

# **COMMUNITY RESOURCE GUIDE**

**Compiled by the Interpreters' Coalition of Springfield-Greene County**

**Information to assist in utilizing the varied resources  
of our community toward field education and  
hands-on learning experiences**

**2016-2017  
[www.OzarksEnvironment.com](http://www.OzarksEnvironment.com)**

**(Updated 1/2016)**

## Table of Contents

About the Interpreters Coalition.....	3
Air and Military Museum of the Ozarks.....	4
City of Springfield – Busch Building and Historic City Hall.....	5
City of Springfield – Franklin Avenue Recycling Center.....	6
City of Springfield – Household Chemical Collection Center.....	7
City of Springfield – Lone Pine Avenue Recycling Center.....	8
City of Springfield – Sanitary Landfill and Noble Hill Renewable Energy Center.....	9
City of Springfield – Storm Water Services Division.....	10
City of Springfield – Sustainability Division.....	11
City of Springfield – Wastewater Treatment Plants.....	12
City of Springfield – Yardwaste Recycling Center.....	13
City Utilities - Fulbright & Blackman Water Treatment Plants.....	14
City Utilities – John Twitty Energy Center (JTEC).....	15
City Utilities –CU Solar Farm.....	16
City Utilities -Speakers Bureau.....	17
Computer Recycling Center .....	18
Dickerson Park Zoo.....	19
Discovery Center of Springfield.....	20
Fantastic Caverns.....	21
Finley Valley Serpentarium.....	22
Habitat for Humanity of Springfield, Missouri-Legacy Trails Subdivision.....	23
Habitat for Humanity of Springfield, Missouri-The ReStore.....	24
The History Museum on the Square.....	25
James River Basin Partnership.....	26
The Leadership Ranch.....	27
Missouri Department of Conservation.....	28
Missouri Dept. of Conservation/Springfield Conservation Nature Center.....	29
Missouri Institute of Natural Science.....	30
Missouri Master Naturalists.....	31
Missouri Project WET.....	32
Nathan Boone Homestead State Historic Site.....	33
Ozark Greenways Inc.....	34
Roaring River State Park.....	35
Safe Kids Springfield/Outdoor Safety Awareness Committee.....	36
Smallin Civil War Cave.....	37
Springfield Art Museum.....	38
Springfield-Greene County Libraries.....	39
Springfield-Greene County Park Board Botanical Center.....	40
Springfield-Greene County Park Board Outdoor Initiatives’ Outdoor Adventures.....	41
Springfield-Greene County Park Board Rutledge-Wilson Farm.....	42
Springfield-Greene County Park Board Special Parks and Facilities.....	43
Springfield Plateau Grotto.....	44
Springfield Regional Arts Council.....	45
University of Missouri Extension.....	46
Watershed Committee of the Ozarks, Inc.....	47
Wildcat Glades Conservation and Audubon Center.....	48
Wilson’s Creek National Battlefield.....	49
Wonders of the Ozarks Learning Facility.....	50
Wonders of Wildlife Museum and Aquarium.....	51

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**2016-2017**

**Compiled by the Interpreters' Coalition of Springfield-Greene  
County**

## **Interpreters' Coalition**

Children acquire fundamental concepts through active participation with their environment. As young children explore their surroundings, they begin to construct their own knowledge (Lind, 1998).

While the school classroom remains the primary instructional center, out-of-classroom experiences can bring a sense of wonderment and curiosity about the world to young learners. The Springfield area is rich with community resources that can provide educational experiences for students that might not otherwise be available to them.

In a truly collaborative effort, the Interpreters' Coalition utilizes the varied resources of our community toward field education and hands-on learning experiences. The Coalition was formed to help meet the educational needs of students and currently consists of partner members ranging from non-profit organizations to governmental agencies. This group of informal educators represents cross-curricular interests and expertise including science and the environment, history and social studies, communication and technology, and the arts. The Coalition supports professional development opportunities designed to highlight the variety of resources available throughout the city of Springfield and surrounding region.

## **The Air and Military Museum of the Ozarks AMMO**

**Mission:** To collect historical memorabilia and artifacts from all branches of the military, to restore, preserve, and display them for remembrance, and to educate the public and provide a “hands on” environment to demonstrate military equipment that was used in the wars fought to preserve America’s freedoms.

**Location:** The museum is located at 2305 E. Kearney, Springfield, Mo 65803.

**Contact Information:** Visit our web site at [www.ammomuseum.org](http://www.ammomuseum.org), or call (417) 864-7997.

**Availability:** We are open Tuesday through Saturday, 12 to 4pm.

**Programs:** The Air and Military Museum of the Ozarks offers to all grade school students and scouting organizations a program of military history and science that teaches and entertains young students about the history of wars fought to preserve our freedoms. We call it “Museum School.” There is always an experienced volunteer on duty to answer your military questions.

**Age/Grade Level:** We welcome groups of any age.

**Group Size:** The museum can accommodate groups of 50 people. Please call for group rate information.

**Student/Adult Ratio:** The scheduling organization should provide one adult per ten children.

**Fees:** Adults (ages 12 and up)... \$5  
Children 6 to 11.....\$3  
Children 5 and under.....FREE

**Notes:** Birthday parties-We are an enjoyable venue for birthday parties for those who wish to celebrate in an atmosphere of military history and equipment. Bring your cameras! Actually feel jeeps, trucks, Cobra helicopter, and a jet fighter. Cost is \$7 per birthday celebrant and birthday guests. This includes an authentic military dog tag, custom engraved for each guest. No charge for accompanying adults.

**Lunch:** We are located about three blocks East of Glenstone; there you will find many fast food restaurants.

## **City of Springfield Busch Building and Historic City Hall**

**Mission:** The people of our community are the only reason we are here. Therefore, we are committed to working with the community to provide ethical and responsible local government so that everyone can enjoy the benefits of living and working in Springfield.

**Location:** 840 Boonville Avenue, Springfield

**Contact Information:** Chris Akins-Cakins@springfieldmo.gov or 864-1118

**Availability:** Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. until 4 p.m.

**Programs:** We will work with teachers in any way we can. The City of Springfield can set up tours of the Fire Museum, as well as the Busch Building and Historic City Hall with Council Chambers.

**Age/Grade Level:** Any school age accepted. Younger ages do not receive as much historical information, and may not enjoy facts presented as much as the older children, but there is information for all ages.

**Group Size:** Any size group, but larger groups will be divided into smaller groups. Smaller groups of 10 or less are preferred, but 12 to 15 are acceptable.

**Student/Adult ratio:** We do not furnish chaperones. Number of adults that accompany is up to teacher's discretion.

**Fees:** There is no cost for tours.

**Lunch Provisions:** Jordan Valley Park is the nearest park. We have had teachers order food and bring it or deliver it to the Busch Building. Children can then have lunch in the employee break room after the tour.

**City of Springfield**  
**Department of Environmental Services**  
**Solid Waste Management Division**  
**Franklin Avenue Recycling Center**

**Mission:** The mission of the City of Springfield's Solid Waste Management Division is to provide an Integrated Solid Waste Management System for Springfield and Greene County that is environmentally sound and economically feasible which represents a long-term solution to preserve the natural resources of the region for present and future generations.

**Location:** 713 North Franklin Avenue, Springfield

**Contact Information:** Barbara Lucks, Sustainability Officer or Laurie Duncan, Education Outreach Specialist  
Department of Environmental Services  
Recycling Hotline 417-864-1904  
417-864-2005 (Barbara-phone) or 417-864-2007 (Laurie-phone)  
417-864-1906 (fax)  
blucks@springfieldmo.gov /lduncan@springfieldmo.gov  
www.springfieldmo.gov/recycling

**Availability:** Tuesday – Friday from 8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m., by reservation

**Programs:** Tours of the City of Springfield’s Franklin Avenue Recycling Center are available for groups of any size. Activities include encouraging students to collect and prepare their recyclables, bringing them to the Recycling Center. Presenters then assist the students in getting the items into the correct recycling containers and show the students examples of products made from the recycled materials.

**Age/Grade Level:** We welcome groups of all ages.

**Group Size:** Tours of the City of Springfield’s Franklin Avenue Recycling Center are available for groups of any size. On-site, groups will be organized into touring groups of up to 25 people, depending on age (younger students will have fewer in each group).

**Student/Adult Ratio:** Because of potential liability concerns, heavy equipment, etc., we request an adult/student ratio of one adult per 10 students. We have one person, in addition to the presenter, available to accompany the touring group.

**Fees:** There is no charge for the tours.

**Note:** We will be happy to work with “packaged tours” or assist in creating a “customized” tour for your group. Some other related City owned/operated facilities include: the Household Chemical Collection Center, the Lone Pine Avenue Recycling Center, the Springfield Sanitary Landfill, The Yardwaste Recycling Center or Wastewater Treatment Plants. Tours centered around a theme of waste reduction/recycling or water quality are especially well-suited for these facilities.

**Lunch Provisions:** The closest fast food restaurants serving The Franklin Avenue Recycling Center are located at Chestnut and West Bypass. Nichols Park or Grant Beach Park offers a location for enjoying a sack lunch.

**City of Springfield**  
**Department of Environmental Services**  
**Solid Waste Management Division**  
**Household Chemical Collection Center**

**Mission:** The mission of the City of Springfield's Solid Waste Management Division is to provide an Integrated Solid Waste Management System for Springfield and Greene County that is environmentally sound and economically feasible which represents a long-term solution to preserve the natural resources of the region for present and future generations.

**Location:** 1226 West Nichols (just east of Kansas on Nichols), Springfield

**Contact Information:** **Contact Information:** Barbara Lucks, Sustainability Officer or Laurie Duncan, Education Outreach Specialist  
Department of Environmental Services  
Recycling Hotline 417-864-1904  
417-864-2005 (Barbara-phone) or 417-864-2007 (Laurie-phone)  
417-864-1906 (fax)  
blucks@springfieldmo.gov /lduncan@springfieldmo.gov  
www.springfieldmo.gov/recycling

**Availability:** Monday – Friday from 8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m., by reservation

**Programs:** Tours of the Household Chemical Collection Center are available. Activities include familiarizing students with the “signal words”, such as “caution”, “poison”, etc., and relating the activities of the Center to water quality protection efforts and environmental impact.

**Age/Grade Level:** Tours of the City of Springfield’s Household Chemical Collection Center are available for groups of any size. On-site, groups will be organized into touring groups of up to 25 people, depending on age (younger students will have fewer in each group).

**Group Size:** We welcome groups of second-graders or older.

**Student/Adult Ratio:** Because of potential liability concerns, we request an adult/student ratio of one adult per 10 students. We have one person, in addition to the presenter, available to accompany the touring group.

**Fees:** There is no charge for the tours.

**Notes:** We will be happy to work with “packaged tours” or assist in creating a “customized” tour for your group. Some other related City owned/operated facilities include: the Lone Pine Avenue and Franklin Avenue Recycling Centers, the Springfield Sanitary Landfill, The Yardwaste Recycling Center or Wastewater Treatment Plants. Tours centered around a theme of waste reduction/recycling or water quality are especially well-suited for these facilities.

**Lunch Provisions:** The closest fast food restaurants serving The Household Chemical Collection Center are located at Chestnut and West Bypass. Nichols Park or Grant Beach Park offers a location for enjoying a sack lunch.

**City of Springfield**  
**Department of Environmental Services**  
**Solid Waste Management Division**  
**Lone Pine Avenue Recycling Center**

**Mission:** The mission of the City of Springfield's Solid Waste Management Division is to provide an Integrated Solid Waste Management system for Springfield and Greene County that is environmentally sound and economically feasible which represents a long-term solution to preserve the natural resources of the region for present and future generations.

**Location:** 3020 South Lone Pine (1 block east of Lone Pine and Battlefield), Springfield

**Contact Information:** **Contact Information:** Barbara Lucks, Sustainability Officer or Laurie Duncan, Education Outreach Specialist  
Department of Environmental Services  
Recycling Hotline 417-864-1904  
417-864-2005 (Barbara-phone) or 417-864-2007 (Laurie-phone)  
417-864-1906 (fax)  
blucks@springfieldmo.gov /lduncan@springfieldmo.gov  
www.springfieldmo.gov/recycling

**Availability:** Tuesday – Friday from 8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m., by reservation

**Programs:** Tours of the Lone Pine Avenue Recycling Center are available. Activities include encouraging students to collect and prepare their recyclables, bringing them to the Recycling Center. Presenters then assist the students in getting the items into the correct recycling containers and show the students examples of products made from the recycled materials.

