Discover the many hands-on activities that inspire, teach and involve!
Aullwood’s Legacy

Marie S. Aull gave Aullwood to the Miami Valley and the National Audubon Society in 1957. It was her dream to create a beautiful wildlife sanctuary and one of the Midwest’s first nature centers. In 1962 she gave neighboring land to create one of the first educational farms in the country.

Today, Aullwood is a 200-acre sanctuary with six miles of trails winding through prairie, forests, marsh, ponds and meadows. Aullwood’s field trips and special outreach programs fulfill Ohio’s Learning Standards. Aullwood’s hands-on activities inspire, teach and involve!

Location of Aullwood Audubon

The Marie S. Aull Education Center is located at
Aullwood Nature Center
1000 Aullwood Road
Dayton, OH 45414

The Charity A. Krueger Farm Discovery Center is located at
Aullwood Farm
9101 Frederick Pike
Dayton, OH 45414
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Aullwood’s professional naturalist educators and specially-trained volunteer naturalists provide learning opportunities that create awareness of the natural and agricultural world, teach natural history and agricultural topics and instill conservation stewardship.

Scheduling Your Visit: Contact Aullwood’s Office Manager, Barbara Trick at (937) 890-7360 ext. 210 to schedule your group. If you have a group with special needs and want to schedule a program, please call us for options. Whenever possible, teachers and group leaders are encouraged to visit Aullwood before bringing children on field trips. Find more information about Aullwood on our website at www.aullwood.org. Aullwood’s guided program schedule fills quickly, so reserve your program early in the school year!

Dates: Guided programs are offered September – May unless otherwise noted and can take place Tuesday – Friday.

Times: Guided programs can be scheduled to start at 9:30 a.m., 9:45 a.m., 10:00 a.m., 10:15 a.m., 10:30 a.m., 10:45 a.m. or 11:00 a.m. If you would like your group to visit Aullwood in the afternoon you are welcome to lead your own self-guided visit, but there are no Aullwood guided programs in the afternoon. We do appreciate you letting us know about afternoon large group self-guided visits in advance.

The Day of Your Program: Staff and volunteers are waiting for your arrival, so please let us know if you are running more than 15 minutes late by calling Aullwood at (937) 890-7360. When you arrive at Aullwood a staff member will greet your group, deliver a presentation and if applicable, ask you to divide your students into a certain number of small groups for the rest of the guided program. When the guided program has concluded your group may board the bus or continue exploring Aullwood as a self-guided group. Self-guided groups must be respectful of other groups to maintain the high quality of experiences for everyone. If you would like to stay at Aullwood after your guided program please let us know when scheduling your program.

Pricing and Payment: There is a minimum fee of $75 for guided field trip experiences. The specific cost for each program is listed in the program description. Fees are due on the day of the program. If your school requires billing, please bring a purchase order.

Cancellations: A cancellation fee of $25 per scheduled date will be charged to any school cancelling a program. This does not apply to cancellations due to school closings, poor weather or dangerous road conditions.

Teachers/Adult Chaperones: For the safety of students and for the best possible field trip experience, we require at least one adult to accompany every 10 children. There is no charge for teachers who accompany their classroom students for a guided tour. Teacher aids and other adult chaperones must pay the adult programming fee.

Weather: Please be aware that all programs are held rain or shine as scheduled. In case of severe weather that prevents outdoor exploration, activities may be modified and will be conducted indoors.

Locations: Aullwood has two locations, the Marie S. Aull Education Center (1000 Aullwood Road, Dayton, OH 45414) and the Charity A. Kruger Farm Discovery Center (9101 Frederick Pike, Dayton, OH 45414). Please note the specific Aullwood location for each program in the program description.

Lunch: If you would like your group to eat lunch at Aullwood we have places to picnic on the lawn or on our porches, pavers or decks. You may want to bring blankets or tarps to aid your group in sitting as Aullwood does not provide tables or chairs for lunch. During inclement weather, we are not able to guarantee there will be indoor space for you to picnic with your group as our buildings or pavilion may be in use for another program. You must bring trash bags to take the lunch waste back to your school.
GUIDED PROGRAMS

Birds of Prey

Grades: 1st – 12th

Field Trip Length: 1.5 hours

Objectives: To learn about the special adaptations of hawks and owls, their roles in ecosystems and threats to their existence.

