Buffalo Audubon Society promotes the appreciation and enjoyment of the natural world through education and stewardship.

We connect kids and nature!
Thank you for your interest in our programming for your school or group! The following information will help you to make your reservation quickly and easily.

- Teachers - we will gladly provide a pre or post activity for you to conduct in the classroom to prepare your students for their explorations at Beaver Meadow Audubon Center. For more information, please contact Lauren Makeyenko at ljmak33@gmail.com.

- To expedite your reservation, please have the following information ready when you call:
  - the complete name and mailing address of your school.
  - the school phone number.
  - your email address, grade level of your students, student total, teacher and chaperone total.
  - date(s) and time(s) you are interested in booking.
  - if you are booking a Half Day Program, please let us know if you will be staying to eat lunch in our picnic shelter.
  - we require 1 adult for every 10 students. Additional adults can be accommodated for a cost of $3 per person. Additional aides required for students with special needs are at no cost.

FEES
A 10% deposit is required to hold your reservation date. The deposit is applicable to your total cost. Program fees may be paid in advance, on the day of or be invoiced after. We accept all major credit cards. Checks may be made out to BMAC (Beaver Meadow Audubon Center). Schools that send a purchase order will be invoiced after the program.

CANCELLATIONS
We require 48 hours notice for any cancellations. We reserve the right to cancel programming due to unsafe weather conditions (lightning, high winds, extreme cold). In the event of questionable weather, programs can be moved inside the Nature Center. Any cancellations made without prior notice will not have deposit refunded.

ACCESSIBILITY
The Nature Center has a handicap lift and accessible restrooms. Jenny Glen Boardwalk trail is also accessible and has a separate parking area to access it directly during warm weather months.

Cover Photo: Students visiting Deer Swamp Trail at Beaver Meadow Audubon Center
Half Day Programs at Beaver Meadow will provide your group with a fun hands-on tour of the preserve based on your specific interests! Duration: 1-2 hours (choose one program—note: some are limited in the amount of students)

Full Day Programs are ideal for school groups. These programs can serve multiple classes with a variety of topics. Classes rotate through selected 45-60 minute stations. Beaver Meadow Audubon Center provides the perfect backdrop for engaging, hands-on outdoor learning. Duration: 3-4 hours (choose three programs)

**Behaviors and Adaptations**
K-5 / Anytime
Throughout time, plants and animals have changed depending on their environment. Students will look for evidence to explain how some plants and animals are successful in their habitats at Beaver Meadow.

**Birdwatching—Making Observations in the Field**
Grades 5-8 / Anytime
Birds are everywhere in our world. Students will learn proper use of binoculars and how to identify common bird species by observing field marks and using field guides. (Half Day limit: 1 class)

**Cold-blooded Critters**
All Grades / Anytime
Using our resident cold-blooded ambassadors, students will make up close observations and dive into the fascinating world of reptiles and amphibians! (Half Day limit: 1 class)

**Exploration Hike**
All Grades / Anytime
Investigations can take place anywhere, even in a small patch of grass. Students will explore the trails and different habitats during this hike.

**The Grandpa Tree**
Grades K-3 / Anytime
This tour begins with a reading of the short story *The Grandpa Tree.* This tale shows the life cycle of a tree, from its beginnings as a sapling to its decomposition on the forest floor, where it becomes a home for rabbits and food for flowers. A visit to our own Grandpa Tree will reinforce concepts from the book, combining nature and literacy.
Programs at Beaver Meadow

Hidden World of the Pond
All Grades / May-September
Students will investigate the aquatic ecosystem and underwater world of the pond. The pond hosts animals of all shapes and sizes, with a variety of life-cycle types. By asking questions, working in small groups and using field guides, students will have the tools to make scientific connections. (Half Day limit: 1 class)

I Notice, I Wonder: Inquiry in Nature
All Grades / Anytime
Students will directly engage with nature and increase their curiosity quotient. By making observations and asking questions, they will learn that descriptive observations are different from statements of opinion or identification.

Shelter Building
Grades 3 and up / Anytime
This program will get students outdoors with an engineering challenge. Building shelters is an excellent way for participants to make observations, process possible solutions and develop team-building skills. (Half Day limit: 1 class)

Insects and Pollinators
All Grades / May-September
Explore the fascinating world of insects! Students will be able to observe pollinators in their natural habitat and use sweep nets to check out local insects and arthropods in the meadow! (Half Day limit: 1 class)

Snowshoe Adventure
Grades 1 and up / December-March
Embrace the snow and get outside! Anyone can snowshoe. Students will be introduced to the history of snowshoes and then try out a pair themselves on a snowy exploration of the trails. (Note: This option is only available for groups with 60 students or less. At least 5” of snow must be on the ground to snowshoe.) *

Mammal Tracks and Traces
Grades K-3 / Anytime
Every animal leaves something behind! Be it tracks, scat, fur, or a home, students will gather clues while learning about mammal adaptations and habitats.

