



ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION

STAFF CONTACTS

ACY – Shane Vondracek, Environmental Education Director P 920.702.2305 E svondracek@ymcafoxcities.org

SPRING PROGRAM SESSION: APRIL 14 – JUNE 1, 2025

WONDERBUG DISCOVERIES (AGES 18 MONTHS- 3 YEARS WITH PARENT) (ACY)

This parent-child nature discovery program is highly sensory-based involving themed storybooks, songs, hands-on time, and outdoor time with exploratory walks through the Purdy Nature Preserve. Each week will focus on a different theme or topic in nature. A portion of each class will be held outdoors, weather permitting, so dress accordingly!

ECO-KIDS (AGES 3-5 YEARS) (ACY)

Explore the outdoors and watch the changes throughout the seasons while we learn more about the plants and animals found around our YMCA and on the Purdy Preserve. Short hikes and playtime outside will be supplemented with craft and story time indoors. Have your child dressed for the weather as we will be outdoors every week, weather permitting!

OUTRAGEOUS OUTDOORS (AGES 3-5 YEARS) (ACY)

This exciting class gives your child a chance to learn all about the beauty and wonder of the natural world through hands-on activities, games, stories and crafts related to the nature theme of the week, as well as time outdoors exploring nature. Have your child dressed for the weather as much of this class will be held outdoors, weather permitting.

YOUNG EXPLORERS (AGES 3-5 YEARS) (ACY)

Use your senses to discover and investigate the wonderful sounds, colors, shapes, smells and textures of the natural world. Outdoor exploration time will be supplemented by stories, songs, games and crafts, with each week focused on a different topic in nature. Portions of each class will be held outdoors, weather permitting, so dress accordingly!

OUTDOOR EXPLORERS CLUB (AGES 5-10 YEARS) (ACY)

Let the Environmental Education team at the Apple Creek YMCA turn your off-day from school into a full day of exploration and activities related to the outdoors. Join us for hikes, playing in the woods, creative free-time, and more! Pack a nut-free lunch, snacks and appropriate clothing for indoors and outdoors in a backpack and join us for a fun-filled day! Additional information will be sent by email after registration has been completed.

ARCHERY 101- APRIL 28-MAY 19 (AGES 8-14) (ACY)

Learn the basics of archery in this special 4-week class including the "11 steps to becoming a successful archer." Class follows National Archery in Schools Program (NASP) guidelines. All equipment is provided, but experienced students may bring their own bows if they meet the instructor's standards. Class will be held outdoors.

Class name	YMCA	Age	Day	Start	End	Y Member	General Public
Wonderbug Discoveries	ACY	18 months-3 years	W	9:30 AM	10:30 AM	\$43	\$65
Eco-Kids	ACY	3-5 years	TH	9:30 AM	11:00 AM	\$53	\$79
Outrageous Outdoors	ACY	3-5 years	T	9:00 AM	10:30 AM	\$53	\$79
Young Explorers	ACY	3-5 years	W	1:00 PM	2:30 PM	\$53	\$79
Outdoor Explorers Club-Apr 18	ACY	5-10 years	F	7:00 AM	5:00 PM	\$45	\$60
Outdoor Explorers Club-May 23	ACY	5-10 years	F	7:00 AM	5:00 PM	\$45	\$60
Archery 101- Apr 28-May 19	ACY	8-14 years	M	4:30 PM	5:15 PM	\$20	\$30

SCHOOL PROGRAMMING

The Apple Creek YMCA and Bruce B. Purdy Nature Preserve are now accepting field trip registrations for the 2024-25 school year for grades K-12. Local schools may book trips on several different topics related to plants, animals, forestry, pond study, life cycles and much more. Programs will be tailored to each school's curriculum needs and will be led by YMCA naturalists. Call 920.702.2305 or email the Environmental Education Director at svondracek@ymcafoxcities.org for a complete list of programming options.

LEADERS FOR GIRL, BOY, AND CUB SCOUTS OR OTHER YOUTH GROUPS

Scouts of all ages may schedule time with a YMCA Naturalist to fulfill requirements for outdoor related try-its, achievements or badges they are working on. Cost for a 60-90 minute session is \$3.50/child with a minimum of 10 youth attending. There is no fee for leaders and adult chaperones to attend. Programs can be held at your normal meeting location or at the Apple Creek YMCA.

BECOME A NATURE PRESERVE VOLUNTEER

Volunteers are needed for many outdoor related tasks such as mowing, tree trimming, trail maintenance and more. Call 920.702.2305 for more details on how you can help shape the Bruce B. Purdy Nature Preserve.