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*Learning Doesn't Take a Vacation Directory*  
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Spring 2009

## 1. County – Fairfield

### 1.1. Audubon Nature Center, 613 Riversville Road, Greenwich, CT,

- **Telephone:** 203-869-5272
- **Website:** <http://greenwich.audubon.org>
- **Hours of Operation:** Monday through Sunday 9:00 a.m. through 5:00 p.m.
- **Fees:** \$3.00 Adult, \$1.50 Child, Members Free, Seniors \$1.50
- **Special Programs:** Weekends and Summer

The Audubon Greenwich Nature Center on Riversville Road is comprised of 285 acres and 7 miles of walking trails and includes the Kimberlin Nature Education Center classrooms, the Kiernan Hall Nature Art Gallery, and the Nature Store. In addition Audubon Greenwich manages seven other sanctuaries totaling 686 acres of woodlands, meadows, wetlands, and 15 additional miles of trails. Audubon Greenwich sponsors many environmental activities, including programs for schools and scouts, weekly public programs, summer nature day camp, Fall Hawkwatch Weekend and Spring Into Audubon Festival. Audubon Greenwich offers birders, families, students, photographers, hikers and all who are interested in learning about nature a place to explore and discover.

### 1.2. Bartlett Arboretum & Gardens, 151 Brookdale Road, Stamford, CT

- **Telephone:** 203-322-6971
- **Website:** [www.bartlettarboretum.org](http://www.bartlettarboretum.org)
- **Hours of Operation:** Monday through Sunday 9:00 a.m. through sunset
- **Fees:** Garden Admission \$6.00 adults (over 16); Free admission every Wednesday
- **Special Programs:** After school, Weekends, Summer, and Holidays

The Bartlett Arboretum & Gardens is a rare, historically significant open space in Fairfield County. Every visit offers something new, including 10 different walking trails, nine unique gardens, and collections of plants and trees that are easily explored. Classes and programs are available for all ages and levels of interest.

### 1.3. Bruce Museum, 1 Museum Drive, Greenwich CT

- **Telephone:** 203-869-6788
- **Website:** [www.brucemuseum.org](http://www.brucemuseum.org)
- **Hours of Operation:** Monday through Friday 10:00 a.m. through 5:00 p.m.
- **Fees:** \$7.00 Adult, \$6.00 Child 5 and up, Members Free, Seniors \$6.00, Tuesdays free to individuals
- **Special Programs:** Check website for school vacation workshops and adult, children and family programs.

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The Bruce Museum offers more than 12 changing exhibitions of art and science a year with accompanying educational programs to suit a range of ages and interests. The Bruce is located in a park setting overlooking Long Island Sound. The permanent science gallery has displays of world-class minerals, rocks and fossils from the local area, Native American artifacts, a live-animal marine tank, and a life-size woodland diorama.

**1.4. Connecticut's Beardsley Zoo, 1875 Noble Avenue, Bridgeport, CT**

- **Telephone:** 203-394-6565
- **Website:** [www.beardsleyzoo.org](http://www.beardsleyzoo.org)
- **Hours of Operation:** Sunday through Saturday 9:00 a.m. through 4:00 p.m.
- **Fees:** \$11.00 Adult, \$9.00 Child (3 through 11), Members Free, Seniors 65+ \$9.00, 15% discount with AAA
- **Special Programs:** Weekends, Summer, Holidays

Connecticut's Beardsley Zoo is dedicated to acquainting a diverse public to the delicate balance that exists between living things and their environment. The mission is achieved by a formal dedication to the principles of Education and Conservation via staff involvement and training, outreach and in-house formal programs, docent volunteers, natural animal exhibits, informational and interpretive graphics, and research and through participation in endangered species programs such as AZA's Species Survival Program.

**1.5 Danbury Railway Museum, 120 White Street, Box 90, Danbury, CT**

- **Telephone:** 203 – 778-8337
- **Website:** [www.danbury.org/drm](http://www.danbury.org/drm)
- **Hours of Operation:** Memorial Day to Labor Day – Monday to Saturday 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.; Post Labor Day to Pre-Memorial Day – Wednesday to Saturday 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., Sunday 12:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m., closed Monday, Tuesday and major holidays
- **Fees:** \$6.00 Adults, \$4.00 ages 3-12, \$5.00 Seniors (60+)
- **Special Programs:** Weekends- Train and turntable rides in the rail yard – Special events scheduled throughout the year.

The Danbury Railway Museum is a restored railroad station and 6 acre rail yard featuring exhibits, operating layouts, working turntable, and over 60 pieces of real equipment.



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**1.6. The Discovery Museum, 4450 Park Avenue, Bridgeport, CT**

- **Telephone:** 203-372-3521
- **Website:** [www.discoverymuseum.org](http://www.discoverymuseum.org)
- **Hours of Operation:** Open Tuesday through Saturday 10:00 a.m. through 5:00 p.m., Sunday 12:00 p.m. through 5:00 p.m. Closed to the public on Monday, but school groups may schedule programs
- **Fees:** \$8.50 Adults, \$ 7.00 Seniors, \$7.00 Ages 5 though 17, Free to Children under 5,
- **Special Programs:** After School, Weekends, Summer, Holidays

The Discovery Museum provides a wealth of see-hear-and-touch exhibits; planetarium shows; the area's only Challenger Learning Center; and CineMuse High Definition Films for the general public. Groups can create a custom schedule from over 90 program choices that include hands-on classroom experiences and lively demonstrations, as well as specialized planetarium shows and self guided exhibit tours.

**1.7. Earthplace, The Nature Discovery Center, 10 Woodside Lane, Westport, CT**

- **Telephone:** 203-227-7253
- **Website:** [www.earthplace.org](http://www.earthplace.org)
- **Hours of Operation:** Sunday through Saturday 9:00 a.m. through 5:00 p.m.
- **Fees:** \$7.00 Adults, \$5.00 Children 1 through 12, Free under 1, \$5.00 Seniors
- **Special Programs:** After school, Weekends, Summer, and Holidays

Earthplace was founded in 1958 and is accredited by The American Association of Museums. It is designed to be a focal point for environmental education and stewardship in Southern Fairfield County. Programs include: Nursery School, Summer Camp, after-school and vacation day programs, school programs, a water monitoring program, wildlife rehabilitation and many more programs designed to teach an environmental ethic to all participants.

**1.8. The Maritime Aquarium at Norwalk, 10 North Water Street, Norwalk, CT**

- **Telephone:** 203-852-0700
- **Website:** [www.maritimeaquarium.org](http://www.maritimeaquarium.org)
- **Hours of Operation:** Sunday though Saturday 10:00 a.m. through 5:00 p.m.  
July & August 10 a.m. – 6:00 p.m.
- **Fees:** \$11.75 Adults, \$9.75 Ages 2 through 12, Free to Children under 2, \$10.75 Seniors
- **Special Programs:** Summer, Holidays

Come nose to nose with sharks, inches away from fascinating seals, in touch with the seemingly boundless energy of river otters, up-close to huge, wrinkly sea turtles, and a stinging tentacle away

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from jellies at The Maritime Aquarium at Norwalk. Educational public cruises, changing exhibits, two hands-on-touch tanks and an amazing IMAX movie theater with a screen that's six stories tall means there's something new to see on every visit. These fun, interactive Maritime Aquarium experiences inspire more than half a million people annually to appreciate Long Island Sound and protect it for future generations. The comfortable, safe facilities of the Maritime Aquarium are handicap accessible.

