Group Overnights
at Delaware Nature Society sites

Overview
Overnights with Delaware Nature Society are a great kickoff or culminating activity for your group. Overnight programs include hands-on activities led by experienced naturalists. Create an exciting indoor/outdoor adventure including just the features you want! Each traditional overnight program includes a night hike, campfire, morning walk, and your choices of one evening presentation and one daytime field study. We also offer themed overnights with activities organized to take full advantage of seasonal natural history. Add to the fun by extending your overnight with additional field studies or custom-designed programs.

Enjoy the fun and adventure of toasting marshmallows, discovering wildlife, and connecting with nature. Overnights are an experience everyone in your group will always remember!

Skip to Overnights at Abbott’s Mill Nature Center in Milford, DE
Skip to Overnights at Ashland Nature Center in Hockessin, DE
Skip to Overnights at Coverdale Farm Preserve in Greenville, DE
Abbott’s Mill Nature Center is the perfect place for first-time campers but provides plenty to do for the more experienced. Each overnight program includes a night hike, campsite & campfire, morning walk, and your choices of one evening presentation and one daytime field study.

Accommodations

- Campground with fire pit (tents/sleeping bags not included) or Nature Center available
- Restrooms with running water a short distance from camp
- Nature Center available for programs or activities (see below)
- Refrigerator, microwave, and camp stoves available for use
Sample schedule*
*can be customized to suit

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DAY 1</th>
<th>DAY 2</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>6:00 - 6:30 pm Arrive, set up camp &amp; unpack</td>
<td>7:30 – 8:15 am Morning walk</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6:30 - 7:00 pm Introduction &amp; Orientation</td>
<td>9:00 – 11:00 am Choice of field study</td>
</tr>
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<td>7:00 - 8:00 pm Choice of evening presentation</td>
<td>11:30 am Clean-up &amp; Depart</td>
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<td>8:00 - 9:00 pm Night hike</td>
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<td>9:00 - 9:30 pm Campfire</td>
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Evening presentation choices

**Astronomy**
Learn to use star charts, binoculars, and telescopes. Locate and identify stars, constellations, galaxies, and planets.

**Nature Center Tour**
Explore Abbott's Mill Nature Center to discover a variety of topics including Native Americans, Reptiles and Amphibians, Mammals, Waterfowl, Hawks and Owls, and much more. Make a take home nature craft.

**Owls of Delaware**
Discover the three common species of owls in Delaware as well as five rare species. Examine wings adapted for quiet flight and talons designed to seize prey. Learn and imitate vocalizations and pick apart an owl pellet to see what they eat. Note: Owl Pellets $1/participant.

**Reptiles & Amphibians**
Come face to face with some of the fascinating salamanders, frogs, turtles, lizards, and snakes that call Delaware home. Discover the adaptations that have made reptiles and amphibians such successful animals throughout the world.

**Skulls & Skins**
Use your detective skills to identify mammals by their skulls and skins. Discover the adaptations that differentiate herbivores, carnivores, and omnivores.

**Morning presentation choices**
[Browse Field Study Options](#)

**Register your overnight now**
To register your overnight, call us at 302.422.0847 x100
or [Request Online](#)
Group Overnights at Ashland Nature Center, Hockessin, DE

Based at Ashland’s Overnight Lodge, each traditional overnight program includes a night hike, campfire, morning walk, and your choices of one evening presentation and one daytime field study. We also offer themed overnights with activities organized to take full advantage of seasonal natural history. Add to the fun by extending your overnight with additional field studies or custom-designed programs.

Accommodations

- Two dormitories with bunk beds for up to 72 people
- Restrooms with showers
- Large, modern kitchen and appliances with all cookware, dinnerware, drinkware & utensils
- Great room/dining/activity area with fireplace, seats up to 80
- Panoramic view
- Electrical generator to ensure comfort and safety
- View the lodge photo gallery at DelNature.org/Lodge
Sample schedule*
*can be customized to suit

**DAY 1**
- 6:00 - 6:30 pm  Arrive & unpack
- 6:30 - 7:00 pm  Introduction & Orientation
- 7:00 - 8:00 pm  Choice of evening presentation
- 8:00 - 9:00 pm  Night hike
- 9:00 - 9:30 pm  Campfire

**DAY 2**
- 7:30 – 8:15 am  Morning walk
- 9:00 – 11:00 am Choice of field study
- 11:30 am  Clean-up & Depart

Evening presentation choices

**Astronomy**
Make your own star finder and learn how to use it. Climb Hawk Watch Hill for a breathtaking view of the heavens as you learn to identify stars, constellations, and planets.

**Nocturnal Animals**
No telling what creatures you might meet on a dark night. Discover night life in nature meeting feathered, furry & scaled live and taxidermy animals.

