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HUNT HILL BACKGROUND

WHAT IS HUNT HILL?
Hunt Hill is a nature preserve and learning center, open to all, dedicated to fostering understanding, appreciation, and protection of the environment. Hunt Hill protects nearly 600 acres of land including forest, prairie, bog, and glacial lake habitats. The property is open to the public to hike the 13 miles of trails, play in the nature playscape, or picnic on the grounds at no cost. Hunt Hill Audubon Sanctuary offers programs for all ages including field trips, day camps, overnight camps, hiking, and canoeing programs.

WHERE IS HUNT HILL?
Hunt Hill is located in Northwestern Wisconsin in the town of Sarona. It is less than 20 miles from Spooner, Rice Lake, Haugen, Shell Lake, and Birchwood. It is about midway between Eau Claire and Superior and about 100 miles Northeast of the Twin Cities.

WHEN WAS HUNT HILL ESTABLISHED?
In the early 1900s, the Andrews family bought this land for a family retreat. They named it Hunt Hill after the wife's family name. In 1954, the sole heir, Frances Andrews (left), donated the land to the National Audubon Society to become a sanctuary and Audubon Camp. The National Audubon Camp ran for many years until it was closed for financial reasons in 1986. Many of the same buildings from the original camp remain onsite and are still used today.

HOW IS HUNT HILL RUN NOW?
In 1989, the Friends of Hunt Hill Audubon Sanctuary (FOHHAS) was established to run the sanctuary as a non-profit with a no-cost lease from National Audubon. In 2017, National Audubon turned full ownership over to FOHHAS. The sanctuary is funded through donations, memberships, grants, program income, and fundraisers.

For more information about Hunt Hill, visit www.hunthill.org.
**MEET THE STAFF**

**WHO WILL BE MY MAIN CONTACT?**

Sage Dunham will be your main contact for everything related to school field trips. She will work with you to schedule the date of your field trip, establish a contract and schedule, and answer any questions that you have. At the field trip, you’ll see her leading the welcome circle, teaching, lifeguarding, and helping as needed at each field trip. Sage has a Masters in Elementary Education and a STEM certificate from St. Catherine University. She has aligned each of the lessons in this packet to state standards and can work with you to adapt lessons to meet your specific learning targets.

**WHO BELONGS TO HUNT HILL’S CORE STAFF?**

Hunt Hill has a small core staff who work hard to ensure you have a great experience at the sanctuary. Below are the photos of the rest of our core staff members.

- **Nikki Janisin**
  - Executive Director

- **Sally Bartz**
  - Office Manager

- **Marissa Ginger**
  - Program Coordinator

- **Mark Sauer**
  - Head of Maintenance

- **Larry Piskie**
  - Assist. Maintenance

**WHO ARE THE ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATORS?**

Hunt Hill Environmental Educators (EEs) are people from the community who lead our lessons. Our EEs love working with children and have a passion for teaching people about the environment. Many EEs are retired professionals with background and experience in education and/or natural resources. In advance of field trips, the EEs are trained in basic group management, emergency procedures, and how to lead lessons.

For more information about our staff and full staff bios, please visit [www.hunthill.org/about-hunt-hill/staff/](http://www.hunthill.org/about-hunt-hill/staff/).
PLANNING CHECKLIST

Please use this checklist to help determine your next steps for planning a field trip to Hunt Hill Audubon Sanctuary!

UP TO ONE YEAR IN ADVANCE

☐ Get permission from your school district & learning team.

☐ Contact the Group Coordinator at Hunt Hill Audubon Sanctuary to:
  • Create a field trip contract.
  • Choose the date of the field trip.
  • Plan the schedule.
  • Share any special accommodations that students need.

AT LEAST A MONTH IN ADVANCE

☐ Request transportation with the school district.

☐ Request a check from the school district.

☐ Schedule chaperones.

☐ Send out permission slips.