**1.9. New Pond Farm, 101 Marchant Road, West Redding, CT**

- **Telephone:** 203-938-2117
- **Website:** [www.newpondfarm.org](http://www.newpondfarm.org)
- **Hours of Operation:** Property is open daily from dawn to dusk for members of New Pond Farm
- **Fees:** All programs are open to the general public and require pre-payment and pre-registration. Fees vary according to the program.
- **Special Programs:** After School, Weekends, Summer, Holidays

New Pond Farm is a broad-based nonprofit environmental education center that provides opportunities to learn about and appreciate natural science, Native American heritage, farming traditions, astronomy and the arts. The farm is situated on 102 acres that host a rich blend of both natural habitats and farming terrains such as rolling pastures, hillside woodlands, and varied wetlands. This picturesque backdrop is dotted with structures that are successful in both form and function including 18th century barns, a bunkhouse with two multi-purpose rooms and a full kitchen, an astronomy building, a swimming pool, an Indian museum, and an authentically recreated Indian encampment.

**1.10. Sheffield Island Lighthouse -Norwalk Seaport Association, 132 Water Street, Norwalk, CT**

- **Telephone:** 203-838-9444
- **Website:** [www.seaport.org](http://www.seaport.org)
- **Hours of Operation:** Weekend and holiday cruises run from May 9-September 27. Weekday cruises run from June 22 – August 28. There are no cruises to Sheffield Island during the weekend of September 11-13.
- **Fees:** Round-trip ferry tickets are: \$20.00 Adults, \$12.00 Children (ages 4-12), \$5.00 Children(under 3)
- **Special Programs:** Summer activities

Step back in history to when Norwalk was known as Oyster Town and Sheffield Island Lighthouse kept boats away from the unseen underwater ledges carved by the Ice Edge. Discover sea creatures and Norwalk's history. Learn why we need to maintain and preserve the 141 year old lighthouse and how to converse and protect the fragile habitat on this 53-acre treasure. Come for day camp or nature photography classes; host a party on the island or combine a ferry ride with a nature walk. birdwatching cruises and clambakes are offered too!

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**1.11. SoundWaters, 1281 Cove Road, Cove Island Park, Stamford, CT**

- **Telephone:** 203-323-1978
- **Website:** [www.soundwaters.org](http://www.soundwaters.org)
- **Hours of Operation:** Soundwaters Center is open from Memorial Day to Labor Day. Tuesday through Saturday 10.00 a.m. through 5:00 p.m., closed Sunday and Monday
- **Fees:** Free
- **Special Programs:** After School, Weekends, Summer

SoundWaters, founded in 1989, is a leading environmental educational organization on Long Island Sound. Programs take place at the Coastal Education Center in Cove Island Park, Stamford; on the 80' three-masted schooner, SoundWaters; and at schools, community centers and field sites throughout the region. SoundWaters' mission is to protect Long Island Sound and its watershed through education.

**1.12. Stamford Museum & Nature Center, 39 Scofieldtown Road, Stamford, CT**

- **Telephone:** 203-322-1646
- **Website:** [www.stamfordmuseum.org](http://www.stamfordmuseum.org)
- **Hours of Operation:** Farm Hours – Sunday through Saturday 9:00 a.m. through 5:00 p.m. (Nov. – March: Farm closes at 4:00 p.m.), Gallery Hours – Monday through Saturday 9:00 a.m. through 5:00 p.m., Sunday 11:00. a.m. through 5:00 p.m.
- **Fees:** \$8.00 Adults, \$6.00 Seniors (65+), \$6.00 Students over 17 (with valid ID), \$4.00 Students 4 through 17, Free to Children under 3 (except for festival days), Free to members
- **Special Programs:** After School, Weekends, Summer, Holidays

Stamford Museum & Nature Center, nestled among 118 wooded acres, includes a working farm, 80 miles of walking and hiking trails, a wheel-chair accessible trail, an Observatory, a Planetarium, and the Bendel Mansion Museum Galleries. It offers nature education programs, early childhood education, summer camps, after-school programs, family festivals, special events and art exhibitions.

**1.13. Woodcock Nature Center, 56 Deer Run Road, Wilton, CT**

- **Telephone:** 203-762-7280
- **Website:** [www.woodcocknaturecenter.org](http://www.woodcocknaturecenter.org)
- **Hours of Operation:** Center is open Monday – Friday 9:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. with some weekend hours  
Trails are open to the public daily dawn to dusk every day of the year.
- **Fees:** Vary according to program
- **Special Programs:** After School, Weekends, Summer, Holidays

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Located on 149 acres of protected wetlands and hardwood forest, the Woodcock Nature Center has been a private non-profit source of environmental education since 1972. Our staff works with the local protected wildlife to serve as a resource for educating the community about our natural surroundings through public outreach, school field trips, on-site birthday parties, and our popular summer camps.

## 2. Hartford County

### 2.1. American Clock and Watch Museum, 100 Maple Street, Bristol, CT

- **Telephone:** 860-583-6070
- **Website:** [www.clockandwatchmuseum.org](http://www.clockandwatchmuseum.org)
- **Hours of Operation:** Sunday through Saturday 10:00 a.m. through 5:00 p.m.  
March 29 – November 30 (Open in winter months by appointment)
- **Fees:** \$5.00 Adults, \$2.00 Ages 8 and up, \$4.00 Seniors 65+, Free to Members
- **Special Programs:** Docent-led tours for groups of 10 or more with advance arrangements

Partially housed in a historic home, our museum houses in excess of 1500 timepieces on display. Our gateway exhibit, Connecticut Clockmaking and the Industrial Revolution, tells the story of a young man who revolutionized the clockmaking industry. Visitors are fascinated by our two-story tower clock and enjoy the beautiful ticking and chiming sounds of our collection.

### 2.2. The Children's Museum (formerly Science Center of CT), 950 Trout Brook Drive, West Hartford, CT

- **Telephone:** 860-231-2830
- **Website:** [www.TheChildrensMuseumCT.org](http://www.TheChildrensMuseumCT.org)
- **Hours of Operation:** Sunday 12:00 noon through 5:00 pm, Closed Monday, except for school programs, Tuesday through Saturday 10:00 a.m. through 5:00 p.m.
- **Fees:** \$11.00, ages 2-62, \$10.00 Seniors, Free to Members and children under 2  
Admission fee includes a ticket to one planetarium show.
- **Special Programs:** Summer, Holidays

Visit a one-of-a-kind science and nature museum providing rich learning experiences to children and families through hands-on exhibits. There are over 100 live animals, out-of-this-world digital planetarium shows, science demonstrations and a variety of educational programs. The Museum also features the only science-based preschool in Connecticut and includes the Roaring Brook Nature Center in Canton, CT. The Children's Museum is a four-time "Best Kids Attraction" by *Hartford Magazine's* reader poll. The Museum is a member of the Association of Science and Technology Centers and the Association of Children's Museums.

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**2.3. Connecticut Audubon Society Center at Glastonbury, 1361 Main Street, Glastonbury, CT**

- **Telephone:** 860-633-8402
- **Website:** [www.ctaudubon.org](http://www.ctaudubon.org)
- **Hours of Operation:** Most Sundays 1:00 p.m. through 4:00 p.m., Closed Monday, Tuesday through Friday 1:00 p.m. through 5:00 p.m., Saturday 10:00 a.m. through 5:00 pm
- **Fees:** Donations Accepted
- **Special Programs:** All year long

Our Discovery Room has changing exhibits, live animals, mounts, a diorama of the CT River Great Meadows, and children's crafts. We offer programs from age one on up for individuals, groups, and organizations. Themes include all nature-related topics. We especially enjoy teaching outdoors in the natural world.