**Skulls & Skins**
Use your detective skills to identify mammals by their skulls and skins. Discover the adaptations that differentiate herbivores, carnivores, and omnivores.

Morning presentation choices
Browse Field Study Options

Register your overnight now
To register your overnight, call us at 302.239.2334 ext.113
or Request Online
Themed Overnights (Ashland Nature Center only)

Schedule

**DAY 1**

6:00 - 6:30 pm  Arrive & unpack
6:30 - 7:00 pm  Introduction & Orientation
7:00 - 8:00 pm  Themed presentation
8:00 - 9:00 pm  Night hike
9:00 - 9:30 pm  Campfire

**DAY 2**

7:30 - 8:30 am  Morning walk
9:30 – 11:30 am Themed lesson & Craft
12:00 pm        Clean-up & Depart

Theme choices

**Owl Prowl (January & February)**

Beautiful, spooky, wise, ominous...Since ancient times, humans have associated owls with many different, often contradictory qualities. Learn the myths and truths about these creatures. Discover the secret of owl ears and what we have in common with owl eyes. Listen to owl calls and use recordings to attract one close to us during a night hike. Dissect an owl pellet to discover what these silent hunters eat. Examine taxidermy owls up close and see how your senses stack up against theirs. Create a unique craft to take home.

**Maple Sugaring (February)**

What does a maple tree look like? How did local animals help Native Americans discover its sweet secret? Find out the answers as you "Meet the Tree", learn about the winter habits of some of Ashland’s live animal collection, and try your hand at drilling, tapping, and boiling down sap to make syrup. Compare the flavors of maple and other syrups during a taste test, hear a story of "backyard sugarin'", and compete in the "Winter Clothes Relay".

**Spring Chorus (Late March to May)**

Meet live amphibians, listen to frog and toad calls, go on a night hunt for amphibians and their eggs, and become a "citizen scientist" during an Ashland frog watch survey. After an early-morning birding walk, join in on games of "Fill the Bill" and "Bird Behavior Bingo", a Signs of Spring hike, and make a special take-home craft.

**Birds, Bees, and Butterflies (June to September)**

Explore habitats where birds are flying and feeding, flowers are blooming, and insects are buzzing. Search Ashland's meadows for butterflies, caterpillars, and other insects; join a "Birding with Binoculars" hike, and visit the Butterfly House. Learn who eats what and
help collect food for resident caterpillars. Discover the secrets of attracting birds and beneficial (as well as beautiful!) insects to your own yard, and get a head start by taking home a plant that these creatures love.

**Lenape Lifeways (Year-round)**

The native Lenni Lenape depended on the natural world for everything in their lives. Experience life as they did. Hear stories from the people of “Turtle Island” and hike to a replica wigwam while tracking the animals and finding the plants that made their survival possible. Dress in Lenape clothing, examine tools and artifacts, whittle and crack nuts with stone tools, and make a clay pot.
Late May - September only

Jump into the farm cycles of life! Discover the basics of animal husbandry with daily chores at Coverdale Farm Preserve. Milk the dairy cow and bottle-feed the calves, feed and water chickens and chicks, feed the sheep their grain and give the pigs their grain and milk. Dig into the garden and crop fields to seed, weed, harvest the seasonal plants and make a farm-based lunch. This Overnight experience begins at the Ashland Nature Center Lodge with a night hike and popcorn snack including butter you make yourself. Pack up your vehicles after breakfast the following morning and caravan over to the farm for a day of fun! (maximum 25 participants).

Accommodations (at the Ashland Lodge)

- Two dormitories with bunk beds for up to 72 people
- Restrooms with showers
- Large, modern kitchen and appliances with all cookware, dinnerware, drinkware & utensils
- Great room & dining/activity area with fireplace, seats up to 80
- Panoramic view
- Electrical generator to ensure comfort and safety

Schedule

**DAY 1**

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</tr>
<tr>
<td>7:00 - 8:00 pm</td>
<td>Butter/Popcorn-making</td>
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<tr>
<td>8:00 - 9:00 pm</td>
<td>Night Hike</td>
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<tr>
<td>9:00 - 9:30 pm</td>
<td>Campfire</td>
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**DAY 2**

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Time</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>7:00 – 8:45 am</td>
<td>Breakfast, clean-up &amp; drive to Coverdale</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9:00 – 10:30 am</td>
<td>Farm chores</td>
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<tr>
<td>10:30 – 11:30 am</td>
<td>Gardening</td>
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<td>11:30 – 12:30 pm</td>
<td>Cleanup &amp; lunch preparation</td>
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<tr>
<td>12:30 – 1:00 pm</td>
<td>Lunch</td>
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