



## Residential Visitor Package

Dear Leaders,

Wye Marsh Wildlife Centre sits on a 3,000-acre wildlife area situated in an environmentally endowed location in southern Georgian Bay. It is committed to connecting people to nature and promoting an understanding of the vital role that wetlands play within the environment.

The Wye Marsh Wildlife Centre is open year round and offers a variety of programs that will entice, educate and enlighten your Guide or Scout groups. Our experienced Outdoor Educators will facilitate hands-on outdoor experiences that will enable your campers to earn numerous badges while enjoying the Wye Marsh's beautiful natural resources.

All of our trails and facilities are wheelchair accessible, and all of our programs can be delivered in both official languages.

### **Our Mission Notre Mission**

*To spark a commitment to conserving wetlands, woodlands, and wildlife by creating exciting learning opportunities in a natural setting.*

*Promouvoir la conservation de la faune, des forêts et des terre humides en créant des opportunités d'apprentissage excitantes dans un environnement naturel.*

# Escape...Explore...Experience



## Badge Programs

Girl Guide Programs	Scouting Programs
<p><b>Sparks</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Going Outside      Exploring and Experimenting      Going Camping</li> </ul>	<p><b>Beavers</b></p> <p>We can help you on your way to earning some Cub badges, or you may choose from the variety of half day programs that we offer!</p>
<p><b>Brownies</b></p> <p><i>Key to the Living World:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Wondrous Walks 1abcd</li> <li>Water All Around 3cef</li> <li>Celebrate Earth Day 4abc</li> </ul> <p><i>Key to Camping:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Safety First 1be</li> <li>Lost and Found 4ab</li> </ul> <p><i>Interest Badges:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Winter is Great!      Happy Hiking      Team Together</li> <li>Weather Tracker      Which Way?      Bird Watcher</li> <li>Saving our Plants and Animals      Winter Outside</li> </ul>	<p><b>Cubs</b></p> <p><i>Starts and Awards:</i></p> <p>Black Star A - 2, 6, 7, 8, 10 B - 1, 2</p> <p>Canadian Wilderness Award 4-6 Canadian Heritage Trails Awards (<i>Ganaraska Trail</i>) 3-5</p> <p><i>Badges:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Naturalist      Hiking</li> <li>Observer      Trail Craft</li> <li>Skier      Watercraft</li> <li>World Conservation      Artist</li> <li>Winter Cubbing</li> </ul>
<p><b>Guides</b></p> <p>1. 'Discovering You'</p> <p><i>Interest Themes:</i> Being Healthy</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Skier</li> <li>Snowshoeing</li> </ul> <p>2. 'Beyond You'</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Explore the Outdoors and Nature 1, 2</li> <li>Explore the Outdoors and Nature 3, 4</li> <li>Learn About the Environment 1-6</li> </ul> <p><i>Interest Themes:</i> Fun in the Outdoors Science and Technology</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Bird watcher      Conservation      Hiking</li> <li>Ecology      Endangered Species      Water</li> <li>Forestry      Wildflower      Naturalist</li> <li>Weather      Outdoor Adventures      Exploring</li> <li>Plant and Animals      Astronomy</li> </ul>	<p><b>Scouts</b></p> <p><i>Activity Badges:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Voyageur Level Outdoor Skills 3, 5, 9abc, 16</li> <li>Pathfinder Level Outdoor Skills 7, 9-11</li> </ul> <p><i>Challenge Badges:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Fish and Wildlife      Exploring</li> <li>Forestry      Paddling</li> <li>Naturalist      Artist</li> <li>Weather      Winter Scouting</li> <li>Soil and Water Management</li> </ul>
<p><b>Pathfinders</b></p> <p>1. 'Let's Take it Outside'</p> <p><i>Modules:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Outdoor Know-how 3, 6, 7, 9</li> <li>Knots, Knives and Outdoor Lore 1, 3, 6, 7</li> <li>Winter Wonderland 1, 4</li> <li>Survivor Girl - Prepared for Outdoors 1, 5-9, 12, 13</li> <li>Finding your Way 2, 4-8, 10</li> <li>Up Close and Personal with Nature 1-6</li> </ul> <p>2. 'Exploring a Theme'</p> <p><i>Modules:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Our Environment 1-3, 5-9</li> </ul> <p>3. 'Creating your Future'</p> <p><i>Modules:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>We're a Team 1, 2, 5, 6</li> </ul>	<p><b>Venturers/Rovers</b></p> <p>The Wye Marsh can always use your <i>service</i>. Your group could help us with special events, or work with us to manage our trail network. We also have a wide range of additional programs to choose from See the following page for details).</p>



## Additional Programs

### Wet and Scaly *Seasonal Availability:*

This exciting program provides students with the opportunity to get up close and personal with some of Ontario's native reptiles! Students will not only learn plenty of fun facts and identification tips, but they will also discover the importance of environmental stewardship and the role that they can play in helping Ontario's Species at Risk. This program will include a one hour live reptile show, where students can interact with some of the Marsh's most famous turtles and snakes. In addition, they will also have the opportunity to see what it is like to become a reptile through interactive games and a role playing dress-up activity.

