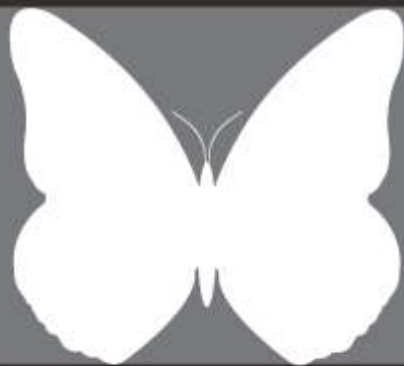


Ipswich River Wildlife Sanctuary

PreK–Grade 12
School Programs
2009–2010



Environmental
Education Programs
Supporting the
Massachusetts
Curriculum Frameworks



Welcome to the Ipswich River Wildlife Sanctuary!

The 2,267-acre Ipswich River Wildlife Sanctuary is one of Mass Audubon's largest properties. More than 12 miles of interconnecting trails invite exploration of forests, meadows, wetlands, islands, and vernal pools. Eight miles of the Ipswich River meander through the property creating a diverse terrain, making this an important place for many organisms year-round. See page 11 for more information.

Educational Programs

Over the years, our staff has provided thousands of environmental education programs for pre-K, elementary, middle, and high school students on the North Shore of Massachusetts. Under the guidance of our education staff and field teachers, students investigate, explore, and marvel at the wonders of the natural world, while gaining valuable knowledge in the life and



earth sciences. We offer programming at the sanctuary or at your school, as well as a Naturalist in Residency program, and teacher workshops. Our programs cultivate an appreciation for and an understanding of the environment and our interrelationships with the natural world. It is also our goal to develop thoughtful, conservation-minded citizens for the future.

Massachusetts Curriculum Frameworks

We provide a wide range of programs which are specially designed to support the Massachusetts Curriculum Frameworks. See our program descriptions to select programs to help you meet specific standards. Please note that many programs can also be adapted to meet your specific criteria. For more details on how any of our programs address the Frameworks, please contact us.

This brochure is available on line: www.massaudubon.org/ipswichriver.
Just click on School & Group Programs for the PDF file.

Stay up-to-date on upcoming programs and events at the sanctuary through our e-newsletter, *Ipswich River Meanderings*. To subscribe, visit www.massaudubon.org/ipswichriver.

Program Pricing and Registration Information

At the Sanctuary:

1 hour:	\$7.00/person
1 ½ hours:	\$7.50/person
2 hours:	\$8.00/person
2 ½ hours:	\$8.50/person
3 hours:	\$9.50/person
River Ecology:	\$24.00/person



One adult per each group of students may attend at no charge.

At your School: \$100/class/hour, plus mileage.

To design a custom program, or to review the curriculum, please contact:

Kim LoGrasso, Youth Education Manager

978-887-9264 x 7706 or email: klograsso@massaudubon.org

To schedule a program, please contact:

Stina MacDougall, School Programs Administrator

978-887-9264 x 7705 or email: smacdougall@massaudubon.org

FAX: 978-887-0875

Registration Details

Registrations are processed on a first-come, first-served basis, and must be accompanied by a \$50.00 deposit. A confirmation letter, invoice, and directions will be sent upon receipt of the deposit. The balance is due upon arrival. Programs will be canceled if school is canceled in Topsfield or your town. To receive a refund of the balance paid, you must notify us of your withdrawal at least two weeks prior to the program. A refund will be issued only if a program is canceled and we are unable to reschedule. No rebates will be given for incomplete attendance.

You Come to Us

Fall and Spring Programs

Signs of the Season

Explore nature's seasonal changes using the senses of sight, sound, touch, hearing, and smell. Each class observes the changes in plant and animal life along the trail throughout the changing seasons. (See page 7 for the Winter Walk.) 1 or 1 ½ hours

LS: Living Things & Their Environment
ES: Energy in the Earth's System

Grades Pre & K

Curriculum Frameworks
LS = Life Science
ES = Earth Science
VA = Visual Arts

Ecosystems

Animals have the same needs as people: food, water, and shelter. Students will learn about local ecosystems by exploring forest, field, and wetland, and learn how different animals can survive in each. 1 ½ or 2 hours

LS: Living Things & Their Environment, Characteristics of Living Things
ES: Materials & Energy Resources

Grades K-2

Insects



What makes an insect an insect? Students discover the unique characteristics of insects, search the sanctuary fields for insects, and discuss insect adaptations such as camouflage, life cycles, body structure, and more. 1 ½ hours **Note:** This program studies field insects only. Please specify if you wish to include pond insects when booking, as program will be extended to 2 hours.