THE WEEK BEFORE THE FIELD TRIP

☐ Send home letters to students & chaperones (included in packet).

☐ Remind students to dress for the weather & to pack a lunch.

THE DAY OF THE FIELD TRIP

☐ Bring a check on the day of the trip (unless mailed in advance).

☐ Give each student a name tag to wear.

☐ Double-check to ensure all students have a lunch.

☐ Split students and chaperones into small groups.

☐ Have a super fun field trip!
Dear Students and Families,

We are so excited for your upcoming field trip to Hunt Hill Audubon Sanctuary for a day of outdoor learning and fun! We hope you will have a great time!

Here are your field trip details:

- Field Trip Date: ________________________________
- Leave School: ________________________________
- Return to School: ________________________________

Want to learn more about Hunt Hill before your field trip? Visit www.hunthill.org!

Here's what you need to wear or bring with you on the day of the field trip:

- Warm layers
- Shoes you can run in
- Clothes that can get dirty
- Hat/sunglasses (optional)
- Water bottle
- Packed lunch
- Sunscreen
- Bug spray (optional)
Dear Chaperones,

Thank you for volunteering to chaperone a day of outdoor learning and fun at Hunt Hill Audubon Sanctuary! We are thankful for your help.

Here are the field trip details for your reference:

**Field Trip Date:** ___________________________________________________________

**Leave School:** ___________________________________________________________

**Return to School:** _______________________________________________________

You have the important role of managing your group of students while they are at Hunt Hill so the environmental educators can teach and lead activities. An effective chaperone...

- Supervises students to ensure they are safe and respectful.
- Manages any disruptive or negative student behaviors.
- Enthusiastically participates in activities with the students.

As a nature sanctuary with nearly 600 acres of property, we have two overarching expectations to help keep the sanctuary a safe and positive place to be. The students will be introduced to these rules during the Welcome Circle:

- **Be Respectful**
  - Of people by listening to one another and by being gentle.
  - Of nature by not picking plants or hurting animals.
  - Of property by leaving the place as clean as you found it.
- **Stay With Your Group** by staying in sight of your chaperone.

You have the chance to make a difference in these students' lives! If you're present and engaged in the activities, the students will be too. Please refrain from using your cell phone or having side conversations with other chaperones during the field trip. You and the students will be glad you did.

Here's what you need to wear or bring with you on the day of the field trip:

- Warm layers
- Comfortable shoes
- Water bottle
- Packed lunch
- Sunscreen
- Bug spray (optional)
- Backpack
- Hat (optional)
RULES & EXPECTATIONS

Field trips are most successful when everyone knows what to expect. Below you will find our expectations for schools and what schools can expect of the staff at Hunt Hill.

HUNT HILL EXPECTATIONS

#1. Show respect for people, nature, and property.
   Hunt Hill is a sanctuary, or safe place, for all living things. This is their home. Please show respect by not harming, picking, or taking home any plants or animals.

#2. Stay with your group.
   There are about 600 acres of Hunt Hill property. It is important to stay with your group in order to stay safe and not get lost.

WE EXPECT SCHOOL GROUPS TO...

- Follow our two overarching expectations above.
- Follow all safety instructions.
- Split students into small groups.
- Provide at least one adult per group who can be responsible for managing any student behaviors.
- Have all participants, even chaperones, engaged in learning activities. Please avoid having side conversations or using your cell phones during activities.
- Provide your own bagged lunches.
- Arrive prepared with all of the items on the student packing list (included in the student letter).
- Complete a short survey at the end of each field trip, providing feedback so we can improve.

YOU CAN EXPECT HUNT HILL EDUCATORS TO...

- Follow our two overarching expectations above.
- Ensure that everyone learns & follows any safety instructions.
- Carry a first aid kit and provide basic first aid if necessary.
- Have emergency equipment including Epi-Pen & AED stocked & ready in main camp.
- Stay engaged in teaching & leading activities.
- Try our best to involve every student to their full capability.
- Provide chaperones with schedules and evaluation forms.
We value the health and safety of all participants. We plan ahead to ensure that no one is put at undue risk, and we have emergency action plans in the unlikely event an emergency occurs.

