

camp woodend

BY NATURE FORWARD

**2025 Nature
Summer Camps**
For Grades K-9

Camp Catalog • Registration begins January 23, 2025



Woodend Nature Sanctuary, Chevy Chase, MD



nature forward
Connecting people and nature in the Capital Region

natureforward.org

Chevy Chase Camps (Woodend Sanctuary)

Two-week sessions include a different theme each week.

	Session 1 June 16-20	Session 2 June 23-July 3	Session 3 July 7-11	Session 4 July 14-25	Session 5 July 28- August 1	Session 6 August 4-15
	No camp 6/19	No camp 7/4				
K	Creature Feature	Dino Soar & Forest Friends	Backyard Birds	Animal Babies & Meta Morphs	Woodend Wildlife	Where the Wild Things Roam & Nature Explorers
Grades 1-2	Science Sleuths	Water Works & Wild at Heart	Eco Explorers	Prehistoric Prowlers & Nature and the Imagination	Maryland Mammals	Nature Detectives & Carnivore Camp
Grades 1-2	Cold Blooded Creatures	Fiesta de Plantas & Extreme Animals	Wildly Crafty	Secrets of the Forest & Sensational Science	Young Astronomers	Fairytales Forest & Habitat Hikers
Grades 3-4	All About Birds	Nighttime Flyers & Scavenger Scheme	Animal Clues	STEAM Team & Woodend Rangers	Talons and Teeth	Science Wizards & Rock Creek Critters
Grades 3-4	Mythical Creatures	Fearsome Foes & Micro Worlds	Deep Sea Discovery	Fossil Hunters & Radical Reptiles	Bat Camp	Aquatic Odyssey & Nature Investigators
Grades 5-6	Rock Creek Rescue	Outdoor Skills & Farm to Table	Maryland Rocks!	Woodend Field Scientists & Animal Keepers	Space Explorers	Prehistoric Planet & Outdoor Adventures
	Week 1 June 16- 20	Week 2 June 23-27	Week 3 June 30- July 3	Week 4 July 7-11	Week 5 July 14- 18	Week 6 July 21- 25
Grades 5-6		Caverns & Legends			Bay Quest	Camping 2.0
Grades 7-9	Green Team	Aquatic Adventures	Beginning Backpacking	Outdoor Explorers	Advanced Bay Quest	Nature Photography
Grades 9-11	TNT Session 1		TNT Session 2		TNT Session 3	

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A Day at Camp Woodend

Here's what your camper may do on a typical day at Camp Woodend! Activities vary from day to day and according to each camp's theme. Two-week sessions include two camp themes.

Sample Camp: Cold Blooded Creatures

Theme: What are reptiles and amphibians? What is the difference between them versus other animals?

- **8:45** Drop Off
- **9:15** Camp Gaggle (All campers gather for a morning meeting)
- **9:30** Morning Circle: What is an amphibian? Learn characteristics common to all amphibians
- **9:45** Hike: Scavenger hunt for amphibians. Identify native amphibians
- **10:30** Snack and Story
- **10:45** Craft: Design and build your own reptile out of recycled materials
- **11:15** Outdoor Exploration: Roll logs and look for salamanders
- **12:00** Lunch and Free Play
- **1:00** Afternoon Circle: Discuss these semi-aquatic creatures and their adaptations for survival
- **1:30** Outdoor Exploration: Ponding! Get the nets and boots as we look for frogs
- **2:30** Game: Camouflage in the forest
- **3:15** Closing Circle: Wrap up and review
- **3:30** Pack up and get ready for pickup at 3:45

A Day of Traveling at Camp Woodend

Sample Camp: Outdoor Adventures

Theme: Learning local natural history through outdoor activities

- **8:45** Drop Off
- **9:15** Camp Gaggle (All campers gather for a morning meeting)
- **9:30** Morning Circle: Discuss today's destination: Sugarloaf Mountain
- **9:45** Travel to Sugarloaf Mountain
- **10:30-2:00** Nature hike, lunch, and games
- **3:00** Return to Woodend
- **3:15** Reflections and Nature Journals
- **3:30** Game: Capture the Flag
- **3:45** Pick Up



Birthday Parties at Woodend

Explore Woodend Nature Sanctuary with a naturalist for nature-themed activities and games all outdoors!