LS: Living Things & Their Environment, Characteristics of Living Things
ES: Materials & Energy Resources

Grades 1 & 2

Birds

Find out what makes a bird a bird with hands-on station activities and study mounts. Learn to identify some of our common birds through sight and sound. Discuss migration and winter adaptations before exploring the trails with binoculars. 1 ½ or 2 hours

LS: Characteristics of Living Things, Adaptation of Living Things, Living Things & Their Environment
ES: Materials & Energy Resources

Grades 1-5

Frogs and Toads

How do you tell a frog from a toad? Students will learn about life cycles and characteristics through games and hands-on discoveries as we explore the wetlands, vernal pools, and fields of the sanctuary. 1 ½ or 2 hours

LS: Characteristics of Living Things, Adaptations of Living Things, Living Things & Their Environment
ES: Materials & Energy Resources

Grades 1-5

You Come to Us

Fall and Spring Programs

Seeds and Plants

Grades 1-5

Students will investigate the life cycle of plants, and learn what plants need to survive. Look at seed dispersal, as well as how the roots, leaves, stem, and flowers work together to help the plant grow and reproduce. 1 ½ or 2 hours

LS: Structure & Function, Characteristics of Plants & Animals, Adaptations of Living Things

Pond Life

Grades 2 & 3

Discover life in the magical freshwater pond ecosystem. Using simple sampling tools, we will examine aquatic invertebrates and discuss their adaptations and interactions in their wetland habitat. 2 hours

LS: Living Things & Their Environment, Characteristics of Living Things, Characteristics of Plant & Animal Structure & Function, Adaptations of Living Things
ES: Materials & Energy Resources, Energy in the Earth's System

Trees

Grades K-4

Through role-play, students come to understand how a tree functions and changes with the seasons. Learn about conifers and broad-leaved trees and identify some trees by leaf shape. Observe the life cycle of trees from maturity to decay while we discover which animals rely on trees for their lives. Older students will learn how to use a dichotomous key for identification. 1 ½ or 2 hours

LS: Living Things & Their Environment, Characteristics of Living Things, Characteristics of Plant & Animal Structure & Function, Adaptations of Living Things
ES: Materials & Energy Resources, Energy in the Earth's System

Local Ecosystems

Grades 3-6

While exploring local New England ecosystems including forest, field, and wetland, learn about their various components and interrelationships, their role in the health of the environment, and how fragmentation threatens biodiversity. 2 hours

LS: Living Things & Their Environment, Characteristics of Living Things
ES: Materials & Energy Resources

Pond Communities

Grades 4 & 5

Using dip nets and other investigative equipment, explore freshwater ponds to identify and classify aquatic organisms. Observe stages of metamorphosis and discover the adaptations used to survive in this special ecosystem.

2 hours

LS: Characteristics of Living Things, Structure & Function, Adaptations of Living Things, Energy & Living Things, Classification of Organisms



You Come to Us

Fall and Spring Programs

Soil Science

Grades 3-5

Sample and study diverse soils and compost found in various habitats including field, forest, and wetland. Identify the components and properties of soil and learn about erosion, decomposition, absorption, and other key elements of this habitat and its inhabitants. 2 hours

LS: Energy & Living Things

ES: Materials & Energy Resources, Structure of the Earth

Energy Flow

Grades 4 & 5

Explore the sun's energy flow through producers, consumers, and decomposers. Students experiment with photosynthesis, track consumers, and investigate decomposers. 2 ½ hours

LS: Energy & Living Things

Wetlands

Grades 5-8

What are wetlands and why are they so important? Discover with us as you collect and observe macroinvertebrates, sample wetland soils, and create a field guide to wetland plants and animals. 3 hours

LS: Living Things & Their Environment, Changes in Ecosystems Over Time, Adaptations of Living Things

ES: Materials & Energy Resources

River Ecology

Grades 6-12



Come explore the Ipswich River!