**Age/Grade Level:** We welcome groups of all ages.

**Group Size:** Tours of the City of Springfield's most popular Recycling Center are available for groups of any size. On-site, groups will be organized into touring groups of up to 25 people, depending on age (younger students will have fewer in each group).

**Student/Adult Ratio:** Because of potential liability concerns, heavy equipment, etc., we request an adult/student ratio of one adult per 10 students. We have one person, in addition to the presenter, available to accompany the touring group.

**Fees:** There is no charge for the tours.

**Notes:** We will be happy to work with “packaged tours” or assist in creating a “customized” tour for your group. Some other related City owned/operated facilities include: the Household Chemical Collection Center, the Franklin Recycling Center, The Yardwaste Recycling Center, Springfield Sanitary Landfill or Wastewater Treatment Plants. Tours centered around a theme of waste reduction/recycling or water quality are especially well-suited for these facilities.

**Lunch Provisions:** The Lone Pine Recycling Center is located within just a few blocks of many fast food facilities and Sequoia Park.



**City of Springfield**  
**Department of Environmental Services**  
**Solid Waste Management Division**  
**Sanitary Landfill and Noble Hill Renewable Energy Center**

**Mission:** The mission of the City of Springfield's Solid Waste Management Division is to provide an Integrated Solid Waste Management System for Springfield and Greene County that is environmentally sound and economically feasible which represents a long-term solution to preserve the natural resources of the region for present and future generations.

**Location:** 9 miles north of I-44 on Hwy 13, then left onto Farm Road 34.

**Contact Information:** Barbara Lucks, Sustainability Officer or Laurie Duncan, Education Outreach Specialist  
Department of Environmental Services  
Recycling Hotline 417-864-1904  
417-864-2005 (Barbara-phone) or 417-864-2007 (Laurie-phone)  
417-864-1906 (fax)  
blucks@springfieldmo.gov /lduncan@springfieldmo.gov  
www.springfieldmo.gov/recycling

**Availability:** Monday – Friday from 9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m., by reservation

**Programs:** Tours of the Springfield Sanitary Landfill are available.

**Age/Grade Level:** We welcome groups of second-graders or older.

**Group Size:** Tours of the City of Springfield's Sanitary Landfill are available for groups of any size. On-site, groups will be organized into touring groups of up to 25 people, depending on age (younger students will have fewer in each group).

**Student/Adult Ratio:** Because of potential liability concerns, heavy equipment, etc., we request an adult/student ratio of one adult per 10 students (younger students may require more adult supervision). We have one person, in addition to the presenter, available to accompany the touring group.

**Fees:** There is no charge for the tours.

**Notes:** We will be happy to work with “packaged tours” or assist in creating a “customized” tour for your group. Some other related City owned/operated facilities include: the Household Chemical Collection Center, the Lone Pine or Franklin Recycling Centers, The Yardwaste Recycling Center or Wastewater Treatment Plants. Tours centered around a theme of waste reduction/recycling or water quality are especially well-suited for these facilities.

**Lunch Provisions:** Nearby accommodations for lunch are the picnic area at the entrance to Dickerson Park Zoo (near the junction of Highway 13 and Norton Road). The closest fast food restaurants are available at Highway 13 and I-44.

**City of Springfield**  
**Department of Environmental Services**  
**Storm Water Services Division**

**Mission:** The Storm Water Services Division is committed to the advancement and continuous improvement of the quality of life for the citizens of Springfield by being a leader in the development of storm water solutions to meet the needs of the community and by placing the welfare and safety of the public above all other considerations.

**Location:** Jordan Creek North Branch (National/Division) or other urban streams or storm water demonstration areas depending upon the desired program.

**Contact Information:** Carrie Lamb, Storm Water Technician  
840 Boonville Ave  
Phone: (417) 864-1996  
Fax: (417) 864-1907  
clamb@springfieldmo.gov  
www.springfieldmo.gov/stormwater

**Availability:** Monday – Friday from 8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m., by reservation

**Programs:** Lessons and activities to provide students with an understanding of storm water runoff in urban areas and personal actions to prevent storm water pollution.

**Age/Grade Level:** All levels

**Group Size:** One adult/10 students is requested.

**Fees:** None

**Lunch Provisions:** Locations are typically at or near a city park where picnic tables are available and fast food options nearby.

**City of Springfield**  
**Department of Environmental Services**  
**Sustainability Division**

**Mission:** The mission of the City of Springfield's Department of Environmental Services Sustainability Division is to support and encourage environmental practices in Springfield and Greene County that are environmentally sound and economically feasible which represents a long-term solution to preserve the natural resources of the region for present and future generations.

**Location:** Environmental Resource Center, 290 E. Central, Springfield, MO 65802

**Contact Information:** Barbara Lucks, Sustainability Officer or Laurie Duncan, Education Outreach Specialist

Department of Environmental Services

Recycling Hotline 417-864-1904

417-864-2005 (Barbara-phone) or 417-864-2007 (Laurie-phone)

417-864-1906 (fax)

blucks@springfieldmo.gov /lduncan@springfieldmo.gov

www.springfieldmo.gov/recycling

www.OzarksEnvironment.com

**Availability:** *Office hours:* Monday – Friday from 8:00am – 5:00pm – *Program hours:* Anytime

**Programs:** The Sustainability Division of the City of Springfield's Department of Environmental Services Education Outreach Section includes: Coordination and delivery of educational activities for the Department of Environmental Services facilities listed in this book. Resources include: Brochures, recycling hotline, website, social media, activity guides, trade-show type displays, check-out kits, DVD's and more. Programs include: Show-Me Yards & Neighborhoods (Environmentally Responsible Lawn Care), vermicomposting (classroom food waste complete with living worms), interactive activities for special events (ex: Recycling Relay Race, Recycling Bean Bag Toss Game, etc.), and special event recycling. Focus areas include: Air Quality, Water Quality, Water Conservation, Stormwater Management, Solid Waste Management/Recycling, Waste Water Management, and Sustainability. *This office will also facilitate themed all-day multi-bus field trips to any destination in this guide.*

**Age/Grade Level:** We welcome groups of all ages.

**Group Size:** Dependant on facilities toured - Tours of the City of Springfield recycling facilities are available for groups of any size. On-site, groups will be organized into touring groups of up to 25, depending on age (younger students will have fewer in each group).

**Student/Adult Ratio:** Because of potential liability concerns, heavy equipment, etc., we request an adult/student ratio of one adult per 10 students. We have one person, in addition to the presenter, available to accompany the touring group.

**Fees:** There is no charge for the tours.

**Lunch Provisions:** The closest fast food restaurants serving the Environmental Resource Center are located at Glenstone and Kearney area. Nichols Park or Grant Beach Park offers a location for enjoying a sack lunch.

**City of Springfield**  
**Department of Environmental Services**  
**Clean Water Services Division**  
**Wastewater Treatment Plants**

**Mission:** The City is committed to maintaining an efficient sanitary sewer system to assure the most effective level of wastewater collection and treatment for the protection of our community's health and environment.

**Availability:** Monday through Friday 8:00am – 12:00pm and 1:00pm – 3:00pm

**Programs:** Tours of the Northwest and Southwest Wastewater Treatment Plants are available.

**Age/Grade Level:** 6<sup>th</sup> grade and above.

**Group Size:** Any size group can be accommodated. They will be broken into groups of 20-25 and a minimum of one adult is required per 20-25 students. We do not have extra personnel available, other than the tour guide, to accompany the students.

**Fees:** None

**Notes:** We can tie in tours with curriculum and testing by utilizing an instructor's hand-out with questions and answers covered during the tour.

**Northwest Wastewater Treatment Plant**

**Contact Information:**

Bruce Hinkston 417-833-0697

Fax: 417-833-5437

bhinkston@springfieldmo.gov

**Location:** 4801 N. State Highway 13—3.5 miles north of I-44 on west side of State Hwy. 13

**Lunch Provisions:** Nearest restaurant: Kansas at Kearney, approximately 5 miles from the site.

**Southwest Wastewater Treatment Plant**

**Contact Information:**

Jim Burks 417-891-1600 x141

Fax: 417-891-1609

jburks@springfieldmo.gov

**Location:** 3301 S. FF Highway

**Lunch Provisions:** Nearest restaurant: Kansas at Battlefield, approximately 5 miles from the site.

**City of Springfield**  
**Department of Environmental Services**  
**Solid Waste Management Division**  
**Yardwaste Recycling Center**

**Mission:** The mission of the City of Springfield's Solid Waste Management Division is to provide an Integrated Solid Waste Management System for Springfield and Greene County that is environmentally sound and economically feasible which represents a long-term solution to preserve the natural resources of the region for present and future generations.

**Location:** Near the Southwest Waste Water Treatment Plant: go west on Sunshine (Hwy. 60), turn left (south) onto Farm Road 115, turn left (east) onto Farm Road 164 and follow the signs to the Center.

**Contact Information:** Barbara Lucks, Sustainability Officer or Laurie Duncan, Education Outreach Specialist

Department of Environmental Services

Recycling Hotline 417-864-1904

417-864-2005 (Barbara-phone) or 417-864-2007 (Laurie-phone)

417-864-1906 (fax)

blucks@springfieldmo.gov /lduncan@springfieldmo.gov

www.springfieldmo.gov/recycling

**Availability:** Monday – Friday from 8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m., by reservation

**Programs:** Tours of the Yardwaste Recycling Center are available. Activities include familiarizing students with the concept of decomposition and waste reduction.

**Age/Grade Level:** We welcome groups of second-graders or older.

**Group Size:** Tours of the City of Springfield's Yardwaste Recycling Center are available for groups of any size. On-site, groups will be organized into touring groups of up to 25 people; depending on age (younger students will have fewer in each group).

**Student/Adult Ratio:** Because of potential liability concerns, we request an adult/student ratio of one adult per 10 students (younger students may require additional adult supervision). We have one person, in addition to the presenter, available to accompany the touring group.

**Fees:** There is no charge for the tours.

**Notes:** We will be happy to work with “packaged tours” or assist in creating a “customized” tour for your group. Some other related City owned/operated facilities include: the Lone Pine Avenue and Franklin Avenue Recycling Centers, the Springfield Sanitary Landfill, The Household Chemical Collection Center or Wastewater Treatment Plants. Tours centered around a theme of waste reduction/recycling or water quality are especially well-suited for these facilities.

**Lunch Provisions:** The closest fast food restaurants serving The Yardwaste Recycling Center are located at Kansas and Battlefield or on West Sunshine or South Campbell. Wilson's Creek National Battlefield is located nearby.

## **City Utilities - Fulbright Water Treatment Plant**

## **City Utilities - Blackman Water Treatment Plant**

**Mission:** City Utilities of Springfield, Missouri, is a publicly-owned utility governed by the Board of Public Utilities. City Utilities is responsible for the generation, transmission and distribution of electric power; the acquisition, transportation, and distribution of natural gas; the acquisition, treatment and distribution of water; the operation of SpringNet broadband; and the operation of the public transportation system for the City of Springfield and the surrounding area. City Utilities and its employees recognize the critical role of education in the community and strive to provide students and teachers with opportunities to enrich and advance their learning experiences. With approximately 1,000 people of diverse backgrounds, interests and skills, CU's employees take pride in answering the call when community needs must be met. That is why we are proud to provide the following information to help you, the educator, in making the connections between the classroom, community, environment and business.

**Location:** Fulbright Plant is located at 3920 N. Farmer Rd. Blackman Plant is located at 2601 S. Blackman Rd.

**Contact Information:** Kelli Quinn, 417-831-8881, e-mail [kelli.quinn@cityutilities.net](mailto:kelli.quinn@cityutilities.net)

**Availability:** Tours are available March through November; on Tuesday through Thursday, if tour guides are available. The last tour time of the day is 3:00 p.m. The tour will take approximately 45 to 60 minutes.

