



OUTDOOR CAMPUS

— SIOUX FALLS, SOUTH DAKOTA —



|Outreach Program Guide|

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OUTDOORCAMPUS.ORG

OUTREACH PROGRAMS



The goal of the outreach program is to provide outdoor activities to anyone and everyone in towns across our 20-county region. If you are interested in setting up an outreach program please contact Jason Nelson at (605) 362-2777 or email at jason.nelson@state.sd.us. If you would like to take advantage of one of these great opportunities but don't have the access or space needed, we can always make arrangements to do these classes at the Outdoor Campus.

Fishing

Fishing Basics

This class starts with an overview of gear, safety, and fish identification. Then, you will be able to practice your casting and go fishing! Must have access to fishable water for the fishing portion. If access isn't available, just practice casting is still a great option! You only need room to cast a line (outdoors or empty gym).

Advanced Fishing

Learn the different types of techniques and equipment that can be used to catch fish. We will cover different types of rod and reel set ups, differences in line choices, and learn a few different knots to use. We will also learn about different types of set ups, tackle, and when to use them. Be prepared to bait your own hook. This is an excellent knowledge building workshop, but fishing can be added if fishable water is available.

Fly Fishing

Learn the ins and outs of fly rods, reels, line, and flies. We will also discuss some of the terrestrial and underwater creatures many fish in South Dakota are eating. You will learn proper casting techniques and get to practice casting. No water is required but will help in catching a lunker!

Fly Tying

Have you ever wanted to get into fly fishing? Have you ever wanted to learn how to tie your own flies? This class covers all of the introductory topics including entomology, tools, materials, and techniques and then you will learn how to tie a popular pattern for the current season.

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Explore Bow Fishing

This exciting class covers all things bow fishing! We will cover the specialized gear, the common species and regulations in South Dakota, and learn a few tips and tricks to have a successful outing. You don't need water to enjoy this class but an open area where archery can be safely shot is required.

Snorkeling / Spearfishing

Snorkeling is a fantastic new offering where you can get face to face with some of South Dakota's underwater habitats and creatures. You will learn all about masks, snorkels, and fins along with some tips and tricks for proper fit. We will also discuss how to stay calm and relaxed while in the water. Lastly, we will cover safety, ethics, diver down flags, the buddy system, and optional gear before getting our feet wet. After some practice in shallow water, the adventure truly begins. As a group, you will be lead around looking for interesting underwater life before being given the chance to explore on your own. Life jackets will be worn at all times so don't worry if you aren't a strong swimmer.

If harvesting fish while snorkeling sounds like something you would be interested in, then the next component, spearfishing, is right up your alley. After getting well acquainted with the gear and techniques of snorkeling, you will learn about the different types of spearguns and pole spears used in harvesting fish in South Dakota. Laws, regulations, limits, and more will also be covered in great detail before we safely re-enter the water in search of our quarry...

- Valid SD fishing licenses required
- This is an off-site class but locations can vary around the area
- This class is age restricted to 18+



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Shooting Sports

Archery Basics

Learn the basics of becoming an archer using a compound bow. Topics covered include parts of a bow, maintenance, range safety, and proper shooting technique. You will then get to practice your marksmanship on 3D targets! Must have an open area to set up archery net.

BB Gun Basics

Learn firearm safety and proper shooting techniques. You will get a chance to shoot multiple targets from multiple positions with a BB gun. Must have an outdoor area suitable for a small shooting range.

Shotgun Basics

Learn firearm safety and proper shooting techniques using a shotgun. You will be shooting clay pigeons from multiple positions. Must have access to a shooting range or be able to travel to an open range in the area. Guns, clay pigeons, ammo, hearing protection, and eye protection will be provided.

Rifle Basics

Learn firearm safety and proper shooting techniques while using a rifle. Everything from iron sights to how to sight in a scope to proper shooting techniques will be discussed. You will then get to practice in multiple positions used in target shooting and hunting. Must have access to a shooting range or be able to travel to an open range in the area. Guns, ammo, targets, hearing protection, and eye protection will be provided.



