

BACKUS HERITAGE CONSERVATION AREA
OUTDOOR EDUCATION PROGRAMS
2015-2016



CONSERVATION AND HERITAGE
OUTDOOR EDUCATION PROGRAMS

WHERE HISTORY MEETS NATURE!

Port Rowan, Ontario

HERITAGE EDUCATION



Step back in time with your class at Backus Heritage Village. History comes to life as students spend time in authentic log homes, barns and an octagonal school house. You might even step through the doors of the 1798 Grist Mill and learn how stone ground flour was produced more than 200 years ago. Students can learn about the fur trade, everyday life in the 19th century and find out what school was like way back when.

Changing Roles, Relationships & Responsibilities- A Child's Life

Grades K-1

Full-Day

Students will explore the Heritage Village using their five senses and examine how a community can meet the needs of the people who live there. Learn and construct the basic elements of a map, create a simple quilt pattern and engage your senses smelling herbs from the garden.

A Day in the Pioneer Community

Grades 1-3

Full-Day

Students will explore what life was like in Canada during the mid 18th – 19th century. Participate in an 1860's classroom routine followed by your choice of three hands-on activities.

Pioneer Life

Grades 2-10 (Half-Day or Full-Day)

Design Your Own Day

Step back in time and spend a day in the Heritage Village. This interactive program will have students trying their hand at a

variety of activities. We can work with you to design a program that meets your needs.

Simple Machines

Grades 4-6

Half-Day or Full-Day

Students will investigate simple machines throughout the Heritage Village with a hands-on look at how pulleys and gears were incorporated into pioneer times, and how these devices were used to improve everyday life. Students will also compare changes in technology and the importance of these simple machines today.

Trappers and Traders

Grades 6-8

Full-Day

Students will participate in an orienteering and bartering activity that simulates the day-to-day activities of a fur trader in Upper Canada. Following a brief introduction and discussion on the value of the beaver pelt, the role of the First Nations peoples on the traders and the industry, and the importance of the fur trade on Canada's identity.

War of 1812 - Conflict and Challenges: Life of a Soldier

Grades 7-8

Full-Day

Students will role play to experience the life of a soldier, exploring how political and legal changes, social and economic changes, and interactions between different groups all affected life in Canada during this time period. Students will participate in encampment building, military training and skirmishing.

Women's Changing Roles in Society:

The Dr. Annie Story

Grade 7-8

Full-Day

Students will have the opportunity to explore the growth of the women's suffrage movement. Hands-on activities and dramatic arts will engage students to investigate a woman's place in society, in both past and present times, and explore the issues affecting these changes.

Cherry Valley School

All Grades / Ages

Half-Day

Visit the one-room octagonal school house and discover what school was like in the 19th century. Students will take part in history as they explore how a pioneer school day differs from today's modern day facilities. Children will get a hands-on lesson on the 3 R's and writing on slates.

Heritage Village Tour

All Grades / Ages

Half-Day

Explore the Backhouse family farm, and what life was like living as a 19th century settler. The program gives an introduction to pioneer times and can be tailored to meet your class's grade level and interest.





CONSERVATION EDUCATION

The Conservation Education Centre, with its interpretive displays and trails provides opportunities for students to explore nature first hand. Long Point Region's rich natural history and waterfowling traditions are highlighted in two gallery areas. Experience a forest or meadow ecosystem; bird watch or examine life in the pond; hike through a Carolinian forest - these happenings and more are just some of the adventures students can experience at Backus.

Programs are half-day unless otherwise stated. Combine two programs for a full-day experience.

AMAZING ADAPTATIONS

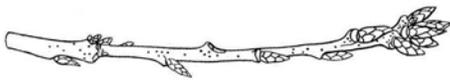
Select a focus for your program from the following two options:

■ Seasonal Changes and Survival Grades 1-4

Learn about seasonal changes in the environment and discover how different plants and animals adapt to survive.

■ Senses and Survival Grades 1-6

Students will learn about the unique senses, abilities and adaptations that animals have, while exploring the connections to survival.



HABITATS & DIVERSITY

Select a focus for your program from the following four options:

■ Habitats Grades 1-10

While exploring the components of a healthy habitat, students will learn characteristics of both local and international habitats, including the names of local species. Students will also discover how different animals use their environment to meet their needs.

■ Insect Safari Grades 1-6 Full-Day

Explore the forest, pond, meadow, and even our garden to investigate the variety of insects at Backus. Through the use of songs, games, costumes and microscopes, students will learn about insects' adaptations, sounds and more!