Program Description: This study of Ohio’s hawks and owls enables groups to learn about the characteristics of birds of prey during a special presentation that illustrates a variety of adaptations. Discover the role predators play in ecosystems and investigate threats to these protected species. This program includes the dissection of one owl pellet per every two students.

Program Location: This program begins and ends at the Nature Center.

Special Note about this Program: Birds of Prey is an indoor program. There is no outdoor component.

Cost: $7/student (includes half an owl pellet), $7/adult for the program (does not include half an owl pellet). Additional owl pellets are $3.50/pellet.

Candle Dipping (This program is only offered in November and December)

Grades: PreK – 12th

Field Trip Length: 1.5 hours

Objectives: To dip beeswax candles, learn about bees and beekeeping, study the history of lighting and energy use, learn about renewable and nonrenewable resources and understand basic conservation issues.

Program Description: Students learn about the ways that people have extended the day with artificial lighting – from primitive lights to candles to electric lighting. Participants hand dip beeswax candles after learning about the cooperation between bees and beekeepers, energy cycles and ways to conserve energy.

Program Location: This program begins and ends at the Farm. Weather permitting, there is a brief outdoor walk but most of the Candle Dipping program is indoors.

Cost: $7/student (includes one candle), $7/adult (does not include a candle). Additional candles are $2/candle.

To schedule a visit contact Aullwood’s Office Manager, Barbara Trick at (937) 890-7360 ext. 210. Aullwood’s guided program schedule fills quickly so reserve your program early in the school year!
Comparing Communities

Grades: 3rd – 12th
Field Trip Length: 2.5 hours
Objectives: To discover a variety of habitats, identifying producers, consumers and decomposers and encounter organisms that live in a variety of communities.

Program Description: Students explore Aullwood’s habitats, discovering special organisms that fill essential roles in living systems. Groups search natural communities such as prairie, stream, pond, forest and meadow, examining cycles and food chains. At the Farm, students explore an agriculture community that supports humans. Emphasis is placed on using senses, observing/gathering information on ecosystems and investigating and drawing conclusions.

Program Location: This program begins at the Nature Center and ends at the Farm.
Cost: $7/student, $7/adult

Farmyard Adventures

Grades: PreK – 3rd
Field Trip Length: 1.5 hours
Objectives: To foster an understanding of the significance of farms in regards to food and clothing, along with identifying farm animals and other parts of the farm community.

Program Description: Learn where food comes from on a journey around Aullwood Farm. Groups visit farm animals, explore herb and vegetable gardens and see a century-old barn. Aullwood Farm is home to a variety of livestock which usually include horses, pigs, cows, goats, chickens and sheep.

Program Location: This program begins and ends at the Farm.
Cost: $5/student, $7/adult

Feathers and Flight

Grades: 2nd – 6th
Field Trip Length: 1.5 hours
Objectives: To learn about the characteristics, diversity, ecology and protection of birds.

Program Description: Students are immersed in the world of birds learning about their characteristics and why they should be protected. On the outdoor hike students learn about the diversity of foods different birds eat, listen to vocalizations and have the opportunity to observe birds in various habitats.

Program Location: This program begins and ends at the Nature Center.
Cost: $5/student, $7/adult
GUIDED PROGRAMS

Geology and Fossils
Grades: 3rd – 12th
Field Trip Length: 2 hours
Objectives: To learn basic geology concepts, discover the geology of southwestern Ohio and collect fossils representative of the Dayton area.
Program Description: Discover Dayton’s geologic past through the use of hands-on specimens. Learn how ancient oceans and glaciers shaped the land, study the three rock types and discover how the bedrock and glacial geology connect with the ecology of the land.
Program Location: This program begins at the Nature Center and ends at the Stillwater River where fossil collecting is encouraged.
Special Note about this Program: Collecting fossils at the Stillwater River is weather dependent.
Cost: $7/student, $7/adult

Maple Syrup (This program is only offered mid-February through mid-March)
Grades: K- 12th
Field Trip Length: 1.5 hours
Objectives: To learn about the traditional art of sugaring and to explore the woods in winter.
Program Description: Learn about maple syrup production and explore Aullwood’s sugarbush. Discover the difference between Native American maple syrup production and commercial maple syrup production. See buckets hanging on trees, learn about tree identification and tour the sugarhouse.
Program Location: This program begins and ends at the Farm.
Special Note about this Program: Teachers are welcome to purchase maple syrup at the Farm for an additional fee. This program is mostly outdoors so please have students dress appropriately for weather conditions.
Cost: $6/student, $7/adult

To schedule a visit contact Aullwood’s Office Manager, Barbara Trick at (937) 890-7360 ext. 210. Aullwood’s guided program schedule fills quickly so reserve your program early in the school year!
GUIDED PROGRAMS

Nature Explorations

Grades: PreK- 2nd

Field Trip Length: 1.5 hours

Objectives: To discover and build awareness of diversity through the use of the senses in a rich, natural environment.

