



# Spruce Woods Provincial Park



## Free Interpretive Programs for Schools and Groups

Manitoba Parks and Natural Areas is pleased to offer free interpretive programs to your school and organized groups in Spruce Woods Provincial Park.

**Our Park Interpreter led programs emphasize hands-on experiences to deliver a unique engaging experience for your students or group in all four seasons of the year.**

All programs are designed to fit into the Manitoba Education curriculums of sciences, social studies and outdoor education. You can choose from a selection of ready-made programming listed on the reverse of this publication, or request additional topics. Programs generally last one hour but can be shortened or lengthened depending on your requirements.

Interpretive programs can accommodate up to 30 students per class. Groups wishing to bring more than one class to the park may be able to have the classes rotate through programs. We can also provide teachers and group leaders with self-guided activities.

Most programming takes place at the Spruce Woods Park Centre, our premier interpretive centre. This year-round facility is a perfect location for group programming. Located at the Park Centre is the Interpretive Exhibit Building, Interpretive Workshop (an indoor classroom), an outdoor amphitheatre and campfire circle. Many hiking trails are also close by. The Park Centre is wheelchair accessible and has picnic facilities for those groups that wish to bring a lunch.

*To plan your Spruce Woods adventure, please call the Senior Park Interpreter at 204-827-8850, email [ParkInterpretation@gov.mb.ca](mailto:ParkInterpretation@gov.mb.ca) or go online at [ManitobaParks.com](http://ManitobaParks.com).*

**Programs must be pre-booked to ensure that a spot is open. Programming is available year round, taken on a first come, first serve basis and may be limited due to space and staff availability.**

## Guided Hikes

### **Trail Treks** - All ages

Let an interpreter be your guide to discovering wetlands around the Marsh Lake Trail, the diversity of plant life along the Isputinaw Trail, the effects of the Assiniboine River along the Spring Ridge Trail, or listen to the distinct voices of the prairie on the Quiet Voices Trail.

### **The Spirit Sands** - Grades 4-12

Explore this unique and fragile ecosystem of open sand dunes and unique flora and fauna, such as hognose snakes, northern prairie skinks and pincushion cactus. For a longer trip, hike out to the Devil's Punch Bowl, an eerie pond of water in the sand.

### **Backcountry Excursions** - Grades 7-12

Explore the undulating hills of native prairie and spruce-aspen forests on a variety of backcountry trails of varying length and difficulty, ranging from a half day adventure to overnight camping expeditions.

### **Winter Expeditions** - Grades 6-12

We'll provide your class with snowshoes as we venture into the tranquil snow-covered hills on a variety of trails and lengths. We'll trek to a rustic cabin in the woods and warm up around a campfire with hot chocolate.

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## History & Culture Programs

### **Way of the Bison**

Grades K-4

Discover the historical uses of the plains bison and how every part of the animal benefited the people who hunted them.

### **Spruce Woods First Peoples**

Grades 5-12

Gather in our tipi to learn who lived and in the area and why the sand hills are a sacred place. Afterwards, roast bannock over the fire.

### **First Naturalists**

Grades 7-12

Live a day in the life of an early pioneering naturalist like Ernest Thompson Seton and learn why their work was important to Manitoba.

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## Junior Naturalist Programs

Grades K-5

### **Critter Dipping**

Dip into the marsh and discover the insects and other small wonders of wetlands.

### **Frog Chorus**

Croak and sing as we learn the lifecycle of a frog and the diversity of amphibians in Manitoba.

### **Predator Prey**

Become a predator or prey in this interactive game as we discover animal relationships in the park.

### **Winter Adaptations**

Learn the amazing ability plants and animals have to adapt to and survive the Manitoba winter.

## Park Explorer Programs

Grades 6-8

### **GPS Adventures**

We'll provide you with GPS devices for this high-tech scavenger hunt in the park.

### **Leave No Trace**

Develop a sense of awareness, appreciation and respect for wild lands with these fun activities.

### **Woodcrafters League**

Learn how to be prepared for the woods, build survival kits, start a fire and identify edible wild plants.

### **Quinzhee Building**

Build a protective shelter out of snow and discover how to prepare for venturing out into the winter.

## Teen Programs

Grades 9-12

### **Picture Perfect Parks**

Discover the challenge of managing recreational activities and conserving biodiversity.

### **Ecosystem Dynamics**

Learn ecological concepts and an overview of wildlife management techniques used in Manitoba.

### **Mock Muck**

Experiment water purification methods to find how we can clean our water for future consumption.

### **Aquatic Invertebrate Sampling**

Research the health of our water systems by sampling the insects in an oxbow lake.

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**Looking for a program topic, but don't see it here? We have several programming options for multiple topics – give us a call for more options.**

**Grades indicated are suggestions only – most programs can be adapted to any grade level.**