



Delaware Nature Society Summer Camp Parent Information Guide

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About DNS:



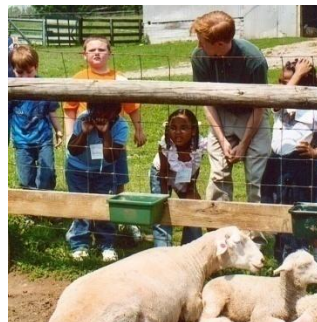
The Delaware Nature Society, a non-profit membership organization fosters understanding, appreciation and enjoyment of the natural world through education, preserves ecologically significant areas, and advocates stewardship and conservation of natural resources

Committed to providing a high-quality, safe, educational experience, we offer a low student-teacher ratio and the finest indoor and outdoor facilities in the area. Our week-long programs are very popular and fill up quickly!

All programs are open to both Nature Society members and the general public (note price differences). We welcome new members and believe that becoming a member offers special benefits far beyond the membership fee. See our website for more information about membership.

Directions to our sites:

The majority of programs meet at Ashland Nature Center. Other program sites include Coverdale Farm, DuPont Environmental Education Center, Cooch-Dayette Mill, Girl Scout Country Center, Mortenson Property, Flint Woods Preserve, Coverdale Farm Preserve and the Bucktoe Creek





Preserve. Directions to these sites are listed on the last page of this document. You can refer to our website: www.delawarenaturesociety.org and click on "Locations" or call (302) 239-2334.

Sign In/Sign Out:

PLEASE drop off and pick up your child on time. ALL campers MUST be signed in and out DAILY by a parent/adult guardian. For camps held at the Ashland Nature Center, a table will be set up in the camp meeting area next to the parking lot with the sign in sheets for all camps running during that week. The attendant will then direct children to the appropriate meeting spot for the camp. For camps held at other locations, the camp instructor will have the sign in sheets.

A note is required from the parent to authorize any other individuals to pick up the camper.

On the first day of camp, all parents/adult guardians will need to meet with the camp instructor to verify emergency phone numbers and medical information.

When picking up your child after camp, you must sign out directly with the camp instructor or extended care personnel.

Any drop offs earlier than 15 minutes prior the start of the camp will be charged \$15 before care fee. Similarly, children will be put in after-care if a parent is late in picking up. The \$15 day rate will be charged for late pick-ups.

What to Bring to Camp

Below describes what to bring to camp that would apply to most camps. For more specific items including overnights and specialized camps, you should receive an e-mail or letter 1 week before the start the camp with a more detailed list of items.

- **Snacks and lunches:** One snack is provided daily. Participants in full day programs should bring a lunch and beverage.
- **Water bottle:** much of your child's time will be spent outdoors. Please make sure they have a water bottle to keep hydrated. Bottles can be refilled at camp.
- **Dress for the weather:** camps will be held rain or shine. Expect your child to be outdoors even in wet weather so please dress your child appropriately. In event of severe weather which would constitute a danger to campers, activities will be held indoors.
- **Dress for the outdoors:** dress your child in clothes that can get dirty. Make sure they have comfortable walking shoes that can get wet or muddy. No flip-flops, please. Children under 8 years old in full day programs will engage in water play each afternoon. Please pack a bathing suit for your child.



- **Sun and Insect Protection:** If you choose for your child to use sunscreen and/or insect repellent, please apply it prior to the program. As most of our activities are outdoors, we do recommend that you check your child for ticks at end of each day
- **Medications:** If your child is bringing medicine to camp, please make sure that it is labeled. Hand medication to the instructor when dropping off your child. Since we are not permitted to dispense medication, the child must be able to self-medicate. Please contact us if this is an issue.

Camper Expectations:

The Nature Society staff strives to make camp safe, fun, friendly, respectful, and educational for all campers. All children are expected to treat staff and each other with respect.



If a child's behavior is disruptive to the program or to the experience of others, appropriate actions will be taken. Disruptive behavior is defined as behavior that adversely affects the activities of the camp group. This can include but are not limited to: bullying, threatening words or actions that are intended to provoke fear, repeated refusal to work cohesively with the group and destruction of property.

Behavior Action Steps:

1. Discussion of disruptive behavior with the camper. Camper may be put in a "time-out" situation if needed.
2. Parents is called and assists in problem solving a positive situation
3. After a parent-camper conference, a behavior agreement will be drafted by the camp director and signed by all parties, if necessary.
4. The camper will be dismissed if the disruptive behavior continues. No refund for the camp will be given.