Program Description: Students strengthen their sense of wonder as they explore the outdoors using their senses. Experience nature and encounter plants and animals through touching, smelling, seeing and hearing. Students continue using their senses while visiting the Marie S. Aull Center’s Discovery areas and even get the opportunity to touch a snake or box turtle.

Program Location: This program begins and ends at the Nature Center.

Cost: $5/student, $7/adult

Ohio Visions of the Past

Grades: 3rd – 12th

Field Trip Length: 1.5 hours

Objectives: Learn about the ecosystems that have existed in Ohio throughout time and discover Ohio’s eco-history.

Program Description: Through an imaginary journey back in time, students visit the ancient oceans, the ice age, Native Americans and early Ohio settlers. Learn how Ohio’s landscape has changed through time and the importance of conservation.

Program Location: This program begins and ends at the Nature Center.

Cost: $5/student, $7/adult

Scales and Cold-Blooded Tales

Grades: 3rd – 6th

Field Trip Length: 1.5 hours

Objectives: To understand the characteristics, diversity and ecology of reptiles.

Program Description: The program begins inside with an overview of reptiles and a discussion about how reptiles are a unique group of animals. Students interact with hands-on specimens and meet several species of Ohio snakes and turtles. Explore reptile habitats along Aullwood’s trails while delving into their many fascinating adaptations.

Program Location: This program begins and ends at the Nature Center.

Cost: $5/student, $7/adult
GUIDED PROGRAMS

Udder Delight

Grades: PreK – 3rd
Field Trip Length: 1.5 hours
Objectives: To learn about the characteristics of mammals, see a farm ecosystem and learn the process of collecting milk.
Program Description: Discover the characteristics of mammals and trace the production of a glass of milk back to the energy from the sun, green plants and soil. In this program students watch a brief video about Ohio dairy farming, milk a life-like cow, meet the mammals on the farm and taste butter they make from cream.

Program Location: This program begins and ends at the Farm.
Special Note about this Program: This program includes a session making butter from cream and tasting the butter on crackers. Please let us know if you have any students with allergies to dairy or wheat products when booking this program.

Cost: $6/student, $7/adult

Web of Life

Grades: 3rd – 7th
Field Trip Length: 2 hours
Objectives: Learn about the importance of birds of prey in food web relationships.
Program Description: Explore natural food web relationships by focusing on birds of prey. Learn about extinction, endangered species, migration, effects of herbicides or pesticides on wildlife and their habitats, as well as positive and negative human influences on wildlife.

Program Location: This program begins and ends at the Nature Center.

Cost: $7/student, $7/adult

To schedule a visit contact Aullwood’s Office Manager, Barbara Trick at (937) 890-7360 ext. 210. Aullwood’s guided program schedule fills quickly so reserve your program early in the school year!
During the school year, teachers or group leaders can book a visit to Aullwood and guide their own group for a self-guided or do-it-yourself program. We provide some teaching materials before you come and, upon your arrival, a brief staff introduction.

**Scheduling Your Visit:** Contact Aullwood’s Office Manager, Barbara Trick, at (937) 890-7360 ext. 210 to schedule your group. Whenever possible, teachers and group leaders are encouraged to visit Aullwood before bringing children on field trips. Find more information about Aullwood on our website at [www.aullwood.org](http://www.aullwood.org).

**Dates:** Self-guided programs are offered September – May and can take place Tuesday – Friday.

**Times:** Self-Guided school programs can be scheduled to start at 9:30 a.m., 9:45 a.m., 10:00 a.m., 10:15 a.m., 10:30 a.m., 10:45 a.m., 11:00 a.m., 11:15 a.m. or 11:30 a.m. If you would like your group to visit Aullwood in the afternoon you are welcome to lead your own visit, but there are no Aullwood staff-led guided or self-guided programs in the afternoon. We do appreciate you letting us know about afternoon large group visits in advance.