**2.4. Connecticut Science Center, 50 Columbus Blvd., Hartford, CT**

- **Telephone:** 860-727-0457
- **Website:** [www.ctsciencecenter.org](http://www.ctsciencecenter.org)
- **Hours of Operation:** September – June: Tuesday to Sunday 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., closed Monday; July & August: Monday to Sunday 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.
- **Fees:** \$ 16 – Adult, \$14.50 Senior (65+), \$ 13 Children (3-17) Free 2 and under
- **Special Programs:** School field trips, Summer camps, Youth groups, Adult groups and more

The state-of-the-art Connecticut Science Center is a major family learning destination. The Science Center is located in downtown Hartford, adjacent to the new Connecticut Convention Center. The Center features over 200 hands-on, interactive exhibits like Sports Lab, A River of Life, Sight & Sound Experience, Forces in Motion, and Exploring Space. There are four laboratories (including a forensic lab), a 3D theater and cafe'.

**2.5. Connecticut Trolley Museum, 58 North Road, East Windsor, CT**

- **Telephone:** 860-627-6540
- **Website:** [www.ct-trolley.org](http://www.ct-trolley.org)
- **Hours of Operation:** Regular season begins June 17 – Labor Day. Summer hours: Sunday 12:00 noon through 5:00 p.m., Monday 10:00 a.m. through 4:00 p.m., Tuesday Closed, Wednesday through Saturday 10:00 a.m. through 5:00 p.m.  
See website for spring and autumn weekend hours and activities.
- **Fees:** \$8.00 Adults, \$5.00 Ages 2 through 12, Free Under 2, \$7.00 Seniors 62+, Free to Members
- **Special Programs:** Holidays

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View an impressive collection of trolley cars, fire engines and motor coaches. Ride just one or as many as you would like. Listen to a narrative on electric traction and museum history as told by our Motormen/ladies. Roam the Visitor's Center and CT Fire Museum, shop for souvenirs in our gift shop and enjoy something delicious in our snack bar.

**2.6. Copernican Observatory & Planetarium, Central CT State University, 1615 Stanley Street, New Britain, CT**

- **Telephone:** 860-832-2950
- **Website:** [www.ccsu.edu/astronomy](http://www.ccsu.edu/astronomy)
- **Hours of Operation:** Closed Sunday & Friday, Monday through Thursday by appointment, 1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday of month 8:00 p.m.
- **Fees:** Free
- **Special Programs:** Weekends, Summer

There is a 99 seat planetarium that gives public presentations about the evening sky along with short topical discussions of astronomical interest. After the hour long planetarium presentation, we use the rooftop observatory to observe the real sky with the public when weather permits.

**2.7. Dinosaur State Park, 400 West Street, Rocky Hill, CT**

- **Telephone:** 860 – 529-5816
- **Website:** [www.dinosaurstatepark.org](http://www.dinosaurstatepark.org)
- **Hours of Operation:** Tuesday to Sunday 9:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., closed Monday
- **Fees:** \$5.00 adults, \$2.00 Children 6-12, \$5.00 Seniors (CT Seniors 65+ are free)
- **Special Programs:** School vacation and weekend programs including track talks and guided trail walks

Dinosaur State Park is the site of the discovery of 2,000 early Jurassic dinosaur footprints. The site includes a museum, theater, gift shop, 2 ½ miles of outdoor trails, a track casting area, picnic area, and an outdoor mining sluice.

**2.8. Eleanor Buck Wolf Nature Center, 156 Prospect Street, Wethersfield, CT**

- **Telephone:** 860-529-3075
- **Website:** [www.wethersfieldct.com/rec/nature\\_center.html](http://www.wethersfieldct.com/rec/nature_center.html)
- **Hours of Operation:** Closed Sunday and Monday, Tuesday through Saturday 10:00 a.m. through 5:00 p.m. (Thursday open until 7:00 p.m.)
- **Fees:** Free, donations accepted
- **Special Programs:** Summer camp and school holidays

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This ecology education and community center helps ages 3+ explore and understand the natural world through exhibits about the local environment, current issues, and local and exotic animals. Its park has walking paths, bird watching, and playground and picnic areas. The center also provides various youth and adult programs and services for community groups and nearby schools.

**2.9. Imagine Nation Children's Museum, One Pleasant Street, Bristol, CT**

- **Telephone:** 860-314-1400
- **Website:** [www.imaginemuseum.org](http://www.imaginemuseum.org)
- **Hours of Operation:** Sunday 12:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m., closed Monday and Tuesday (except in the summer when Tuesday hours are 9:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.), Wednesday to Friday 9:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Saturday 11:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.
- **Fees:** \$5.00 per person; Members and children under 1 are free; (Children must be accompanied by an adult.)
- **Special Programs:** Group field trips and scout programs scheduled by arrangement

The Imagine Nation Museum is committed to enriching the lives of children and families with unique interactive exhibits and programs that spark imaginations. The museum features an ESPN Play Your Way exhibit and a replica ESPN Sports Center desk where children can role play as sports anchors. The museum invites you to stand inside a giant bubble, try your skills on our climbing wall, ride in a see-through teaching elevator, try the Water Room, the Greenhouse, "Kid-Zone," Art Area and much more. An original 1940's soda fountain from Redman's Dairy, a longtime landmark, is proudly located in the lobby. Visit the website for a listing of special events and programs.

**2.10. Lutz Children's Museum, 247 South Main Street, Manchester, CT**

- **Telephone:** 860-643-0949
- **Website:** [www.lutzmuseum.org](http://www.lutzmuseum.org)
- **Hours of Operation:** Sunday 12:00 p.m. to 5:00 pm, Closed Monday, Tuesday through Friday 9:00 a.m. through 5:00 p.m., Saturday 12:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.
- **Fees:** \$5.00, Free to children under 1, Free to Members
- **Special Programs:** After School, Weekends, Summer, Holidays

The Lutz Children's Museum is a non-profit organization that has been providing educational programs in science, history and the arts for more than fifty years. We offer hands-on exhibits, live animals, classes, concerts, events, school outreach and a nearby nature center.

**2.11. The Mark Twain House & Museum, 351 Farmington Avenue, Hartford, CT**

- **Telephone:** 860-247-0998
- **Website:** [www.marktwainhouse.org](http://www.marktwainhouse.org)

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- **Hours of Operation:** Sunday 12:00 noon through 5:30 p.m., Monday through Saturday 9:30 a.m. through 5:30 p.m.
- **Fees:** \$14.00 Adults, \$8.00, Children 6 through 16, \$12.00 Seniors 65+, Free to Members
- **Special Programs:** After School, Weekends, Summer, Holidays

Mark Twain's home from 1874-1891 is where modern American literature was born. It is a beautiful Victorian mansion decorated by Louis Comfort Tiffany. The kitchen wing of the house is also now open for tours. The visitor's center has two museum galleries, a video theater, and gift shop. There is also an auditorium and classroom for special programs. See website for details.

