



The Edge of Appalachia Preserve System
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Welcome to Educators' Week!

Educators' Week provides opportunities to gain an understanding of topics related to state academic standards by being immersive in a natural setting and creating a supportive learning environment. By the conclusion of this unique, retreat-like conference, you will come away with a renewed sense of wonder, a feeling of community and kinship and the confidence to share your new knowledge with others.

Hosted by Cincinnati Museum Center's Edge of Appalachia Preserve System and supported by the Miami County Park District, Educators' Week is celebrating its 13th year at its new location: Shawnee State Park which is located in the rugged and rolling foothills of the Appalachian Mountains. Adjacent to the 63,000 acre Shawnee Forest, this area of Southern Ohio is a wonderful example of the Eastern Forest. High quality streams along with a high diversity of plants and animals make it a perfect outdoor learning lab. In addition, on-site facilities will allow people to gather for meals, large group learning sessions and fellowship.

Food and Lodging

Lunch and dinner will be provided by Shawnee Lodge and will be served on a covered deck (weather permitting) just outside of our main gathering room on the lower level of the lodge. Breakfast items will be provided in each cabin and are self-serve.

Snacks and ice will be provided, but you are welcome to bring special drinks or snacks to keep in your cabin. If you would like to bring a homemade pot-luck (carry-in) item for the Wednesday night Relax and Enjoy, you are welcome to do so, but it is not required.

A block of cabins has been reserved so that we can all be together and retain the community atmosphere that is fundamental to the success of Educators' Week. Each cabin has a total of five beds; one room contains a double/queen bed and the other has two sets of bunk beds. There is also a comfortable couch/sofa bed in the common area and a lovely screened in porch allowing for plenty of places to relax or sleep. Each cabin also includes a fully equipped kitchen, outdoor fire ring, and all linens and towels are provided.

Packing List

- Personal supplies: shampoo, toothbrush, toothpaste, soap, etc.
- Clothing + extra socks
- Footwear: depending on the sessions you've chosen you may need: closed-toe shoes for wading in streams, hiking boots/shoes, indoor shoes
- Water bottle (optional = thermal cup for coffee/tea)

- Jacket/sweatshirt
- Rain gear
- Flashlight
- Binoculars
- Small pack for hikes
- Notebook/writing utensils
- Camera
- Medications
- Camp/outdoor chair if desired
- Sense of discovery
- Sense of humor
- Sense of wonder!!

Ticks

Ticks are an ever-present reality in Adams and surrounding counties and are active year-round. Preventative measures can be taken to reduce the number of ticks encountered and the possibility of tick bites. Information from the [Ohio Department of Health](#) and the [CDC](#) includes ways to prevent ticks from attaching and correct removal techniques. There are a number of [topical sprays](#) that can be applied to skin and clothing to repel ticks as well as [factory-treated clothing options](#).

In addition, following these procedures after time spent outdoors are advised:

- Immediately place all clothing worn in the field into the dryer and dry on high for 10-15 minutes.
- Check your body thoroughly for attached ticks. Know the different sizes to look for and use a handheld mirror for hard to see places.
- Remove any attached ticks promptly using tweezers and wash the area well with soap and water.
- Take a shower as soon as you can after returning from your time outside.

Persons visiting the Edge of Appalachia Preserve System and surrounding areas are strongly encouraged to wear long pants, close-toed shoes and take preventative measures against tick bites. Wearing clothing (pants, socks, shoes, and shirt) treated with permethrin and/or applying a topical spray along with staying on the trail, tucking pants into socks and following the above procedures after spending time outdoors is recommended.

College Credit and Contact Hours

Participants will be responsible for keeping track of the sessions that they attend during the week. For those desiring 3 semester hours of graduate credit, sessions hours must total 45. Thirty hours of sessions are needed for 2 semester hours of credit and 15 hours for a single semester hour of credit. Contact hours will be granted according to the number of hours of sessions that are attended.

The schedule will allow everyone to complete the number of hours needed. At the end of the week, a summary of sessions attended will be turned in to the camp staff so that graduate credit and contact hours can be awarded.

Materials

All presenters have been asked to send their materials to the staff. A shared folder of all materials and pictures will be assembled and made available to each participant. Participants may receive hard copies of materials during their session.

Daily Schedule

- Early morning activity (Optional)
- Breakfast (on your own)
- Morning session
- Lunch (as a group)
- Afternoon session
- Break
- Supper (as a group)
- Evening activities

There will be 5 types of sessions:

- Whole group sessions: these will include presentations, activities, and hikes
- Breakout sessions: these will be organized for elementary educators, naturalists, and middle/high school educators.
- Field trips to local areas of interest
- Early morning activities
- Evening adventures

Recycle Your Books and Materials

If you have resources that you no longer need and books that you no longer use, bring them to Ed. Week to share with other participants. We will have a materials recycling table!