### Birds of Prey *Seasonal Availability:*

This exciting program will give students the opportunity to get up close and personal with live birds of prey! Students will learn about the different types of birds of prey, their habitats, adaptations, and life histories, while being delighted by these magnificent animals in flight. In addition to the live bird show, students will become familiar with the concept of *interconnectedness* through the interactive investigation of the food chain. They will also be entertained through a role playing raptor dress-up activity!

### Ultimate Survival *Seasonal Availability:*

This game demonstrates the interaction of predator and prey species and their role within an ecosystem food web. Students will take on the role of carnivore, omnivore or herbivore and will be challenged to obtain their specific survival needs while meeting the challenges of nature. Students will be learning without even realizing it!

### Pond Study *Seasonal Availability:*

With dipnets in hand, students will learn about the many amazing adaptations the aquatic insects of the marsh possess, as well as what these insects can tell us about the water quality of the marsh. Students will also learn about the interconnectedness of all of the marsh inhabitants as they simulate an aquatic food web.

### Look, See, Paint *Seasonal Availability:*

This art program is fun and unique! This painting course will help you open eyes and discover the natural beauty of the Marsh. This water colour course is geared towards beginners, though those with experience painting will have fun too! All supplies are provided. All you need is imagination!

### Bannock over an Open Fire! *Seasonal Availability:*

Step back in time and enjoy a food from history. Bannock is a traditional bread of the Native and Pioneer people of Canada. This entertaining activity looks to the past and immerses participants into the lifestyles of first peoples while providing a tasty snack. Roasted over an open fire, Bannock is a treat everyone is sure to enjoy!

# Escape...Explore...Experience



## Wilderness Survival *Seasonal Availability:*

After a quick and active introduction to wilderness preparedness, survival priorities, fire starting and shelter building, we will “lose” your students in the bush, where, in order to survive, they must work as a team in order to prepare a survival site, as well as prepare and present a theatrical rescue story!

## Biodiversity Stewards *Seasonal Availability:*

Aliens have invaded the Wye Marsh and we need your help to preserve the natural biodiversity of our wetland! As biodiversity stewards, students will learn about the spread and impact of invasive species, put their wetland management skills to the test, and actively help us to control invasive species populations on site.

## Team Building *Seasonal Availability:*

Allow us to put your students’ teamwork skills to the test as we facilitate a series of nature-based team challenges, each one more demanding than the last. Leadership, trust, cooperation, communication and problem solving will all come into play as your students strive for cooperative success.

## Orienteering *Seasonal Availability:*

Students will gain the skills necessary to use a compass through an interactive lesson from a Wye Marsh Naturalist. By putting their skills to the test on our challenging orienteering courses, students will demonstrate an understanding of the importance of spatial geometry, and direction, and mapping.

## GPS Navigation *Seasonal Availability:*

Students will gain the skills necessary to use a Global Positioning System to explore their way around the marsh. Our GPS course will challenge students to demonstrate and present an understanding of technology, and its role in conserving our environment.

## The Great Tree Challenge *Seasonal Availability:*

Explore the flora of the Wye Marsh while investigating the use of identification keys in the study of classification. Participants will team together to identify trees using the tools provided and complete the course challenge. This is a fun way to explore the concept of classifying the earth’s biodiversity.

## Sweetwater Harvest *Seasonal Availability:* (*Weather Permitting*)

Students will get a firsthand look at an active modern day sugar shack, where the transformation of sap to syrup begins and ends. Students will understand the historical ways maple syrup was collected and produced by both First Nations People and pioneers. Participants will have an opportunity to bake bannock over an open fire, taste maple syrup, and view some of the various pioneer tools used in the making of maple syrup. This is an exciting and interactive look at a very important aspect of history; A truly Canadian experience!