**The Day of Your Program:** Staff are waiting for your arrival so please let us know if you are running more than 15 minutes late by calling Aullwood at (937) 890-7360. When you arrive at Aullwood, a staff member will greet your group and deliver a brief introduction, then you lead your own self-guided program. Groups may be permitted to visit both the Center and Farm but must give us advanced notice of their interest in visiting both locations. Please note that during certain times of year self-guided groups may not be able to visit all the classrooms and other locations as they may be occupied by other Aullwood programs.

**Pricing and Payment:** There is a minimum fee of $50 for a self-guided program. Specific costs for each program are listed in the program description. Fees are due on the day of the program. If your group requires billing, please bring a purchase order.

**Cancellations:** A cancellation fee of $25 per scheduled date will be charged to any school cancelling a program. This does not apply to cancellations due to school closings, poor weather or dangerous road conditions.

**Teachers/Adult Chaperones:** There is no charge for teachers who accompany their classroom students for a self-guided tour. Teacher aids and other adult chaperones must pay the adult programming fee.

**Locations:** Aullwood has two locations, the Marie S. Aull Education Center (1000 Aullwood Road, Dayton, OH 45414) and the Charity A. Kruger Farm Discovery Center (9101 Frederick Pike, Dayton, OH 45414). Please note the specific Aullwood location for each program in the program description.

**Lunch:** If you would like your group to eat lunch at Aullwood we have places to picnic on the lawn or on our porches, pavers or decks. You may want to bring blankets or tarps to aid your group in sitting as Aullwood does not provide tables or chairs for lunch. During inclement weather, we are not able to guarantee there will be indoor space for you to picnic with your group as our buildings or pavilion may be in use for another program. You must bring trash bags to take the lunch waste back to your school.
SELF-GUIDED PROGRAMS

Self-Guided Birds, Flight and the Wrights

Grades: 2nd – 12th

Suggested Field Trip Length: 1.5 – 2 hours

Program Description: Explore the Birds, Flight and the Wrights Trail, which is a 4/10 mile-long paved trail that winds through forest, prairie and along a stream. Interactive displays interpret the flight of the Wright brothers, the Aull family’s relationship with the Wrights and the flight of birds, insects, mammals and seeds.

Program Location: This program begins and ends at the Nature Center.

Cost: $5/student, $7/adult

Self-Guided Farm Visit

Grades: PreK – 12th

Suggested Field Trip Length: 1.5 – 2 hours

Program Description: Discover Aullwood Farm and learn about the production of food. Tour barns, view exhibits, visit farm animals and explore gardens. Leaders must ensure that children treat all farm animals with care.

Program Location: This program begins and ends at the Farm.

Cost: $5/student, $7/adult

Self-Guided Geology Explorations

Grades: 2nd – 12th

Suggested Field Trip Length: 1.5 – 2 hours

Program Description: Walk the geology trail and uncover evidence left behind by ancient seas, continental glaciers and rushing water. Visit the fossil beds at the Stillwater River and try to find horned coral, bryozoan, brachiopods or other fossils to take home.

Program Location: This program begins at the Nature Center and ends at the Stillwater River’s fossil beds.

Cost: $5/student, $7/adult

Self-Guided Nature Center Visit

Grades: PreK – 12th

Suggested Field Trip Length: 1.5 – 2 hours

Program Description: Develop a sense of wonder exploring the exhibits, classrooms and habitats at Aullwood. See live animals in the Marie S. Aull Education Center, then hike in the prairie, woods, streams or ponds to see what nature delights you can find along the trails.

Program Location: This program begins and ends at the Nature Center.

Cost: $5/student, $7/adult
Outreach Programs (Offered August – May)

Schedule an outreach program and encounter the natural world and farm life at your site with Outreach Naturalist Chris Rowlands!

**Artist in Residence: Art**

**Grades:** K – 12th  
**Program Length:** One Week  
**Objectives:** To work with a professional artist who teaches students how to create and design an art mural about nature or farming.  
**Program Description:** During the Artist in Residence: Art Program, Chris Rowlands, Aullwood’s Outreach Naturalist, teaches students to use a variety of art techniques to create a 6’ x 10’ acrylic canvas mural, which becomes a permanent exhibit at your school. This program is tailored to meet the school’s curriculum needs on any topic.  
**Program Location:** Your School  
**Cost:** For cost and information, contact Chris Rowlands, Aullwood’s Outreach Naturalist at (937) 890-7360 ext. 221.