**2.12. New Britain Youth Museum at Hungerford Park, 191 Farmington Avenue, Kensington, CT**

- **Telephone:** 860-827-9064
- **Website:** [www.newbritainyouthmuseum.org](http://www.newbritainyouthmuseum.org)
- **Hours of Operation:** Closed Sunday and Monday, Tuesday through Saturday 10:00 a.m. through 5:00 p.m. (last admission at 4:30 p.m.).
- **Fees:** \$4.00 Adults, \$2.00 Ages 2 through 18, Children under 2 Free, \$3.00 Seniors, Free to Members and New Britain schools. Group rates are available.
- **Special Programs:** After School, Weekends, Summer, Holidays

The New Britain Youth Museum at Hungerford Park is located on 27 acres of parkland in Kensington, Connecticut. Over 100 different species of reptiles, fish, birds, small mammals and farm animals are housed at the site. Visitors to the site can tour the interactive environmental history exhibit, Changing Seasons, Changing Lives, A History of the Region's People and Their Environment, tour the barnyard and walk over two miles of woodland trails. Programs are available for children and school groups on a wide range of environmental, animal and historical topics. There is a gift shop, picnic area, and playscape.

**2.13. New England Air Museum, 36 Perimeter Road, Windsor Locks, CT**

- **Telephone:** 860-623-3305
- **Website:** [www.neam.org](http://www.neam.org)
- **Hours of Operation:** Sunday through Saturday 10:00 a.m. through 5:00 p.m.
- **Fees:** \$10.00 Adults, \$5.00, Children 4 through 11, \$9.00 Seniors, Free to Members
- **Special Programs:** After School, Weekends, Day-long workshops throughout the Summer

Situated within three large exhibit hangars, the Museum presents the story of aviation, the human genius that made it possible and the profound effects that it has had on the way in which we live by: preserving and presenting historically significant artifacts; engaging visitors through exhibits that help



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them understand aviation technology, history, and the people who made history with these famous machines; inspiring students through firsthand experiences with oral history, and the science and technology of flight.

**2.14. Roaring Brook Nature Center, 70 Gracey Road, Canton, CT**

- **Telephone:** 860-693-0263
- **Website:** [www.roaringbrook.org](http://www.roaringbrook.org)
- **Hours of Operation:** Sunday 1:00 p.m. through 5:00 p.m., Closed Monday (except July/August), Tuesday through Saturday 10:00 a.m. through 5:00 p.m.
- **Fees:** \$5.00 Adults, \$3.00, Children 2 through 12, \$4.00 Seniors, Free to Members
- **Special Programs:** After School, Weekends, Summer, Holidays

Founded in 1948, Roaring Brook Nature Center currently houses exhibit areas focusing on changes in land use and wildlife. The Center maintains a replica of a Native American longhouse, a native plants butterfly garden, a small collection of live animals including an outdoor facility for injured raptors, and maintains five miles of trails through adjacent state forest lands.

**2.15. Sessions Woods Conservation Education Center, 341 Milford Street, Burlington, CT**

- **Telephone:** 860-675-8130
- **Website:** <http://www.ct.gov/dep/>
- **Hours of Operation:** Closed Sunday, Monday through Friday 8:30 a.m. through 4:30 p.m., Closed Saturday
- **Fees:** Free
- **Special Programs:** After School, Weekends, Summer, Holidays

The Sessions Woods Conservation Education Center is located in a wildlife management area with hiking trails and over 700 acres of wildlife habitat, including an extensive beaver marsh. The Center consists of office space for the CT DEP Wildlife Division and an exhibit area. Wildlife-related educational programs are offered to the general public and groups, by appointment only.

**2.16. The Talcott Mountain Science Center, 324 Montevideo Road, Avon, CT**

- **Telephone:** 860-677-8571
- **Website:** [www.tmsc.org](http://www.tmsc.org)
- **Hours of Operation:** Closed Sunday, Monday through Saturday 8:30 a.m. through 5:00 p.m. by appointment or program
- **Fees:** No Entry Fee – Fees for programs vary; \$35.00 Family Membership
- **Special Programs:** After School, Weekends, Summer, Holidays

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The Talcott Mountain Science Center offers programs in hands-on inquiry based learning, making the science experience fun and rewarding. Our program has offerings for all age youngsters who are interested in discovering the workings of science and technology. The Science Center offers a unique mountaintop location with instruments of discovery including remotely operated telescopes, a planetarium, a weather forecast facility, TV studio, science and computer labs with dedicated experienced staff that care about kids. "Your child can make a difference in the future of the world. We can make a difference in the future of your child."

**2.17. Westmoor Park**, 119 Flagg Road, West Hartford, CT

- **Telephone:** 860-232-1134
- **Website:** [www.west-hartford.com/leisureservices](http://www.west-hartford.com/leisureservices)
- **Hours of Operation:** Sunday through Saturday -Farm and Grounds 9:00 a.m. through dusk, Office 9:00 a.m. through 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday
- **Fees:** Free
- **Special Programs:** School group tours, After School, Weekends, Summer

Westmoor Park is an environmental, agricultural and horticultural education center dedicated to generating awareness and appreciation for the natural world. The park encompasses 162 acres and includes a diversity of natural habitats with 3 miles of trails to explore. A particularly popular attraction is the park's demonstration farm which is home to a wide variety of barnyard animals.

### **3. Litchfield County**

**3.1. Flanders Nature Center**, P. O. Box 702, 5 Church Road, Woodbury, CT

- **Telephone:** 203-263-3711
- **Website:** [www.flandersnaturecenter.org](http://www.flandersnaturecenter.org)
- **Hours of Operation:** Trails open dawn to dusk Saturday and Sunday and 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Monday through Friday
- **Fees:** Fee except for specific programs
- **Special Programs:** After School, Weekends, Summer and Holidays

The Flanders Nature Center is a non-profit organization that focuses on educating the public about art, farms, and nature.

**3.2. The Institute for American Indian Studies**, 38 Curtis Road, Washington, CT

- **Telephone:** 860-868-0518
- **Website:** [www.birdstone.org](http://www.birdstone.org)
- **Hours of Operation:** Sunday 12:00 noon through 5:00 p.m., Monday through Saturday 10:00 a.m. through 5:00 p.m.

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- **Fees:** \$5.00 Adults, \$3.00 Children 5 through 16, \$4.50 Seniors, Free to Members
- **Special Programs:** After School, Weekends, Summer, Holidays

The Institute for American Indian Studies is a museum and education & research center dedicated to the study of the indigenous peoples throughout the Western Hemisphere, particularly those of the Eastern Woodlands.

### 3.3. Sharon Audubon Center, 325 Cornwall Bridge Road, Sharon, CT

- **Telephone:** 860-364-0520
- **Website:** [www.sharon.audubon.org](http://www.sharon.audubon.org)
- **Hours of Operation:** Raptor Center and trails are open daily from dawn to dusk. Visitor Center is open 9:00 a.m. through 5:00 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday, Sunday 1:00 p.m. through 5:00 p.m., closed Monday and major holidays
- **Fees:** \$3.00 Adults, \$1.50 Children 12 and under, \$1.50 Seniors 65+, Free to Members Charges apply to trails and aviary, no charge for visitor center exhibits
- **Special Programs:** After School, Weekends, Summer, Holidays

The center offers education programs covering a range of topics including live birds of prey and animal menagerie programs for school groups, home school students, scouts and other organizations; The Center also provides week long summer day camps for children ages 2-11 as well as weekend adult and family programs. Several seasonal events are offered including Audubon Kid's Day, Maple Fest, Sharon Audubon Festival and Enchanted Forest. Visitors can also access the Center's 11-mile trail network traversing a wide variety of habitat types. The Center also includes a raptor center with several species of hawks, owls, eagle, raven, crow, vulture and other live animal displays. Wildlife rehabilitation services are also offered to people who find wildlife in distress.