**INJURY & RISK PREVENTION**

While no outdoor activities are without risk, Hunt Hill takes many precautions to reduce the risk of serious injury or illness. During watercraft activities all participants wear personal flotation devices and are supervised by a certified lifeguard.

**SIMPLE FIRST AID**

All educators carry a simple first aid kit, which includes gloves, hand sanitizer, bandages, instant ice packs, gauze pads, and gauze rolls.

**LIFE-THREATENING EMERGENCIES**

A certified Emergency Medical Responder is onsite in case of life-threatening emergencies. Educators carry a radio to contact the EMR and activate emergency procedures. The EMR has equipment including an AED and a stock Epi-Pen.

**WEATHER-RELATED EMERGENCIES**

There is a weather radio in the office to warn about inclement weather in advance. All activities will move inside if thunder is heard. Activities will remain inside for at least 30 minutes after the last sound of thunder. In case of a tornado, participants will move to the lowest level of the Recreation Hall or Office Building.

**TICK-BOURNE DISEASES**

Ticks are common at Hunt Hill, some of which may carry diseases such as Lyme Disease. Luckily, it typically takes 36 hours for ticks to transmit disease. Educators will remind students to check themselves for ticks after being in a high tick area. Students are encouraged to wear bug spray and tuck their pants into their socks whenever possible.
Our hands-on, interactive activities are best suited for small groups of 8-15 students. This example is for a class of 23 students split into two groups of 11-12 students. We can accommodate up to 8 groups or a total of 120 students per day.

**EXAMPLE SCHEDULE**

A typical field trip lasts about five hours, usually 9:30 am-2:30 pm. Start & end times are flexible.

Students rotate through different stations with their groups. The activity blocks are typically one hour long.

The Welcome Circle helps students get oriented to the place and learn about the rules.

Everyone eats their lunch outside unless it's raining. Don't forget to bring a bagged lunch!

At the Closing Circle, students reflect on their day and share what they learned.

This schedule is just an example of what a typical field trip looks like. You know your students best, so you have control over the schedule. You can add or subtract activities as needed.
Choose whether you would like our Hunt Hill Environmental Educators or your own educators to lead the activities. All field trip options include a brief orientation, use of the restrooms, a back-up rain location (if needed), and use of the reusable outdoor materials.

### Field Trips Fees

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Field Trip Type</th>
<th>Price</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Full day field trip</strong> (up to 6 hours) Minimum: 12 students or $108</td>
<td>$9/student/day</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Half day field trip</strong> (up to 3 hours) Minimum: 12 students or $54</td>
<td>$4.50/student/half-day</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Independent field trip</strong> (your educators lead) Includes the use of any reusable Hunt Hill materials such as activity bins, butterfly nets, magnifying glasses, etc.</td>
<td>$3/student/day</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Hunt Hill Educator</strong> You can hire an educator to lead an activity for your independent field trip.</td>
<td>$90/educator/day $45/educator/half-day</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Additional Fees

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Service or Item</th>
<th>Price</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Lifeguard</strong> (Required for students using watercraft.)</td>
<td>$15/lifeguard/hour</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Owl Pellets</strong> (Required for owl pellets activity. Pellets can be shared between two students, if desired.)</td>
<td>$3/owl pellet</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Call or email the Group Coordinator at 715-635-6543 or contract@hunthill.org to select your field trip date. Once you have your date reserved, you will receive an email with your contract to confirm your reservation. Your contract will look like the image below.

Sign digitally at the bottom of the contract and save it to confirm your date.