Wonders of Winter
All Grades / December-March
Believe it or not, winter is a great time to explore Beaver Meadow! A blanket of snow can reveal all sorts of clues—tracks, trails, tunnels and more! Get outdoors with your students and explore! (snowshoes can be added, weather permitting) *

* See Pricing Page

www.buffaloaudubon.org

585.457.3228
Programs at Beaver Meadow

**Half Day Program Fees:**
$5 per student; Winter Discount (December—March) $3 per student  
One adult required for every ten students—Free  
Required Aides—Free  
$3 per additional Adult  
* Snowshoe Add-on—$1 per student  
Limit: 4 classes (maximum 120 students) unless otherwise noted.

**Full Day Program Fees:**
3 Hour Program—$6 per student; Winter Discount Price $4 per student  
4 Hour Program—$7 per student; Winter Discount Price $5 per student  
One adult required for every ten students—Free  
Required Aides—Free  
$3 per additional Adult  
* Snowshoe Add-on—$1 per student

Limit: 3 classes (maximum 90 students)  
2 classes (maximum 60 students) with Snowshoe Adventure
High School Programs at Beaver Meadow

High School programs at Beaver Meadow will provide your group with an in-depth study into the diversity of the preserve! Duration: 3-4 hours

Aquatic Ecology
Grades 9-12 / May-September
Students will use an identification key to become familiar with several common aquatic macroinvertebrates and microinvertebrates found in the pond at Beaver Meadow. Using their findings, students will also calculate the biotic Water Quality Index (WQI) for the pond. Additional concepts covered are pond succession, trophic levels, and bioaccumulation.

photo credit: Twan Leenders, Roger Torey Peterson Institute of Natural History

Habitat Restoration
Grades 9-12 / April—October
Students will participate in a hands-on, immersive session helping to remove invasive species from Beaver Meadow’s habitats. Comparison studies will be made with former restoration sites.

Ornithology
Grades 9-12 / Anytime
Birding is a natural gateway to conservation. Students will learn proper how to identify common bird species by observing field marks and using field guides. They will also learn how their observations can be part of a worldwide upsurge in community science that can help environmental scientists.

photo credit: Twan Leenders, Roger Torey Peterson Institute of Natural History

Forest Ecology
Grades 9-12 / September—November or April—June
Students will observe the vertical stratification of the forest at Beaver Meadow, from the forest floor up to the tallest and largest trees. Students will work in teams to identify trees, conduct a tree density study and sample part of a designated study site using circular plots. Students will estimate the abundance of plants and animals in categories including trees, shrubs, saplings, vines, seedlings, herbaceous plants, microorganisms, small animals, litter and soil, and large animals and their signs.

High School Program Fees
3 Hour Program—$7 per student;
4 Hour Program—$8 per student;
One adult required for every twenty students—Free
Required Aides—Free
$3 per additional Adult
Limit: 2 classes (maximum 60 students)
Buffalo Audubon Outreach Programs

Buffalo Audubon Society Outreach Programs can serve multiple classes with a variety of topics right at your location! A single program can be presented 1-4 times or classes can rotate through selected 30-45 minute stations over the course of the day. Duration: varies from 45 minutes—4 hours

Amazing Animal Adaptations
Grades 3 and up / Anytime
Using a variety of costumes your students will discover why animals are built a certain way, and what might happen if they weren’t.

Birding in the Schoolyard
Grades 5 and up / Anytime
Students will be guided through Binoculars 101 and then we’ll hit the schoolyard to find out which feathered friends frequent the area. We’ll bring the binoculars!

Build a Beaver Dam
Grades 5 and up / Anytime
Beavers have long been considered some of the best engineers in the world! Your students will use their STEM skills and work together to build a dam that is “leaky” yet retains enough water to form a pond.

Buzz Into Action
All Grades / May—September
Insects are the most abundant and accessible group of animals on Earth. With our equipment and guidance, students will explore diverse and important insect life in their own schoolyard!

Skulls & Furs
All Grades / Anytime
Students will have the opportunity to handle many different furs, skulls and bones from native wildlife. Through guided inquiry, students will make connections and discoveries about these fascinating animals.

Snowshoe Adventure
Grades 1 and up / December—March
We will bring our snowshoes to your schoolyard! Anyone can snowshoe. Students will be introduced to the history of snowshoes and then try out a pair themselves outside. (Note: This option is only available for groups of 30 students or less at a time. At least 5” of snow must be on the ground to snowshoe.) 60 minute minimum
Buffalo Audubon Outreach Programs

Live Animals

Cold-blooded Critters
Grade: All Grades
When: Anytime
Our resident cold-blooded ambassadors, will help students make up-close observations and dive into the fascinating world of reptiles and amphibians!

