

Fern & Feather Nature Camp 2025 Session Themes

Registering for camp is one of many benefits of Mass Audubon membership. In order to register for Camp, your **membership (Family Level or higher) must be current**. Purchase or renew your membership **during the camp registration process.**

Nature Camps:

Pathfinders/Explorers Day Camp: Monday-Friday • 9:00 am-2:30 pm

Adventurers/Ecologists Day Camp: Monday – Thursday* • 9:00 am–2:30 pm *Thursday Late Night (optional) 6pm-9pm

<u>After Care:</u> Monday–Friday • 2:30 pm – 3:30pm Separate registration is required for After Care; space is limited.

Camper Groups:

Pathfinders • Ages 5-6 - Counselor-to-Camper Ratio - 1 to 5
Explorers • Ages 7-8 - Counselor-to-Camper Ratio - 1 to 8
Adventurers** • Ages 9-11 - Counselor-to-Camper Ratio - 1 to 8
Ecologists** • Ages 12-14 - Counselor-to-Camper Ratio - 1 to 10

**Please Note: Adventurers and Ecologists may be combined depending on participant registration.

Counselors-in-Training • Ages 14–17 Application and membership required; contact Camp Director for additional information.

Fern & Feather Nature Camp 2025 Pathfinders and Explorers

Pathfinders (Ages 5 -6) • Explorers (Ages 7 - 8)

Monday-Friday • 9:00 am-2:30 pm

June 23-27 • Nature Heroes

Do you like the outdoors and care about wildlife? Discover how you can help take care of the nature found at Felix Neck Wildlife Sanctuary and all over Massachusetts. Learn to be a hero of the earth: Hike trails without leaving a trace, learn outdoor skills, make a difference as a steward of nature, and gain confidence in your leadership skills through teambuilding activities.

June 30-July 3 • Estuary Expedition

With hands-on activities, nature walks, and guided exploration, campers will discover how salt marshes function as nurseries for many marine species, habitats for migratory birds, and natural defenses against coastal erosion. (no camp July 4th)

July 7-11 • Insect Investigators

Get ready to crawl, fly, and buzz into the fascinating world of insects! In this hands-on camp session, campers will become insect investigators, discovering the hidden lives of some of the planet's most diverse and important creatures. From colorful butterflies to industrious ants and elusive fireflies, we'll explore how insects thrive in different environments, their roles in ecosystems, and their incredible adaptations.

July 14-18 • Fearless Fliers

Keep your eyes on the sky this week as we seek out all kinds of flying creatures! Learn how to use binoculars and track different patterns and cycles of all things with wings at Felix Neck.

July 21-25 • Tadpoles & Treasures

Ever wondered what it's like to live in a squishy, muddy swamp? Join us as we explore the secretive world of insects, amphibians, and reptiles that call the swamp home! Get ready for a hands-on adventure where you'll discover how these creatures thrive in the swamp's mysterious, wetland habitat!

July 28-August 1 • Into the Wild

Take a walk on the wild side and hit the trails running with all kinds of outdoor fun. Go on scavenger hunts, play games, and get crafty! This week is all about having fun outside, exploring the natural world, and creating opportunities for adventure every day.

August 4-8 · Campology

From geology to meteorology to scatology, the natural world is full of all kinds of ologies to learn about and explore. Ornithology, herpetology, and mammalology are just a few others on the list. Put your science skills into practice by taking a closer view of all things connected to nature.

August 11-15 • Soil to Sky

Explore the world around you one layer at a time, investigating from deep beneath your feet to high in the sky. Discover the cycles that link the rocks to the trees, the fungi to the air, and even the tiniest soil microbes to the largest bird of prey.

Fern & Feather Nature Camp 2025 Adventurers and Ecologists*

Adventurers (Ages 9 -11) • Ecologists (Ages 12 – 14) *Please Note: Adventurers and Ecologists may be combined depending on participant registration

Monday – Thursday^{**} • 9:00 am–2:30 pm ^{**}Thursday Late Night (optional) 6pm-9pm; no camp Friday

June 30-July 3 • Estuary Expedition

With hands-on activities, nature walks, and guided exploration, campers will discover how salt marshes function as nurseries for many marine species, habitats for migratory birds, and natural defenses against coastal erosion.

July 7-10 • Insect Investigators

Get ready to crawl, fly, and buzz into the fascinating world of insects! In this hands-on camp session, campers will become insect investigators, discovering the hidden lives of some of the planet's most diverse and important creatures. From colorful butterflies to industrious ants and elusive fireflies, we'll explore how insects thrive in different environments, their roles in ecosystems, and their incredible adaptations.

July 14-17 • Fearless Fliers

Keep your eyes on the sky this week as we seek out all kinds of flying creatures! Learn how to use binoculars and track different patterns and cycles of all things with wings at Felix Neck.

July 21-24 • Tadpoles & Treasures

Ever wondered what it's like to live in a squishy, muddy swamp? Join us as we explore the secretive world of insects, amphibians, and reptiles that call the swamp home! Get ready for a hands-on adventure where you'll discover how these creatures thrive in the swamp's mysterious, wetland habitat!

July 28-July 31 • Into the Wild

Take a walk on the wild side and hit the trails running with all kinds of outdoor fun. Go on scavenger hunts, play games, and get crafty! This week is all about having fun outside, exploring the natural world, and creating opportunities for adventure every day.

August 4-7 · Campology

From geology to meteorology to scatology, the natural world is full of all kinds of ologies to learn about and explore. Ornithology, herpetology, and mammalology are just a few others on the list. Put your science skills into practice by taking a closer view of all things connected to nature.

Daily Camp Schedule:

8:45-9:15 am: Camper Drop-off

9:15 am: Morning Circle

- The whole camp gathers together for an introductory activity, playing name games, and going over rules for staying safe at camp. And of course, there is always singing!
- Please Note: Grown-ups are invited to join our Morning Circle on Fridays from 9:00-9:30 am

9:30-10:30 am: Nature Theme Intro & Snack

• Each small group has its own daily theme that supports nature and science learning. Activities and objectives are unique to each age group.

10:30 am-12:00 pm: Activities & Explorations

• Groups explore the trails and habitats as they learn more about their themes. This may include activities such as pond dipping, looking for caterpillars, or searching for animal tracks, to name just a few.

12:00-12:45 pm: Lunch & Story Time

• Lunchtime followed by a story or quiet activity

12:50-2:15 pm: Nature Activities, Crafts & Games

• Counselors reinforce concepts about the Theme of the Day through special art projects, games, and exploration.

2:15-2:30 pm: Camper Pick-up

2:30-3:30 pm: After Care (optional for all campers, requires independent registration, space is limited)

• Campers will have a snack (brought from home) and make crafts, go hiking, or play games.

Grown-up & Camper Mornings:

Thursday • 8:30 am

Grown-ups are invited to join their campers for a **pre-camp walk or activity** with Felix Neck staff and Suzan Bellincampi, Sanctuary Director. See the trails where your camper spends their days exploring. Activities vary each week and are dependent on weather conditions.

Friday • 9:00 am

Grown-ups are also invited to join our **Morning Circle** during which each group shares something they have done or created during the week.

Kids to Camp Fund:

Make a lasting impact on more campers by contributing to the **Kids to Camp Fund** and choosing Felix Neck Camp; <u>Support the Kids to Camp Fund</u>. Your donation will help create unforgettable experiences at Fern & Feather for those who need it most.