Payment is required by the start of the field trip. The following are ways you may pay:

- Mail a check to Hunt Hill Audubon Sanctuary, N2384 Hunt Hill Rd, Sarona, WI 54870.
- Pay via credit card online or over the phone.
- Bring cash or check to the office on the morning of the field trip.
FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

How many chaperones should I bring?
You must bring at least one responsible adult per group of 8-15 students. You may bring more than one adult per group if you think that would be beneficial for your students. Field trips run best with small numbers of excellent chaperones who are able to stay focused on the needs of the students and enthusiastically participate in activities with the students.

Do I have to stick to the activities for my grade level?
No, you don't have to stick to your grade's activities. You may request activities from other grade levels. However, if other classes at your school also come to Hunt Hill, check with them first to make sure you're not overlapping activities.

Can I change the schedule?
Absolutely! We can work together to create a schedule that works best for you. Most groups arrive between 9:00 and 9:30 am and depart between 2:00 and 2:30 pm. We can add, remove, or adjust activities to fit the time you have available. We can even add in a choice time or a play time!

What happens in case of inclement weather?
We try to run activities outdoors as long as it is safe to do so. Please ensure your students are dressed for the weather. If the weather does become dangerous or very uncomfortable, we have a rain plan to run modified activities indoors. You may also choose to reschedule to a future date, if dates are available.

Will my students who need accommodations be able to participate in activities?
We will try our hardest to make reasonable accommodations for students. Please inform us of any needs you have, and we will work with you to find solutions. If your students have an aide in the classroom, we encourage you to bring the aide on the field trip to help the students be successful.

What if my school district cannot afford to pay for a field trip?
Hunt Hill is dedicated to providing all students with environmental education opportunities. If you cannot afford a field trip let us know, and we can help you find and apply for scholarships and grants or assist you with fundraising.
HUNT HILL TRAIL MAP

For more the full-sized trail map, visit https://hunthill.org/trails/ or pick up a map at the kiosks are Hunt Hill.
HUNT HILL CAMPUS MAP

For more the full-sized trail map, visit https://hunthill.org/trails/ or pick up a map at the kiosks are Hunt Hill.
KINDERGARTEN ACTIVITIES

Essential Question: How do animals change the world around them?

Bee Hives:  
Students will get to peek inside the different types of inactive hives that insects build, learn a little about the purpose and structure of hives, and then work together to build a giant hive!

Bird Nests:  
Students will investigate bird nests in the nature display. Then they will visit the Bluebird Trail and peek inside the bird houses to see some active nests in action! Finally, they will try to engineer their own nests!

Busy Beavers:  
Students will get to work together to dress up a student or chaperone like a beaver to learn about what makes beavers special. Then they will work together to create a functional beaver dam!

Spider Webs:  
Students will play some games to understand how spiders use their webs to catch insects. Then they will check out some real spider webs in nature. Finally, they will work together to create a giant spider web!

Wisconsin Academic Standards:

- SCI.ESS2.E.K: Plants and animals can change their local environment.
- ELS.C1.B.e: Describe and ask questions about patterns in natural environments.
- MATH.K.G.4: Analyze and compare two-dimensional shapes, in different sizes and orientations.

Key:  
- walk < 0.3 mi
- walk > 0.3 mi
- fully accessible
- running games
- Spring
- Summer
- Fall
- Winter
1ST GRADE ACTIVITIES

Essential Question: How do animals' bodies help them survive?

Brilliant Bats:  
Students will find out the truth about some bat myths, take a peek inside a real bat house, and see a real bat skeleton. Then they will play games to learn about bats' fantastic senses like echolocation.

Feathered Friends:  
Students will do a feather investigation using real feathers and measure their own wingspans. Then they will play a game to learn different bird beaks. Finally they will observe some real birds using binoculars.

Incredible Insects:  
Students will study a live Madagascar hissing cockroach to learn about insect bodies and sing a song about their body parts. Then they will use a butterfly net to catch and identify insects in the prairie.

Remarkable Reptiles:  
Students will dress someone as a turtle, then visit our two live education turtles to learn about the adaptations reptiles have. Next they will learn about reptiles that live here and play some reptile games.

