allows us to notify groups of potential conflicts and be aware of your visit in the event of an emergency.

Professional Development and Meeting Rooms
Meeting rooms and workshop presentations are available to educational groups outside of our peak programming seasons.

If you would like to explore how the park could help you in your professional development plans, phone the Fish Creek Environmental Learning Centre at 403-297-7927.
ENVIRONMENTAL LEARNING CENTRE PROGRAMS

Kindergarten
Half-day/teacher-directed
$2 per student, $50 minimum fee
- FABULOUS FALL
- WINTER WONDER
- SPRING FEVER
- HIDDEN WORLDS (Spring & Fall)

Grade 1
Full-day/teacher-directed
$4 per student, $100 minimum fee
- SIGNS OF FALL
  Seasonal Changes, Senses
- ANIMALS & WINTER
  Seasonal Changes, Senses
- ENCHANTED SPRING
  Seasonal Changes, Senses
- THRIVING TOGETHER (Spring & Fall)
  Needs of Animals and Plants

Grade 2
Full-day/teacher-directed
$4 per student, $100 minimum fee
- INSECT INTRIGUE (Spring & Fall)
  Small Crawling and Flying Animals

Grade 3
Full-day/teacher-directed
$4 per student, $100 minimum fee
- WILD LIFE CYCLES (Spring & Fall)
  Animal Life Cycles

Grade 4
Full-day/teacher-directed
$4 per student, $100 minimum fee
- PLANT COMMUNITIES (Spring)
  Plant Growth and Changes

Grade 5
Full-day/staff-directed (pond studies lead by Park staff)
$7 per student, $175 minimum fee
- WETLANDS (Spring & Fall)
  Wetland Ecosystems

Grade 6
Full-day/teacher-directed
$4 per student, $100 minimum fee
- TREE TALES (Spring & Fall)
  Trees and Forests
- WINTER DETECTIVES
  Evidence and Investigation

BOW VALLEY RANCH VISITOR CENTRE PROGRAMS

Grades 1 - 3
Full-day/teacher-directed
$4 per student, $100 minimum fee
- FISH CREEK FAMILY (All Year)
  Social Studies

Grades 4 - 5
Full-day/teacher-directed
$4 per student, $100 minimum fee or
Full-day/staff-directed (indoor exhibit study lead by Park staff)
$7 per student, $175 minimum fee
- FISH CREEK: THE LAND, HISTORIES, AND STORIES (All Year)
  Social Studies

Grade 7
Full-day/staff-directed
$7 per student, $175 minimum fee
- THE NATURE OF SCIENCE (Spring and Fall)
  Interactions and Ecosystems

Grade 7 - Grade 9
Half-day/staff-directed
$5 per student, $125 minimum fee
- GPS EXCURSION IN FISH CREEK PROVINCIAL PARK (All Year)
  Environmental and Outdoor Education

Biology 20 & Science 20
Full-day/staff-directed
$7 per student, $175 minimum fee
- ECOSYSTEMS AND IMPACTS: Terrestrial Field Study (Spring and Fall)
  Ecosystems & Population Change
- ECOSYSTEMS AND IMPACTS: Aquatic Field Study (Spring and Fall)
  Ecosystems & Population Change

Other Programs

ORIENTEERING (Gr 3 - 12) (All Year)
Free - $7 per student, depending on staff direction and facility use
- Available through the Environmental Learning Centre and the Bow Valley Ranch Visitor Centre.
- Orienteering routes must be booked in advance to avoid scheduling conflicts.

YOUR DAY, YOUR WAY (K - Gr 12) (All Year)
$4 - $7 per student per day, $100 - $175 minimum fee
- Plan your own unique half-day, full day or multi-day field study with Fish Creek Environmental Educators, who can assist in creating unique educational experiences for you and your class.
- Fees are variable depending on activities, materials, equipment, staff direction and facility use.

GLENBOW RANCH PARK FOUNDATION PROGRAMS

- DISCOVER GRASSLANDS: INTRODUCTION
  Half-day in-school program: $160 plus GST and set-up fees (max 32 students per class)
- EXPLORE GRASSLANDS: FIELD STUDY
  Field trip to Glenbow Ranch Provincial Park:
  $160 plus GST (max 32 students per class)
- DISCOVER ARCHAEOLOGY: INTRODUCTION AND SIMULATED DIG (grades 3-6 only)
  Full-day in-school program:
  $300 plus GST and set-up fees (max 32 students per class)

For complete program descriptions see our website at www.fish-creek.org and look under “Education”. 