Fish Creek Provincial Park Education Programs
Facility and Program Bookings

Teacher Orientations

Regularly scheduled orientations are available for teachers to:

1. Plan for "safety and seasonal conditions" by visiting the site prior to your field trip as required by your School Board (*Off-site Activities (CBE)* or *Regulation IJOA (Calgary Seperate)*).
2. Understand the roles and responsibilities of Park staff.
3. Familiarize yourself with the Park, the facilities, the trails, and the equipment we provide.

For Teacher Orientation dates, please see our website at **www.fish-creek.org** (under Education) or email **Fishcreek.Education@gov.ab.ca**

Professional Development Opportunities and Facility Use

Meeting room facilities and workshop presentations are available to educational organizations and corporate groups.

If you would like to explore how the resources of the Park could help you in your professional development plans, phone the Fish Creek Environmental Learning Centre at 403-297-7827.

Program Fees

Fees include G.S.T. and are due the day of the field trip. A receipt will be issued.

Please make cheques payable to: **The Minister of Finance**

These funds go towards expanded program development and maintaining the programs for teachers and students.

Program Booking Procedure

Bookings are accepted either by email or telephone. Please provide the following information:

- school name
- teacher name(s)
- grade(s) taught
- number of students
- program requested
- preferred dates
- arrival and departure times

A confirmation and the teacher orientation notice will be sent to you either by email or fax.

Bookings will begin **Monday, August 24, 2009** on a first-come, first-served basis.

Bookings for programs at the Fish Creek Environmental Learning Centre are available for January 2010 to June 2010 **ONLY**. No Fall bookings.

Bookings for programs at the Bow Valley Ranch Visitor Centre are available for the entire 2009-2010 school year.

Bookings

To reserve an educational program:

Email: **Fishcreek.Education@gov.ab.ca**

Telephone: **403-297-7827**

For Junior and Senior High only: **403-297-7927**

ISBN NO.: 978-0-7785-7857-4
Revised June 2009
Printed on Recycled Paper

Government of Alberta

2009 - 2010 Education Opportunities in Fish Creek Provincial Park

Fish Creek Provincial Park

Fish Creek Provincial Park is one of the largest urban natural protected areas in Canada. Located in the City of Calgary, it is approximately 1480 hectares in size and stretches from the T'suu Tina First Nation Reserve in the west to the Bow River in the east. The Park is 20 km long and about one km wide, encompassing mainly the creek and surrounding valley. The Park contains two natural regions; grasslands to the east and parkland to the west. Within the Park are a variety of natural features and an assortment of indigenous plant and animal species that are protected to ensure the area's natural biodiversity. The Fish Creek valley also has a rich cultural heritage of First Nations history, ranching activity, and public use.

Fish Creek Provincial Park is a protected area within a larger system of parks and protected areas in Alberta. The Alberta Parks and Protected Areas network preserves, for all time, landscapes and natural features that represent the environmental diversity of our province.

Fish Creek Provincial Park is an active member of the communities that surround it. It represents a significant natural resource for the City of Calgary, now and for the future.

For more information visit the Fish Creek Provincial Park website at:

www.fish-creek.org
or email us at:
Fishcreek.Education@gov.ab.ca

NEW! Fish Creek Environmental Learning Centre

Since 1982, the Fish Creek Environmental Learning Centre (FCELC) has educated nearly 800,000 students, teachers, and parent volunteers. The FCELC has been closed for the past year to undergo major facility enhancements and we look forward to hosting students and teachers **beginning in January 2010**.

This project will result in an extensive change to the facility that will increase classroom size and functionality, provide for a larger public presentation space, and house new meeting and boardroom facilities.

Materials and furnishing will be upgraded as will communication and presentation technologies and equipment. We will have our five main classrooms and orientation areas to host your classes as before, but with added facility features and new technologies to better support our programs and services.

Upon completion, the building will model an example of environmental sustainability with features including high efficiency heating and lighting, water conservation technologies and a green roof system.

We are very excited about the improved and expanded facilities the new FCELC will offer and look forward to improving and expanding our programs and services to match.

See you in January 2010!

Bow Valley Ranch Visitor Centre

The Bow Valley Ranch Visitor Centre is located in the east end of the Park, at the end of Bow Bottom Trail S.E. It offers an indoor sitting area, a theatre, and an exhibit that focuses on the history of indigenous peoples and early European settlement of the Fish Creek area.

An outdoor cooking and eating area is available at Hull's Wood. The Centre and surrounding asphalt pathways are wheelchair accessible.

Alberta

Fish Creek Provincial Park Education Programs

All programs are at the Fish Creek Environmental Learning Centre and the Bow Valley Ranch Visitor Centre unless otherwise noted.

Kindergarten
Half-day program fee: $1.50 per student

FABULOUS FALL (Sept. and Oct.)

WINTER WONDER (Dec. to Feb.)

SPRING FEVER (Apr.)

HIDDEN WORLDS (May to Aug.)