Early Fall/Late Spring Program

Option: Magnificent Monarchs: focuses on the life of a species-at-risk, the migratory monarch butterfly.

■ Soil Searchers Grade 3

Students will learn about soil types, their properties, and what lives in the soil. Discover ways soil is lost and what can be done to keep it in place.

■ Biodiversity Grades 4-10

Become an expert on biodiversity with a classroom lesson followed by a hike, exploring what makes this area such a diverse "hot spot." Sort leaves, collect pine cones and investigate animal skulls and pelts.



INTERACTIONS & IDENTIFICATION

Select a focus for your program from the following three options:

■ Keeping Track of Wildlife Grades 1-4

Become a wildlife detective and search for clues in a variety of natural habitats. This indoor-outdoor experience starts with a beginner's tracking exercise and then it is onto the trails to look for evidence of wildlife.

■ Bird Detectives Grades 1-6

Use your detective skills to identify bird clues both in the classroom and on the trails. Learn to ID birds based on their size, shape, flight pattern, call, and nest.

■ Eco-Activities Grades 1-10

Through various outdoor activities and games, students learn first-hand about ecological concepts such as camouflage, adaptation, predator-prey relationships and animal behaviour. Running shoes are suggested.

■ Hurray for Plants! Grades 3, 4 & 6

With a focus on seasonal plants at Backus, students will learn about plant structures, pollination, and native and invasive species in a fun and interactive way.





CONSERVATION EDUCATION PROGRAMS

SURVIVAL SKILLS & TEAM WORK

Select a focus for your program from the following three options:

■ Orienteering

Grades 4-10

Students learn to find their own way in small groups following a lesson on map and compass reading. Groups work together and seek out hidden symbols around the park while completing a nature questionnaire.

■ First Nations Games

Grades 2-7

Build important skills as you learn and play traditional games. Learn what skills would have helped First Nations people survive, or be a good leader. Compare these games to those that are played today.

Optional Full-Day Program Available

■ Backus Survivors

Grades 4-10

Full-Day

Master your outdoor survival skills. In the Backus Survivors program, learn the value of preparing for a trip and fire building skills in the morning, followed by a lesson on building a shelter and map reading in the afternoon.

Program Option: Campfire Lunch. Bring your own supplies for a cookout e.g. hot dogs, marshmallows, buns, condiments.

VERTEBRATES & INVERTEBRATES

Select a focus for your program from the following two options:

■ Furs to Fins

Grades 1-4

Students will discover different animal groups while exploring the lives of various vertebrates. Costumes, team challenges, and mimicking movements will excite all!

■ The Boned and the Boneless

Grades 6-8

Students will have a chance to act like animals through a variety of challenges, as the lives of vertebrates and invertebrates are explored.



WATERSHED AWARENESS

Select a focus for your program from the following two options:

■ Pond Study

Grades 1-3

Maximum 40 Students

■ Stream Ecology

Grades 4-10

Maximum 30 Students

Older Grade Option: Collecting physical data to determine the health of the ecosystem.



Special Half Day Winter- Only Programs

Come and enjoy the beauty of Backus during the winter months.



Winter Fun at Backus...

Building Habitats

Grades 4-6

This program engages students in learning about species at risk, the importance of biodiversity, and healthy habitats through actively building a habitat for wildlife. While students build their own bird house, bat box or turtle nest cover to take home, they will gain valuable insight into supporting biodiversity within their community.

Creatures of the Night

Grades 2-6

In our darkened wildlife gallery and museum, with night sounds all around and a flashlight in hand, students will be lead on a nocturnal tour. The special adaptations and hunting abilities of night-active wildlife including bats, deer, raccoon, and owls will be explored through various activities, indoors and outside.

Gifts for the Forest

Grades 1-6

(November/ December)

Students will have a chance to make a variety of nature-themed holiday crafts from trail trimmings and natural materials, then go for a winter walk through the forest learning folklore about coniferous trees and traditions of "ye old Christmas tree."

Hug a Maple Tree

Grade 2-10

Within this program, students will gain an understanding and appreciation of healthy forests and biodiversity while glimpsing into the process of making maple syrup.

Program Option: Emphasis can be placed on the properties of solids, liquids and gasses within the production of sap and syrup.

Let it Snow!

