



# THE BRENTON ARBORETUM

## 2023– 2024 School Field Trip Planning Guide

Kids adventure outside learning on 140 acres of rolling hills, streams, prairies, ponds, and woods.

Preschool and kindergarten students participate in our Inchworms Investigators program which has two 20-minute activities. Please plan on spending 1 hour to allow for loading and unloading and student prep time.

First grades and up participate in our Knee-High Naturalists program which has three 30-minute activities. Please plan on spending 2 hours at the arboretum.

What you need to know: **Neither trash cans nor running water are available at the pavilion.**

- ◇ All field trips start and end at the pavilion
- ◇ There is one porta-potty at the pavilion
- ◇ Everyone must be prepared with **WATER**, sunscreen, bug spray, a water bottle, a hat or sunglasses, and **closed toed and sturdy shoes for hiking.**
- ◇ **Please pack out any garbage you bring in.**
- ◇ One or more chaperones are required for each unit group. Parents are welcome.

### Teacher and Chaperone Responsibilities :

1. **Teachers and chaperones are responsible for discipline and student behavior.**
2. Teachers and chaperones are aware of any medical or special needs of students in your group. Let the Brenton Arboretum staff know ahead of time if such needs exist so we might be able to prepare to accommodate such students.
3. Teachers and chaperones can participate in all activities with the students. Students look to adults as role models.
4. Adults must make sure students are prepared with water, appropriate shoes, sun, and bug protections.

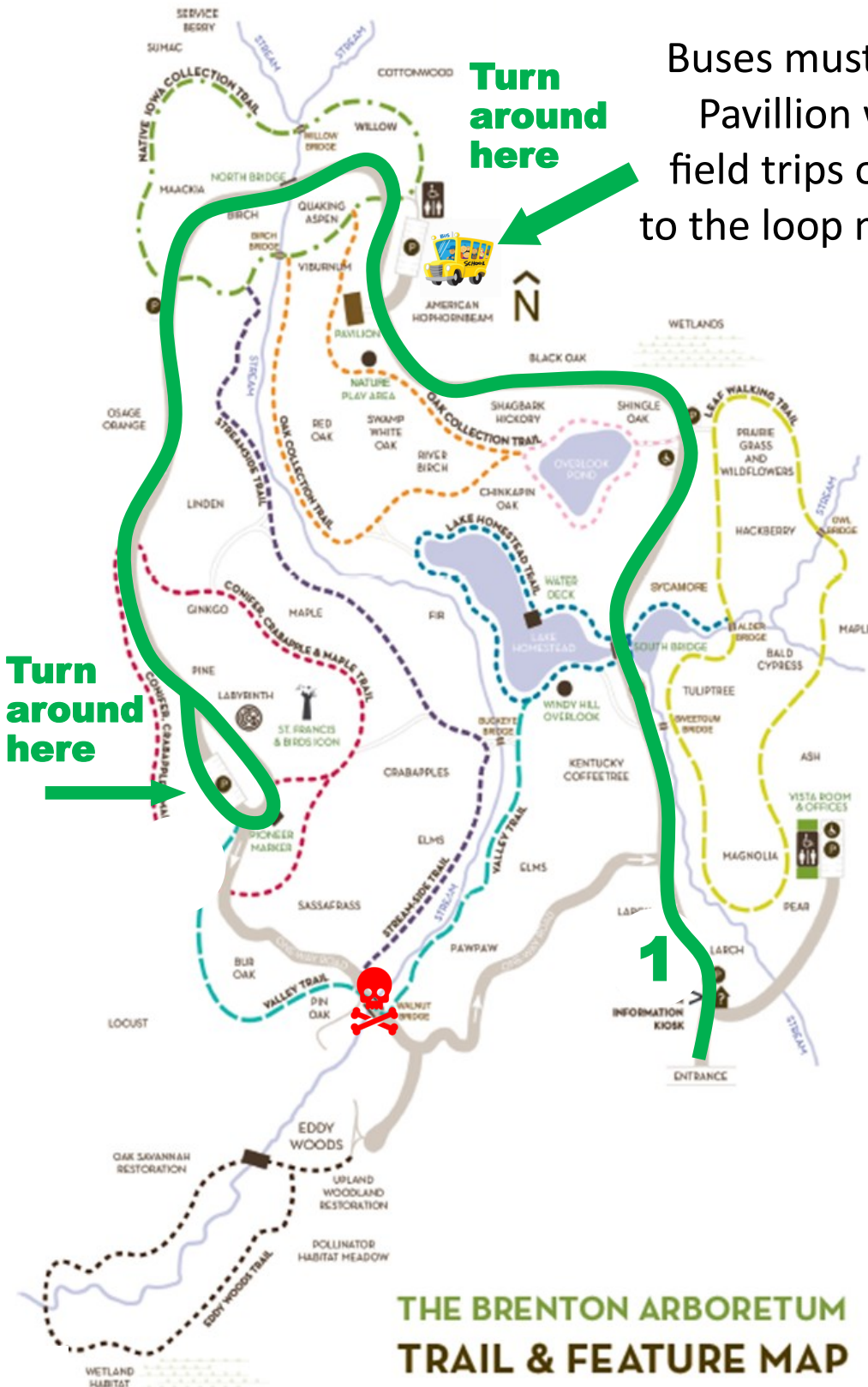
Activity Title	Activity Description	Grade Suitability
Intro to Orienteering	Students navigate to various checkpoints using a compass and following directions. (Involves hiking through tall grasses, up and down hills, and across bridges).	1-2, 3-5, 6-8
Hooves, Leaves, and In-Between.	Thirty minutes are divided between two games– predator/ prey and bugs and slugs. Both active games that also challenge their knowledge of the natural world around them.	1-2,3-5,6-8
Aquatic Odyssey	Students will explore components of wetlands and the aquatic life of the ponds at the Arboretum with nets and buckets. <i>There is potential to get wet or muddy.</i>	PK, K-2, 3-5, 6-8
Insect Safari	Students will learn about insects by carefully catching and studying live insects before releasing them back into their habitat. They also learn about insect needs and habitats on their adventure.	PK, K-2, 3-5, 6-8



# BUS ROUTE MAP

## THE BRENTON ARBORETUM

Buses must turn around at the Pavillion where they park for field trips or carefully navigate to the loop marked on the map.



1. Stick to the green route. The road is two way and you will be able to enter and exit on the same road.
2. Do not attempt to go to the Administration Building. It is extremely difficult to turn around.\*
3. Do not attempt to drive beyond the loop at the conifer area.

## 2023-2024 Field Trip Booking Form

Complete this form and return by email to  
education@thebrentonarboretum.org  
at least 4 weeks before your requested trip date.

School/Group Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Teacher Contact Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Teacher Contact Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

*(this is the number we'll use to contact you in case of things like severe weather, a cell # is best)*

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

*(this is the email we'll use to confirm your trip)*

How many students? \_\_\_\_\_

Grade level (or range): \_\_\_\_\_

Date 1st choice \_\_\_\_\_ Date 2nd choice \_\_\_\_\_

Inchworm Investigators 1 hr

Knee– High Naturalists 2 hr

AM arrival time: \_\_\_\_\_

AM arrival time: \_\_\_\_\_

PM arrival time: \_\_\_\_\_

PM arrival time: \_\_\_\_\_

The Brenton Arboretum requires visitors to respect the naturalists.

We require visitors to respect each other.

We require visitors to respect the arboretum with Leave No Trace Ethics.

**Field trips are offered by appointment only.**  
**Submitting this form does not confirm your trip.**  
**Confirmation will be made by email to the email  
address provided on this form.**