Wisconsin Academic Standards:
- SCI.LS1.A.1: All organisms have external parts that they use to perform daily functions.
- SCI.LS1.D.1: Animals sense and communicate information and respond to inputs with behaviors that help them grow and survive.
- ELS.EX5.B.e: Identify how plants and animals are adapted to habitats.

Key:  
- walk < 0.3 mi
- walk > 0.3 mi
- fully accessible
- running games
- Spring
- Summer
- Fall
- Winter
2ND GRADE ACTIVITIES

Essential Question: How do habitats provide what living things need?

Bog Detectives:  
Students will hike down to the bog and learn how a bog is formed. Then they will get their toes wet as they walk on bog mats and check out the unusual plants that live there including two different carnivorous plants!

Forest Detectives:  
Students will learn to identify common Wisconsin trees such as different maples, oaks, and ashes. Then they will do a scavenger hunt to spot animal signs in the forest such as animal holes, tracks, and scat!

Lake Detectives:  
Students will walk down to the lake and get to take their shoes off to wade in the water. They will use nets to scoop up some lake critters like dragonfly nymphs, snails, and tadpoles!

Prairie Detectives:  
Students will explore the prairie to find plants and signs of animals that live there. Next, they will play a pollination game. Finally, the students will play a Hike Bingo game to look for clues as they hike.

Wisconsin Academic Standards:
- **SCI.LS4.D.2:** There are many different kinds of living things in any area, and they exist in different places on land and in water.
- **SCI.LS2.A.2:** Plants depend on water and light to grow. Plants depend on animals for pollination or to move their seeds around.
- **ELS.EX.2.B.e:** Identify species within an ecosystem and describe how the ecosystem provides resources and services necessary for survival.
- **ELS.EX.5.B.e:** Identify how plants and animals are adapted to habitats that provide the food, water, and protection needed for their sustainability.

Key:  
- ♂️ walk < 0.3 mi
- ♂️ walk > 0.3 mi
- ♂️ fully accessible
- ♂️ running games
- ♂️ Spring
- ♂️ Summer
- ♂️ Fall
- ♂️ Winter
3RD GRADE ACTIVITIES

Essential Question: How are animals adapted to their environment?

Camouflage:  Sp Su F W  
Students will try to spot animals hidden in pictures and will discuss the characteristics that help them blend in. Then they will play games to search for hidden objects in the forest and spot their classmates.

Defenses:  Sp Su F W  
Students will learn about the physical and behavioral defenses animals use. They will discover adaptations that help protect prey from predators. Then they will play a fight, flight, or freeze game!

Senses:  Sp Su F W  
Students will explore the five main senses: sight, smell, hearing, smell, and taste. For each sense, students will play games to learn how animals depend on their senses for survival.

Fur & Feathers:  Sp Su F W  
Students will take a closer look at furs and feathers under a magnifying glass to investigate their function. Then they will do an experiment to see what type of body covering keeps animals the warmest.

Wisconsin Academic Standards:
- **SCI.LS4.C.3**: Particular organisms can only survive in particular environments.
- **SCI.LS4.D.3**: Populations of organisms live in a variety of habitats. Change in those habitats affects the organisms living there.
**4TH GRADE ACTIVITIES**

**Essential Question:** How do humans depend on nature to survive?

**Note:** your class may choose to read *Hatchet* by Gary Paulsen in advance of the field trip to add a literature connection.

**Fire Building:** [Sp Su F W]
Students will learn about the basic rules of fire building and what is needed to build a fire. Then they will collect tinder and practice multiple fire starters such as flint and steel, magnesium strikers and friction fires.

**Food in Nature:** [Sp Su F]
Students will learn safety rules regarding edible foods in nature. Then they will collect and sample some easy to identify wild edibles. Finally, they will work as a team to build an example rabbit snare in the woods.