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Outdoor Skills

Explore Hunting

This comprehensive class is an introduction to hunting and bow hunting in South Dakota. We will cover gear, game, and what is needed to know to be successful. A few of the topics discussed will be wind, blinds, habitat, and tracking. This can be an indoor class but is much more hands-on if there is an outdoor area to do some activities and shooting, either archery or air rifles. This class can be tailored for any species you are hoping to harvest.

Trapping Basics

Learn about the different animals that can be trapped in South Dakota and the tools needed to be successful. This class will cover animals, tracks, furs, traps, and important safety information. An outdoor component can be added where the students can make their own sets.

Survival

Learn about what is needed to survive in South Dakota. Many topics will be covered including fire preparation, shelter building, first aid, and most importantly, being prepared. This class is incredibly hands on and can be done year round!

Orienteering

Do you like exploring? Does the idea of following a map to the unknown sound exciting? Then orienteering is the activity for you. Learn how to navigate a course using a map and compass to locate control points. This can be done anywhere with a large enough footprint to make things interesting (parks work great).



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Presentations

Firearm Safety and Hunting

Learn all about gun safety. This includes the different types of firearms, ammunition, safe handling, storage, maintenance, and proper use. Hunting topics will cover each species appropriate for the current season. Hands-on learning and short videos also accompany the class where possible.

Build Your Tacklebox on a Budget and Take it Shore Fishing

It doesn't take a winning scratcher or an inheritance to build a winning tacklebox. This presentation covers some tried and true tackle options, rigs, and techniques to help get you out on the water without breaking the bank, no matter the species you are after. We will also cover how to locate public water and how to break it down to be more successful the next time you get out.

Ecology of South Dakota's State Species:

The Ring-Necked Pheasant, Coyote, and Walleye

This presentation covers the life cycles of three of South Dakota's most iconic species. It is highly informative with many visual aids.

Understanding Ammunition

Are you curious about all the different types of ammo you see on the shelves? Do you find all of the choices and different numbers confusing and overwhelming? This class will break down the differences in many of the popular ammunition offerings and give you a good foundation for choosing the correct ammunition for your needs.

Where to Hunt

Figuring out where to hunt can be one of the biggest hurdles to jump over when getting into hunting. This class will cover the many resources at your disposal to make this easier and even fun. We will discuss public lands, licenses, trip considerations, scouting, and locations. By the end, you will have learned everything you need to get outside and start enjoying South Dakota's public lands.

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Presentations

These presentations are all information packed and hands-on. They mix a lot of different concepts together to keep learners engaged. We strive to keep things interesting and current and believe they are great presentations for all ages of learners. We tailor each presentation for the group we are in front of so if you have specific needs or topics you wish to discuss, we are happy to work with you.

Animals of SD

What kinds of animals live in South Dakota? Animal adaptations, along with their relationships and importance in our unique ecosystem are a strong theme. This is a very informative and hands-on presentation that can include furs, skulls, tracks, scat, and live animals.

The Mighty Migration

Learn about migration and the role South Dakota plays in the annual migration of many species of birds. This is a very interactive and fun program involving waterfowl identification, games, props, and calls.

Ecosystems and Adaptations

It is important to understand the relationships between living things and their habitats. This presentation covers how different species have unique adaptations to help them survive. We will also go in depth about food chains and play an interactive game to drive home how habitats and species are connected. The classic biomes of South Dakota will also be explored as we look deeper at what we can be discovered in each unique area.

Endangered and Invasive Species

This class covers threatened, endangered, and extinct species. We not only look at South Dakota examples but also think globally about the many factors that lead to population decline. We will also discuss invasive species and learn how they can take a stronghold on a habitat. Their relationship with native species and how humans are working to manage them is at the center of this program.

Creatures of the Night

This class covers many of the nocturnal creatures that call the dark their home. Many animals including bats will be discussed, along with owls and an owl pellet dissection. It is very exciting, informational, and hands on.