TREASURES OF FISH CREEK
(All Year)
Only at the Bow Valley Ranch Visitor Centre

Grade 1
Full-day program fee: $3.00 per student

SIGNS OF FALL (Sept. and Oct.)
Topic B: Seasonal Changes
Topic D: Senses

ANIMALS AND WINTER
(Dec. to Feb.)
Topic B: Seasonal Changes
Topic D: Senses

ENCHANTED SPRING (April)
Topic B: Seasonal Changes
Topic D: Senses

THRIVING TOGETHER (May to Aug.)
Topic E: Needs of Animals and Plants

Grade 2
Full-day program fee: $3.00 per student

INSECT INTRIGUE (May to mid-Oct.)
Topic E: Small Crawling and Flying Animals

Grade 3

NEW! **WILD MINDS**
Outreach Program (All Year)
1.5 hour In-class Presentation
FEE: $75.00 per class

This interactive slideshow program will introduce your students to Fish Creek Provincial Park and the wildlife that call it "home". Students will be kept active with an on-going quiz game and have first-hand experience with various wildlife evidence (pelts, skulls, tracks). A great opportunity to start off your *Topic E: Animal Life Cycles* unit!

WILD LIFE CYCLES (Apr. to Oct.)
Topic E: Animal Life Cycles
This is a full-day field study, half of which is lead by Park staff.
FEE: $4.00 per student

Students will develop positive attitudes, knowledge and observation skills concerning wild animals and the habitat they depend upon that is preserved by Parks and Protected Areas. Activities focus on observable characteristics, how basic needs are met within the habitat, levels of parental care, changes in environmental conditions, and how students can assist in habitat preservation.

Grade 1 - 3
Full-day program fee: $3.00 per student

FISH CREEK FAMILY (All Year)
Supports the social studies curriculum from the Alberta Program of Studies.

Only at the Bow Valley Ranch Visitor Centre.

Imagine a bison was your supermarket and you carried your house on a horse! This full-day program provides a comparison between traditional First Nations lifestyles and the students' own families. Activities include setting up a miniature aboriginal encampment, aboriginal games and a walk to a bison jump.

Grade 4
Full-day program fee: $3.00 per student

PLANT COMMUNITIES
(May to mid-Oct.)
Topic E: Plant Growth and Changes

Grade 4 - 5

FISH CREEK: THE LAND, HISTORIES, AND STORIES
(Mar. to mid-Oct.)
Grade 4: *Alberta: The Land, Histories and Stories*
Grade 5: *Canada: The Land, Histories and Stories*
FEE: $3.00 per student

Only at the Bow Valley Ranch Visitor Centre.

This full-day program will introduce students to the roles and importance of Alberta's Parks and Protected Areas through a series of hands-on and discussion-based activities in one of Canada's largest natural urban parks. Pre, post, and field study activities allow students to discover a sense-of-place and develop positive attitudes, knowledge, and understanding of their role within the parks network.

Grade 5

WETLANDS (Apr. to Oct.)
Topic E: *Wetland Ecosystems*
FEE: $4.00 per student

This partnership program between Ducks Unlimited Canada, the City of Calgary Parks and Alberta Parks offers up to 3 wetlands programs in your class and at Fish Creek Provincial Park areas at no extra cost. Your full-day field study includes the riparian and upland habitats and a half-day at the pond. Your pond study is guided by a Wetland Education Specialist.

September/October: Pre-field study and post-field study programs are delivered in your class by wetlands educators from the City of Calgary and Alberta Parks (3 programs).

April/May/June: A pre-field study program is delivered in your class by a wetlands educator from the City of Calgary before your field study (2 programs).

Ducks Unlimited Canada
Conserving Canada's Wetlands

Grade 6
Full-day program fee: $3.00 per student

TREE TALES (Apr. to Oct.)
Topic E: Trees and Forests

WINTER DETECTIVES (Dec. to Feb.)
Topic D: Evidence and Investigation
Only at the Fish Creek Environmental Learning Centre

Grade 3 to High School

ORIENTEERING (All Year)
FEE: $3.00 per student

An excellent hands-on program to develop map reading and orienteering skills in conjunction with math, social studies, physical education and outdoor education. Additional activities enhance student learning about the cultural and natural environment, human impact and safety outdoors. Students should have basic map reading skills.

There are two routes in the Park: The Shannon Terrace route has twelve stations and the Bow Valley Ranch route has eight stations.

Drop-in Groups
DROP-IN FEE: $1.50 per student

All Orienteering route use must be booked to avoid scheduling conflicts (no space booked in the Fish Creek Environmental Learning Centre or Bow Valley Ranch Visitor Centre, just route use).

Junior and Senior High School Opportunities

Grade 7

THE "NATURE" OF SCIENCE
(Mid-Apr. to mid-Oct.)
Unit A: Interactions and Ecosystems
Full-day program fee: $4.00 per student

SHRUBS, TREES, AND DICHOTOMOUS KEYS (All Year)
Unit B: Plants for Food and Fibre
Half-day program fee: $2.00 per student

Grade 9

BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY
(Mid-Apr. to mid-Oct.)
Unit A: Biological Diversity
Full-day program fee: $4.00 per student

Grade 11

NEW!

ECOSYSTEMS AND IMPACTS: A FIELD STUDY FOR BIOLOGY AND SCIENCE 20 STUDENTS

AVAILABLE SPRING 2010!

Biology 20: Unit B: Ecosystems and Population Change
FEE: $4.00 per student

This field study will provide students with an authentic, hands-on study experience exploring and gathering real-world information on ecosystems and human impacts in Fish Creek Provincial Park.

Your Day, Your Way!

Grades K - 12

Plan your own unique half-day, full day, or multiple day field study with Fish Creek Environmental Educators. Staff are available to assist you in creating your own teacher-directed study or to lead specially developed programs. Fees vary.