**Programs:** Curriculum connections: Physical Science, source and treatment of drinking water, effects of science and technology, impact science has on careers. We do not have adequate staff to do classroom presentations. All tours are subject to tour guide availability. Because the security of CU's water treatment facilities is top priority, safety guidelines will be given at the beginning of the tour and must be followed. Reservations need to be made at least a week in advance.

**Age/Grade Level:** Students taking these tours must be sixth grade level or higher.

**Group Size:** Maximum group of 30 people (will be divided into two groups of 15 for touring)

**Student/Adult Ratio:** Age 18 or under, must have one parent or teacher per 10 students.

**Fees:** There is no charge for the tour.

**Lunch Provisions:** Fulbright Plant is located near the Zoo and all the restaurants on West Kearney.

## **City Utilities – John Twitty Energy Center (JTEC)**

**Mission:** City Utilities of Springfield, Missouri, is a publicly-owned utility governed by the Board of Public Utilities. City Utilities is responsible for the generation, transmission and distribution of electric power; the acquisition, transportation, and distribution of natural gas; the acquisition, treatment and distribution of water; the operation of SpringNet broadband; and the operation of the public transportation system for the City of Springfield and the surrounding area. City Utilities and its employees recognize the critical role of education in the community and strive to provide students and teachers with opportunities to enrich and advance their learning experiences. With approximately 1,000 people of diverse backgrounds, interests and skills, CU's employees take pride in answering the call when community needs must be met. That is why we are proud to provide the following information to help you, the educator, in making the connections between the classroom, community, environment and business.

**Location:** JTEC is located at the intersection of Farm Roads 115 and 164 in Greene County Missouri. JTEC is comprised of four generating units with a combined capacity of 600 Megawatts of power. A map of the site can be faxed on request.

**Contact Information:** Matt Kastner, 417-874-8072 or 417-863-9000. Matt.Kastner@cityutilities.net.

**Availability:** 8:00 AM to 4:00 PM, Monday thru Friday. (Best to schedule 1-2 weeks ahead).

**Programs:** Curriculum connections: Physical Science, sources of energy, effects of science and technology, impact science has on careers. Staffing is not available to provide "In school" presentations. We offer General (45 minute to 1 hour) and In Depth (1 ½ hours) tours. They include an overview of how electrical power is generated using coal and natural gas. The balance of time is spent in small groups touring our station.

**Age/Grade Level:** Must be at least 10 years old.

**Group Size:** 5 to 50 people

**Student/Adult Ratio:** At least one adult per 10 attendees is required. A list of all people attending is required upon arrival from the tour leader.

**Fees:** No Fee

**Lunch Provisions:** Wilson's Creek National Battlefield is 4 miles, Springfield City limits is 3 ½ miles, Republic is 5 miles. Springfield Park Board's Ewing and Nathaniel Greene parks are both approximately 5 miles from the Station.

## **City Utilities – CU Solar Farm**

**Mission:** City Utilities of Springfield, Missouri, is a publicly-owned utility governed by the Board of Public Utilities. City Utilities is responsible for the generation, transmission and distribution of electric power; the acquisition, transportation, and distribution of natural gas; the acquisition, treatment and distribution of water; the operation of SpringNet broadband; and the operation of the public transportation system for the City of Springfield and the surrounding area. City Utilities and its employees recognize the critical role of education in the community and strive to provide students and teachers with opportunities to enrich and advance their learning experiences. With approximately 1,000 people of diverse backgrounds, interests and skills, CU's employees take pride in answering the call when community needs must be met. That is why we are proud to provide the following information to help you, the educator, in making the connections between the classroom, community, environment and business.

**Location:** Northwest corner of Farm Road 209 and Farm Road 112. The 4.95 MW Solar Farm is the largest in the state of Missouri, hosting nearly 22,000 solar panels.

**Contact Information:** Cara Shaefer, 417-831-8348, [Cara.Shaefer@cityutilities.net](mailto:Cara.Shaefer@cityutilities.net)

**Availability:** 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM, Monday through Friday. Best to schedule 2-3 weeks ahead.

**Programs:** Curriculum connections: Physical Science, effects of science and technology, renewable sources of energy.

**Age/Grade Level:** Third grade level and higher.

**Group Size:** 1 – 100 Outdoors.

**Student/Adult Ratio:** Age 18 or under, must have one parent or teacher per 10 students.

**Fees:** No Fee

**Lunch Provisions:** Located approximately 4 miles east of Hwy 65 and Kearney St.



## City Utilities - Speakers Bureau

**Mission:** City Utilities of Springfield, Missouri, is a publicly-owned utility governed by the Board of Public Utilities. City Utilities is responsible for the generation, transmission and distribution of electric power; the acquisition, transportation, and distribution of natural gas; the acquisition, treatment and distribution of water; the operation of SpringNet broadband; and the operation of the public transportation system for the City of Springfield and the surrounding area. City Utilities and its employees recognize the critical role of education in the community and strive to provide students and teachers with opportunities to enrich and advance their learning experiences. With approximately 1,000 people of diverse backgrounds, interests and skills, CU's employees take pride in answering the call when community needs must be met. That is why we are proud to provide the following information to help you, the educator, in making the connections between the classroom, community, environment and business.

**Contact Information:** Call our Speakers Bureau at 417-831-8433 during regular business hours, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, at least two weeks in advance.

**Programs:** CU employees are available to speak to Kindergarten through twelfth grade classrooms, and collegiate level classes, on a variety of subjects. Tell us your topic of interest, the size and age of the audience, date, time and location. Possible topics:

- Careers in the Utility Industry
- Customer Service Issues
- Economic Development
- Electric Generation
- Electric Transmission and Distribution
- Electrical Safety
- Energy Management & Conservation
- Environmental Issues
- Financial/Budget Topics
- Industry Changes – How they Affect City Utilities and the Community
- Infrared Thermography
- Long Range/Strategic Planning
- Marketing and Communications
- Missouri Sunshine Law
- Natural Gas Distribution
- Natural Gas Measurement and Issues
- Public Transportation
- Reliability of the U.S. Electric System
- Renewable Energy
- Risk Management and Insurance
- Telecommunication Services
- Tree Management
- Utility Security
- Water Quality
- Water Supply and Treatment

If your area of interest is not specifically named, please ask about it and we will do our best to accommodate you.

## **Computer Recycling Center**

**Mission:** Computer Recycling Center is committed to providing a SECURE, RESPONSIBLE, way for businesses and individuals to dispose of and recycle their unwanted electronic devices.

**Location:** 528 North Prince Lane, Springfield, MO 65802

**Contact Information:** Luke Westerman, 417-866-2588, [info@computerrecyclingcenter.org](mailto:info@computerrecyclingcenter.org)  
[www.computerrecyclingcenter.org](http://www.computerrecyclingcenter.org)

**Availability:** Monday – Saturday from 10:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

**Programs:** Tours of the Computer Recycling Center are available. Activities include step-by-step instruction of the procedure of disassembling personal computers and various electronic components.

**Age/Grade Level:** We welcome groups of 5<sup>th</sup> graders and older.

**Group Size:** Flexible

**Student/Adult ratio:** Because of the potential liability concerns, heavy equipment, etc., we request an adult/student ratio of one adult per 10 students. We have one person, in addition to the presenter, available to accompany the tour group.

**Fees:** There is no charge for the tours.

**Lunch Provisions:** The Computer Recycling Center is located within 1 mile of several fast food facilities. Jordan Valley Park is located within 3 miles of the center.

## Dickerson Park Zoo

**Mission:** Dickerson Park Zoo connects people with animals to create adventures that encourage discovery and inspire conservation action.

**Location:** 1401 W. Norton Road, Springfield (Located northeast of the intersection of I-44 and Kansas Expressway/MO Hwy 13; take Exit 77 on I-44.)

**Contact Information:** Pam Price, Conservation Education Director pprice@dickersonparkzoo.org  
Phone: (417) 833-1570 Fax: (417)833-4459 Website: www.dickersonparkzoo.org  
Mailing address: 3043 N. Fort Ave., Springfield, MO 65803

**Availability:** 9 am to 5 pm, April-September; 10 am to 4 pm, October-March weather permitting

**Programs:** A number of on-site and outreach education programs are available for a nominal fee. Programs typically range from 20-40 minutes. Live animals and biofacts are included for an up-close and hands-on experience. Child care facilities and Pre-K Animal Encounter programs are scheduled from September through May. Customized programs can be arranged with sufficient lead time. The zoo collaborates with other agencies/educational resources to provide specialized conservation education programs.

**Age/Grade Level:** Groups of all ages are welcome. Programs align with the Missouri Learning Standards.

**Group Size:** Groups of any size can be accommodated. Larger groups may be divided.

**Student/Adult Ratio:** One adult supervisor for each 10 children is requested.

**Fees:** Adults and Teenagers..... \$9  
Children 3-12 ..... \$6  
Seniors (age 60 and older) ..... \$6 (group discount does not apply)  
Age 2 and younger ..... Free

Groups with 15 or more paying adult or child admission receive discounted admission of \$6 for adults and teenagers and \$4 for children ages 3-12. Children on free or reduced lunch program in Greene County schools receive free admission when attending with their school/class. *Please note admission fees and hours are subject to change.*

**Notes:** Groups are encouraged to contact the Dickerson Park Zoo Conservation Education Department when planning a field trip. Frequently asked questions, information to expedite your admission and scavenger hunts can be accessed on our website, www.dickersonparkzoo.org. Mini-classes can be scheduled to enhance the learning experience for your group.

The Safari Trading Company gift shop is open year-round during regular admission gate hours. Animal feed is available at the Outback Corral petting zoo for 50¢. Feed machines are also located at two lakes to feed waterfowl and fish. The giraffe viewing/feeding deck is open when an attendant is present. Feed can be purchased for giraffes during the designated feeding times (\$3 per package). The deck is open daily 10 a.m.-4 p.m., April-Sept., and 11 a.m.-3 p.m. on weekends in March and October, weather permitting. The deck and giraffe feeding are closed for the season November-February. There is also a miniature train ride around Dickerson Lake (seasonal operation). Tickets are \$2.

**Lunch:** Groups can bring sack lunches and eat in the playground park adjacent to the zoo. A covered pavilion with picnic tables is located in the playground park; for a nominal fee, the pavilion can be reserved by calling the zoo office at (417)833-1570. The zoo's Bush Country Café offers hamburgers, hot dogs, pizza, chicken strips, soft drinks, snacks and ice cream.

## Discovery Center of Springfield

**Mission:** Discovery Center of Springfield is a hands-on museum that inspires people to love learning about the world and our place in it. The museum includes permanent and traveling exhibits, hands-on activities, innovative programs, summer workshops, and special events that meet the Missouri Learning Standards in Science and Social Science. Exhibits and programs provide an integrated learning experience in the areas of science, health, technology, history, art and culture. Discovery Center of Springfield serves as a resource for teachers and parents, consistently drawing visitors from a 2-3 hour radius across the Ozarks region.

**Location:** 438 St. Louis Street, Springfield, Missouri, 65806

**Contact:** Jackie Douglas, Education Director, [jdouglas@discoverycenter.org](mailto:jdouglas@discoverycenter.org)  
Phone: 417-862-9910, x701. Fax: 862-6898. [www.discoverycenter.org](http://www.discoverycenter.org)

**Availability:** Group Reservations at the Center are available Tuesday – Thurs. 9-5, Friday and Saturday 9-6, and Sunday 1-5.

**Programs:** Outreach, online Distance Learning, and Workshop opportunities are available. ScienceWorks (biology, chemistry, physics, and earth science), BodyWorks (a series of human biology programs) WorldWise (geography and culture) and Cruse Charitable Trust ChromoZone (cell biology, DNA, and biotechnology). Summer Workshops, Girl Scout/Boy Scout programs, Parent/Child Weekend Workshops and other learning opportunities are available on a variety of topics.

**Age/Grade Level:** Distance learning programs are available for all ages – from preschools through retirement facilities. All ages are encouraged to visit the Discovery Center, interact with our exhibits and participate in special events.