Owl Investigations
Grade: All Grades
When: Anytime
Meet Zelda, our Eastern Screech Owl! Students will enjoy a hands-on experience with owl artifacts such as feathers and pellets, and learn to imitate the calls of local owl species. You’ll also learn about adaptations and behaviors that make owls such excellent hunters of the night. (Limit: 3 programs in one day).

Owl Pellet Dissection: Students will work together in groups to dissect real owl pellets. Additional fee applies.

Outreach Program Fees:
$75 per program up to 30 participants
$100 per program up to 30 participants for Cold-blooded Critters, Owl Investigations, and Snowshoe Adventure.
$20 Owl Pellet Dissection to accompany Owl Investigations program. Students work in groups of 3.

- A mileage fee is charged to any site over 25 miles away.
- Reduced rates are available for 2 or more programs scheduled during a single visit.
- Note: Snowshoe Adventure requires a minimum of 60 minutes to conduct.

Outreach Limit:  4 classes (maximum 120 students)
Live Animal Limit: 3 classes (maximum 90 students)
For the Birds! is an elementary education program that teaches environmental awareness and appreciation of nature through the study of birds. Over the course of eight weeks, students learn about their local, natural environment through hands-on classroom lessons, outdoor activities and field trips, and a conservation project designed to provide or enhance bird habitat at their school.

Grades 3 and 4 / September—November or April—June

Topics Covered:
• Observation
• Habitat
• Adaptation
• Food Chains
• Scientific Method
• Migration
• Conservation

Students are provided with binoculars, field guides, and a journal to record their observations.

See a Live Bird of Prey Up Close!
We will bring our live Eastern Screech Owl into your classroom for our Raptors! lesson.

Hands-on Learning
For the Birds! students participating in For the Birds! will learn about our feathered neighbors through eight weeks of hands-on lessons. From schoolyard bird watching, to classroom games and experiments, students will learn by seeing birds and how they live up close.

For the Birds! Lesson Schedule

Week One - Whooo Are You?
Students are introduced to the birds that live in and around our community.

Week Two - Our Feathered Neighbors
A birdwatching walk focusing on the habitat of the schoolyard.

Week Three - Bird Beak Buffet
A hands-on lesson demonstrating the adaptations of bird beaks.

Week Four - Raptors!
Students get a close-up look at the adaptations of live Birds of Prey.

Week Five - Community Science
A schoolyard birdwatching walk focused on collecting and analyzing data.

Week Six - Migration Madness
Students play a game depicting the challenges birds face during migration.

Week Seven - Habitat Project
Students help improve the habitat for birds in their community.

Week Eight - Field Trip
A class trip to a local park or nature preserve.

For the Birds Program Fees:
Please call for package pricing.
The Buffalo Audubon Society offers a variety of workshops designed to help educators incorporate environmental education into their classrooms. These workshops can be done at an individual school upon request. Costs vary.

### Growing Up WILD

**Early Childhood**
**Duration:** 3 hours

*Growing Up WILD* is an early childhood education program that builds on children’s sense of wonder about nature and invites them to explore wildlife and the world around them. Through a wide range of activities and experiences, *Growing Up WILD* provides an early foundation for developing positive impressions about the natural world and lifelong social and academic skills.

### Flying WILD

**Middle School**
**Duration:** 3 hours

*Flying WILD* offers practical hands-on classroom and outdoor field investigation experiences connecting real-world experiences in bird biology, conservation and natural history. Project-based classroom applications, service learning and community involvement are encouraged through sections of the guide dedicated to the planning and implementation of birding festivals.

### Project WILD

**Grades K-12**
**Duration:** 3 hours

Project WILD is one of the most widely-used conservation and environmental education programs among educators of students in kindergarten through high school. It is based on the premise that young people and educators have a vital interest in learning about our natural world.

### Aquatic WILD

**Grades K-12**
**Duration:** 3 hours

Water in all its forms is one of the most dramatic of today’s arenas in which informed, responsible, and constructive actions are needed. Aquatic WILD uses the simple, successful format of Project WILD activities and professional training workshops but with an emphasis on aquatic wildlife and aquatic ecology.

### Project Learning Tree

**Grades PreK-8**
**Duration:** 6 hours

Project Learning Tree, the environmental education program of the American Forest Foundation, uses forests as a window into the world and provides educators with environmental education curriculum resources that can be integrated into lesson plans for all grades and subject areas.

Contact: Lauren Makeyenko
Director of Education