### 3.4. White Memorial Conservation Center, 80 Whitehall Road, PO Box 368, Litchfield, CT

- **Telephone:** 860-567-0857
- **Website:** [www.whitememorialcc.org](http://www.whitememorialcc.org)
- **Hours of Operation:** Sunday 12:00 noon through 5:00 p.m., Monday through Saturday 9:00 a.m. through 5:00 p.m.
- **Fees:** \$5.00 Adults, \$2.50 Children 6 through 12, Free to Members
- **Special Programs:** After School, Weekends, Summer

The White Memorial Conservation Center is the education branch of the White Memorial Foundation, a 4,000-acre wildlife sanctuary. The Center offers year-round environmental education programs to school and scout groups, as well as the general public. The Nature Museum interprets the Foundation property, live animals and interactive exhibits.

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#### **4. Middlesex County**

##### **4.1. Connecticut Forest & Park Association, 16 Meriden Road, Rockfall (Middlefield), CT**

- **Telephone:** 860-346-2372
- **Website:** [www.ctwoodlands.org](http://www.ctwoodlands.org)
- **Hours of Operation:** Closed Sunday, Monday through Friday 9:00 a.m. through 4:00 p.m., Saturday by appointment
- **Fees:** Free
- **Special Programs:** After School, Weekends, Summer, Holidays

CFPA is a nonprofit conserving the natural resources, trails and lands of CT through education, advocacy and stewardship. CFPA was instrumental in acquiring over 100 state parks and forests for public use and enjoyment. CFPA maintains the 800-mile Blue-Blazed Hiking /Trail system and provides hands-on learning programs for youth, families and adults. CFPA offers professional development for teachers, youth leaders, naturalists and other educators through the Project Learning Tree program.

##### **4.2. Kidcity Children's Museum, 119 Washington Street, Middletown, CT**

- **Telephone:** 860-347-0495
- **Website:** [www.kidcitymuseum.com](http://www.kidcitymuseum.com)
- **Hours of Operation:** Monday and Tuesday 11:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Wednesday through Saturday 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Sunday 11:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.
- **Fees:** \$7.00 per adult or child, infants under 1 are free (Kidcity requires at least 1 adult per 4 children)
- **Special Programs:** Private parties available for children 5 and under

Kidcity Children's Museum celebrates a child's natural curiosity by offering a downtown hands-on play space where children ages 1 through 8 and parents learn through play. With 3 floors of exhibits, including the new science-themed area, the Space Age Roadtrip, Kidcity offers a safe and enriching educational environment which fosters the development of problem-solving skills and creativity.

#### **5. New Haven County**

##### **5.1. Bauer Park - Madison Beach & Recreation Department, 257 Copse Road, Madison, CT**

- **Telephone:** 203-245-5623
- **Website:** [www.madisonrec.com](http://www.madisonrec.com)
- **Hours of Operation:** Park is open daily –sunrise to sunset.

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- **Fees:** Park admittance is free. Fees for educational programs vary.
- **Special Programs:** Weekdays, After School, Weekends

Bauer Park is a Town of Madison Park which hosts environmental education programs, a yearly Harvest Festival, community gardens and hiking trails. For information call the Madison Beach and Recreation Department at 203-245-5623 or visit the website.

**5.2. Connecticut Audubon Society Coastal Center at Milford Point, One Milford Point Road, Milford, CT**

- **Telephone:** 203-878-7440
- **Website:** [www.ctaudubon.org](http://www.ctaudubon.org)
- **Hours of Operation:** Sunday 12:00 noon through 4:00 p.m., closed Monday, Tuesday through Saturday 10:00 a.m. through 4:00 p.m.
- **Fees:** Donations Accepted
- **Special Programs:** After School, Weekends, Summer

The sanctuary is situated between Long Island Sound, an 840 acre marsh and the mouth of the Housatonic River. The adjoining 8 acre Smith-Hubbell Wildlife Refuge and Bird Sanctuary is open from dawn to dusk year-round. The center offers family, school, scout and birthday programs and canoe tours of the salt marsh. It has been designated as an IBA (important birding area) by Audubon Connecticut.

**5.3. Connecticut Children's Museum, 22 Wall Street, New Haven, CT**

- **Telephone:** 203-562-5437
- **Website:** [www.childrensbuiding.org](http://www.childrensbuiding.org)
- **Hours of Operation:** Friday and Saturday 12:00 noon through 5:00 p.m., closed Sunday through Thursday
- **Fees:** \$5.00 Adults, \$5.00 Children 1 year and older, \$5.00 Seniors
- **Special Programs:** Weekends

An innovative and inclusive, hands-on children's museum that features a Naturalist room with an observation beehive. There are seven arts-based and literacy-rich rooms: Musical, Logical-Mathematical, Interpersonal, Spatial, Intrapersonal, Bodily-Kinesthetic, Linguistic, and Naturalist. Special literacy program every Saturday at 2:00 with entertainment and free books for participating families! The Connecticut Children's Museum is the home of the great green from *Goodnight Moon*, a children's classic picture book by Margaret Wise Brown.

**5.4. Connecticut Department of Environmental Protection – Kellogg Environmental Center, PO Box 435, Derby, CT**

- **Telephone:** 203-734-2513
- **Website:** [www.ct.gov/dep/education](http://www.ct.gov/dep/education)

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- **Hours of Operation:** Tuesday through Saturday 9:00 a.m. through 4.30 p.m., closed Sunday and Monday
- **Fees:** Free
- **Special Programs:** After School, Weekends, Summer, Holidays

CT Department of Environmental Protection's Kellogg Environmental Center provides workshops for classroom teachers and environmental educators, school field trips, and scout and public programs. Inquiry-based workshops and school programs focus on Connecticut's environment, feature the latest environmental data and are correlated to the state frameworks. Kellogg staff provides coordination for the national environmental education programs: Projects Learning Tree, WILD, Aquatic WILD, WET and Food, Land and People. Wildlife monitoring projects allow citizens to become involved in gathering data. Summer programs are offered for middle and high school students.

**5.5. Shore Line Trolley Museum, 17 River Street, East Haven, CT**

- **Telephone:** 203-467-6927
- **Website:** [www.bera.org](http://www.bera.org)
- **Hours of Operation:** Daily 10:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Memorial Day to Labor Day
- **Fees:** \$8.00 Adults, \$4.00 children 2-15, \$6.00 Seniors (62+), Group rates for 15 or more
- **Special Programs:** Guest Operator Program

The Shore Line Trolley Museum has been an important part of the community since its incorporation in 1945 as the Branford Railway Association. Founded to preserve the unique heritage of an endangered species – the trolley car – it now boasts a collection of nearly 100 vintage vehicles as well as artifacts and documents from the trolley ear. The Shore Line Trolley Museum operates the Branford Electric Railway, a National Historic Site. The railway is the oldest continuously operating suburban trolley line in the United States.