Refunds and Cancellations:

Requests for withdrawal **15 business days** or more prior to the scheduled program date will be honored. Refunds for withdrawal less than 15 business days prior to the scheduled program date will be issued only if the slot is filled. A \$35 administrative fee will be withheld for each program withdrawal regardless of withdrawal date.

Transferring to a Different Camp:

Every effort to accommodate transfers to a different camp will be made. If additional process is required to complete the transfer (e.g. refunding difference in fees, contacting wait lists, etc.), you may be charged an administration fee.

Extended Day Service:

Additional nature activities are available both for before camp and after camp hours. Hours and pricing are as follows:

Before camp hours: Daily from 7:30 a.m. to 9:00 a.m. at \$40 per week (Ashland/DEEC), \$35 for Abbott's Mill

After camp hours: Daily from 3:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. at \$50 per week (Ashland /DEEC), \$40 for Abbott's Mill

Extended day service is available at the Ashland Nature Center, DEEC and Abbott's Mill locations ONLY unless otherwise noted. Drop in or daily service is available for \$15 per day (Ashland/DEEC), \$10 for Abbott's Mill.

Lost and Found

All personal belongings should be marked with the child's name. You may check with the Visitor's Center for any found items that could not be matched with an owner. After the summer camp session has ended, any unclaimed items will be donated to charity.



Emergencies:

You will be contacted immediately should there be any emergency involving your child or if your child becomes ill during camp. For this reason, it is important that we have all your emergency contact information at the start of the camp. You will be asked to verify the phone numbers that we have on the first day of camp.

Summer Camp T-shirts/Souvenirs

Custom-designed T-shirts for children and adults will be available for purchase (\$8-\$10) at the Ashland Nature Center reception desk at the Visitors Center. Small gift items are available as well for purchase such as pencils, magnifying glasses, plastic reptiles/amphibians/insects.

Photographs/Video

Delaware Nature Society reserves the right to use any photos/video of our campers to promote our programs unless otherwise notified in writing by the parents.

Directions to our Sites:

Ashland Nature Center: 3511 Barley Mill Road, Hockessin, DE 19707

From Wilmington: Take Route 52 North to Route 82. Make a left on Route 82. Make a left on Barley Mill Road, proceed through the covered bridge, and the entrance is on the right.

From I-95 at Newark: Proceed north on I-95 to the Newport exit - Route 141 north. At Route 48, make a left and proceed through the merge with Route 41. Make a right at Brackenville Road where there is a light. Continue past Old Wilmington Road and the intersection with Barley Mill Road. The entrance is on the left before the covered bridge.

From Kennett Square: Take Route 82 south into Delaware. Proceed through the village of Yorklyn. Make a right on Barley Mill Road. Proceed through the covered bridge, and the entrance is on the right.

From Hockessin: At the intersection of Route 41 and Yorklyn Road, proceed east on Yorklyn Road. Yorklyn Road becomes Route 82 south in the village of Yorklyn. Make a right on Barley Mill Road. Proceed through the covered bridge, and the entrance is on the right.

GPS Coordinates: 39.797889 N, 75.660152 W



Coverdale Farm: 543 Way Road Greenville, DE 19807

From downtown Wilmington: Take Rte. 52 (Kennett Pike) north through Greenville. Take Rte. 52 (Kennett Pike) north through Greenville. Pass Delaware Museum of Natural History. At traffic light next to Winterthur Museum, turn left on to Old Kennett Road (a church is on this corner). Continue through 4-way stop (Pyles Ford Road) and another 4-way stop (Owl's Nest Road). Be immediately prepared to take the next left! (Way Road). Turn left and go about 1 mile, look for Coverdale Farm entrance on right side



From Concord Pike: Take Rte. 141 South to Rte. 52 North (Kennett Pike) Travel north through Greenville. Pass Delaware Museum of Natural History. At traffic light next to Winterthur Museum, turn left on to Old Kennett Road (a church is on this corner). Continue through 4-way stop (Pyles Ford Road) and another 4-way stop (Owl's Nest Road). As you start to go down the hill, be prepared to take the next left! (Way Road). Turn left and go about 1 mile, look for Coverdale Farm entrance on right side.

From Newark: Take Rte. 141 north to Rt. 52 North (Kennett Pike). Follow instructions above.