Learn more at natureforward.org/birthday-parties

ENJOY THE WONDERS OF WOODEND

Days Off & Spring Break Camps

MCPS Spring Break Camp Grades K-5

Monday, April 14-Thursday, April 17, 2025
8:45 am – 3:00 pm
Members \$395; nonmembers \$455
Extended camp available until 5:00 pm for \$130

Days Off Camps (Grades K-5)

Wednesday, January 29
Monday, March 31
8:45 am – 5:00 pm
Members \$135 per day, nonmembers \$155 per day
Join us for outdoor adventures and nature exploration. Activities may include catching frogs in the pond, learning about pollinators in the meadow, games, and building forts. Come prepared to get dirty and have fun!



SCAN TO REGISTER

Questions? Email brenna.houck@natureforward.org
Register at natureforward.org/day-off-camps



Discovery Camp (K in Fall 2025)

8:45 am–2 pm

Your camper must be entering Kindergarten
in Fall 2025 & toilet-trained to attend.

Extended Camp available until 3:45 pm (see page 13 for details)

Creature Feature

**One Week Session: June 16–20. No camp 6/19
Members \$320; nonmembers \$405**

What strange creatures roam the Woodend Sanctuary? Come explore with us as we learn about the variety of animals that populate Woodend's dense combination of habitats. Together, we'll discuss the adaptations that lead these creatures to be so different. From frogs to hawks to grasshoppers to turtles, there's a world to discover!

Dino Soar & Forest Friends

**Two Week Session: June 23–July 3
No camp July 4**

Members \$720; nonmembers \$890

We're going back in time to when dinosaurs roamed the earth! Bones, fossils, ferns, and gigantic animals will surround us as we investigate the world's pre-historic life forms. We'll even learn to identify some common dinosaurs by their tricky names.

Come learn all about our animal friends who live in the forest! From foxes to worms, we'll learn why animals live in forests, what they find to eat, and how they build their homes.

Backyard Birds

**One Week Session:
July 7–11**

**Members \$400;
nonmembers \$485**

Robins, cardinals, chickadees, and woodpeckers are just some of the amazing birds that we'll be talking about (and seeing!) in this camp. We'll learn about what makes a bird a bird and observe local birds in their native habitats.



Animal Babies & Meta Morphs

**Two Week Session: July 14–25
Members \$800; nonmembers \$970**

Animal babies are amazing! Some are cute and cuddly while others are scruffy and slimy. We will explore how different animal babies grow and change, how they communicate, and how their parents protect and teach them.

Tadpoles to frogs? Caterpillars to butterflies? Saplings to oaks? How do they do it? Join us and find out as we explore the wild world of natural life cycles. Campers will learn and discuss these cycles by reading stories, playing games, and catching these crazy creatures!

New

Woodend Wildlife

**One Week Session: July 28–August 1
Members \$400; nonmembers \$485**

Come learn about the wonderful wildlife that calls Woodend home. We'll talk about insects, frogs, birds, foxes, coyotes and more!

Where the Wild Things Roam & Nature Explorers

**Two Week Session:
August 4–15
Members \$800;
nonmembers \$970**

Our tall forest, green meadows, and cool pond are just teeming with wildlife in the summer! From large bucks to tiny snails, campers will explore the multitudes of critters that make Woodend and Rock Creek their home.

What better way to learn about nature than through hands-on exploration! Join us as we satisfy our curiosity and get our hands dirty looking for slugs, bugs, and more!

Exploration Camp (1st and 2nd Grade in Fall 2025)

8:45 am–3:45 pm

Extended Camp available until 5:00 pm (see page 13 for details)

Science Sleuths

One Week Session: June 16–20. No camp 6/19
Members \$435; nonmembers \$520

Calling all junior scientists! This is a camp full of experiments, creations, and make-believe. We'll test our theories in our own "lab" and then head outside to investigate nature's coolest concoctions from honey to slug slime.

Cold Blooded Creatures

One Week Session: June 16–20. No camp 6/19
Members \$435; nonmembers \$520

Do you love reptiles, amphibians, and fish? Then this is the camp for you! We will focus on how these animals are alike and different, learn about their special needs, and compare them to their prehistoric ancestors.