**Group Size:** Pre-registration is needed; a minimum of 12 paying guests is required for the group discount.

**Student/Adult Ratio:** Chaperones are required on a 1 to 5 ratio of adults to children.

**Fees:**

- **\$6.00 group rate** with 7 days advanced registration
- **\$7.00 group rate** with less than 7 days advanced registration
- **Scholarships Available** to children who qualify for Free Lunch Program

**Notes:** For best choice of field trip date/time and program options, reservations should be made early. April and May tend to be very busy!

**Lunch:** We are located in downtown Springfield within walking distance of Jordan Valley Park and several restaurants. A lunch room is available to rent for an additional fee, and should be scheduled at the same time as field trip reservation.

## Fantastic Caverns

**Mission:** Caves are fragile environments. A moment's carelessness could destroy the irreplaceable formations or upset the delicate ecosystem. Our mission is to protect the cave while also providing visitors a glimpse into the fascinating and extraordinary subterranean world. By introducing students to the geology, biology and history of caves, we hope they will gain not only an appreciation of caves but a realization that caves are important natural features that are sensitive to changes in the environment. Through education we seek to impart the message that stewardship of the earth is everyone's responsibility.

**Location:** 4872 North Farm Road 125 Springfield, MO 65803 (1.5 miles north of Springfield off of I-44 and MO 13, then west on Fantastic Caverns Road for 3 miles. Take Exit 77 off of I-44)

**Contact Information:** Phone: 417-833-2010 Fax: 417-833-2042 <http://www.fantasticcaverns.com>  
khansen@fantasticcaverns.com

**Availability:** Open 8:00 till dusk every day except Thanksgiving, Christmas Eve and Christmas Day. Call or access the web site for exact times.

**Programs:** Children's programs include our *Student Field Trips*, a 55-minute all-riding tour of the cave, offered all year on the hour and half hour. *The Adventure Tour* is a 55-minute all-riding tour of the cave plus 30 minutes of activities at our Underground Classroom. *The Adventure Tour* is offered January-March at 10:00 AM and 12:00 noon. *MASTODONS!* is a 55-minute all-riding cave tour plus 30 minutes activities at the Outdoor Classroom. *MASTODONS!* is offered June 1-August 31 at 10:00 AM and 12:00 noon.

**Age/Grade Level:** All ages

**Group Size:** A minimum of 20 paying guests is required for group rates. Maximum group size is 60. If your group is larger, contact us to see if we can accommodate you with multiple departures.

**Student/Adult Ratio:** We prefer that a teacher/adult accompany each tour group.

**Fees:** Visit our web site for group rates. Teachers and bus drivers are complimentary. Reservations are required.

*(Fantastic Caverns is happy to issue complimentary tickets for our general admission tour to Southwest Missouri classroom teachers and their immediate family. This offer is available throughout the year. "Immediate family" includes those living in the teacher's household.)*

**Notes:** Tours of the cave are conducted by jeep-drawn trams which are accessible to most wheelchairs. Fantastic Caverns has a gift shop, offering a variety of rocks and minerals and souvenirs. There is also a hiking trail on the property.

**Lunch:** Groups can bring sack lunches and eat outside at our picnic tables. During January-March we have tables inside where the students can eat a sack lunch. Ritter Springs, a Springfield city park, is a mile from Fantastic Caverns and has picnic facilities. Several fast-food restaurants are located five miles away.

## **Finley Valley Serpentarium**

**Mission:** We are striving to educate the public about reptiles and their importance in nature. We are also involved in captive husbandry and propagation to take the pressure off wild populations. We encourage everyone with an interest in herpetology, the study of reptiles and amphibians, to visit with us.

**Location:** 2699 Riverdale Road, Ozark, Missouri 65721

**Contact information:** (Phone) 417-581-3093; (cell) 417-848-9201  
facebook.com/finleyvalleyserpentarium

**Availability:** Open Monday through Saturday, 11 a.m. to 1:30 p.m., or by appointment. Always best to call ahead. Closed Sunday.

**Programs:** We invite the individual, or group field trips to our facilities, for guided tours. Call us for more information on what to expect.

**Age/grade level:** We can customize tours for any age level.

**Group size:** We invite any size groups, however we only allow 15 children per tour, accompanied by two adults.

**Student/adult ratio:** Two adults are required per 15 children for each tour. Any age group is welcome.

**Fees:** \$7.00 per individual; \$5 per person with groups of 3 or more; Groups with 15 or more individuals are discounted as well.

**Notes:** All groups of reptiles are represented at our facility, including native species. We also have a retail side and sell captive-born reptiles and supplies. If you are interested in reptiles, or your group is studying them, we are the facility to come to for any questions you may have. Reptiles are our specialty.

**Lunch provisions:** Food and drink are not allowed but there are several restaurants in the Ozark area.

## **Habitat for Humanity of Springfield, Missouri Legacy Trails Subdivision**

**Mission:** The vision of Habitat for Humanity of Springfield is to eliminate substandard housing in Greene County, Missouri. Legacy Trails Phase 1 has 24 homes and Phase 2 started in 2012 and as of the beginning of 2016 has 11 homes. The community is the region's first residential Low Impact Development (LID). LID is an ecologically friendly approach to site development and storm water management that aims to mitigate development impacts to land, water, and air. There is also a house on site certified at the Platinum level in the LEED for Homes system; the house was designed and built by students and faculty at the Drury School of Architecture.

**Location:** 3805 N. Farm Road 143, Springfield, MO 65803, at the junction with West Volunteer Way. (Located north of the intersection of I-44 and Kansas Expressway/MO Hwy 13; take Exit 77 on I-44.) The site is one mile north of Norton Road: turn north from Norton Road onto Kansas Avenue (just a few car lengths east of Kansas Expressway), which becomes FR 143 outside the Springfield city limit.

**Contact Information:** Nancy Williams, Director of Partner Services,  
nancywilliams@habitatspringfieldmo.org  
Phone: 417-829-4001, ext. 105; Fax: 417-829-4003. Website: <http://www.habitatspringfieldmo.org>

**Availability:** Monday through Friday 8:30 a.m. until 4:30 p.m., by reservation, weather permitting

**Programs:** On-site walking tours of Legacy Trails to view LID landscape design practices in the development's first phase. Roadside swales and bioretention areas planted with native grasses, wildflowers, shrubs and trees allow easy access and up-close viewing of indigenous plant material. Students will learn about low impact development and ways they too can reduce storm water runoff, improve water quality, and increase wildlife habitat in their own yards and neighborhoods.

**Age/Grade Level:** All ages and grade levels.

**Group Size:** Any size with appropriate supervision.

**Student/Adult Ratio:** Teacher's discretion.

**Fees:** None, although donations to Habitat for Humanity of Springfield, Missouri are welcome.

**Notes:** Students age 14 and older may serve as Landscape Volunteers with parent's permission and supervision. For insurance reasons, only those 16 years and older may volunteer at a Construction Site or Habitat ReStore. Only those volunteers 18 years and older may use power tools and participate in activities considered hazardous.

**Lunch Provisions:** Many fast food and casual dining options are conveniently located close-by on North Kansas Expressway (including McAlister's Deli, Panera Bread, Braum's, IHOP, Jimmy John's, McDonald's, Golden Corral, Ci-Ci's Pizza).

## **Habitat for Humanity of Springfield, Missouri The ReStore**

**Mission:** The primary purpose of the Habitat for Humanity ReStore is to raise funds to support Habitat Springfield's vision to eliminate substandard housing in Greene County, Missouri.

**Location:** 2410 South Scenic Avenue, Springfield, MO 65807. Just south of the entrance to Nathanael Greene Park, and across the street from the entrance to Horton Smith Golf Course.

**Contact Information:** Aaron Norrick, Volunteer Coordinator, [aaron@habitatspringfieldmo.org](mailto:aaron@habitatspringfieldmo.org)  
Phone: 417-829-4001, ext. 112; Fax: 417-829-4003. Website: <http://www.habitatspringfieldmo.org>

**Availability:** Monday through Friday 10:00 a.m. until 4:30 p.m., by reservation, weather permitting

**Programs:** On-site tours of the Habitat ReStore, which sells new and used building supplies, appliances, and furniture to the public to raise funds for Habitat home building in Greene County. The low cost of materials also facilitates low-cost home repairs and improvement within Springfield low-income population. The store also facilitates the reuse and recycling of materials, thus lessening the amount of usable materials that are discarded. Tour includes an overview of Habitat's mission and history.

**Age/Grade Level:** All ages and grade levels.

**Group Size:** Any size with appropriate supervision.

**Student/Adult Ratio:** Teacher's discretion.

**Fees:** None, although donations to Habitat for Humanity of Springfield, Missouri are welcome.

**Notes:** For insurance reasons, only those 16 years and older can volunteer at the ReStore or the Habitat Construction Site. Only those volunteers 18 years and older may use power tools and participate in activities considered hazardous. Students age 14 and older may serve as Habitat Landscape Volunteers with parent's permission and supervision.

**Lunch Provisions:** Fast food and casual dining options are conveniently located nearby on Battlefield and Sunshine (including McAlister's Deli, Dominos Pizza, Subway, Quiznos Subs, KFC, Pizza Hut, Pizza Inn, McDonalds).



## The History Museum on the Square

**Mission:** To facilitate and encourage the use of history to define local identity within the framework of larger historical texts. To accomplish this objective the Museum shall endeavor to document the history of Springfield and Greene County and its people through the collection, preservation, exhibition, and interpretation of historic objects and information.

**Location:** 155 Park Central Square, Springfield, MO 65801

### Contact Information:

Executive Director- John E. Sellars – [john@historymuseumonthesquare.org](mailto:john@historymuseumonthesquare.org)

Joan Hampton-Porter, Curator- [joan@historymuseumonthesquare.org](mailto:joan@historymuseumonthesquare.org)

Fax: (888) 965-9342

[www.historymuseumonthesquare.org](http://www.historymuseumonthesquare.org)

**Availability:** Tours are available Tuesday through Saturday, 10:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m. All guided tours must be scheduled at least two weeks in advance. The Museum offers outreach opportunities which can be scheduled at a time convenient to the scheduling organization. Two weeks advanced booking is required.

**Programs:** The Education Department offers guided tours of the Museum's permanent and temporary exhibits. Outreach programs include:

- Traveling Trunks: Local Native American History, Pioneer Days, The Civil War, Turn of the Century, World War II, Lewis and Clark, and History of Greene County.
- Video and slide presentations: A Tour of 1890-1920 Springfield, Women Working in the Community, Crossroads at the Spring, History of Springfield, Then and Now (locations in Greene County past and present).
- Customized speakers bureau presentations of requested topics

**Age/Grade Level:** All ages.

**Group Size:** The Museum can accommodate a group of up to forty for a guided tour.

**Student/Adult Ratio:** The scheduling organization should provide one adult chaperone per ten children on the tour.

**Notes:** The History Museum will gladly tie in any tour or outreach presentation with curriculum testing. Many MAP and Missouri Learning Standards in social studies can be addressed during tours and presentations.

**Fees:** Admission \$5 for adults, \$3 for students, \$3.00 per person for presentations, \$2.00 per person for Trunks delivered with Museum personnel giving Program, \$20.00 for Trunk delivered with no supervision by Museum personnel.

**Lunch Provisions:** Several restaurants are located downtown, within walking distance of the museum. Founders Park is the closest park.

## **James River Basin Partnership**

**Mission:** Working to protect and improve the water quality of the springs, streams, rivers, and lakes in the James River Watershed.

**Location:** Outreach only

**Contact Information:**

Brent Stock, Project Manager  
James River Basin Partnership  
901 S. National, PCOB  
Springfield, MO 65897  
(417) 836-4847  
BrentonStock@MissouriState.edu

Tiffany Frey, Executive Director  
(417) 836-8878  
TFrey@missouristate.edu

Fax: (417) 836-8879

**Availability:** By Appointment

**Programs:** Topics include: Water Conservation, Pollution Solutions, What is a Watershed?

**Age/Grade Level:** All levels

**Group Size:** 5-30 are easily accommodated

**Student/Adult Ratio:** 1 adult per 15 students

**Fees:** There are no costs associated with outreach programs.

**Notes:** We are willing to repeat the same program all day to small groups at the given location. We can tie our presentation in with curriculum or testing. Most presentations are customized to the audience or needs of the teacher. We will gladly participate with other groups or tour stops.