GPS Coordinates 39.808814 N, 75.638055 W

DuPont Environmental Education Center:
1400 Delmarva Lane Wilmington, DE 19801

From Ashland Nature Center

- Exit right out of Ashland onto Barley Mill Road
- Turn right onto Brackenville Road
- Turn left on Old Wilmington Road
- Continue straight on Old Wilmington until Rte 48/ Lancaster Pike
- Turn left on Rte 48/ Lancaster Pike
- Continue into Wilmington and turn right on Justison St.
- Turn right onto Stadium St. (across from the Big Fish Restaurant)
- Stadium St. merges with Delmarva Lane
- Stay straight until reaching the DuPont Environmental Education Center driveway



From I-95 North

- Take the Rte 4/ Martin Luther King blvd exit
- Follow the riverfront signs and turn left on Martin Luther King/ Lancaster Ave.
- Turn right on Justison St.
- Turn right onto Stadium St. (across from the Big Fish Restaurant)
- Stadium St. merges with Delmarva Lane
- Stay straight until reaching the DuPont Environmental Education Center driveway

From I-95 South

- Take the Martin Luther King Blvd exit (exit 6) onto Maryland Ave.
- Turn Right on Martin Luther King Blvd
- Turn right on Justison St.
- Turn right onto Stadium St. (across from the Big Fish Restaurant)
- Stadium St. merges with Delmarva Lane
- Stay straight until reaching the DuPont Environmental Education Center driveway

GPS Coordinates: 39.723042 N, 75.561657 W

Cooch-Dayett Mill: 904 Old Baltimore Pike Newark, DE 19702



From Wilmington: Proceed south on I-95 to the Newark exit for Route 896 south. Proceed on Route 896 south to Old Baltimore Pike and make a left. After Old Cooches Bridge Road, make a right into the mill entrance.

From Newark: Proceed south on Route 896, cross I-95, and make a left on Old Baltimore Pike. After Old Cooches Bridge Road, make a right into the mill entrance.

From Middletown: Proceed north on Route 301. At the intersection with Route 896, continue straight through. Cross the C&D Canal Bridge. Continue north on Route 896. Just prior to I-95, make a right on Old Baltimore Pike. After Old Cooches Bridge Road, make a right into the mill entrance.

GPS Coordinates 39.638687 N, 75.731108 W

Flint Woods Preserve: 350 Twaddell Mill Road, Wilmington, DE 19807

From Wilmington: Take Route 52 North into Centreville. Turn right onto Twaddell Mill Road. The entrance to Flint Woods Preserve is on the right at a gate about the road, after a small hill.

From Kennett Square, PA: Follow Route 1 North through the Longwood area. Make a right at the light onto 52 South. Proceed into Centreville and turn left onto Twaddell Mill Road. The entrance to Flint Woods Preserve is on the right at a gate about the road, after a small hill.

From Ashland Nature Center: Turn left out of entrance driveway and go through Ashland Covered Bridge. At the stop sign, make a right onto Route 82 South. Turn left onto Way Road (narrow uphill road). Follow Way Road (you will pass Delaware Nature Society's Coverdale Farm on the left) to the stop sign. Turn right onto Old Kennett Road, then make a left at the stop sign onto Owl's Nest Road. Cross over Route 52 and the road becomes Twaddell Mill Road. The entrance to Flint Woods Preserve is on the right at a gate about three-fourths of a mile down the road, after a small hill.

GPS Coordinates 39.829792 N, 75.608733 W

Bucktoe Creek Preserve: 426 Sharp Road, Avondale, PA 19311

From Wilmington: Take Route 52 north. Make a left onto Old Kennett Road, across from the Winterthur entrance. Follow this all the way to the five points intersection, where there is a traffic light. Make a soft left onto Hillendale Road. Proceed about 1.5 miles to Sharp Road and make a left. At the second hilltop on Sharp Road, the entrance is on the left across from Candlewyck development. Upon entering driveway, make a right on gravel road opposite first driveway you see. Follow gravel road to the pavilion and parking area.

From Kennett Square: Take Union Street south out of town. This becomes Kaolin Road. Make a right onto Hillendale Road. Proceed about 1.5 miles to Sharp Road and make a left. At the second hilltop on Sharp Road, the entrance is on the left across from Candlewyck development. Upon entering driveway, make a right on gravel road opposite first driveway you see. Follow gravel road to the pavilion and parking area.