Water Works & Wild at Heart

Two Week Session:
June 23–July 3
No camp July 4
Members \$975;
nonmembers \$1,145

The water we drink today is the same water the dinosaurs swam in! We'll investigate the many forms water takes as it moves in and around our planet. Expect many wet and wild adventures as we explore our pond, Rock Creek, and all things aquatic.

Have you ever wondered why a dog buries its bone? In this camp we will explore some of our favorite domestic animals and their fascinating behaviors. We will learn about their different needs and see how some of our most beloved pets might still be wild at heart! During our outdoor investigations, we will observe wild animals and compare their needs to their domestic relatives.



Fiesta de Plantas & Extreme Animals

Two Week Session: June 23–July 3
No camp July 4

Members \$975; nonmembers \$1,145

Discover the secret life of plants! Explore how different plants support our Woodend ecosystem. Learn how carnivorous plants, grasses, leaves, mosses, and algae are the base of the food web that sustains life. This camp will teach nature vocabulary in both English and Spanish. No previous experience with Spanish necessary.

Bilingual

Nature is full of wonder, beauty, and unbelievably extreme animals! In this camp we'll learn about the smartest, fastest, and deadliest animals out there and why they have evolved such special traits.

Eco Explorers

One Week Session: July 7–11
Members \$540;
nonmembers \$625

Kids can be environmentalists too! Recycling and composting will all make perfect sense at the end of this camp. We'll make crafts out of recycled materials, get involved in eco-action projects, and learn about how kids can make a difference and help their planet.

Wildly Crafty

One Week Session: July 7–11
Members \$540;
nonmembers \$625

Camp Woodend loves crafts! Unleash your imagination and get creatively crafty using natural objects found at the sanctuary.





Prehistoric Prowlers & Nature and the Imagination

Two Week Session: July 14–25

Members \$1,080; nonmembers \$1,250

Do you know who the prowlers of the Mesozoic era were? Dinosaurs! In this camp we will learn about the different adaptations that made dinosaurs so successful and what we can learn about them through their fossils.

The natural world is a wonderful place to stretch the imagination. Campers will learn to express their creativity and inspirations through drawings, paintings, songs, and movement.

Secrets of the Forest & Sensational Science

Two Week Session: July 14–25

Members \$1,080; nonmembers \$1,250

There's more to a forest than what we see. Discover how trees talk to each other, how birds communicate with deer, and how ants protect plants.

Calling all junior mad scientists! This is a camp full of experiments and creations utilizing our five senses. We'll test our theories in our own "lab" and then head outside to investigate nature's coolest concoctions from honey to slug slime.

New

Maryland Mammals

One Week Session: July 28–August 1

Members \$540; nonmembers \$625

From the mountains to the floodplains, Maryland is home to thousands of mammals. We will learn about their adaptations, habitats, and behaviors. On our own sanctuary, we will track raccoons, look for fox dens, and feed our flying squirrels.

Young Astronomers

One Week Session: July 28–August 1

Members \$540; nonmembers \$625

New

What do you know about the galaxy? Learn all about the stars, moon, and planets and create your own constellations as we explore the wonders of the universe.

Nature Detectives & Carnivore Camp

Two Week Session: August 4–15

Members \$1,080; nonmembers \$1,250

Using all five of our senses, we'll explore our nature sanctuary to determine who lives here. We'll search for clues, make hypotheses, and get our hands dirty as we hunt down the truth about our local wildlife.

Sharpen your senses in this camp on predators and their prey. We will discover who eats whom on our sanctuary and learn what adaptations, from stalking to ambushing, help carnivores find their dinner.

Fairytale Forest & Habitat Hikers

Two Week Session: August 4–15

Members \$1,080; nonmembers \$1,250

New

Embark on a magical journey learning all about the wondrous creatures that dwell in our forests. Along the way, we'll create our own stories and learn all about how nature inspires fairytales and folklore.

Home to an amazing host of plants and animals, Rock Creek Park is a natural wonderland! During our explorations we'll discover how forest, meadow, and pond ecosystems are structured. By observing and interacting with wildlife and native plants, we'll develop our understanding of ecology and interrelationships.