## **The Leadership Ranch**

**Mission:** The Leadership Ranch provides interactive, experiential games and activities built in a wooded setting. Commonly referred to as a Ropes Course or Challenge Course. These games teach groups how to work together effectively. There are low and high activities, farm animals, and many active science projects designed to demonstrate Missouri Learning Standards in science. A rich natural habitat supports a myriad of wildlife.

**Location:** 9379 W. Farm Rd. 168, Republic, MO 65738 Located one mile north of Republic.

**Contact:** Tim Eberle, Director Teberle9@aol.com, 417-732-6594, Fax: 417-732-9264

**Availability:** Daylight hours, 7 days a week. Please call at least one day in advance to schedule your visit.

**Programs:** Programs are customized to meet specific needs and goals of the group. We also work in conjunction with classroom visits.

**Age/Grade Level:** Any Age.

**Group Size:** Group sizes up to 200.

**Fees:** Prices are \$5 per hour per person. Most groups come from 3 to 6 hours. A full day of 6 hours caps at \$25. A facilitator is provided for each group of 8-12 students.

**Lunch:** Picnic area available.

## **Missouri Department of Conservation**

**Mission:** To protect and manage the fish, forest, and wildlife resources of the state; to facilitate and provide opportunity for all citizens to use, enjoy, and learn about these resources.

**Location:** 2630 North Mayfair Ave, Springfield 65803

**Contact Information:** Jay Barber, Conservation Education Consultant, 417-895-6881 ext. 1643  
Jay.Barber@mdc.mo.gov

**Availability:** Call to set up workshops for daytime, evenings, or weekends

**Programs:** Train the trainer. I offer tailor-made conservation-related workshops to meet the group's educational objectives. I offer training in our newly developed Discover Nature Schools program which features school grants and field trip support. My work district comprises a 9-county area that includes: Hickory, Polk, Dallas, Laclede, Webster, Greene, Christian, Stone, and Taney.

**Age/Grade Level:** K-Adult

**Group Size:** Minimum of 10 for an educator workshop. Will do some guest speaker programs if school is associated with the Discover Nature Schools program.

**Student/Adult Ratio:** One educator per class of students

**Discover Nature Schools materials are free.**

## Missouri Department of Conservation Springfield Conservation Nature Center

**Mission:** To protect and manage the fish, forest, and wildlife resources of the state; to facilitate and provide opportunity for all citizens to use, enjoy, and learn about these resources.

**Location:** 4601 S. Nature Center Way, Springfield, 65804. Located in southeast Springfield near the intersection of US-65 and US-60 and no more than a 25-minute drive from any place in town.

**Contact Info:** Phone: 417/888-4237, Fax: 417/888-4241, E-mail: Rudy.Martinez@mdc.mo.gov or SprfdNatureCenter@mdc.mo.gov.

**Availability:** Guided programs are available Tuesday-Friday, 9am-5pm, year round. Programs must be scheduled a minimum of two weeks in advance and registration for the next calendar year begins on September 1. General public programs and special events are offered during evenings and on weekends. A bimonthly newsletter, *Nature Connections*, is available. Sign up online at <mdc.mo.gov/node/257>.

**School and Group Programs:** Programs typically include an indoor presentation combined with a guided trail hike. Groups will also be allotted time to tour through the exhibit area on their own. All standard programs are designed to fulfill selected Missouri Learning Standards for grades K-12. The nature center features 79 acres of forests, fields, and wetlands and 3 miles of hiking trails along with a building facility featuring hands-on exhibits, classrooms, an auditorium, and a gift shop.

**Age/Grade Level:** Programs are available for all ages and grade levels.

**Group Size:** While groups of no more than two classrooms are preferred, larger groups are accepted based on availability of staff and resources.

**Student/Adult Ratio:** One adult chaperone per ten children is **required**; however, more adults, especially with young children, are recommended.

**Fees:** No fees are charged. Bus transportation funding may be available for schools enrolled in the Discover Nature Schools curriculum. Check the website at <mdc.mo.gov> for details. Bus parking is provided.

**Notes:** A self-guided cell/smart phone tour is available. From a smart phone, enter: <http://bycell.co/bbin> or scan QR code at nature center. From a cell phone, dial 417/520-1168. You can connect to the nature center through text messaging by texting "MDC Springfield" to 468311.

**Lunch Provisions:** Food is not allowed in the building; however, a covered pavilion with a drinking fountain, soda machine, and restrooms is available for sack lunches. Groups may also picnic at nearby Living Memorial Park or visit nearby fast food facilities.

**General Hours of Operation:** Check the website <mdc.mo.gov/node/287> for building and area hours. Building is always closed on Mondays and all state holidays.

## Missouri Institute of Natural Science

**Mission:** The Museum and Institute are located on the Riverbluff Cave site, the oldest Ice Age fossil cave in North America. It is a continuing source of rich fossil finds of mammoths and other Ice Age animals. Learn about the geology of the area and life forms native to our region and the world at that time.

**Location:** 2327 W. Farm Road 190, Springfield MO 65810. (We are exactly 2 miles south of the intersection of Cox Rd. and Republic Rd. in Springfield.) Ample bus parking is available.

**Contact Information:** Please call the museum directly at 417.883.0594 to schedule a field trip. Non time-sensitive requests for general info can be emailed to [info@monatsci.com](mailto:info@monatsci.com). We also have 3,000+ members on our Facebook page under *Missouri Institute of Natural Science*.

**Availability:** The Museum is generally open M-F 8:30-4:30 and most Saturdays 10-2. Please call ahead to check hours. Field trips can be scheduled for any time, evenings or weekends included.

### Programs:

Field Trips include: A slide presentation on Riverbluff Cave and the Ice-Age fossils found inside, unlimited time in the museum and, weather permitting, an escorted trip up the hill to collect fossils that students can keep. We provide a baggie and a fossil identification card. In the event of inclement weather, we can do a simulated dig for real fossils in boxes of sand indoors (generally more suitable for younger children). We can also demo ongoing fossil preparation on our 38 million year-old basilosaurus and other fossils. Additional presentation topics include (but are not limited to): A general presentation on karst topography and cave formation, cave life, geology in general, geology specific to Greene County, rocks and mineral composition, meteorites, Mississippian Mound-Building Civilizations... let us know what you need! We can tailor the field trip to meet your time constraints. Most often groups request 2 hour time periods, but we can do longer and shorter field trips.

**Age/Grade Level:** Groups of all ages are welcome. Programs can be requested which align with the Missouri Learning Standards.

**Group Size:** We can comfortably accommodate 75 students at a time. We may divide them into groups and rotate them through the presentation, the museum, and fossil collecting on the hill.

**Student/Adult Ratio:** Chaperones are helpful during the fossil collecting activity of our field trips and are encouraged. The Museum requires one adult for every 10 students. Chaperones must remain with the students at all times. During field trips teachers and parents are considered chaperones.

**Fees:** Field trips are \$5 per student, with no cost for teachers/chaperones.

**Notes:** 1) Riverbluff Cave itself is not open to the public, however all fossils from the cave are on display in the museum. 2) Our gift shop stocks a variety of rocks, minerals, fossils, magnets etc. with prices starting at 25 cents. Please advise interested students to bring cash as we currently do not accept credit cards.

**Lunch Provisions:** Students may bring a sack lunch to enjoy under the shade trees. There are also a variety of fast-food restaurants on Republic Road just inside the Springfield city limits.

## Missouri Master Naturalists

**Mission:** The Missouri Master Naturalist Program is a training/service program co-sponsored by the University of Missouri Extension and Missouri Department of Conservation. Master Naturalists complete 40 hours of classroom/field initial training and then complete 40 hours of community service and eight hours of advanced training each year to remain certified in the program.

The Springfield/Greene County chapter has 46 active members

**Contact Information:**

Jay Barber  
Missouri Department of Conservation  
2630 North Mayfair  
Springfield, MO 65803  
Phone: 417-895-6881, Ext. 269  
Fax: 417-895-6910

or Patrick Byers  
University of Missouri Extension  
2400 S. Scenic Avenue  
Springfield, MO 65807  
Phone: 417-881-8909  
Fax: 417-881-8058

Web page: [www.monaturalist.org](http://www.monaturalist.org)

**Availability:** Master Naturalists are available as volunteers for a variety of environmental/conservation projects.

**Programs:** Knowledgeable volunteers for hands-on projects such as trail building, bird counts, stream monitoring/testing, native/threatened plant counts/rescues, as well as presentations and outdoor workshops on nature-related topics are available.

**Age/Grade Level:** Educational/hands-on assistance is available to all age/grade levels.

**Group Size:** Any size

**Student/Adult Ratio:** Varies per specific activity

**Fees:** Generally, none, although there may be requests for expense reimbursement, depending on the specific activity

**Missouri Project WET**  
**Water Education for Teachers**  
**Sponsored by MSU, City of Springfield, Greene County**  
**and Watershed Committee of the Ozarks**

**Mission of Organization:** To facilitate and promote awareness, appreciation, knowledge and stewardship of water resources through the development and dissemination of classroom-ready teaching aids.

**Location:** Missouri State University—King Street Annex, Room 206

**Contact Information:**

Erica Cox  
Missouri State University  
Department of Biology  
901 S. National  
Springfield, MO 65897  
417-836-4337  
Fax: 417-836-8886  
EricaCox@MissouriState.edu

**Availability:** Call or e-mail to set up a workshop

**Programs:**

Periodic 6-hour Project WET workshops, offered throughout the state and led by trained facilitators. Additionally, other Project WET-sponsored workshops such as Healthy Water, Healthy People and Discover a Watershed are available. These programs offer supplemental curriculum materials for teachers and other educators.

In the Springfield-Greene County area, outreach and education programs offered to students and teachers about storm water and water conservation topics. Resources, curriculum materials and assistance in incorporating water education into existing curriculum provided.

**Age/Grade Level:** Grades K-12

**Group Size:** Teacher workshops—a minimum of 10; student presentations—limit of 30 at one time, but could do the same presentation several times.

**Student/Adult ratio:** 1 adult for every 15 students or one teacher per classroom—could vary, depending upon activity.

**Fees:** \$25 per person for a Project WET workshop—all other workshops or presentations at minimal or no cost.



## **Nathan Boone Homestead State Historic Site**

**Mission:** Nathan Boone Homestead State Historic Site preserves the last home and grave of Nathan Boone. Though best known as the youngest son of Daniel Boone, Nathan Boone played a key role in the exploration and settlement of Missouri and the American West. The historic site interprets Boone's life, the lives of those around him, and the story of frontier America.

**Location:** 1.5 miles north of Ash Grove, Missouri on Highway V

**Contact:** Dakota Russell, Interpretive Resource Specialist

Phone: 417-751-3266. Fax: 417-751-3270. E-mail: dakota.russell@dnr.mo.gov

<http://mostateparks.com/park/nathan-boone-homestead-state-historic-site>

**Availability:** From November through March, the historic site is open Friday and Saturday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. and Sunday from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. Guided tours are available. The site is closed Monday through Thursday. From April through October, the historic site is open Wednesday through Saturday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. and on Sunday from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. Guided tours are available. The site is closed on Mondays and Tuesdays. Groups may arrange a tour anytime during public hours. Outreach programs are also available.

**Programs:** The historic site offers a guided tour, lasting approximately 1 hour.

**Age/Grade Level:** The historic site tour can be tailored for all ages and grade levels.

**Group Size:** A minimum of 15 people is required for the group tour rate. Maximum group size for a single program is 50 people.

**Student/Adult Ratio:** 1 adult per every 10 students is encouraged.

**Fees:** For pre-registered groups of 15 or more, rates are as follows: children 17 and under are free, and adults are \$3.00. Outreach programs are free of charge within a 50-mile radius of the site.

**Notes:** Group tours must be confirmed at least two weeks in advance to qualify for the group rate.

**Lunch:** Picnic tables are available on-site.

## **Ozark Greenways, Inc.**

**Mission:** A citizens group dedicated to preserving and enhancing the Ozarks' natural heritage through the creation of linear parks for public use.

