

Green Valleys Association  
at Welkinweir Arboretum  
1368 Prizer Road  
Pottstown, PA 19465  
[www.greenvalleys.org](http://www.greenvalleys.org)

Environmental Education Programs  
for Schools



Green Valleys Association at  
Welkinweir Arboretum

***Environmental Education  
Programs for Schools***



GVA's programs for public, private and home school groups are offered year-round at GVA, your school, or other natural site.

*The mission of Green Valleys Association is to protect and preserve the quantity and quality of water resources in northern Chester County through advocacy and education.*

## Green Valleys Association (GVA)

**Environmental Education Programs** offer interdisciplinary environmental education programs for students in grades Pre K through 7. Programs are designed to supplement school curriculums by providing hands-on environmental study using plant and animal artifacts, demonstrations, and games.

All programs correlate to many of the Pennsylvania Academic Standards for Environment and Ecology and Science and Technology, which are measured in the Pennsylvania System of School Assessments (PSSA's).

### Key to the Pennsylvania Academic Standards Addressed in GVA School Programs

Science & Technology (S&T)  
3.3 Biological Sciences

Environment & Ecology (E&E)  
4.1 Watersheds and Wetlands  
4.3 Environmental Health  
4.6 Ecosystems and Their Interactions  
4.7 Threatened, Endangered and Extinct Species  
4.8 Humans and the Environment



*The specific Standards addressed in each program are listed after each program description.*

*GVA's educational programs are not school-sponsored activities.*

## Fees and Scheduling

Contact Dawn White, Education Director at 610-469-8646 or [dwhite@greenvalleys.org](mailto:dwhite@greenvalleys.org) at least 2 weeks prior to your preferred program dates.

### Outreach Programs:

- Maximum 60 students, minimum 10 students.
  - 1 program = \$75 plus mileage
  - \$50 each additional, *same-day* program
- \*Note: Price increase as of 8/19/10.



### On-site Programs:

- Maximum 60 students, minimum 10 students.
- Fees: 1 hour = \$3.50/student  
1.5 hours = \$4.50/student  
2 hours = \$5.00/student
- 3 teachers free;
- Extra teachers/parents = 1 free per 10 students.



## *Program Topics continued*

### Grades 4-7

**Working Watersheds** *1 hour or 1 class period; indoors*  
Using the Enviroscape, a unique, interactive model, students can learn the origins of common point and non-point sources of water pollution in Chester County. Students will use the model to demonstrate how a watershed works, how pollution occurs, and what can be done to prevent land and water pollution.

*E&E - 4.1, 4.3, 4.6*



### **Other Program Topics and Customized Programs Available**

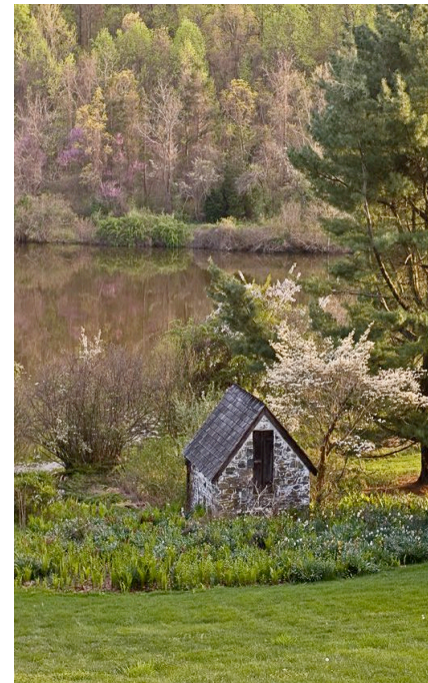
With advanced notice, we can develop programs on **Plants, Insects, Wetlands**, and other topics; as well as modify some of the listed programs to fit the needs of your group. Please contact us to inquire how we may accommodate you.

## *Program Location Options*



**Outreach Programs** involve outdoor study in your schoolyard, or hands-on programs in your classroom. These lessons can also be used to introduce and prepare students for follow-up programs at GVA.

\*Note: Some of our programs cannot be adapted to your location. Please inquire about your program options based on your schoolyard design.



**On-site Programs** are held at GVA's headquarters of Welkinweir Arboretum and nature sanctuary, located on Prizer Road, 1 mile from the intersection of Routes 23 and 100. Welkinweir offers 197-acres of forests, meadows, ponds, and streams for students to study and explore. These lessons can also be used to introduce and prepare students for follow-up programs at your site.



## ***Program Topics***

### ***Grades Pre K–1***

#### **Seasonal Sensory Walk** *1 hour*

Children discover the season's events using their senses to explore living and non-living things, and discover animals and plants through hands-on activities.

*E & E - 4.3, 4.4, 4.6, 4.7*

#### **Water Sense** *1 or 1.5 hours*

Using their senses to explore a pond, stream or wetland, children can discover the living and non-living things of these watery habitats through collection and identification of the plants and animals. (Please specify which water habitat(s) you would like to explore at the time of scheduling).

*E&E - 4.1, 4.3, 4.6*

### ***Grades 2–5***

#### **Exploring Ecosystems** *1.5 hours*

Students discover the living and nonliving components of ecosystems and the needs and roles of the wildlife living in fields, forest, and wetlands. Other activities will further their understanding of food webs and what happens to living organisms when their habitats change.

*E & E - 4.6, 4.7; S&T - 3.3*

#### **Amazing Adaptations** *1.5 hours*

Searching for and studying local wildlife and various animal artifacts will assist students in understanding the complexity of plant and animal survival techniques, including coloration, behaviors, and mimicry. Older students will learn more about other types of behavioral, physiological and structural adaptations.

*E&E - 4.6, 4.7, 4.3; S&T - 3.3*

### ***Grades 2-7***

#### **Pond Community Study** *1.5 or 2 hours*

During an investigation of one or more of our ponds, students will study the plants and animals living here using various tools, then record their findings. Students will also learn about and identify the stages of succession.

*E&E - 4.1.4, 4.1.7, 4.3.4, 4.3.7, 4.6.4, 4.6.7; S&T - 3.3*

#### **Stream Study** *1.5 or 2 hours*

Students gain an understanding of the basic water cycle in relation to our landscape and determine the health of the local stream habitat through visual observations, chemical tests, and collection and observation of its animals. Students will also learn some different causes of water pollution and how they can help prevent pollution of our local waterways.

*E&E - 4.1, 4.3, 4.6; S&T - 3.3*

*More program offerings on page 6.*