Investigation Camp (3rd and 4th Grade in Fall 2025)

8:45 am–3:45 pm

Extended Camp available until 5:00 pm (see page 13 for details)

All About Birds

One Week Session: June 16–20. No camp 6/19
Members \$435; nonmembers \$520

Take your bird knowledge to the next level! We will learn about the most common birds in our area, how to ID birds, and the strategies they use to eat, migrate, and survive.

Mythical Creatures

One Week Session: June 16–20. No camp 6/19.
Members \$435; nonmembers \$520

Why did the dragon develop the ability to breathe fire? We will use outdoor exploration, art, stories, and our imagination to learn about animal adaptations and to develop our very own creative creatures.

Nighttime Flyers & Scavenger Scheme

Two Week Session: June 23–July 3
No camp July 4

Members \$975; nonmembers \$1,145

Get ready to delve deep into caves with bats and fly high in the sky with owls as we discover fun facts about nighttime flyers. We'll learn how bats use echolocation, why moths are attracted to your porch light, and how to track our nocturnal visitors.

What do crabs, vultures, and hyenas have in common? They are all scavengers. Enter the world of scavengers and learn about why they are important for the environment and their strategies to get their food.



Fearsome Foes & Micro Worlds

Two Week Session: June 23–July 3
No camp July 4

Members \$975; nonmembers \$1,145

What's the world's deadliest animal? What's the difference between a venomous snake and a poisonous frog? Come find out the answers to these questions and ask so many more!

Dive into a drop of pond water or a speck of soil and explore the multitudes of life inside. We'll use microscopes and magnifiers to explore the thousands of organisms that can be found in our soil, water, and air.

Animal Clues

One Week Session: July 7–11

Members \$540; nonmembers \$625

While some animals may elude a hopeful observer, they always leave physical signs behind. Follow deer paths, examine plants for wildlife activity, hone listening skills, and practice tracking local fauna in this camp perfect for animal lovers.

Deep Sea Discovery

One Week Session: July 7–11

Members \$540; nonmembers \$625

Leave Camp Woodend behind as we wade into the world of the deep sea! Discover mysterious creatures that specialize in living deep under water and probe for fresh water relatives in our pond and Rock Creek.

New



STEAM Team & Woodend Rangers

Two Week Session: July 14–25

Members \$1,080; nonmembers \$1,250

Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, and Math will be what this camp is all about. We'll do experiments, construct daring designs, and discover art in nature. Get ready to think, build, and test your critical thinking skills!

Do you seek adventure? Discovery?
To uncover the mysteries of the forest?

New

Then join us to explore the wilds of Woodend and Rock Creek. With counselor guidance, campers will lead exciting expeditions through the forest in the search of knowledge. Together, we will survey, map, discover, and communicate the mysteries of the wild spaces around us.

Fossil Hunters & Radical Reptiles

Two Week Session: July 14–25

Members \$1,080; nonmembers \$1,250

Join us as we learn about fossils, the creatures that made them, and why they are so important. We'll go fossil hunting and make our own fossils to take home.

Komodo Dragons, Timber Rattlesnakes, and sea turtles are just a few examples of wildly cool reptiles and their cousins, the amphibians. We will focus on how these animals are alike and different, learn about their special needs, and compare them to their prehistoric ancestors.

Talons and Teeth

One Week Session: July 28–August 1

Members \$540; nonmembers \$625

Believe it or not, Maryland is home to many predators including foxes, hawks, bobcats, bears, coyotes, snakes, and more! In this exciting camp, we'll discover how these creatures find and hunt their prey, the important role predators play in the food web, and how to find and track them.

Bat Camp

One Week Session: July 28–August 1

Members \$540; nonmembers \$625

Get ready to delve deep into caves and fly high in the sky as we discover fun facts about bats. Did you know there are 1,000 varieties of these fantastic flyers? Join us on our journey as we travel to bat habitats worldwide including our own backyards.

