

Private Program Information Guide

Private programs are available Monday through Friday during center hours of 10am - 5pm during the months of Aug - May. Please allow between one to two hours for your visit. Programs are reserved on a first come, first served basis; no programs will be available on weekends, during special park events or programs, or on Columbia County holidays. Requests for the following school year are accepted starting in May of the current year. Private program requests must be submitted at least 3 weeks in advance of your requested date.

To request a private program please complete the online [Reed Creek Park Program Request Form](#)

Program Pricing

Small Groups (max 25 participants*)	\$50.00	Private Class (max 10 participants*)	\$20.00
Large Groups	Currently Unavailable	Senior Groups (max 25 participants*)	FREE

For groups larger than 50 participants please contact us to schedule an Outreach visit as an alternative!

*Please note – children under 2 years of age and 1 chaperone per 10 children are given complimentary admission and do **not** count towards participation limits. Please notify staff if the number of infants in attendance will be significant and/or chaperones will be in excess of the recommended ratio in the *Additional Information* section of the program request form.

Confirmation

Once your request has been received and approved an electronic invoice will be billed via email. Private programs are considered pending until payment is received in full. Pending events will be cancelled if payment is not received at least two weeks in advance of your requested date. Final confirmation for your program will be issued via an emailed receipt from the Columbia County online catalog.

Cancellations, Refunds or Rescheduling

Full (100%) refunds will be given up to two weeks prior to the date of your scheduled visit or emergency conditions force a cancellation. All efforts will be made to reschedule, if desired, but there is no guarantee as to the availability of dates. In the case of inclement weather, we will substitute an outdoor program with an indoor program whenever possible. We reserve the right to modify, reschedule, or cancel programs due to employee emergency or illness.

Arrival

Please arrive on time for your scheduled program. We recommend arriving 5 - 10 minutes early and allowing extra time as needed for restroom breaks. Late arrivals may be subject to program modifications as staff are unable to make up for lost time due to tight scheduling.

Chaperones

Chaperones at least 18 years of age are required for all group programs. We recommend at least 1 chaperone per 10 children during your private program. The role of the chaperone is to monitor the behavior of children to help ensure the safety and enjoyment of all participants.

What to Bring

Programs are conducted rain or shine in hot and cold weather, please dress appropriately for the weather on the date of your scheduled program. Close-toed shoes, a reusable water bottle, and sun protection are recommended. We request bug spray be applied prior to your arrival for the health of the wetland and its inhabitants.

Groups visiting Reed Creek Nature Park are encouraged to picnic in the park before or after their scheduled programming. Coolers, totes and/or lunches can be stored inside the Wetland Interpretive Center during scheduled activities. Refrigerator space is not available.

Program Modifications

All of our private programs can be modified for adult and senior groups while some programs can be modified for pre-k students. Additionally, some programs may be shortened, lengthened, combined, or tailored to a specific topic or focus. Please contact our office to discuss whether a program modification is right for your group.

Accessibility

While our building and boardwalk are fully accessible, access to our off-boardwalk trails is not. Please notify staff of any accommodation needed for your group such as mobility aids or strollers in the *Additional Information* section of the request form so that we may better serve you.

Need more information? Please call the park office at 706-312-7358 or email the Environmental Education and Outreach Supervisor at kdegelman@columbiacountyga.gov

Program Descriptions

Please take our policies and age range suggestions into consideration when selecting a program for your group. Our programs are correlated to national and GA Standards of Excellence, for specific program information or to make a program modification request please contact the park office at 76-312-7358 before submitting your request form.

Reptile Presentation (Grades K-5)

Enjoy an up-close meet and greet with some of our animal ambassadors inside the Wetland Interpretive Center! This program lasts approximately 60 minutes.

Wetland Scavenger Hunt (Grades K-2)

The swamp is a great hiding spot for animals with lots of unique plants, take a walk along the boardwalk to see if you can find them all! This program lasts approximately 45 minutes. **Currently unavailable.**

What's Wild? (Grades K-2)

Compare and contrast wild and tame animals during this combined indoor and outdoor experience lasting approximately 45 minutes.

Oh Deer! (Grades K-2)

Learn about the basic needs of animals with a fun game in their own habitat during this combined indoor and outdoor experience lasting approximately 60 minutes.

Wild Babies (Grades K-2)

Explore the life cycles of aquatic animals to gain an understanding of how they grow from wild babies to adults during this combined indoor and outdoor experience lasting approximately 60 minutes.

Wetland Walk (Grades 3-5)

Take a walk through the different habitats of Reed Creek Nature Park to learn about the different plants and animals that can be found there. This program lasts between 45-60 minutes. **Currently unavailable.**

Pollution Solution (Grades 3-5)

Investigate where wetland pollution comes from within a watershed in order to brainstorm solutions during this combined indoor and outdoor experience lasting approximately 60 minutes.

Swamp Snackers (Grades 3-5)

Discover who eats who in a Georgia swamp during this combined indoor and outdoor experience lasting approximately 60 minutes.

Hidden World (Grades 3-5)

Dip into our beaver pond to discover what microorganisms are hiding beneath the surface during this combined indoor and outdoor experience lasting approximately 90 minutes.

Creek Exploration (Grades K-5)

Dive into Reed Creek itself to discover the tiny critters that call it home! *Close-toed shoes and a change of clothes or a towel are required for this activity. Chaperones should come prepared to enter the creek to help monitor children.* This is a seasonal outdoor experience lasting approximately 120 minutes. **Currently unavailable.**