

Other Offerings

Sugaring Off

The Ipswich River Wildlife Sanctuary's Scout Sugaring Off program is designed to provide scouts with 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 is 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, late February through early March

Time: 3:30-4:30 pm

Limit: 75 per tour

Fee: \$7 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 programs are offered on Friday and Saturday evenings.

Fee: \$7 per person (1.5 hours)

Canoeing

Canoe the Ipswich River, discovering 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, PFDs, 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 restroom and water source are located a short walk away. Participate in evening hikes 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

Hikes are 1.5 hours and begin at 7:00 pm



Mass Audubon

Protecting the Nature of Massachusetts

Ipswich River Wildlife Sanctuary

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Boy Scout Programs

2012-2013



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 meet badge and advancement requirements for the 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 over 2,000 acres and 12 miles of trails.

Dates & Times:

Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Thursdays, & Fridays 3:30-5:00 pm (also early release days)
Weekend Scout programs: Mornings and Afternoons

To register:

Contact Angela Walsh, 978-887-9264, ext. 7703

Fee:

\$70/troop (1 to 10 scouts, including siblings), \$7 each additional scout or sibling.

No fee for adults. 1.5 hour program limited to 15 scouts.

Siblings must be 5 years or older to attend. Please limit your chaperones to 5 adults who are accompanying your troop on the program.

Also, please carpool when possible.

Fee: \$80/troop/2-hour program

The following is a list of scout programs that we offer. If the nature-based badge or activity you are looking for 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 for 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 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. Requirements a, b, c, d.



Thank you to Abbie Ormord for the use of her artwork

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 forest, and observe 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 your troop pursue merit badges and service projects related to nature and the environment.

Offerings

Bird Study

Canoeing

Reptile and Amphibian Study

Environmental Science

Mammal Study

Insect Study

Nature



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.

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



Return this form to:
Scout Programs, Ipswich River Wildlife Sanctuary
Attn: Angela Walsh
87 Perkins Row, Topsfield, MA 01983

Please duplicate and complete a separate registration form for each group.

Scout Group Name: _____ Grade Level: _____

Leader Name: _____

Street Address: _____

Town: _____ State: _____ ZIP: _____

Home Phone: _____ Work Phone: _____ Cell Phone: _____

E-mail: _____

PROGRAM NAME: _____

PROGRAM FEE: _____

1st Choice: Date/Time: _____

2nd Choice: Date/Time: _____

3rd Choice: Date/Time: _____

of Scouts: _____ # of Adults: _____ # of Siblings: _____ Enclose \$15.00 nonrefundable deposit: _____

Please make checks payable to Mass Audubon. Balance due upon arrival: _____

MasterCard, Visa or Discover: Card # _____ Exp. Date: _____