Science Wizards & Rock Creek Critters

Two Week Session: August 4–15

Members \$1,080; nonmembers \$1,250

Erupting volcanoes, oozing slime, and dancing bubbles – we'll learn the science behind these magical reactions in this camp full of experiments and explosions. We'll test our concoctions in our own "lab" and then head outside to discover the powerful forces of nature all around us.

What kind of critters live in creeks? And how do they survive there? We will answer these questions and many more while getting wet and muddy exploring Rock Creek. We'll even have a look at some of these small critters under a microscope.

Aquatic Odyssey & Nature Investigators

Two Week Session: August 4–15

Members \$1,080; nonmembers \$1,250

Did you know that water is the basis for all life on earth? In this investigative camp, campers submerge themselves in the water cycle, aquatic ecosystems, and aquatic plants and animals. Then we will really get our hands wet as we explore our local pond and streams!

Join the ranks of forensic investigators as we learn about the science of evidence collecting and interpretation by following clues to solve natural and human mysteries. We'll learn about animal tracks, trace "clues" that are left behind, and use our senses to sniff out even the faintest of mysteries.

New



Pre-Teen Camps (5th–6th Grade in Fall 2025)

8:45 am–3:45 pm

Extended Camp available until 5:00 pm (see page 13 for details)

Rock Creek Rescue

One Week Session: June 16–20. No camp 6/19
Members \$450; nonmembers \$535

Day camp at Woodend—no traveling
How well do you know your water? Come discover the creek that connects our region while helping it stay healthy. We'll conduct macro-invertebrate surveys to find indicator species, do chemical testing in the water, and improve the stream's health. Learn how Rock Creek helps you while returning the favor!

Outdoor Skills & Farm to Table

Two Week Session: June 23–July 3
No camp July 4

Members \$1,140; nonmembers \$1,310
Day Camp at Woodend—one day of traveling and one campout night at Woodend
Ever wanted to go camping but felt like you didn't have the skills or knowledge? Learn how to build a fire, pitch a tent, and cook over a campfire. We'll also explore some fun local hiking spots. Then on Thursday night we will put our skills to the test with a campout at Woodend.

Traveling day camp based at Woodend
Dust off those hats and hiking boots for an adventure into the farms of Maryland. Experience a real working farm, pick your own fruits and veggies, meet farm animals, and find out where the food on your table comes from. We will visit local farms and gardens and make some delicious food from our own Children's Garden.



Caverns & Legends

One Week Session: June 30–July 3
No camp July 4

Members \$475; Nonmembers \$560
Day Camp at Woodend—one day of traveling
For centuries, nature and imagination have intertwined, spawning myths and legends such as dragons, fairies, wood nymphs, and even the Loch Ness Monster! Roll some dice and use your imagination to create a fantasy world of your own through nature exploration at Woodend and a trip to Crystal Grottos caverns.

New

Maryland Rocks!

One Week Session: July 7–11
Members \$675; nonmembers \$760

Traveling day camp based at Woodend
Get ready to rock as we survey the geology of our region. We'll go hiking and rock climbing and visit Crystal Grottos caverns and National Museum of Natural History to learn all about rocks, gems, and fossils.

Woodend Field Scientists & Animal Keepers

Two Week Session: July 14–25
Members \$1,195; nonmembers \$1,365

Day camp at Woodend—no traveling
Calling all aspiring naturalists! Come join us in discovering the details of Woodend with Nature Forward's ecological experts. We'll conduct field surveys and learn to identify the plants and animals around us. Impress your friends with new knowledge! From trees to bees, discovery awaits!

New

Traveling day camp based at Woodend
In this animal-filled camp we will learn why people "keep" animals and how our special relationships have evolved through the years. Each day we will meet different animals and learn how to handle them, take care of them, and what makes them so special to the people who love them! We will travel Tuesday-Friday to animal shelters, farms, and the Zoo.





Camp Cuisine

One Week Session: July 21–25

Members \$575; nonmembers \$660

Day camp at Woodend—no traveling

In this camp we will learn about edible wild plants, sustainable farming, and how to care for a garden.

We will plant and pick in the learning garden, as well as visit a local farmer's market to find ingredients for our creations. From the science of soil to the taste of freshly picked basil, this camp will satisfy.