**Location:** Greenway trails are located at various areas throughout the community - See map in brochure or on our website ([www.ozarkgreenways.org](http://www.ozarkgreenways.org)) for specific directions.

### **Contact Information:**

Lori Tack, Program Coordinator

Ozark Greenways, P.O. Box 50733, Springfield, MO 65805

(417) 864-2015 phone (417) 864-1497 fax

email: [lori@ozarkgreenways.org](mailto:lori@ozarkgreenways.org)

**Availability:** Year-round, sunrise to sunset.

### **Programs:**

- 1) Presentations to classes about greenways
- 2) Self-guided field trips to any of the trails
- 3) Greenway related vocabulary words and word-search available
- 4) Volunteer work projects to be arranged including tree planting, tree care, learning about the importance of trees in our environment
- 5) Stream Team water quality monitoring and cleanup along South Creek

**Age/Grade Levels:** Any age or grade.

**Group Size:** Any size (extra large groups may need to be split into smaller groups).

**Student/Adult Ratio:** Supervision must be provided by the school (with teachers and/or parents); ratio is up to the teachers.

**Fees:** No charge, but membership donations to Ozark Greenways are encouraged.

## **Roaring River State Park**

**Mission:** The mission of the Roaring River State Park's interpretative program is to interpret for all participants, using a variety of innovative methods, the overall theme that water is the force that created and continues to modify the geology, biology, and anthropology of Roaring River Valley. Facilitate enjoyable and safe recreational learning experience that will inspire positive behavior toward natural and cultural resources.

**Location:**

12716 FR 2239  
Cassville, MO 65625  
7 miles southeast of Cassville, MO on Highway 112

**Contact Information:** Tim Smith, Interpretive Resource Coordinator

Phone: 417-847-3742 Fax: 417-847-1802 Email: Tim.Smith@dnr.mo.gov

**Availability: Nature Center hours**

March 1 through the Tuesday before Memorial Day

9 a.m. - 5 p.m. Wednesday through Sunday; Closed Monday and Tuesday

Wednesday before Memorial Day through the Sunday after Labor Day

9 a.m. - 5 p.m. daily

Monday after Labor Day through Oct. 31

9 a.m. - 5 p.m. Wednesday through Sunday; Closed Monday and Tuesday

**Programs:**

Hatchery Tour

Nature Center

Deer Leap Hike

Other programs on request

**Age/Grade Level:** The tours and programs can be tailored for all ages and grade levels.

**Group Size:** Maximum group size for a single program is 50 people.

**Student/Adult Ratio:** Teacher's discretion.

**Fees:** None

**Notes:** Please call to book your group.

**Lunch Provisions:** Picnic tables and two covered shelters are available on-site.

## **Safe Kids Springfield / Outdoor Safety Awareness Committee**

**Mission:** *“Accidental injury is the number one cause of death among children ages 14 and under in the United States. Our mission is to prevent accidental injuries to children through education, research, advocacy, environmental improvements, safety device distribution and public awareness programs. Safe Kids Springfield is one of more than 400 grassroots coalitions in the United States that bring together health and safety experts, educators, corporations, foundations, governments and volunteers to educate families and communities about safety and injury prevention.”*

**Location:** Springfield & Southwest Missouri

**Contact Information:** Melvin Johnson, Outdoor Safety Chairperson & A Certified Missouri Master Naturalist, explorermelj@aol.com or 417-833-1219

- Website-[www.safekidsspringfield.org](http://www.safekidsspringfield.org)

**Availability:** Flexible, depending upon season, with several weeks’ advance notice.

**Programs:**

- Seasonal Warm & Cold Weather Basic Outdoor Safety & Preparedness.
- Snake Awareness (with live snakes) & Basic Wildlife Safety.

**Age/Grade Level:** All grades and ages K – College plus adults

**Group Size:** Dependent upon activity, presentation, and location.

**Student/Adult Ratio:** Dependent upon activity, presentation, and location.

**Fees:** Free

**Notes:** Learn basic outdoor awareness safety & hazards, including the number one cause of accidents and death in the outdoors.

**Lunch Provisions:** None

## Smallin Civil War Cave

**Mission:** Smallin Civil War Cave aims to inform and entertain visitors through tours of Smallin Civil War Cave. The tours that are presented to the general public focus on the rich historic value, natural beauty, and impressive formation of the natural cave and the surrounding area. Tours that are offered to local students provide an interactive, hands-on experience that allows the students to connect their textbooks to real-life application.

**Location:** Smallin Civil War Cave - 3575 North Smallin Rd Ozark, MO 65721

**Contact Information:** Wanetta Bright, office number 417-551-4545; Smallincave@centurylink.net

**Availability:** Open year-round, 7 days a week. March-December hours are Monday-Saturday 9:30am-5:00pm & Sundays 1-5:00pm. January & February are weather-permitting, call ahead. Advance group reservations required.

**Programs:** We offer a “Build Your Own Field Trip” Program with the student cave tour as the base price for as little as \$5.00 per student.

Student Cave Tour.....	\$5.00
Gemstone Panning.....	\$1.00
Fossil Panning.....	\$2.00
Forest of the Osage Nature Hike.....	\$1.00
Hands-On Classroom.....	\$2.00
Crawl Fort.....	FREE

Adults- One adult is permitted free admission per 20 students. Additional adults including teachers, chaperones, and parents are responsible for \$10 group rate admission. Bus drivers are permitted free with the group tour.

**Age/Grade Level:** All Ages

**Group Size:** Minimum of 20 paying guests are required for the discounted group rate. We can accommodate large groups with no limit on group size.

**Student/Adult Ratio:** At least one adult must accompany the group. For information about accommodating special needs students, please call 417-551-4545.

**Notes:** The cave is wheel-chair friendly—we are able to work with you to make reasonable accommodations for your special needs students. Contact us in advance for planning assistance.

**Lunch Provisions:** Students are welcome to picnic at our lunch pavilion.

## Springfield Art Museum

**Mission:** The Springfield Art Museum is dedicated to enhancing education and documenting the cultural heritage of the people of southwest Missouri, through the collection, preservation and exhibition of art objects. The Springfield Art Museum is the city's oldest cultural institution. Throughout the year, the Museum schedules a variety of temporary exhibitions of traditional, modern, and contemporary art. Early summer marks the opening of Watercolor U.S.A., a national competitive exhibition that has been sponsored annually by the Museum since 1962. Selections from the Museum's Permanent Collections can be viewed throughout the year and might range from pre-Columbian artifacts to Renaissance etchings to paintings created by a host of important American artists.

**Location:** 1111 East Brookside Drive, Springfield (Located west of National Avenue between Brookside Drive and Bennett Street on the east side of Phelps Grove Park.)

**Contact Information:** Kate Baird, Museum Educator, kbaird@springfieldmo.gov  
Telephone: (417) 837-5700 ext. 214 Fax: (417) 837-5704 – www.sgfmuseum.org

**Availability:** Museum hours are 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. Tuesday – Saturday, and from 1:00-5:00pm on Sundays. The museum is also open and available until 8:00pm on Thursdays. The Museum is closed on Mondays and all city and national holidays. Self-guided tours may be scheduled at any time. (Large self-guided groups are encouraged to call ahead.) Guided tours should be scheduled two weeks in advance.

**Programs:** Guided tours are based on the changing exhibits on view at the Museum. View current and future exhibits, class schedules, and other Museum events at <http://www.springfieldmo.gov/egov/art/>

**Age/Grade Level:** Preschool through adults

**Group Size:** We offer guided tours for up to 70 students at a time, but we prefer groups of 50 or fewer. Guided tours are on a 1 to 12 ratio. Large self-guided groups are encouraged to call ahead.

**Student/Adult Ratio:** Chaperones are requested on a 1 to 10 ratio of adults to children.

**Fees:** There is never an admission charge.

**Notes:** : Food, drink and chewing gum are not allowed in the galleries. Photography is usually permitted as long as no flash is used. No backpacks are allowed in the galleries. We ask that students' personal belongings be left on the bus.

**Lunch:** Phelps Grove Park is located adjacent to the grounds. We can sometimes accommodate indoor lunches--please check with the Museum Educator for availability.

## Springfield-Greene County Libraries

**Mission:** The mission of the Springfield-Greene County Library District is to improve and enrich the lives of our users through information, education and recreation. The Library values the citizens of Greene County and responds to their needs by providing clean and inviting buildings, well-organized and up-to-date collections, friendly professional service and well-trained staff who are committed to the Library vision.

**Location:** 5 branches in Springfield and 5 branches in the county.

**Contact Information:** Tours and programs are available by calling each individual branch:

- The Library Center: 882-0714
- The Library Station: 865-1340
- Ash Grove Branch—751-2933
- Brentwood Branch—883-1974
- Fair Grove Branch—759-2637
- Midtown Carnegie Branch—862-0135
- Park Central Branch---831-1342
- Republic Branch—732-7284
- Strafford Branch---736-9233
- Willard Branch—742-4258
- Web: [thelibrary.org](http://thelibrary.org)

**Availability:** As scheduled at each facility.

**Programs:** Will provide building tours, assistance and guidance regarding use of Library resources, develop youth programs and storytimes.

**Age/Grade Level:** All ages.

**Group Size:** Will work with visiting group.

**Student/Adult Ratio:** Library tour guides are available at each branch. We prefer that a teacher/other adult accompany each tour group. Youth services staff at each branch will work with educators to develop appropriate tours, programs and resource education.

**Fees:** No cost

### **Lunch Provisions:**

- The Library Center—many fast food restaurants are located within one mile (on south Campbell). The Mud House is located in The Library Center. Must make prior arrangements for a large group. The closest park is Nathanael Greene on south Scenic.
- The Library Station—Many fast food restaurants are located within one mile on west Kearney. Panera Bread is located in Library Station. Must make prior arrangements for large group.
- Other branches—limited fast food available. Ash Grove, Fair Grove, Republic, Strafford and Willard have nice city parks within a few blocks.

## Springfield-Greene County Park Board Botanical Center and Gardens

**Mission:** The Botanical Center has been established for enhancing people's lives through plant demonstrations and education. The Gardens at the Botanical Center are a resource for leisure, teaching, and public service missions of University of Missouri Extension's Greene County office, Friends of the Garden and other park partners.

**Location:** Nathanael Greene/ Close Memorial Park; 2400 S. Scenic Ave, Springfield, MO 65807

**Contact Information-**Katie Steinhoff- ksteinhoff@springfieldmo.gov; 417-891-1515

**Availability:** By appointment; All groups must register their group with the Botanical Center prior to arrival.

### Guided Programs:

*Directions: Download group request form* <http://parkboard.org/DocumentCenter/View/11660>

**Guided Garden Tours:** A guide can lead you through the different gardens, botanical collections and attractions. Fee: \$2/pr or \$25/groups under 12 people.

**Native Butterfly House:** mid-May-September – Discover the lifecycle of the butterfly from egg to larvae to pupae to adult. Learn the basic needs of wildlife & special relationship of butterflies and host plants used to raise young.

**SEEDS and Scavenger Hunt!:** Learn more about how plants reproduce and scatter their seeds by wind, water and wildlife. After a 30 min program, students are invited to hunt for seeds around the gardens and share their observations.

**Plant Parts and People:** Learn more about the plants and plant parts we eat as well as the plants we use to make everything from shoes and baseball bats. Students will be invited to see these plants growing around the gardens.

**Alien Invaders:** Away from normal foes, insects, plants and pathogens from foreign lands have potential to change our environment. Discover exotic invasive species thriving in MO and discuss the secret to their success.

**Gray-Campbell Farmstead:** <http://www.graycampbellfarmstead.org/id3.html>

Life in 1860s, especially for 5th grade! Course offered 6 weeks in fall and spring. Guided programs for other groups are available by appointment. Contact Michelle Atkinson: [atkinsonplace@sbcglobal.net](mailto:atkinsonplace@sbcglobal.net) or 417-725-4921

**Guided Tram Tour:** A guide can drive small groups to key garden locations. Fee: \$3/person or \$50/groups minimum charge. Limit 20.