When studying the history or ecology of the Ipswich River, investigating water quality, wetland species, or aquatic organisms, the use of canoes can greatly enhance the experience. Canoe the Ipswich River, exploring the animals and plants of the floodplain forests and

marshes. Stop in the backwaters and sample the rich aquatic life to learn more about what lives under the water. Investigate natural and human influences and learn how to protect the river's resources. 3 ½ hours

\$360.00 per group, or \$24.00 per person for groups larger than 15 participants. Shorter programs are available at \$125.00 per hour. Fee includes canoe instruction, personal flotation device (PFD), paddle, and two Mass Audubon naturalists.

LS: Living Things & Their Environment, Changes in Ecosystems Over Time

You Come to Us

Winter Programs

Winter Walk

Grades PreK-6

Increase sensory awareness and ecological understanding of the world in winter in this discovery program. Discuss animal and plant adaptations and survival strategies in the cold weather. 1 or 1 ½ hours

LS: Living Things & Their Environment, Structure & Function, Adaptations of Living Things

Winter Tracking

Grades 2-6

Learn how body shape, leg length, and foot type determine an animal's track pattern. Make connections to unseen animals by learning and following tracks, looking for other evidence of activity, and practicing your silent stalking. 2 hours

LS: Living Things & Their Environment, Characteristics of Living Things, Adaptations of Living Things

Sugaring-Off Tours

Grades PreK-8

The School Sugaring-Off program is designed to allow students a firsthand experience in the delicious tradition of maple sugaring. We begin with a lively indoor introduction to the basic concepts of maple sugaring, including which trees are used and why, how sap flows, and the maple syrup-making process itself.

Next, our Field Teachers lead outdoor walks to observe trees and wildlife in late winter, and to see and taste sap as it's being collected. We end the tour with a visit to our sugarhouse to see just how sap changes to maple syrup, and of course, for a sweet sample of our fresh syrup!



All programs are \$7.00 per person.

Snow days will be Tuesday and Wednesday, March 16 and 17, 2010

Grades 1-8

Tuesday through Friday:

February 23 through March 12, 2010

Times: 9:30-10:30 a.m. OR 11:00 a.m.-noon

Limit: 75 per tour; split into smaller teaching groups

Preschool (ages 4 and older) and Kindergarten

Tuesday through Friday:

February 23 through March 12, 2010

Times: 9:00-10:00 a.m. OR 10:30-11:30 a.m. Tuesday through Friday;
also 1:00-2:00 p.m. Tuesday and Wednesday

Limit: 25 per tour

We Come to You

Programs in the Classroom

One-hour programs, available year-round

Nocturnal Animals

Grades K & 1

Students are introduced to the concept of nocturnal animals through role-play, games, discussion, and a close-up look at animal specimens. Explore animal adaptations for survival, such as food and predator defense. *Indoors, year-round.*

LS: Living Things & Their Environment

Soils Underfoot

Grades 2 & 3

Students learn about the composition of soil, study the types of soil on the school grounds, and make a soil salad. *Outdoors, early fall or spring.*

LS: Characteristics of Living Things

Animal Adaptations

Grades 3 & 4

Examine animal artifacts to discover how animals are adapted to the places and climates in which they live. Learn about tooth adaptations, food preferences, habitat, winter survival, camouflage, and much more. *Indoors, year-round.*

LS: Adaptations of Living Things

Energy Matters

Grades 5 & 6

Producers, consumers, and decomposers will host a lesson on the flow of energy as it moves through nature in an efficient cycle. *Outdoors, fall or spring.*

LS: Energy & Living Things

Owls

Grades 2-8

Learn about these magnificent silent hunters, their unique adaptations, and their importance in the food chain. Students will examine study mounts of three local owls, then in groups dissect an owl pellet to discover what they eat. \$20 materials fee per class.

LS: Characteristics of Living Things; Adaptations of Living Things
ES: Materials & Energy Resources

Rocks and Minerals

Grades 3-5

Rocks are made up of minerals that can be sorted by their properties. Become junior geologists and explore different mineral characteristics. Students will discover hardness, streak color, luster, and cleavage, and identify the minerals using a dichotomous key.