Space Explorers

One Week Session: July 28–August 1

Members \$650; nonmembers \$735

Day camp based at Woodend – two field trips and an optional nighttime hike

Join our galactic odyssey as we trek through the stars and into the unknowns of the universe. Nebulas, supernovas, and extraterrestrial life are just a few celestial wonders to investigate. Along the way we'll visit museums and a planetarium to learn about the depths of space and the human journey to get there.

Bay Quest

One Week Session: July 28–August 1

Members \$750; nonmembers \$835

M-Tu are day camps at Woodend, W-F are overnight days at Echo Hill Outdoor School. We return to Woodend Friday afternoon.

Go boating, fishing, swimming, and crabbing while learning about the importance of the Chesapeake Bay! Our adventure begins at Woodend where we will spend time getting to know our Bay Quest team and investigating our local watershed. Then we'll travel by bus to Echo Hill Outdoor School for a three-day, two-night excursion on the Chester River. This camp is a great introduction to the overnight camp experience.

Prehistoric Planet & Outdoor Adventures

Two Week Session: August 4–15

Members \$1,195; nonmembers \$1,365

Day camp based at Woodend—one day travel

Journey to the Jurassic as we uncover a world where birds were just taking flight, ancient ferns and fauna flourished, and dinosaurs roamed the earth. We'll learn all about this ancient world and the species that inhabited it millions of years in the past.

New

Traveling day camp based at Woodend

This classic camp highlights some of the best outdoor activities in our area. Climb to the summit of Sugarloaf Mountain, learn about bay critters at a Research Center, and be challenged by a ropes course. All along the way, we'll hone our natural history skills.

Camping 2.0

One Week Session: August 11–15

Members \$650; nonmembers \$735

Day Camp at Woodend—one overnight campout at a state park

Looking for a fun adventure and to take your camping skills to the next level? Then join us in this new camp! We'll spend the first part of the week learning how to cook over a camp stove, build a campfire, and how to stay safe on the trail. Then we'll leave Thursday morning for a one-night campout in a Maryland state park.

New



Teen Camps (7th–9th Grade in Fall 2025)

8:45 am–3:45 pm
No Extended Camp available

Green Team

One Week Session: June 16–20. No camp 6/19
Members \$515; nonmembers \$600

Day camp based at Woodend—one day travel
Learn what it means to be green and earn SSL hours! We will tour a recycling facility, work on restoration projects at Woodend Sanctuary, identify and remove invasive species, and investigate local environmental policy issues.

Aquatic Adventures

One Week Session: June 23–27
Members \$675; Nonmembers \$760

New

Traveling day camp based at Woodend
Splash into adventure! In this exciting new camp we'll seek out fun interactions with our aquatic ecosystems. We'll go kayaking, explore life above and below the surface, and learn all about the health of the bay and our local waterways. All participants must know how to swim prior to the start of this camp.

Beginning Backpacking

One Week Session: July 7–11
Members \$700; nonmembers \$785

Traveling day camp based at Woodend
Have you always wanted to try backpacking? Well now's your chance! We will spend Monday and Tuesday at the Sanctuary learning how to pack our gear and mapping our route. We will leave on Wednesday for a three-day, two-night trip where we will cover roughly 24 miles of the Appalachian Trail. Hiking boots (with ankle support) and a backpacking pack are required.

Outdoor Explorers

One Week Session: July 14–18
Members \$675; nonmembers \$760

Traveling day camp based at Woodend
Join us in checking out some of the best outdoor activities in the DC region! We'll hike at local state parks, challenge ourselves at a ropes course, and bike around the monuments. Along the way, we'll learn about local plants and animals and play team building games.

Advanced Bay Quest

One Week Session: July 28–August 1
Members \$875; nonmembers \$960

M-F are overnight days at Echo Hill Outdoor School. We return to Woodend Friday afternoon.

Explore undisturbed marshes and hike sandy beaches, meadows, and forests! Sleep in cabins, swim, fish, crab, and build campfires. Our trip meets at Woodend and then we will travel by bus to Echo Hill Outdoor School for a five-day, four-night wilderness adventure.