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“Build Your Own” Fishing Series

Bucktail Jigs

Bucktail or hair jigs have been a staple in fishing for decades, and being able to customize your own and catch a fish on it makes it all the more enjoyable. Whether you are looking for a specific size, color, or flash, we can make it happen.



Spinner Rigs

Pulled behind a bottom bouncer, spinner rigs are one of the most popular ways to catch walleye in South Dakota. In these trying times, paying four to seven dollars for a few beads, a blade, and a hook seems wild when you can make your own rigs with custom blade and hook sizes, leader lengths, and colors for much less.



Fly Tying

Have you ever wanted to get into fly fishing? Have you ever wanted to learn how to tie your own flies? This class covers all of the introductory topics including entomology, tools, materials, and techniques and then you will learn how to tie a popular pattern for the current season.



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Winter Activities

Snowshoe Basics

Learn about the history of snowshoes and the proper technique for putting them on and walking in them. We will then head outside to give them a whor!! Snow required!

Ice Fishing Basics

Learn about the differences in ice fishing compared to open water fishing. We will cover set ups, tackle, and safety. You will then get on the ice, learn to drill holes, and use your new knowledge to try and catch a keeper. Appropriately thick ice is required.

Winter Survival

Learn about what is needed to survive a cold night in the Winter in South Dakota. Many topics will be covered including fire preparation, shelter building, first aid, and most importantly, being prepared. This class is incredibly hands on and can be done year round!

Cross Country Skiing

Learn about proper technique for gliding on our groomed trails. You will also learn about cutting new trails in fresh snow and even how to fall properly. This is a great wintertime sport that you will soon fall in love with.

Borrow these Teaching Tools!

We have crates of teaching materials than you can borrow for up to two weeks. These are the crates we currently have available:

Bat Crate, Grasslands Bag, Beaver Crate, Land Navigation (GPS) Crates I & II, Binoculars Box, Mammal Crates A & B (similar contents), Bird Box, Prairie Crate, Camera Crate, Reptile and Amphibian Crate, Coyote Crate, Track Sack, Discovery Bag A & B, Tree Trunk, Endangered Species Crate, Fishing Crate, Snowshoe Crate

You can find the inventory sheet for any of these crates on our website at www.outdoorcampus.org, calling the office at (605) 362-2700, or emailing our secretary at jean.olson@state.sd.us

ADDITIONAL OPPORTUNITIES



CONTACT JASON NELSON
FOR MORE DETAILS

JASON.NELSON@STATE.SD.US
605-940-8486

BIG SIOUX FLY FISHING CLUB 2025

PROUDLY SUPPORTED BY:



THIS CLUB IS FOR ANYONE WHO
WANTS TO LEARN ABOUT OR SHARE
THEIR PASSION FOR FLY FISHING

WE ALSO WANT TO MAKE FLY FISHING
FUN AND APPROACHABLE

NO REGISTRATION REQUIRED
ALL ARE WELCOME



LOCAL
FISHING
TRIPS
EACH
MONTH

FIND US ONLINE



Find us on Facebook @outdoorcampusSF

Our Facebook page is updated daily. Follow us for the latest in outdoor news, pop up classes and photos from our programs.



Find us on Instagram @outdoorcampus_sioux falls

We post a lot of photos. Want to see what's happening out here? This is the place to look!



Find our website! outdoorcampus.org

How are these classes FREE?

Our funding comes from the sale of hunting and fishing licenses in South Dakota. If you like our classes thank a hunter or an angler.

How can we support The Outdoor Campus?

Buy a hunting and fishing license in South Dakota. Nationwide the sale of licenses are declining rapidly as we lose the Baby Boomer Generation. They were the last large group of hunters and anglers. We need to replace the funds they put toward habitat, wildlife management, conservation, recreation and education. Every single license you buy in your family helps fisheries, pheasant habitat, and so much more—including The Outdoor Campus.

Do you get any other funds?

We do receive some funding from a Federal excise tax on hunting and fishing equipment sales. A small portion of each fishing pole or shotgun you buy can go toward hunting and fishing programs here.