**5.6. The Eli Whitney Museum, 915 Whitney Avenue, Hamden, CT**

- **Telephone:** 203-777-1833
- **Website:** [www.eliwhitney.org](http://www.eliwhitney.org)
- **Hours of Operation:** Wednesday to Friday 12:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m., Saturday 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m., Sunday 12:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m., closed Monday and Tuesday
- **Fees:** Free
- **Special Programs:** Weekends, Summer, Holidays

The Eli Whitney Museum was established in 1979 as a not-for-profit historic site and educational organization. The Museum preserves the site on which Whitney constructed the first American factory in 1798. The Museum celebrates the Whitney tradition of learning by experiment. The museum designs, produces and teaches more than 70,000 projects in the Museum's eight teaching

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studios and in in-school programs across Connecticut. These projects blend art, science and invention. In scope and scale, the Museum's programs are unrivaled.

**5.7. Trowbridge Environmental Center**, Corner of Cold Spring Street and Orange Street, New Haven, CT

- **Telephone:** 203-946-6086
- **Website:** [www.cityofnewhaven.com/parks/ranger/eastrock.asp](http://www.cityofnewhaven.com/parks/ranger/eastrock.asp)
- **Hours of Operation:** Open to the public Thursdays and Fridays 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., open at other various times depending upon the program
- **Fees:** No admission fee; fees for programs vary.
- **Special Programs:** Private programs available for summer camps, school groups, scouts and other organizations

The Trowbridge Environmental Center is located in the College Woods section of East Rock Park in New Haven. It is operated by the City of New Haven's Department of Parks, Recreation and Trees. The Trowbridge Center features seasonal exhibits showcasing the natural environment in and around East Rock Park. While the Center's exhibits are only open Thursdays and Fridays, programs are also offered on other days. Call 203 -946-6986 for more information or visit the website at:

**5.8. Whitney Water Center - Regional Water Authority**, 945 Whitney Avenue, Hamden, CT

- **Telephone:** 203-777-1142
- **Website:** [www.rwater.com/education/](http://www.rwater.com/education/)
- **Hours of Operation:** Not Applicable
- **Fees:** Not Applicable
- **Special Programs:** After School, Summer

The programs at the Whitney Water Center are designed to help children and adults make the connection between land use and water quality. Programs are presented free of charge to schools, camps, and other organized groups within the Water Authority's 22 town district. The center is not open to the public.

**5.9. Yale Peabody Museum**, 170 Whitney Avenue, New Haven, CT

- **Telephone:** 203 – 432-5050
- **Website:** [www.peabody.yale.edu](http://www.peabody.yale.edu)
- **Hours of Operation:** Sunday 12:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m., Monday – Saturday 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

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- **Fees:** Adults \$7, Children (3-18) and College Students with an ID \$5, Seniors (65+) \$6; Yale ID and Members - free
- **Special Programs:** After school, Weekends, Summer, Holidays

The Yale Peabody Museum is a natural history museum that cares for over 12 million items in its collections. Displays include: the Great Hall of Dinosaurs; Hall of Native Americans; Ancient Egypt; Hall of Minerals, Earth and Space; New England and North American dioramas. There is also a busy traveling exhibition schedule. The Museum has an active educational program, including family events and festivals, summer camps, an after school program and K-12 student and teacher activities.

## 6. New London County

### 6.1. Children's Museum of Southeastern Connecticut, 409 Main Street, Niantic, CT

- **Telephone:** 860-691-1111
- **Website:** [www.childrensmuseumsect.org](http://www.childrensmuseumsect.org)
- **Hours of Operation:** Sunday 12:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m., Monday through Saturday 9:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.
- **Fees:** \$6.00 Adults, \$6.00 Children over 1, \$6.00 Seniors, Free to Members
- **Special Programs:** Weekends, Summer, Holidays

There's a lot to do at the Children's Museum of Southeastern Connecticut! Families have loads of fun with hands-on interactive exhibits, scavenger hunts and photo searches. Dig for fossils in the Egyptian Pyramid. Make a flan in the Mexican Restaurant. Step inside a real two-person submarine or command a fishing boat. Search for magnetic surfaces, blow a bubble and read a book in the clubhouse. The museum offers creative educational programs for children ages 12 months to 8 years. Visit the website for more details.

### 6.2. Connecticut Sea Grant, 1080 Shennecossett Road, Groton, CT

- **Telephone:** 860-405-9128
- **Website:** [www.seagrants.uconn.edu](http://www.seagrants.uconn.edu)
- **Hours of Operation:** Monday through Friday 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Closed Saturday and Sunday
- **Fees:** Free
- **Special Programs:** Not Available

A university-based program and 1 of 32 in the National Sea Grant network, our mission is conservation and wise use of marine and coastal resources through research, outreach and education. We provide resources, curriculum consultation and standards alignment, workshops, and resources for teachers. We link scientists and teachers.

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**6.3. Denison Pequotsepos Nature Center, 109 Pequotsepos Road, Mystic, CT**

- **Telephone:** 860-536-1216
- **Website:** [www.dpnc.org](http://www.dpnc.org)
- **Hours of Operation:** Sunday 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., Monday through Saturday 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.
- **Fees:** \$8.00 Adults, \$5.00 Children 12 and under, \$5.00 Seniors 65+, Free to Members
- **Special Programs:** After School, Weekends, Summer Day Camp, Holidays, Scouting

DPNC is a combination wildlife sanctuary, natural history museum, and experimental educational facility set in a 300-acre nature preserve. Experience the diverse woodland, wetland and meadow habitats and native wildlife of southern New England through a combination of interactive displays, live animal exhibits, or by hiking or walking our more than 10 miles of trails. View live snakes, turtles, and a variety of frogs in our indoor exhibits. Step outside and visit our resident birds of prey in outdoor flight enclosures. Whether you're interested in birding, plant identification, hiking or nature photography, you'll find a way to enjoy our preserve. Eager to learn more about the world around you? DPNC offers a variety of year-round environmental education programs for all ages. Our programs offer unique opportunities to learn about ecology with the guidance of our professional education staff.

**6.4. Historic Ship NAUTILUS/Submarine Force Museum, 1 Crystal Lake Road, Groton, CT**

- **Telephone:** 860-694-3558
- **Website:** [www.ussnautilus.org](http://www.ussnautilus.org)
- **Hours of Operation:** (May 1 through October 31): Wednesday through Monday 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., closed Tuesday; (November 1 through April 30) Wednesday through Monday 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., closed Tuesday
- **Fees:** Free
- **Special Programs:** Summer

The NAUTILUS is the first nuclear-powered submarine and is the Navy's official submarine museum. The submarine tour is a recorded narration that lasts approx. 20-30 minutes, and offers automatic translations in English, Japanese, Mandarin Chinese and Spanish. The museum covers submarine history from the first submarine, "The Turtle," to present day submarines. There is bus and R/V parking, and a picnic area that has seating for up to 50.

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**6.5 Mashantucket Pequot Museum & Research Center, 110 Pequot Trail, Mashantucket, CT**

- **Telephone:** 800-411-9671
- **Website:** [www.pequotmuseum.org](http://www.pequotmuseum.org)
- **Hours of Operation:** Wednesday to Saturday, 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. last admission at 3:00 p.m., closed Sunday, Monday and Tuesday
- **Fees:** \$15 Adults, \$10 Children (6-15), \$13 Seniors (55+), Free to members
- **Special Programs:** Weekends, Summer, Holidays, Group programs

Visit the Mashantucket Pequot Museum & Research Center, the world's largest Native American museum and step back in time. Feel the cold as you descend deep into an Ice Age glacier and witness the drama of a prehistoric caribou hunt. Enter a life-size 16<sup>th</sup> century Pequot village and follow in the footsteps of ancient people whose story lives on today. Experience all of this in an award-winning, interactive environment that stimulates the senses, captures the imagination, and stirs the spirit with the history of Native American culture. Handicap accessible; restaurant and gift shop onsite. See it with your eyes; feel it in your heart!