Nature Photography

One Week Session: August 4–8
Members \$675; nonmembers \$760

Traveling day camp based at Woodend
Can you capture the essence of a Tiger Swallowtail or the beauty of a wildflower? Come give it a try in this camp all about photographing the wonders of nature. We will travel to different local nature preserves and explore their natural flora and fauna. Please bring your own camera.



Camp Woodend Values

Nature Forward is committed to creating a larger and more diverse community of people who treasure the natural world and work to preserve it. We believe that inclusion, diversity, equity, and accessibility are essential to that mission. Nature Forward is committed to ensuring that every person is welcome, safe, and treated with respect in all of our spaces and programs. All representatives of Nature Forward, visitors, and program participants will act with kindness and respect in their dealings with people of all identities and backgrounds.

Every child deserves to enjoy a safe and welcoming environment at camp. Children are expected to follow the 5 Camp Woodend Rules: Be Safe, Be Responsible, Be Respectful, Be Kind, and Have Fun. This includes interacting respectfully with people from cultures or belief systems different from their own and refraining from bullying or intimidation.

Inappropriate or unsafe behavior, as determined by the camp staff or Director, may result in any or all of the following actions:

- Camper will be given a reminder of the rules and redirected towards more appropriate behavior.
- Camper will be given reasonable choices to modify behavior.
- Camper will take a supervised “cooling off” period away from the group.
- The camp director or the assistant camp director will meet with the child.
- Parental notification.
- Partial or total suspension of the child from camp.

Scholarship Information

Full and partial scholarships are available for campers who qualify for Free and Reduced price Meals (FARMS) or who are referred through a school counselor. All scholarships are funded through generous grant and camp registration donations. Please contact the Camp Director at brenna.houck@natureforward.org for more information. You may donate to our scholarship program through the camp registration process.

Extended Camp

Extended camp is open to all campers Grade K through 6. Extended camp provides participants with a fun, relaxing end to their vigorous day at summer camp. Activities include crafts, outdoor games, quiet time for books, and cards. We provide a snack of goldfish crackers as well. Sign up when registering for camp and make sure to pick both weeks if you are signing up for a two-week session for Grades 1-6. Extended camp spots are limited and we cannot guarantee a spot. Extended camp for K camps only runs until 3:45 pm. Due to licensing regulations and space, we can't offer an extended camp option until 5:00 pm for K campers.

K (2:00-3:45 pm)

Session 1: \$108
Session 2: \$243
Session 3: \$135
Session 4: \$270
Session 5: \$135
Session 6: \$270

1st-6th (3:45-5:00 pm)

Week 1: \$108
Week 2: \$135
Week 3: \$108
Week 4: \$135
Week 5: \$135
Week 6: \$135
Week 7: \$135
Week 8: \$135
Week 9: \$135

General Information

Nature Forward summer camps are designed to foster environmental awareness and expand natural and cultural knowledge. Woodend is a 40-acre oasis in the middle of Chevy Chase, MD. Bordering Rock Creek Park, the sanctuary contains mature woods and meadows, a pond, and an intermittent stream that provide habitat for many birds, insects, and mammals. Open lawns provide activity space, and well-maintained nature trails permit safe nature exploration. All camps are taught by experienced environmental educators, maintaining a child-teacher ratio of 8-1.

Registration Information

Online registration opens Thursday, January 23, 2025 at 10 am. You can become a Nature Forward member when you register for camp on January 23. Simply pick the member rate and add a \$65 family membership to your cart. Nature Forward members receive special pricing.

TO REGISTER:

- Go to www.natureforward.org/summer-camps
- Click on the blue Register button and follow the prompts.
- You will have the option to renew your membership. **Membership fees are nonrefundable.**
- In an effort to reduce the number of forms parents must bring to check-in, we are including most forms as waivers in the registration process. Some waivers, such as sunscreen or transportation, may not necessarily apply to your camper due to age, but you must agree to all waivers to register. If you have any concerns, please email brenna.houck@natureforward.org after you complete your registration.

Wellness and Covid

The health and safety of our campers is our top priority. By the start of camp, your camper must be up to date on the vaccinations required by public schools. Camp Woodend follows MCPS policies and CDC guidelines for masking, isolation, testing, and other recommendations. Protocols are subject to change throughout the summer.