## Facilities

### Open Concept Classroom

*Large open room sleeping area, with attached kitchen facilities.*

- Capacity for 38 campers
- Shared washroom facilities (no showers)
- Kitchen facilities - fridge, stove, microwave, toaster
- Limited cooking supplies available (for back up use only)
- Campfire area

### Bunkhouses

*Three heated rustic cabins with bunk beds and kitchen facilities*

- Capacity for 24 campers (with additional space outside for tents)
- Outdoor composting toilet. Use of shared washroom facilities in Visitor's Centre (no showers)
- Kitchen facilities - stove, fridge, microwave, toaster (potable water available in Visitor's Centre throughout winter months)
- Limited cooking supplies available (for back up use only)
- Campfire area
- Use of outdoor pavilion shelter and picnic tables

### Camping

*Large open field for tenting*

- Capacity for 100 campers
- Outdoor composting toilet. Use of shared washroom facilities in Visitor's Centre (no showers).
- Potable water available in Visitor's Centre
- Campfire area
- Option: field with accompanying portable (electricity, heated, for emergency use)

### Additional Considerations

- **Garbage and recycling** removal and disposal is **NOT** provided. Please make arrangements to dispose of your waste off-site. A compost bin will be provided for organic waste only (fruits and vegetables, coffee and tea grinds, and egg shells).
- **Fire wood** is available for purchase at a cost of **\$10** a bag. To reduce the risk of invasive species/disease, please do not bring your own fire wood.

# Escape...Explore...Experience



## Reservation Information

Overnight Packages	Cost/Participant	Additional Information
One Night (Tent)	\$20.00	Includes choice of 2 programs
One Night (Cabin)	\$30.00	
Two Night (Tent)	\$30.00	Includes choice of 3 programs
Two Night (Cabin)	\$35.00	

Specialty Programs	Additional Cost/Participant	Additional Information
Birds of Prey	\$5.00	Sunday show!
Canoe	\$3.50	In addition to your overnight package
Kayak	\$5.00	
Snowshoes	\$3.00	
Cross Country Skis	\$5.50	

Wye Marsh Comes To You	Cost/Class	Additional Information
Regular Program	\$250.00	Travel Allowance: \$0.75/Km
Birds of Prey	\$350.00	

Supervisor Discount
1 leader per 5 participants is complimentary

- **Payment:** Due upon arrival based on the confirmed numbers of participants. Please inform Reservations of the number of confirmed participants at least **ONE WEEK** prior to your visit.
- **Cancellation Policy:** In order to guarantee your reservation, a 50% deposit is required 6 weeks in advance. If you find it necessary to cancel this reservation, please call us a minimum of 4 weeks prior to your visit.
- Cancellation notice received 4 weeks prior to visit will result in a refund of the deposit less the \$75.00 administration fee;
- Cancellation notice received 3 weeks prior to visit will result in refund of deposit less \$125.00 administration fee and notice received 2 weeks prior to visit will result in refund of deposit less \$150.00 administration fee (winter storms are exempt).
- **Weather:** We are a rain or shine facility. Please prepare to be outdoors during your visit. Please wear clothing appropriate for the season (raincoats, running shoes, long pants, winter hats, mitts, boots, etc.)
- **Handicapped Equipment:** Please let us know if you require the use of one of our wheelchairs, cross-sled with runners or other special needs items.
- **Gift Shop:** Souvenirs, light snacks and drinks are available **under leader supervision.**
- **Program Times:**  
Saturday 10am-12pm and 1pm-3pm  
Sunday 9am-11am
- **Arrival & Departure:** Leader arrival and orientation is Friday 2 pm-7pm. Group departure Sunday 1pm.

# Escape...Explore...Experience



## Directions

### *From Toronto/Barrie*

- Follow Hwy 400 north of Barrie to exit 121 (Hwy 93)
- Go north on Hwy 93 through Hillsdale, Orr Lake, Waverley and Wyebridge to Hwy 12
- Travel east on Hwy 12 past King and William Streets and watch for the entrance signs on your right

### *From Sudbury/Parry Sound*

- Travel south on Hwy 69 which becomes Hwy 400
- Exit at Hwy 12 (Waubaushehene)
- Go west on Hwy 12 to Midland
- Watch for the entrance sign opposite The Martyrs' Shrine

### *From Collingwood/Wasaga Beach*

- Travel east on Simcoe Rd 92 to Elmvale
- Go north on Simcoe Rd 27 to Waverley
- Go north on Hwy 93 through Wyebridge to Hwy 12
- Travel east on Hwy 12 past King and William Streets and watch for the entrance signs on your right

### *From Orillia/Gravenhurst/Bracebridge*

- From Hwy 11 travel west on Hwy 12 (Coldwater Road) to Midland
- Watch for the entrance sign opposite The Martyrs' Shrine



Wye Marsh Wildlife Centre

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All programs are offered in both official languages