School Groups

The Nature Center staff has a vast knowledge of the natural world and other areas of science, technology and art. They have the ability to put together a unique field trip that promotes learning while having fun. Students of all ages can benefit from the experience of the Bartlett Nature Center. Our educational staff can also be booked to come into the classroom or school assembly to present any nature topic.

Scheduling Programs

- All programs are scheduled on a first come-first served basis.
- Programs can be scheduled during regular business hours, evenings and weekends.
- Dress for the weather; many programs have an outdoor segment, barring weather extremes.
- Programs will be held rain or shine unless cancelled by the Park District.
- Room rental payment due upon reservation.
- All programs need to be paid 2 weeks in advance

Scout Programs

The Bartlett Nature Center offers a variety of Cub Scout and Girl Scout programming. Advance register is required for Scout Saturdays. A different badge or achievement will be offered each week. You can also organize a badge, achievement, or just a fun event for your troop, pack, or den by contacting the Bartlett Nature Center 847-608-3120. Museum overnights at the Nature Center are available to all scout groups. Additionally, a scout-certified campsite is available including a tent area and fire pit at O’Brien Woods.

Exhibits

Seasonal educational displays are out for viewing. A variety of animals consisting mainly of reptiles, amphibians, and insects are available for viewing. Displays of animal bones and pelts are also on display. In the summer a natural butterfly garden is planted in front of the Visitor Center.

Telephone 847-608-3120

*Fees are subject to change

The Bartlett Nature Center at the James “Pate” Philip State Park is located on the north side of Stearns Rd between Route 59 and Route 25.

From Route 59 go 2 miles west on Stearns Road
From Route 25 go 1 mile east on Stearns Road

GPS Coordinates
41° 58’40.78” N
88° 15’24.94” W

An Amazing World to Explore!

https://bartlettparks.org/bartlett-nature-center/
Please follow and like us on facebook.com/bartlettnaturectr/
The Bartlett Nature Center provides unique, fun and customized educational opportunities for all ages. The Bartlett Park District began offering nature classes in 1999 and added a nature classroom above the Schrade Gymnasium. With the expansion of the nature programs, an intergovernmental agreement was reached in 2006 to move the Bartlett Nature Center out to the James “Pate” Philip Visitor Center within the State Park.

**Trails & Activities**

*Trails and activities at James “Pate” Philip State Park*

There are four miles of crushed limestone trails on 501 acres. Hiking, bicycling, cross country skiing, and snowshoeing are permitted on trails. A trail from the parking lot connects to the Illinois Prairie Path, and Fox River Trail. When snow is on the ground snowshoes are available for rent through the Nature Center on an individual or family basis. Groups must call and reserve in advance 847-608-3120. Ask a member of the Nature Center Staff for more information. Geo-caching is also a popular activity within the State Park.

**Birthday Parties**

Celebrate your child’s next birthday by going “Wild” at the Bartlett Nature Center. Choose from one of our specially designed themes or custom design your own theme.

**Programs & Camps**

The Bartlett Nature Center offers outdoor recreational and educational programming to the general public. Outdoor day camps run during the summer months for youths as well as program classes. See the Bartlett Park District seasonal program brochure for more information.

**Rental Opportunities**

**Shelter Rental**
$80 first 5 hours
Large pavilion, picnic tables, two charcoal grills, water, electric and indoor restrooms

**Auditorium / Theater**
$70-$75 per hour
12’ x 12’ movie screen
Comfortably seats 75
Equipped with DVD & VHS.

**Grand Prairie Class Room**
$40-$45 per hour
Accommodates up to 50 guests
2 dry erase boards, tables and chairs. This room can be separated into 2 sections and configured to suit your needs.

*Prices are subject to change