**6.6. Mystic Aquarium & Institute for Exploration, 55 Coogan Blvd., Mystic, CT**

- **Telephone:** 860-572-5955
- **Website:** [www.mysticaquarium.org](http://www.mysticaquarium.org)
- **Hours of Operation:** Sunday through Saturday 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. (March 1 to October 31); Sunday through Saturday 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 pm (December 1 to February 28)
- **Fees:** \$26.00 Adults, \$23.00 Seniors (60+), \$19.00 Children (3-17), Free to children 2 and under, Free with Annual Membership
- **Special Programs:** After School, Weekends, Summer, Holidays

Mystic Aquarium & Institute for Exploration (MAIFE) is one of the nation's foremost aquariums joined with a unique distance learning and exhibition facility showcasing the renowned oceanographic explorations of Dr. Robert Ballard, discoverer of the Titanic shipwreck, JFK's PT109, geothermal vents and other important natural and archeological undersea phenomena. Come see Dr. Ballard's exhibit, "Exploring Your National Marine Sanctuaries," which takes you LIVE into some of our National Marine Sanctuaries where you will discover shipwrecks and see colorful corals. Encounter ocean animals in an exciting new way. Experience Birds of the Outback; reach in and touch a ray; go nose to beak to nose with a penguin, and feel the splash of a beluga whale. Come visit a wonderful variety of animals from beluga whales to Stellar sea lions, African penguins, blue tongued skinks and more. The mission of MAIFE, which reaches over 100,000 students through its receptive and distance learning programs, is "to inspire people to care for and protect our ocean planet through education, research and exploration.

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**6.7. Project Oceanology, 1084 Shennecossett Road, Groton, CT**

- **Telephone:** 860 – 445-9007
- **Website:** [www.oceanology.org](http://www.oceanology.org)
- **Hours of Operation:** Oceanographic Research Cruise: Mid-June – August: Daily 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. (depending upon the number of reservations) Other cruises and programs are offered throughout the year. Check website.
- **Fees:** \$19 Adults, \$16 Seniors, \$16 Children ages 6-12 (no children under 6 are permitted for safety reasons)
- **Special Programs:** After school, Weekends, Summer

Groups of the public come aboard a research vessel to learn about the ocean through hands-on activities.

**7. Tolland County**

**7.1. Connecticut State Museum of Natural History, 2019 Hillside Road, University of Connecticut, Storrs, CT**

- **Telephone:** 860-486-4460
- **Website:** [www.cac.uconn.edu/contactus.html](http://www.cac.uconn.edu/contactus.html)
- **Hours of Operation:** Tuesday through Saturday 10:00 a.m. through 4:00 p.m., closed Sunday and Monday
- **Fees:** Free
- **Special Programs:** After School, Weekends, Summer

Learn about Connecticut's cultural and natural history! Experience a wide array of exciting programs for all ages. Field learning activities, day trips, ancient technology workshops, notable guest lecturers, summer camps, and family programs are just some of the museum's programs. Experience the Museum's new permanent exhibit "Human's Nature: Looking Closer at the Relationships between People and the Environment."

**8. Windham County**

**8.1. CT Energy Education, Institute for Sustainable Energy, Eastern CT State University, 83 Windham Street, Willimantic, CT**

- **Telephone:** 860-465-0256
- **Website:** [www.ctenergyeducation.com](http://www.ctenergyeducation.com)
- **Hours of Operation:** Not Applicable
- **Fees:** Not Applicable
- **Special Programs:** Not Applicable

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Free, web based materials, activities and lessons about energy efficiency, energy fundamentals and climate change. Most materials are high school level, although some have been adapted to middle grades.

**9. Governor Rell's No Child Left Inside Initiative**

- More than 800 miles of hiking trails. 2,000 miles of rivers and streams. 1,300 campsites in 14 parks. 9 historic sites. 237 lakes and ponds.
- It all adds up to some amazing natural resources and recreational activities. And it's all right here, in Connecticut's 139 State Parks and Forests.
- There's nothing like a day of fresh air and adventure to bring the family together. Whether you like to hike, fish, climb, or swim, you'll find a Connecticut State Park or Forest that's just right for you.
- **For current information about the CT Department of Environmental Protection's No Child Left Inside programs go to <http://www.nochildleftinside.org/>**

**Great Park Pursuit 2009 Destinations**

<u>Title</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Start Date</u> 📅	<u>Start Time</u>	<u>End Time</u>
Passport to Nature	Connecticut Audubon Society, 2325 Burr Street, Fairfield	5/3/09	1:00 PM	4:00 PM
<p>"Passport to Nature" is coming to the Center at Fairfield starting Sundays in September. Visit the Center on Sundays (September through June) and pick up a self-guided activity packet and your "passport." Explore what's outside in our 152-acre Wildlife Sanctuary, what's inside in our Center, read a story together and create a simple craft. Finish the activities and have your passport stamped. All activities are designed for families to do together. All children must be accompanied by an adult (no drop-offs, please). Each month features a different theme. Complete each month's theme (September through June) and receive a prize. Suitable for children of all ages and designed for parents/guardians to actively participate. Free, but donations are always welcome!</p> <p><b>For More Info:</b> Call (203) 259-6305 ext. 109 or visit <a href="http://ctaudubon.org">ctaudubon.org</a></p>				
Afternoon Family Hike	Little River Trails, Redding	5/3/09	2:00 PM	N/A
<p>Enjoy an easy stroll along the riverside trails. Meet by the statues at the main entrance to Huntington State Park on Sunset Hill Road in Redding. In the event of rain, the hike will be cancelled.</p> <p><b>For More Info:</b> Call Eric Stones at (203) 797-9175 or email <a href="mailto:estones01@snet.net">estones01@snet.net</a></p>				
New Haven Parks Hike Passport	Trowbridge	5/6/09	12:00 PM	1:00 PM

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<u>Title</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Start Date</u> 📅	<u>Start Time</u>	<u>End Time</u>
	(Indian Hill), New Haven			
<p>See the beauty of New Haven through these Ranger-guided hikes. Complete all 21 hikes in the New Haven Parks Hike Passport and receive a FREE gift! Please note that pre-registration is required at least two days in advance.</p> <p><b>For More Info:</b> To pre-register, email Ranger Chris Guerette at <a href="mailto:cguerett@newhavenct.net">cguerett@newhavenct.net</a> or Ranger Joe Milone at <a href="mailto:jmilone@newhavenct.net">jmilone@newhavenct.net</a>, or call (203) 946-8016</p>				
Campfire Program	Squantz Pond State Park, New Fairfield	5/16/09	7:30 PM	N/A
<p>Commemorate Armed Forces Day with stories of ghostly apparitions, from the legions of ancient Rome to the Civil War armies of America.</p> <p><b>For More Info:</b> Call Squantz Pond State Park at (203) 797-4165</p>				
Sustainable Gardening Expo	Stamford Government - Center Lobby, 888 Washington Blvd, Stamford	5/28/09	2:00 PM	9:00 PM
<p>Learn about gardening for cleaner water, naturally! Come find out about native plants and where to buy them, alternatives to pesticides, managing turf organically, rain gardens, community gardening and more! Explore vendor displays during the day, and listen to lectures in the evening, given in English and Spanish, about sustainable - water quality focused - environmental management projects, and resources for healthier personal land care.</p> <p><b>For More Info:</b> Call (203) 977-4715, email <a href="mailto:emckenna@ci.stamford.ct.us">emckenna@ci.stamford.ct.us</a> or visit <a href="http://sustainablegardeningexpo.eventbrite.com/">sustainablegardeningexpo.eventbrite.com/</a> to RSVP for lecture seating</p>				
Family Hike	Metacomet Ridge, West Suffield	5/30/09	1:00 PM	N/A
<p>Easy two mile hike for families and those interested in natural surroundings on northernmost section of Traprock Ridges in CT. Meet at Suffield Land Conservancy on Route 168. In the event of rain, the hike will be cancelled.</p> <p><b>For More Info:</b> Call Mike Stanley at (860) 668-5304 or email <a href="mailto:hikelikemike@aol.com">hikelikemike@aol.com</a></p>				
Family Hike	Wolf Den, Pomfret	6/6/09	9:30 AM	N/A
<p>Slow paced 5 mile hike to Indian Chair, Wolf Den and Table Rock. Water, snack and sturdy shoes</p>				