From Hockessin / Newark: Follow Route 7 north into Pennsylvania. Go past the Route 41 exit. This becomes Kaolin Road. Make a left on Chandler Mill Road. This becomes Bucktoe Road. Stay on Bucktoe Road past the first stop sign at Sharp Road and make a right on the continuation of Sharp Road (150 yards past the stop sign). The entrance is on the top of the hill on the right. Upon entering driveway, make a right on gravel road opposite first driveway you see. Follow gravel road to the pavilion and parking area. 432 Sharp Road, Avondale, PA

GPS Coordinates 39.817803 N, 75.728153 W

Burrows Run Preserve: 1368 Ashland Clinton School Road, Hockessin, DE 19707



From Wilmington: Take Route 52 north to Old Kennett Road and make a left (across from the entrance to Winterthur Museum). Follow Old Kennett Road to Ashland Clinton Road and make a left. This is a small road and it will sneak up on you. Proceed to the top of the hill and the entrance is through a gate on your left.

From Ashland Nature Center: Make a left out of the driveway, go through the covered bridge and make a left on Route 82 north. Make an immediate right on Ashland Clinton Road. The entrance is on your right through a gate at the top of the second big hill.

From Kennett Square: Follow Route 82 south. Proceed through the village of Yorklyn. After you pass Sharpless Road intersection, make a left on Ashland Clinton Road. The entrance is on your right through a gate at the top of the second big hill.

From Newark: Take Route 72 north to its end at Route 7. Make a left on Route 7. Make a right on Brackenville Road where there is a light. Continue past Route 41 and Old Wilmington Road. Go through the covered bridge and make a left on Route 82 north. Make an immediate right on Ashland Clinton Road. The entrance is on your right through a gate at the top of the second big hill.

GPS Coordinates: 39.814706 N, 75.647828 W

Mortensen Property: 1135 Pleasant Hill Road, Newark, DE

From Newark: proceed north on Paper Mill Road. Turn left on Corner Ketch Road and immediately turn left onto Pleasant Hill Road. The drop-off for the property is after the barn on the left into the grassy area.

From Wilmington: Proceed west on Kirkwood Highway (Route 2). Turn right on Route 7 North (Limestone Road). Turn left on Route 72 (Paper Mill Road). Turn right onto Corner Ketch Road and immediately turn left onto Pleasant Hill Road. The drop-off for the property is after the barn on the left into the grassy area.

From Ashland Nature Center: Turn right out of the driveway and then right again at the stop sign at Brackenville Road. Follow Brackenville Road to the light at Route 7 (Limestone Road) and turn left. Turn right on Route 72 (Paper Mill Road). Turn right onto Corner Ketch Road and immediately turn left onto Pleasant Hill Road. The drop-off for the property is after the barn on the left into the grassy area.

Granogue Estate

From the Ashland Nature Center:

- Turn left out of Ashland, go through covered bridge.
- Right turn at stop sign onto Route 82.
- Make 1st left onto Way Rd. (pass Coverdale Farm) follow to end.
- Right onto Old Kennett, quick left onto Owls Nest Rd. to Rt. 52.

- Right onto Rt. 52 – quick left onto Center Meeting.
- At Rt. 100 (also called Montchanin Road) turn right.
- Continue on Rt. 100 for about 5/10 mile.
- Look for entrance to the estate on your left (see white picket fence, Private Drive sign and small pond.) There should be a Delaware Nature Society Sign or Camp Sign at the entrance.

From Wilmington – Rt. 202 at Naaman’s Rd. (Rt. 92)

- Take Beaver Valley Rd. west till it intersects Creek Rd. (You’ll see the Brandywine Creek)
- Turn right onto Creek Rd, make a left onto Smith’s Bridge Rd. and go through covered bridge.
- Continue on Smith’s Bridge Rd. to Rt. 100 (also called Montchanin Rd.)
- Turn left onto Rt. 100 for 5/10 mile.
- Look for entrance to the estate on your left (see white picket fence, Private Drive sign and small pond.) There should be a Delaware Nature Society Sign or Camp Sign at the entrance.

Girl Scout Country Center: 1051 Sharpless Road, Hockessin, DE

From Hockessin: Take Yorklyn Road and turn right on Old Wilmington Road. Turn left on Sharpless Road. Look for the gated entrance to Country Center on the right.

From Ashland Nature Center: Exit Ashland parking lot. Go left through covered bridge. Left onto Rt. 82 (briefly) Next left onto Sharpless Rd. Look for gated entrance to Country Center on left.