

## OTHER OFFERINGS

### Sugaring Off

The Ipswich River Wildlife Sanctuary's Scout Sugaring Off program is designed to allow scouts 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 guides will 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 is turned into maple syrup, and of course, for a sweet sample of fresh syrup.

**Dates:** Tuesdays and Wednesdays: February & March

**Time:** 3:30-4:30 pm

**Limit:** 75 per tour

**Fee:** \$6.50 per person

### Evening Programs

Discuss nocturnal wildlife, night vision, and night hiking skills during an evening program. Experiences may include calling for owls, listening for choruses of spring peepers and other frogs, watching beavers at work, and enjoying other seasonal highlights. These after-hours programs are offered weekend evenings, Fridays and Saturdays.

**Fee:** \$7 per person (1.5 hours)

### Canoeing

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.

3.5 hours, or let us design a program to meet specific badge requirements.

**Fee:** \$345 per group, or \$23 per scout for groups larger than 15 participants. Shorter programs are available at \$125 per hour. Fee includes canoe rental, PFD's, paddles, and two Mass Audubon instructors.

### Overnight Programs

Spend the night at Ipswich River Wildlife Sanctuary. Take a hike and learn about the diverse habitats of our property. We have a field that is perfect for camping under the stars. A rest room and water source is located a short walk away. Participate in a morning and evening hike led by a staff naturalist.

### Outdoor overnights (May, June, September, and October only)

Maximum 14 tents and 28 people (children & adults)

**Schedule:** Overnights begin at 5:00 pm and end at 9:00 am the following morning.

### Fees:

**No program option:** \$16/person; minimum fee: \$160

**Night Hike option:** \$18/person; minimum fee: \$180

**Night and Morning Hike option:** \$20/person; minimum fee: \$200

Hikes are 1.5 hours and begin at 7:00 pm and 7:00 am



### Ipswich River Wildlife Sanctuary

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## BOY SCOUT PROGRAMS 2008

Mass Audubon's Ipswich River Wildlife Sanctuary in Topsfield invites you to join our qualified staff as they lead scout groups through the diverse habitats of our property. We specialize in providing outdoor and environmental programs for scouts. Our programs are designed to cover badge and merit requirements for the Girl Scouts USA and Boy Scouts of America. Some of our programs blend perfectly with the entire list of requirements for a specific badge and others address certain aspects of an achievement or badge. Note: Some of the activities have been adapted to cover the desired content, but may not be executed exactly as outlined in your manual. The sanctuary has 2,267 acres and ten miles of trails.

### Dates & Times:

#### After-School Scout Programs

Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Thursdays, & Fridays

3:30-5:00 pm (also early release days)

#### Weekend Scout programs

Morning or Afternoon programs available

**Location:** Ipswich River Wildlife Sanctuary

### Fees:

1.5 hour program: \$70/troop (1-10 scouts, including siblings), \$7/each additional scout or sibling. Limited to 15 scouts.

2 hour program: \$80/troop (1-10 scouts, including siblings), \$8/each additional scout or sibling.

*No fee for adults. Siblings must be 5 years or older to attend.*

The following is a listing of scout programs that we offer. If the nature-based badge or activity in which you are interested is not listed, we will be happy to design and conduct a program that meets the needs of the individual scout group.

### **TIGER CUBS**

#### **Habitat Hike**

Explore the different habitats of the sanctuary and take a closer look at what the plants and animals are doing, depending on the season.

#### **Pond Dipping**

Equipped with strainers, buckets, and hand lenses, discover what lives in our freshwater habitats. Take a closer look at the insects that wiggle and swim through Waterfowl Pond.

#### **Backyard Birds**

View birds from our bird-viewing window, observation tower, and trails. We'll take a closer look at feathers, nests, and bird mounts, and learn to identify some of our local birds.

#### **Beavers**

Discover what life is like as the largest rodent in North America. We will observe up close a beaver mount, lodge, dam and scent mounds. As a group, we'll build our own beaver lodge.

#### **Animal Tracking**

Snow or no snow, learn about tracks and the animals that made them. We'll also explore forest trails and meadows in search of nibbles, burrows, and scat.

### **WOLF CUB SCOUTS**

#### **Birds**

Using binoculars, view birds from our observation tower window and trails. We'll take a closer look at feathers, nests, and bird mounts, and learn to identify some of our local birds. Requirements a, b, c, d

### **BEAR CUB SCOUTS**

#### **Sharing Your World with Wildlife**

Interview an environmental educator and learn about extinction. Discover the animals that live on the sanctuary while hiking the trails. As a group, create a habitat poster. Requirements 5a, 5c, 5d, and 5e

### **WEBELOS SCOUTS**

#### **Forester**

Learn to identify forest trees and plants and discover why they are useful to wildlife. Discuss the effects of wildfires and examine the growth rings of different trees. Requirements 2, 3, 4, 6, 9

#### **Naturalist**

Observe insects in the field and forests, and watch and identify animals. We'll take a closer look at producers, consumers, and decomposers, and learn the important role of wetlands. Requirements 2, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 11

### **BOY SCOUTS**

Please contact the sanctuary to learn how we can help troops pursue merit badges and service projects related to nature and the environment.

#### **Offerings**

Bird Study  
Canoeing  
Reptile and Amphibian Study  
Environmental Science  
Forestry  
Insect Study  
Mammal Study  
Nature  
Plant Science  
Soil and Water conservation

**Note:** Scouts may also take part in our family and adult programs listed in our sanctuary brochure if content is related to merit badge requirements. Scouts must be accompanied by an adult. Our teacher-naturalist Scott Santino is authorized by the Boy Scouts of America to sign off on merit badge requirements.

**Fee:** To be determined depending on time requirements for completion of badge.