**Shelter Building:** [Sp Su F W]
Students will discuss the hazards related to being outdoors and figure out how a shelter can help reduce hazards. Then they will work in small groups to build debris shelters in the woods.

**Water in Nature:** [Sp Su F]
Students will learn safety rules for collecting clean, potable water and then test out several methods of cleaning water including creating a solar still, capturing water from trees, and creating filters.

**Wisconsin Academic Standards:**
- **SCI.LS1.C.5:** Food provides animals with the materials and energy they need for body repair, growth, warmth, and motion.
- **SCI.ESS3.B.3,4:** A variety of hazards result from natural processes; humans cannot eliminate hazards but can reduce their impacts.
- **ELS.C1.B.i:** Examine how meeting one’s needs for food, water, and shelter can impact natural systems.
- **SCI.PS3.D.4,5:** Stored energy in food or fuel can be converted to usable energy.

**Key:**
- 🧳 walk < 0.3 mi, 🧳 walk > 0.3 mi, 🧳 fully accessible, ⚽ running games
- 🌼 Spring, 🌿 Summer, 🍁 Fall, 🌋 Winter
5TH GRADE ACTIVITIES

Essential Question: How do humans affect animal populations?

Amphibians:   Sp Su F   Students will learn how the characteristics of amphibians make them sensitive to pollutants in the water and land. Then students will catch frogs and salamanders in the woods and identify them.

Earthworms:   Sp Su F   Students will learn how earthworms help speed up the decomposition process by eating detritus. Next, they will see how invasive worms can affect forest ecosystems and survey the worms in the forest habitat.

Macroinvertebrates:   Sp Su F   Students will use nets to catch macroinvertebrates such as dragonfly nymphs and mayfly larva in the lake. Then they will use the data from what they collected to determine the health of the lake ecosystem.

Owls:   Sp Su F W   Students will learn about the food chain of an owl by playing a food chain game. Then they will dissect an owl pellet and identify the bones and animals that are in the owl pellet.

Wisconsin Academic Standards:

- **SCI.ESS3.C.5**: Societal activities have had major effects on the land. Societal activities can also help protect Earth's resources and environments.
- **SCI.LS2.A.5**: The food of almost any animal can be traced back to plants. Organisms are related in food webs in which some animals eat plants for food and other animals eat the animals that eat plants, while decomposers restore some materials back to the soil.
- **SCI.LS2.B.5**: Matter cycles between the air and soil and among organisms as they live and die.

Key:   ⬆ walk < 0.3 mi, ⬇ walk > 0.3 mi,   ⚾ fully accessible,   ⛸ running games

Spring, Summer, Fall, Winter
MIDDLE SCHOOL ACTIVITIES

Essential Question: What activities can I do in nature and how do they affect my health?

Bog Exploration:  
Students will hike down to the bog and walk on the bog mats. They will get to explore the characteristics of the bog, identify plants, and learn about the rich history of bogs including the story of the Tolland Man.

Canoeing:  
Students will learn basic canoe safety, the parts of a canoe and paddle, and the simple forward stroke. Then, under lifeguard supervision, students will paddle with a partner around Hunt Hill's Twin Lakes.

Geocaching:  
Students will learn what a GPS unit is and the basics of how they work. Then students will work with a partner to navigate the main camp area in search of geocaches hidden around camp.

Hiking:  
Students will complete a 1.5-mile hike while learning tips, tricks, and games that keep hiking interesting and enjoyable for all. They will engage their observational skills throughout the hike.

Wisconsin Academic Standards:

- ELS.C1.D.m: Reflect on and critique experiences related to personal wellness, creativity, and academics in indoor and outdoor environments.
- ELS.EX.2.B.m: Analyze the relationships between living (biotic) and non-living (abiotic) parts in an ecosystem and examine the impact of each on the system.

Key:  
- Walk < 0.3 mi
- Walk > 0.3 mi
- Fully accessible
- Running games

Spring, Summer, Fall, Winter