Note: Children who do not attend a US school will need an immunization certificate by the start date of their camp. A copy of a school immunization record or one from your child's doctor will suffice.

Drop off window will run from 8:45-9:15 am and pick up window will run 3:45-4:10 pm.

Need Help or Have Questions?

- **For questions about your registration, including payment information, waitlist status, and refunds please email pam.oves@natureforward.org.**
- Camp Woodend is committed to providing the best possible camp experience for your child. For questions about the summer camp program, including camp-specific inquiries, accommodations for special needs, medical issues, and scholarship information, email Brenna Houck (Hazelnut), the Camp Director, at brenna.houck@natureforward.org. Please don't hesitate to email before registration begins.

Payment and Confirmation Information

- Full payment with a credit card is due at the time of registration.
- Membership fees, registration fees (\$5 per camp), and scholarship donations are non-refundable.
- You may register for a maximum of five weeks. Two-week sessions will not be pro-rated for one-week attendance.
- You may not enroll a non-family member/child's friend under your account.
- No prorated rates are available.
- Full and partial scholarships are available. Email brenna.houck@natureforward.org for more info.
- All camps have a five minute grace period and \$1/minute/child late fee thereafter for pick-up after 4:10 pm or 5 pm for Extended Camp grades 1-6.

WAITLISTS

Nature Forward provides a waitlist for full camps. **Waitlists are free.** If a spot opens up in a camp, we will contact you and you will have 48 hours to decline or accept the spot. If the spot is accepted, payment must be made in 48 hours or the spot is forfeited.

NOTE: There is always a chance that spots will open up in a camp, so we encourage anyone who has some flexibility in their schedule to join the waitlist. We have no way of predicting which camps will have space open up, but in our experience, many camps have at least one cancellation. Due to the number of children registered for waitlisted camps, we will only contact you if space becomes available.

Your child cannot be enrolled in one session and waitlisted for the other concurrent session unless you want to pay the applicable cancellation fees if a spot opens up.

CONFIRMATION PACKETS

Your initial confirmation after you register online will come by email. We will **email** final confirmations including camp policies and carpool lists approximately 2 weeks prior to the start date for camps. **If you don't receive a confirmation email a few weeks before your child's camp begins, contact pam.oves@natureforward.org. **Health forms must be completed one month before camp begins.****

REFUND POLICY BEFORE CLOSE OF BUSINESS APRIL 18, 2025

Your tuition is fully refundable less a \$50 cancellation fee per week (\$100 per two-week session), provided that you submit your cancellation request in writing to pam.oves@natureforward.org.

REFUND POLICY AFTER APRIL 18, 2025

Cancellations must be made in writing at least 10 working days before the first day of the camp in which your child is registered, in order to be eligible for a 50% refund less a \$50 cancellation fee per week (\$100 per two-week session). You may email your cancellation to pam.oves@natureforward.org.

If Nature Forward cancels all or part of your child's program for any reason, you will receive a full refund for the missed days minus the \$5 registration fee, membership fees, and any scholarship donations.

There will be no refunds for cancellations made fewer than 10 business days before the camp's start date. There are no refunds for missed days of camp.



nature forward

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Teen Naturalist Training (TNT) Program (9th/10th/11th Grade in Fall 2025)

8:30 am–4 pm

- **Session 1: June 16–July 3 (\$480 members/\$650 nonmembers)**
No camp June 19 or July 4
- **Session 2: July 7–25 (\$555 members/\$725 nonmembers)**
- **Session 3: July 28–August 15 (\$555 members/\$725 nonmembers)**

Teen Naturalist Training (TNT) Program

If you like getting muddy, singing camp songs, and teaching campers how to hold a frog, then we have the program for you - our teen naturalist training program! TNTs will be assigned to one camp each week where they will assist the teacher with games, crafts and hikes. TNTs can earn up to 105 SSL hours per session (91 hours for Session 1). TNTs may sign up for a second session if spaces are available.

Application is currently open at <https://forms.office.com/r/00ZNcvTMKw>. Applications will be accepted through March 5, 2025 on a rolling basis. Once accepted, TNTs will register and pay through the camp registration system. Note: Acceptance into the TNT program is dependent on an interview at the Camp Director's discretion.