Updated 6/8/2009



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*Learning Doesn't Take a Vacation Directory*  
*Places where families can have fun and learn together*  
 Spring 2009

<u>Title</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Start Date</u> 📅	<u>Start Time</u>	<u>End Time</u>
<p>recommended. Park at ranger cabin off of Wolf Den Drive. No dogs please.  <b>For More Info:</b> Call Debbie Tedford at (860) 373-8573</p>				
West Rock Nature Center Forestival	West Rock Nature Center, Wintergreen Avenue, New Haven	6/6/09	10:00 AM	3:00 PM
<p>Join us for outdoor fun and learning at West Rock Nature center. Activities will include bird walks, hikes and mountain biking, as well as live animal displays and more for the family to enjoy! Please note that pre-registration is required at least two days in advance.  <b>For More Info:</b> To pre-register, email Ranger Chris Guerette at <a href="mailto:cguerett@newhavenct.net">cguerett@newhavenct.net</a> or Ranger Joe Milone at <a href="mailto:jmilone@newhavenct.net">jmilone@newhavenct.net</a>, or call (203) 946-8016</p>				
Passport to Nature	Connecticut Audubon Society, 2325 Burr Street, Fairfield	6/7/09	1:00 PM	4:00 PM
<p>"Passport to Nature" is coming to the Center at Fairfield starting Sundays in September. Visit the Center on Sundays (September through June) and pick up a self-guided activity packet and your "passport". Explore what's outside in our 152-acre Wildlife Sanctuary, what's inside in our Center, read a story together and create a simple craft. Finish the activities and have your passport stamped. All activities are designed for families to do together. All children must be accompanied by an adult (no drop-offs, please). Each month features a different theme. Complete each month's theme (September through June) and receive a prize. Suitable for children of all ages and designed for parents/guardians to actively participate. Free, but donations are always welcome!  <b>For More Info:</b> Call (203) 259-6305 ext. 109 or visit <a href="http://ctaudubon.org">ctaudubon.org</a></p>				
Trails Day Family Hike	Pine Knob Loop, Cornwall Bridge	6/7/09	2:00 PM	N/A
<p>Scramble up the Appalachian Trail to enjoy scenic views of the Housatonic River. Meet at the parking area on Route 7, just one mile north of Route 4 intersection. In the event of rain, the hike will be cancelled.  <b>For More Info:</b> Call Eric Stones at (203) 797-9175 or email <a href="mailto:estones01@snet.net">estones01@snet.net</a></p>				
New Haven Parks Hike Passport	West Rock Nature Center, Wintergreen	6/9/09	7:15 PM	9:15 PM

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	Avenue, New Haven			
<p>See the beauty of New Haven through these Ranger-guided hikes. Complete all 21 hikes in the New Haven Parks Hike Passport and receive a FREE gift. Please note that pre-registration is required at least two days in advance.</p> <p><b>For More Info:</b> To pre-register, email Ranger Chris Guerette at <a href="mailto:cguerett@newhavenct.net">cguerett@newhavenct.net</a> or Ranger Joe Milone at <a href="mailto:jmilone@newhavenct.net">jmilone@newhavenct.net</a>, or call (203) 946-8016</p>				
Canoe New Haven	Mill River, New Haven	6/13/09	10:00 AM	3:00 PM
<p>Join a ranger for a short paddle along the Mill River. Meet at Orange Street boat launch across the street from Wilbur Cross High School. Please note that there is a \$2 per person canoeing charge, and pre-registration is required at least two days in advance.</p> <p><b>For More Info:</b> To pre-register, email Ranger Chris Guerette at <a href="mailto:cguerett@newhavenct.net">cguerett@newhavenct.net</a> or Ranger Joe Milone at <a href="mailto:jmilone@newhavenct.net">jmilone@newhavenct.net</a>, or call (203) 946-8016</p>				
Family Hike	Mount Lamentation, Meriden	7/25/09	11:00 AM	N/A
<p>Climb the Traprock Ridge for some great views. Pack a lunch and water. Meet at Giuffrida Park on Westfield Road, just 2.8 miles west of Exit 20 off I-91. In the event of rain, the hike will be cancelled.</p> <p><b>For More Info:</b> Call Eric Stones at (203) 797-9175 or email <a href="mailto:estones01@snet.net">estones01@snet.net</a></p>				
Family Hike	Dean's Ravine and Barrack Mountain, Falls Village	8/22/09	11:00 AM	N/A
<p>Enjoy lovely falls, whaleback and great views. Please bring a lunch and water. Meet at trail head at intersection of Music Mountain Road and Cream Hill Road. In the event of rain, the hike will be cancelled.</p> <p><b>For More Info:</b> Call Eric Stones at (203) 797-9175 or email <a href="mailto:estones01@snet.net">estones01@snet.net</a></p>				
Afternoon Family Hike	Devil's Den, Redding/Weston	9/20/09	2:00 PM	N/A
<p>Hike to two great ledges for the best view in the county. Meet at trail head on Dayton Road between Route 107 and Route 53. In the event of rain, the hike will be cancelled.</p> <p><b>For More Info:</b> Call Eric Stones at (203) 797-9175 or email <a href="mailto:estones01@snet.net">estones01@snet.net</a></p>				
Afternoon Family Hike	Steep Rock, Washington	10/24/09	1:00 PM	N/A

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	Depot			
Enjoy this pretty preserve along the Shepaug River including an old railroad tunnel. Join the Appalachian Mountain Club afterwards for a BBQ in Kent. Meet by the horse ring and bridge on River Road in Washington Depot. In the event of rain, the hike will be cancelled. <b>For More Info:</b> Call Eric Stones at (203) 797-9175 or email estones01@snet.net				
Afternoon Family Hike	Stormfield, Redding	11/29/09	1:00 PM	N/A
Hike around Mark Twain's old stomping ground. Meet at the back of the Mark Twain town library on Route 53 at intersection of Diamond Hill. In the event of rain, the hike will be cancelled. <b>For More Info:</b> Call Eric Stones at (203) 797-9175 or email estones01@snet.net				

**Connecticut Libraries:**

- Many local libraries provide family enrichment activities targeted to science, mathematics and environment learning.
- Some local libraries provide reduced fee passes to state parks and recreation areas as well.
- Go to [www.publiclibraries.com/connecticut.htm](http://www.publiclibraries.com/connecticut.htm) to find a list of public libraries in Connecticut.

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