Grades 2-6

Using various tools for investigation students will discover the properties of snow and ice, learn about materials that keep us warm and dry in the winter, and explore how insulation keeps jack frost away from animal's toes. Program has indoor and outdoor components.

Owl Prowl

Grades 1-6

Through an investigation of local owl species, students will learn about predator-prey relationships and adaptations. Practicing calls, looking for signs of owls outside and dissecting pellets are part of this action-packed owl adventure.

Snowshoeing 101

Grade 6

(30 students max)

Students will be introduced to the winter activity of snowshoeing, through a presentation and guided walk. In the presentation, the uses and styles of traditional and modern snowshoes will be covered, in addition to the crafting of traditional snowshoes.

Bundle up and enjoy these regular season programs with special changes for the winter season.

AMAZING ADAPTATIONS

Grades 1-6

BIRD DETECTIVES

Grades 1- 6

Learn about and feed Chickadees.

FIRST NATIONS GAMES

Grades 2-7

HABITATS

Grades 1-4

Learn about living beneath the snow, winter dens and burrows.

KEEPING TRACK OF WILDLIFE

Grades 1-4

BACKUS SURVIVORS

Grades 4-10

Full-Day Only

ORIENTEERING

Grades 4-6



All winter programs have a campfire lunch option where classes can bring their own hot dogs, condiments and marshmallows. Please indicate this on your booking sheet.

At Backus, we take the classroom outside!

Long Point Region Conservation Authority is pleased to offer Environmental and Heritage Education programs to elementary and secondary schools at Backus Heritage Conservation Area.

Our staff-led programs emphasize hands-on experiences to deliver innovative, curriculum-based learning activities. All programs are designed to fit into the Ontario Ministry of Education curriculums of science & technology, social studies; geography and health & physical activity. Through exploration, active games and other guided activities, our teaching staff will inspire your students to explore, inquire and discover.

Book Your Visit Today:

Bookings are on a first come, first served basis. To book a program or for more information, contact program staff by phone or email:

Outdoor Educator:

519-586-2201 x 231 OR outdoored@lprca.on.ca

Heritage Programmer:

519-586-2201 x 228 OR backusvillage@lprca.on.ca

Cost:

Half-Day Program: \$8.00/student * (Minimum fee \$105/class) *

Full-Day Program: \$10.00/student * (Minimum fee \$135/class) *

*Rates subject to change without notice.

There is no charge for teachers or parent volunteers.

Maximum number of students per program: 30

Program Length:

Most programs are 1.5 or 2 hours in length unless otherwise stated.

Full day programs are noted.

Adult Supervision:

The adult to child ratio for both conservation and heritage education programs is suggested as a minimum of 1 adult to every 5 children, allowing for a safe and enjoyable trip.

Special Needs:

Please let us know in advance if you have students with allergies, medical conditions or special needs. We will do our best to accommodate their needs and make the trip enjoyable for everyone.

Weather Policy:

Dress for the weather, programs will run rain or shine. To ensure safety for all, we will reschedule or modify programs due to severe weather or unsafe conditions.

Cancellation Policy:

Two weeks notice is required to cancel a program; otherwise the school will be charged 50% of the total program cost. Cancellations due to inclement weather will not be charged.

Parking:

Students will disembark from the bus in front of the Conservation Education Centre. Ample bus parking is provided on site.

Lunches:

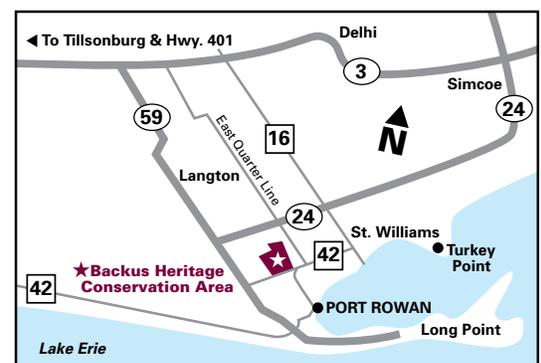
Students, teachers and volunteers are encouraged to pack a "litterless" lunch when attending both Conservation and Heritage Education programs.



Location:

Backus Heritage Conservation Area
1267 2nd Concession Road
1 km north of Port Rowan

GPS Coordinates
42° 39' 23.92" / 80° 28' 12.28"



Backus Heritage Conservation Area is owned and operated
by the Long Point Region Conservation Authority
www.lprca.on.ca

Share your experience with us



@longpointca



Member of Conservation Ontario