### Self-Guided Programs:

**Play Trail!:** Discover nature by play! Designed to engage rigorous exercise for the body and mind; 5 playgrounds can be found from the butterfly house around Lake Drummond. See plants and nature and follow the activities found at each play pod. Group size: 12 or less. Activity stations include: the butterfly, leaves, trees, pond life and mushrooms. Walking trail approximately 1 mile.

**Tree ID:** Many trees have been identified and labeled with added information about the plant. Trees are marked by 4' tall paddles. Green labels designate native species, brown labels identify non-native species. A great resource for plant identification projects!

**The Mizumoto Japanese Stroll Garden:** Fee:\$3/adult; 12 under free. Guides available for an additional \$2/pr. open April-October; closed Tues—Wed.

**Host Lions Club History Walk:** Nearly 30 granite markers commemorating historical American figures. A scavenger hunt can be downloaded from [www.botanicalcenter.org](http://www.botanicalcenter.org) under education or guided tour can be arranged by contacting a Lions Club representative at: 417-833-9879.

**Nature Explore® site** – follow the Nature Explore curriculum, Groups can stage various activities, tree cookies and log decomposers, wildlife observations and more at the Kickapoo Edge Prairie, South Creek, Audubon Bird Site and Lake Drummond. A map can be downloaded from: [www.botanicalcenter.org](http://www.botanicalcenter.org) under the “education” page.

### Special Activities:

Volunteer work projects including tree and flower planting and garden maintenance can be arranged with the Botanical Center. Katie Steinhoff [ksteinhoff@springfieldmo.gov](mailto:ksteinhoff@springfieldmo.gov) or 417-891-1515

**Age/ Grade Level:** All ages!

**Group Size:** 25/ guided programs; larger groups will be divided and rotate through different activities. Combined groups, especially home school should be within 2 grade levels.

**Fees:** Guided education programs are \$2/person or \$25 for groups smaller than 12 people.

**Lunch:** Picnic tables and pavilions are located throughout the park. Refreshments available in the Botanical Boutique and Marketplace.



**Springfield – Greene County Park Board**  
**Outdoor Initiatives’ Hands-On Outdoor Adventures,**  
**Education, Experiences, Opportunities, Recreation, & Skills.**  

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**Home Of Giboney Cave Outdoor – Underground Classroom**  
**The Most Caves Of All Municipal Park & Recreation Departments In Missouri**  
**Federal Endangered Species / Bat & Sequiota Caves**

**Mission:** The Springfield – Greene County Park Board is committed to provide the highest quality of leisure opportunities, to offer programs for relaxation as well as stimulation, and to encourage personal and community enrichment for the citizens of Springfield, Missouri.

**Location:** The Outdoor Initiatives Office is located in the in Valley Water Mill Park, 2300 E. Valley Water Mill Road, Springfield, MO.

**Contact & Mail Information:**

- Justin Smith, Community Recreation Supervisor – Outdoor Initiatives  
(417) 833-8647; jusmith@springfieldmo.gov

Mailing Address: Outdoor Initiatives, Springfield-Greene County Park Board

1923 N. Weller, Springfield, MO 65803

FAX: (417) 833-8201

**Availability:** Year-round in general depending upon specific activity:

- Day and Trip Camps are offered in the summer; Family Camps are offered spring thru fall.
- Cave Adventures, Education, & Science are offered year-round.

**Programs:**

- Adventure Teen Camps- Water Sports Camp, Backpacking Camp, and Adventure Camp
- Adult Adventure Experiences- Backpacking, Multi-Day Canoe Camping, Day – Trips, and much more!
- Canoeing & Kayaking- Camping, Clinics, Float Trips, Racing.
- Caving- Education, Science & Exploring - Beginner and intermediate hands-on clinics, groups, schools, and public tours.
- Challenge Initiatives - Confidence and Team Building Dynamics.
- Cookery- Historical Dutch Oven, Foil Pack, and Backpack Cooking.
- Environmental Education & Nature Study Hikes.
- Giboney Cave Outdoor – Underground Classroom.
- GPS, Geocaching, and Navigation Skills Clinics.
- LNT (“Leave No Trace”), LNT PEAK PROGRAMS, & NMT (“No More Trash”).
- Outdoor Hazards & Safety.
- Outdoor Adventure Travel- Ha Ha Tonka State Park (Caving, Day Packing, & Historical), Ozark Trail Trips, Buffalo River Trips, Current River Trips, and many more.
- Project Learning Tree, Project Flying WILD, & Project WET.
- Stream Study / Stream Team Approach.
- Tree & Plant Identification.

**Age/Grade Level:** Programs are available for ages 3 through Adults.

**Group Size:** Maximum group size varies depending on program.

**Student/Adult Ratio:**

- One adult supervisor for each 5 youth under the age of 6.
- One adult supervisor for each 10 youth ages 6-11.
- One adult supervisor for each 12-15 teenagers.

**Fees:** Fees range from \$4 to \$150 / participant depending upon specific program; IE: Cave Sessions range from \$5 to \$75 minimum; Call for teen camp prices.

## **Springfield-Greene County Park Board Rutledge-Wilson Farm Community Park**

**Mission:** The Springfield-Greene County Park Board is committed to provide the highest quality of leisure opportunities, to offer programs for relaxation as well as stimulation, and to encourage personal and community enrichment for the citizens of Springfield and Greene County, Missouri

**Location:** Rutledge-Wilson Farm Community Park is located at 3825 West Farm Road 146, Springfield, MO 65802

**Contact Information:**

- For general farm or event information, please call the main line at Rutledge-Wilson Farm
  - (417) 837-5949
- To schedule a field trip or register for any of the farm's education programs; please contact
  - Nick Breithaupt, Farm Park Supervisor, at (417) 837-5945
- [www.parkboard.org](http://www.parkboard.org)
  - Click on Rutledge-Wilson Farm under parks

**Availability:** Rutledge-Wilson Farm is open to the public year-round Tuesdays-Sundays from 9 a.m. – 5 p.m.

**Programs:**

◦ School Programs	◦ Home-school groups
◦ Scout Groups	◦ Pre-school groups
◦ Summer Camps	

**Age/Grade Level:** The programs at Rutledge-Wilson Farm are grade specific and designed for children pre-K through 5<sup>th</sup> grade. The park, however, is available for adults and kids of all ages to enjoy as well.

**Group Size:** There is no limit to group size. Large groups may need to be split into smaller groups if they are attending an educational program.

**Student/Adult Ratio:** Field trip supervision must be provided by the school (with teachers and parents.) Student/Adult ratio will be determined by the school.

**Fees:** General park admission is free. There is a charge of \$1.50 per student for educational programs. Please contact the farm for other program prices.

**Lunch:** There are picnic tables available for group use on a first-come basis.

## **Springfield-Greene County Park Board Special Parks and Facilities**

**Mission:** The Springfield-Greene County Park Board is committed to provide the highest quality of leisure opportunities, to offer programs for relaxation as well as stimulation, and to encourage personal and community enrichment for the citizens of Springfield and Greene County.

**Location:**

**\*Lake Springfield Park**, 2312 E. Lake Springfield Park Road. The 158-acre park is currently open every day, sunrise to sunset. There is pavilion/picnic area with playground equipment available (first-come basis). The area has both open, grassy spaces and wooded areas (home to a variety of wildlife and birds) and borders the north shore of Lake Springfield. A special use area, The Northwoods Pavilion, can be reserved for group activities (contact 891-1550). The property has a 4,000-square-foot Boathouse and Marina with a 1,450-square-foot deck area overlooking the lake. The building also has a community meeting room, a warming kitchen, retail shop with canoe and kayak rentals and public restrooms. The community meeting room features an expanse of glass with views across the deck to the lake. The park ties into the James River Linear Park Trail, has a greenway trail and hiking trail throughout the property.

**\*Valley Water Mill Park & Equestrian Center**, 4007 N. Farm Rd. 171, Springfield, MO 65803

**Facility:** Features a classroom area in the “brick farm house”, an eight stall instructional barn, indoor and outdoor riding arenas, Kiddie Hay Corral and Miniature Horse Petting Pen.

**Directions:** From I-44 and Glenstone, Go North on Glenstone ½ mile, Turn Right on Valley Water Mill. At the dead end, turn Left onto Fm Rd 171. Stay to the left around pond dam and Turn Left into entrance. Do not use Mapquest or TomTom! Those computer programs will send you 5 miles north!

**Contact Information:** Contact Lynn VandenBerg, Equestrian Center Coordinator at (417) 833-3291.

**Availability:** Valley Water Mill is open to the public year-round Tuesdays-Sundays from 9am until 5pm and after hours by appointment.

**Programs:** School Programs, Scout Programs, Summer Camps, Home-School Groups, Pre School Groups.

**Age/Grade Level:** The programs at Valley Water Mill are grade specific and designed for children K through 12th grade. Horses are available for hands on demonstrations.

**Group Size/Student Ratio:** There is no limit to group size. Large groups may be split into smaller groups if they are attending educational programs. Field trip Supervision must be provided by the school (with teachers and parents.) Student /Adult ratio will be determined by school regulations.

**Fees:** General Park Admission is free. Educational programs range from \$2 to \$10 per child depending on the scope of the activities. Many equestrian programs can be tailored to current curriculum. All students leave with informational handouts.

## Springfield Plateau Grotto

**Mission:** The Springfield Plateau Grotto (SPG) promotes bat & cave awareness education, conservation, survey, and management of caves.

**Location:** Springfield and Southwest Missouri.

**Contact Information:**

- Bat & Cave Awareness Displays & Presentations: Melvin Johnson / Outreach at [explorermelj@aol.com](mailto:explorermelj@aol.com) or 417-833-1219
- Cave Tours (extremely limited): Jonathan Beard, [mokanman@att.net](mailto:mokanman@att.net)
- Website- [www.spgcavers.org](http://www.spgcavers.org)

**Availability:** Flexible, depending upon season, with several weeks' advance notice.

**Programs:**

- Bat & Cave Awareness Displays & Presentations
- "Wild" Cave Trips (extremely limited)

**Age/Grade Level:**

- All grades K –adult for Bat & Cave Awareness Displays & Presentations
- 5th Grade-adult for "Wild" Cave Trips (extremely limited)

**Group Size:** Negotiable depending upon activity & site

**Student/Adult Ratio:** Dependent upon activity & site

**Fees:** Free (donations accepted.)

**Notes:** SPG is made up of Southwest Missourians who share an interest in the conservation, education, survey, and management of caves. A project-oriented grotto, our members work in tandem with public agencies and private landowners to promote a better understanding of caves and foster awareness of the importance of conserving the cave environment. SPG collaborates with the Missouri Speleological Survey (MSS) to document, map, and study caves. SPG is a federally recognized 501(c)3 non-profit organization and a member grotto of the National Speleological Society (NSS) and MSS. [www.spgcavers.org](http://www.spgcavers.org).

**Lunch Provisions:** None

## Springfield Regional Arts Council

**Mission:** Our mission is “to transform lives and enrich the community through the arts.” The Springfield Regional Arts Council (SRAC) is an umbrella organization connecting and supporting artists and arts organizations in a 27-county region. The SRAC manages The Creamery Arts Center home to several arts and community organizations as well as community meeting spaces. We provide a variety of programming including exhibitions, First Friday Art Walk, and Artsfest.

**Location:** 411 N. Sherman Parkway, Springfield, MO 65802 (Located in The Creamery Arts Center at the northeast corner of Jordan Valley Park within easy walking distance of the Discovery Center)

**Contact Information:** Leslie Forrester, Executive Director, Info@SpringfieldArts.org, phone: 417-862-2787, fax: 417-862-7877

**Availability:** The Creamery is open Monday – Friday, 9am-5pm. Extended or weekend hours are available with advanced notice.

