

## Why choose the Wells Reserve for your next field trip?

The Wells Reserve offers a wide variety of programs suitable for all ages. Thousands of students and teachers have enjoyed a day in the fields, forests, and coastal habitats of the Wells Reserve. We have a dedicated teaching laboratory with sophisticated equipment and tools, exhibit areas with hands-on activities, seven miles of trails that wind through a variety of habitats, and full facilities for convenience and comfort. All Guided Programs provide teachers with...



- A free copy of *What is Ecology? An Introduction to Ecology through Estuaries*, a \$9.50 value
- A substantial Teacher Packet with background information about estuaries

## Financial Aid

Support for program and transportation costs is available through the Mattina Proctor Seacoast Explorers Fund at Laudholm Trust. Call for information.

## Accessibility

The Visitor Center, interpretive exhibits, restrooms, auditorium, and teaching laboratory are wheelchair accessible. Handicap parking spaces are available. One boardwalk trail is wheelchair accessible by special arrangement.

## Helpful Information



Picnicking is permitted at provided tables. Fires and grills are not allowed. The Wells Reserve has a strict carry-in, carry-out policy; groups must take all waste with them. The Wells Reserve does not have restaurant facilities or snack machines.

Children must always be accompanied by at least one adult chaperone for every 10 children.

**Reservations are required for all group visits of 10 or more and space is limited. Book early to avoid disappointment.**

By limiting the number of people using the site, we protect the fragile salt marsh ecosystem and avoid overcrowded trails.

*The Wells Reserve at Laudholm is a national treasure — a National Estuarine Research Reserve with its headquarters listed on the National Register of Historic Places — and it is open for you to explore every day, year round, from 7 am to sunset.*



Partners in research, education, stewardship, and preservation



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# wellsreserve

field trips



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Headquartered at historic Laudholm Farm, Wells, Maine  
[www.wellsreserve.org](http://www.wellsreserve.org) | 207-646-1555

## guided programs

Our trained docents provide a rich educational experience for children and adults. Our programs have helped thousands to understand links between land and sea.

### Guided Walks

These seasonal programs bring you up close and personal with the habitats and wildlife of the Wells Reserve. Program content is adapted to the age of the participants. Openings are limited; call well in advance for reservations. Topics include History of a Saltwater Farm, Life Between the Tides, Nature Walk, Secrets of a Salt Marsh, Wonderful Wildlife, Tremendous Trees, and Wildflower Walk.



<b>Ages</b>	5 years – adult
<b>Group</b>	30 person maximum
<b>Duration</b>	1–2 hours
<b>Fee</b>	\$5 per person (minimum charge \$50)

### Wild Friends in Wild Places



Join the Center for Wildlife and the Wells Reserve for an exciting new program all about Maine wildlife! Center for Wildlife staff bring non-releasable rehabilitated animals to teach about native wildlife and their unique behaviors, features,

and needs. Next, the students venture outdoors with nature journals in hand to explore the habitats of the Wells Reserve while searching for animal homes and signs. *Aligned with 2007 Maine Learning Results.*

<b>Grades</b>	K – 2
<b>Group</b>	30 student maximum
<b>Duration</b>	2–3 hours
<b>Fee</b>	\$180 per program

### Exploring Estuaries

Allow your students to discover the interdependence between living creatures and their habitats. Trailside exploration stations immerse your students in testing the salinity of water, investigating woodland plants and habitats, observing skulls and skins of local wildlife, discovering a sandy beach, and learning about

human impacts on estuaries with an interactive watershed model. *Aligned with 2007 Maine Learning Results.*

<b>Grades</b>	3 – 5
<b>Group</b>	60 student maximum
<b>Duration</b>	3 hours
<b>Fee</b>	\$5 per student

### Microscopic Marvels

Introduce your students to the diverse world of plankton! During this program, they will collect, observe, and identify live plankton, come to understand their importance to healthy ecosystems, and learn plankton life histories. Students conduct water quality tests at the marsh, collect plankton, then view them using microscopes. *Aligned with 2007 Maine Learning Results.*



<b>Grades</b>	6 – 12
<b>Group</b>	30 student maximum
<b>Duration</b>	3 hours
<b>Fee</b>	\$5 per student

## selfguided visits

Design a custom program for your group and explore the Wells Reserve at your own pace.

### Self-Guided Field Experiences



Develop your own curriculum for exploring the trails, habitats, and exhibits of the Wells Reserve or take advantage of our expert guidance. If you wish, contact us at least 2 weeks before your program date to consult with our educators for up to 90 minutes. The \$30 consultation fee includes a comprehensive information packet, a copy of our *What is Ecology?* curriculum guide, a site tour, and training on materials available for rental, such as binoculars, field guides, and soil corers.

<b>Ages</b>	All ages
<b>Group</b>	100 person maximum
<b>Fee</b>	Regular Wells Reserve admission
<b>Equipment</b>	\$10/pack (optional)

### Discovery Program Trail Guides & Backpacks



Self-paced trail guides are paired with activity backpacks holding everything you need for a half-day investigation. Especially fun for kids from 6 to 12 years old. The three programs are *Habitat Hike*, *Time Travels*, and *Water Wonders*.

<b>Ages</b>	6 years and up
<b>Group</b>	1 trail guide per child recommended
<b>Fee</b>	\$5 (includes trail guide, backpack rental, and prize)

### Kit Rentals

**Safari in a Box** is filled with a variety of animal pelts, skulls, track and scat replicas, and more. It is sponsored by the Maine Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife. Our **Tree Trunks** are full of helpful tools such as “tree cookies,” books, leaves, seeds, and field equipment that can be used to help teach forestry related topics outdoors. They are sponsored by Project Learning Tree.

<b>Ages</b>	All ages
<b>Fee</b>	Please call for information.

### Exhibits

**Maine Coastal Ecology Center** exhibits explain how Wells Reserve researchers investigate estuarine environments and how research results influence coastal management. They focus on salt marshes and tides, tidal restrictions, watersheds and water quality, plankton, fishes of the estuary, and research techniques. The exhibit area also includes a puppet and story book nook for young learners! Our **original exhibits** in the Laudholm Farmhouse touch on several aspects of the Wells Reserve mission. Special attention is given to habitats and wildlife, sea level rise, and the history of the site. Coming in spring 2011, we introduce **The Changing Ecology and Landscape of Coastal Maine**, new exhibits exploring how our landscape formed naturally over thousands of years and how that landscape both shapes and is shaped by the people who inhabit it.

<b>Ages</b>	All ages
<b>Fee</b>	Regular Wells Reserve admission