ES: Materials & Energy Resources, Rocks & Their Properties

Other Programs for All Grades

Nature Journaling

Reconnect your students to the natural world while bringing out their creative sides through interdisciplinary approaches to nature journaling. Class may take place in the classroom, in the schoolyard, or at the sanctuary. *Year-round.*

LS: Characteristic of Living Things, Living Things & Their Environment
VA: Observation, Abstraction, Invention, & Expression; Materials & Techniques

Tide Pool Exploration

Explore the rocky shore and tide pools at a beach in Marblehead or an appropriate beach near you. Programs are scheduled according to the tide chart. *Fall or spring.*

LS: Living Things & Their Environment, Adaptations of Living Things, Classification of Organisms, Energy & Living Things, Ecology



Naturalist in Residency Program

Could your school benefit from a continued relationship with a skilled naturalist from Ipswich River Wildlife Sanctuary? We offer a unique opportunity for your school and your students. This program is designed to help schools develop a connection to the natural world outside on their school grounds and within the classroom.

- Enrich your life science curriculum
- Explore with hands-on, Framework-based activities
- Participate in teacher workshops
- Have direct contact with a sanctuary naturalist for all your natural history questions

Homeschool Programs

Fall and Spring Programs

Our homeschool program introduces students to basic ecology while nurturing an appreciation for and understanding of the natural world. Students will become familiar with the plants and animals of our area through hands-on discoveries. Each class will begin with a short introduction indoors, followed by outdoor exploration.

Grades 1-5 2 hours

Series of six or eight Wednesday mornings

Teacher Workshops

Let us design a workshop suited to your school's needs. Our programs will incorporate life science concepts from the Curriculum Frameworks and activities to use outdoors with your students.

Mass Audubon is approved by the Department of Education as a provider of professional development. Teachers participating in workshops will receive a Professional Development Certificate.

Come Visit the Ipswich River Wildlife Sanctuary in Topsfield

Directions:

From the south: Take Rt. I-95 north to exit 50 and follow Rt. 1 north. At the junction of Rt. 1 and Rt. 97, turn right onto Rt. 97 south (toward Beverly and Danvers). Follow Rt. 97 south and take the third left onto Perkins Row. Follow Perkins Row for 1 mile, and the sanctuary is on the right.

From the north: Take Rt. I-95 south to exit 53A and follow Rt. 97 south. At the junction of Rt. 1 and Rt. 97 in Topsfield, stay on Rt. 97 south and take the third left onto Perkins Row. Follow Perkins Row for 1 mile, and the sanctuary is on the right.



Mass Audubon works to protect the nature of Massachusetts for people and wildlife. Together with more than 100,000 members, we care for 33,000 acres of conservation land, provide educational programs for 200,000 children and adults annually, and advocate for sound environmental policies at local, state, and federal levels.

Mass Audubon's mission and actions have expanded since our beginning in 1896 when our founders set out to stop the slaughter of birds for use on women's fashions. Today we are the largest conservation organization in New England. Our statewide network of 45 wildlife sanctuaries welcomes visitors of all ages and serves as the base for our conservation, education, and advocacy work.

To support these important efforts, call 800-AUDUBON (283-8266) or visit www.massaudubon.org.

There's More to Discover at the Ipswich River Wildlife Sanctuary

Take advantage of our membership benefits and rent a canoe for a paddle along the Ipswich River, spend a night in the Innermost House, or camp out on Perkins Island. Join us for one or all of our special events, including: Maple Sugaring in March, It's a Big Night in April (a program about vernal pools and salamanders), Audubon Nature Festival in June (with live animal presentations), Halloween Happenings in October, and the Big Woods Hike in November.

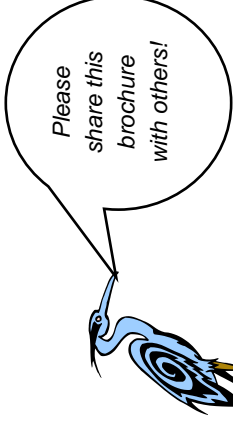
Our educators offer natural history programs for children, families, and adults year-round. Children have fun in nature at our Summer Day Camp programs along with vacation programs each February and April. Celebrate your child's birthday with a naturalist-led program and party time. Brochures are available with descriptions of all programs. Call the sanctuary, and we would be happy to mail you one, or check out our website: www.massaudubon.org/ipswichriver.

We hope to see you at the Ipswich River Wildlife Sanctuary!



Ipswich River Wildlife Sanctuary
87 Perkins Row, Topsfield, MA 01983

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Why Choose Ipswich River Wildlife Sanctuary?

- Massachusetts Framework s Based Curriculum
- On-site life science programs
- In-class and school ground programs