**Programs:** Our programs include Art Gone Wild with Dickerson Park Zoo, Artsfest on Historic Walnut Street, Arts in the Park Summer Workshops, Claymobile, Childhood in its Landscape, field trips for students, Fireworks at the Field, First Friday Art Walk, Flights of Fancy/ Ozzie Awards, Free Art Day, Fresh Gallery, Hearts for the Arts, Mini Monet Mondays, Partners in Education with Boyd and Field Elementary Schools, Poetry Out Loud, Sky Gallery at the Springfield-Branson National Airport, Speaking of the Arts, exhibitions at The Creamery, Teen Writers’ Workshop, Vincent Van GOAT, and visual arts workshops

**Age/Grade Level:** Various depending on program

**Group size:** Various

**Student/Adult Ratio:** Dependent on the activity

**Fees:** Many of our programs are offered free of charge such as exhibitions, First Friday Art Walk, and Free Art Day. Others have fees ranging from \$5 to \$75.

**Notes:** The Springfield Regional Arts Council welcomes the opportunity to collaborate with other area organizations to meet specific needs.

**Lunch Provisions:** There are a variety of downtown restaurants within a short driving distances. We also recommend bringing a picnic lunch and enjoying Jordan Valley Park.

## University of Missouri Extension

**Mission:** The primary purpose of the University of Missouri Extension is to serve Missouri by extending the research-based knowledge and problem-solving resources of the University of Missouri System to people throughout the state. The Greene County Extension Council is the publicly elected governing body that helps MU Extension identify and address local issues. Educational publications (guide sheets) and programs are available in the following subject areas: Horticulture, agriculture, gardening, 4-H youth development, nutrition, human development, urban programming, community development, civic engagement, home design and more.

**Location:** 2400 S. Scenic, Springfield, MO 65807; offices are in the Botanical Center in Nathanael Greene Park.

**Contact Information:** telephone 417-881-8909; email [GreeneCo@missouri.edu](mailto:GreeneCo@missouri.edu); or visit our website <http://extension.missouri.edu/greene/>.

**Availability:** The Greene County MU Extension office is open 8:30am-4:30pm Monday through Friday. Programming is scheduled as requested.

**Programs:** Extension specialists in southwest Missouri are available to present programs on topics related to agricultural profitability and viability; gardening and home food preservation, human development and individual strengths; business, community and economic development; enhancing health and nutrition; environmental quality and stewardship and youth development. Additional information is found at <http://extension.missouri.edu/greene/services.aspx>

Specific programs include:

Horticulture: The horticulture program provides educational opportunities for home horticulture and commercial horticulture interests in the SW region.

Master Gardening: The Master Gardener program provides in-depth horticultural training to individuals who then volunteer their time applying what they have learned to help others in their community to learn about gardening and environmental education.

4-H: 4-H is a volunteer-led organization that reaches youth ages 8-18. 4-H members decide for themselves which of more than 50 projects they want to learn more about. Projects use hands-on learning experiences to teach subject matter and life-skills such as cooperation, problem solving, and decision making. A pre-4-H program called Clover Kids is offered for children 5-7 years of age.

**Age/Grade Level:** Programs are available for people of all ages.

**Group Size:** Programs are available on an individual basis and for groups of all sizes

**Student/Adult Ratio:** Specific to individual programs.

**Fees:** Specific to individual programs.

**Notes:** Other services at the Greene County MU Extension office include soil testing, plant insect and disease diagnosis, the Master Gardener hotline for assistance with gardening questions, and publications on a wide range of topics.

## **Watershed Committee of the Ozarks**

**Mission:** The Watershed Committee of the Ozarks is a not-for-profit 501(c)3 whose mission is to sustain and improve the water supplies of Springfield and Greene County through education and effective management of the region's watersheds. The Watershed Center is the home to over two miles of hiking trails, fishing at Valley Water Mill Lake, and the LEED Gold certified C.W. Titus Education Facility. We are happy to offer field trips, tours, and other educational programs right on the banks of one of Springfield's drinking water sources.

**Location:** 2400 East Valley Water Mill Road, Springfield, MO 65803

**Contact Information:** Rob Hunt – Watershed Center Coordinator.

Email: [rob@watershedcommittee.org](mailto:rob@watershedcommittee.org) Phone: 417-866-1127 Fax: 417-866-1918

**Availability:** Rob Hunt will be happy to schedule and organize a field trip for your school or organization. 10 business days advance notice and planning is required. Our programs can be customized to fit your learning goals and class size so we can be sure to meet the needs of your group.

**Programs:** Stream Team activities, Watershed Scavenger Hunt, Interpretive Hikes, Watershed stations, Green Building Demonstrations, Jordan Creek Underground Tours, and many more. You can find all of our program descriptions on our website, [www.watershedcommittee.org](http://www.watershedcommittee.org), under Watershed Center Education.

**Age/Grade Level:** Any age

**Group Size:** Group sizes can range from as few as five students, to as many as one-hundred.

**Student/Adult Ratio:** Prefer at least one adult per ten children

**Fees:** Free! There is no charge for Watershed Center tours or activities.

**Lunch Provisions:** Outdoor areas, including a covered pavilion, are available for picnic lunches that the group is responsible for providing.

## **Wildcat Glades Conservation and Audubon Center**

**Mission:** The Audubon Nature Center opened in the fall of 2007. Programs are currently offered as requested and focus on the interpretation and management of the last remaining 60 acres of globally unique chert glade habitat and the Shoal Creek natural resource.

**Location:** Joplin, Missouri in Wildcat Park - Located in south Joplin near the intersection of I-44 and HWY 86

**Contact Information:** Phone: 417-782-6287

Hours: Wednesday – Saturday 9am – 5pm; Sunday 1pm – 5pm (March – October).

Website: <http://www.wildcatglades.audubon.org>

**Availability:** Field programs and activities are available Wednesday - Friday, 9am-5pm, year round. Programs must be scheduled a minimum of two weeks in advance and registration for the next school year begins in August. Public programs are often available on Saturdays.

**Programs:** Programs focus on outdoor presentations, activities or interpretive trail hikes and can be tailored to your classroom or group needs. Most programs follow Missouri Learning Standards. For more information, go to “Just for Teachers” on our website for a list of programs.

**Age/grade level:** Programs are available for all ages and grade levels.

**Group Size:** Maximum 60, which will often be divided into smaller groups. Groups will stay with their classroom for field programs and trail hikes.

**Student/Adult ratios:** One adult chaperone per ten children is recommended.

**Fees:** No entrance fee. Program fees are charged dependent on program or activity. No funding is available to help with transportation costs.

**Lunch Provisions:** Groups may picnic at Wildcat Park or visit nearby fast food facilities. Snacks and drinks are available for purchase in the gift shop.



## Wilson's Creek National Battlefield

**Mission:** The purpose of Wilson's Creek National Battlefield is to commemorate the Battle of Wilson's Creek and to preserve the associated battlefield.

**Location:** 6424 W. Farm Road 182, Republic. The site is located ten miles southwest of Springfield, between the cities of Battlefield and Republic.

**Contact Information:** wicr\_superintendent@nps.gov Phone: 417-732-2662 x227. The battlefield Visitor Center is open seven days a week, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. and contains exhibits about the battle, a twenty-nine minute film, an eight-minute fiber optics map program and a bookstore. An excellent Civil War research library is open to visitors from Tuesday through Saturday. Hours for the battlefield Tour Road may be extended during the spring, summer and fall.

**Availability:** Curriculum based educational programs are available Monday through Friday during the months of April and May depending upon volunteer and staff availability. Advance reservations are required for all groups and can be made by contacting the park's education office. A variety of interpretive programs and special events are typically offered on weekends throughout the year.

**Programs:** Educational programs offered include a 30 minute orientation DVD, an eight minute fiber-optics terrain map presentation; talk/tour of the Ray House, a farmhouse used as a field hospital during the battle; a Civil War medical talk and a common soldier program. K – 12 Curriculum guides are available in a downloadable format on the battlefield's website: [www.nps.gov/wicr](http://www.nps.gov/wicr). Traveling trunks are also available for classroom use at no charge. Groups will also be given time to tour the Visitor Center exhibit area and bookstore on their own. Additional information for scheduling a school visit can be obtained by contacting the battlefield's Education coordinator at: (417) 732 – 2662 ext. 385.

**Age/grade level:** Programs are available for 4<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> grade.

**Group Size:** Depending on the size of the bus the battlefield can accommodate up to five buses on one day.

**Student/Adult Ratio:** One adult chaperone per ten children is recommended; more are encouraged, especially with younger groups.

**Fees:** A fee waiver for educational groups should be requested in writing prior to the scheduled visit. Funding is not available to help with transportation costs. Bus parking is provided. The Fee Waiver Request form is available on-line at [www.nps.gov/wicr](http://www.nps.gov/wicr) or by contacting the park outreach coordinator at (417) 732 – 2662 ext. 385.

**Lunch Provisions:** Food is not allowed in the Visitor Center. A picnic area with a covered pavilion located near the Visitor Center is available for sack lunches. Beverage vending machines are located near the picnic area.

## **Wonders of the Ozarks Learning Facility WOLF**

**Mission:** To achieve academic excellence through a rigorous core academic program, in the context of the outdoors and conservation science, which instills a sense of integrity and respect of the natural world.

**Location:** John A and Genny Morris Conservation Education Center, 500 W. Sunshine, Springfield, MO 65807

**Contact Information:** Phone: (417) 523-0117 or (417) 225-1118

Website: <http://springfieldpublicschoolsмо.org/wolf/index.htm>

**About WOLF:** Wonders of the Ozarks Learning Facility (WOLF) is a school of choice created by Springfield Public Schools for 5th graders with a special interest in nature and the outdoors. The school was developed in collaboration with Johnny Morris Foundation and Bass Pro. Students will attend WOLF each day school is in session. Their physical classroom will be at the John A and Genny Morris Conservation Education Center, 500 W. Sunshine. However, they will spend a substantial amount of time engaged in hands-on inquiry “in the field”. Throughout the school year the students are exposed to almost every public conservation area, park, and wild places within 25 miles of Springfield.

Two WOLF teachers instruct two classes of 5th grade students in the same core curriculum as other Springfield 5th graders. The difference will be that all subjects are taught in the context of nature and conservation education.

**Age/Grade Level:** 5<sup>th</sup> grade

**Availability:** Only by appointment

## **Wonders of Wildlife Museum and Aquarium**

**Mission:** To educate, inform and entertain visitors concerning the value of fish and wildlife, to help them appreciate our heritage of hunting and fishing, and to motivate their personal involvement in the conservation of our outdoor resources.

**Location:**     **Aquarium location:** 500 W. Sunshine Street, Springfield, MO (At the corner of Sunshine and Campbell)  
                  **John A and Genny Morris Conservation Education Center:** 600 W Sunshine Street, Springfield Mo (Just west of Bass Pro)

**Contact Information:** Phone: 417-890-9453, ask for the education department.  
Website:<http://www.wondersofwildlife.org>

**Availability:** Museum is currently closed for a major renovation and expansion project with a projected opening date for the entire complex June 2016. Education programs for all ages are available at the Conservation Education Center or on outreach throughout the year.

**Programs:** Conservation Education Center Classroom and Outreach programs include live animals, touchable artifacts, and engaging activities. Pre and post visit activities will accompany each age appropriate classroom program. Topics include Animal Introductions, Life Cycles, Food Chains, Ecosystems, Adaptations, Classification, and Lewis & Clark. Lab programs include live animals, touchable artifacts, and dissection of a rat, frog, squid, or owl pellet. Wonders of Wildlife is also home to WOW school and National Hunting and Fishing Day. Both events allow families the opportunity to experience the outdoors together. WOW school is taught in 5 locations across the state of Missouri, check out the website for more details.

**Age/Grade Level:** Working closely with teachers and administrators, our educators have designed a wide range of classes and programs that meet national, state and local curriculum standards in K-12.

**Group Size:** All groups can be accommodated, from large flocks to small herds. (Minimum 15 for group pricing)

### **Fees:**

#### Classroom Programs:

\*Applies to educational groups of 20 or more.

**Students:**     \$3.00 for animal presentation and \$2.00 for additional education activities (making plaster tracks, making slime, scavenger hunts, and other games and activities)

**Chaperones:**   Free

#### Outreach Programs:

60 minute program \$100.00 (up to 35 students), additional programs on same day \$50.00

30 minute program \$75.00 (up to 35 students), additional programs on same day \$50.00

Locations farther than 25 miles from Springfield will be assessed a travel charge.

Call for more details 417-225-1118.