**Artist in Residence: Music**

**Grades:** K – 12th  
**Program Length:** One Week  
**Objectives:** To work with a professional musician who teaches students how to create music and write songs about nature or farming.  
**Program Description:** During the Artist in Residence: Music Program, Chris Rowlands, Aullwood’s Outreach Naturalist, teaches and encourages students to express their creativity and learn through music. Chris provides guidance for students to research, write, record and perform their songs. At the end of the weeklong residency, a professionally recorded CD is created. After the Artist in Residence: Music Program, Chris and the students share what they’ve learned during a performance for the entire school. This program is tailored to meet the school’s curriculum needs on any topic.  
**Program Location:** Your School  
**Cost:** For cost and information, contact Chris Rowlands, Aullwood’s Outreach Naturalist at (937) 890-7360 ext. 221.
Outreach Assemblies (Offered Year-Round)

Schedule a music assembly for multiple classes, grades or for the entire school at your site with Outreach Naturalist Chris Rowlands and learn about farms and/or the natural world!

Farmin’ Fever

Grades: K – 6th
Program Length: 45-60 minutes
Objectives: To learn about farm life and where our food comes from through an educational, entertaining and interactive musical performance.
Program Description: Chris Rowlands, Aullwood’s Outreach Naturalist, brings the excitement of farm life to students with songs, dances and colorful backdrops, props and puppets. Chris teaches students how to milk a cow with a chorus of “squeeze, squirt, right from the udder.” The song “Sooee” teaches children about the products from hogs that we use daily. “Crop Hop” enables children to discover how plants make food. Each song engages the students through simple-to-follow choruses and fun movements. Through this program students become involved in the wonders of farm life that they never knew existed.
Program Location: Your School
Cost: $250 for a 45-60 minute program and $0.75 per mile for travel to facilities that are more than 15 miles from Aullwood. Contact Chris Rowlands at (937) 890-7360 ext. 221 to schedule this program.

It’s Wild Out There

Grades: K – 6th
Program Length: 45-60 minutes
Objectives: To learn about forests and wildlife through an educational, entertaining and interactive musical performance.
Program Description: Through the use of music, humor, puppets and audience participation, Chris Rowlands, Aullwood’s Outreach Naturalist, creates a woodland adventure enabling children to encounter a myriad of fascinating wild animals. Children learn about specific adaptations of animals such as the spray of a striped skunk, the stealth flight of a barred owl, or the absence of feathers on a vulture’s head. Children discover the diversity of wildlife and explore a forest food web. With puppet in hand, Chris introduces children to threatened neo-tropical birds – how, when and why they winter in Latin America and why these birds migrate to Ohio to raise their young.
Program Location: Your School
Cost: $250 for a 45-60 minute program and $0.75 per mile for travel to facilities that are more than 15 miles from Aullwood. Contact Chris Rowlands at (937) 890-7360 ext. 221 to schedule this program.
Classroom Visits at Your School (Offered September – May)

An Aullwood Environmental Educator will visit your school and present a special program about natural history or farming. Programs are 30 – 45 minutes for grades PreK – K and 45 – 60 minutes grades 1st – 12th. Program cost is $75 for a group of up to 35 students. If you have a group of more than 35 students we recommend your group sign up for an Outreach Assembly – see page 12. There is an additional fee of $0.75 per mile for travel to facilities that are more than 15 miles from Aullwood. Contact Aullwood’s Education Manager, Nicole Conrad, at (937) 890-7360 ext. 217 or email nconrad@audubon.org to schedule a classroom visit.

The following are classroom visit program offerings:

**Birds of Prey** – (Grades 2nd – 12th) Discover characteristics of birds of prey by studying hawks and owls. View specimens that illustrate a variety of adaptations and investigate threats to these protected species. For an additional $3.50/pellet, students can dissect owl pellets.

**Butterflies** – (Grades 2nd – 5th) Learn about the characteristics of insects by focusing on a dazzling array of butterflies. Learn about host plants, life cycles, metamorphosis, migration, predators and more.

**From Our Farm to You** – (Grades PreK – 3rd) Learn all about the farm from plants to animals. Students engage in hands-on activities from soil exploration to a live animal interaction. Find out where food comes from and the important role farms play in our food system.

**Ohio’s Wildlife** – (Grades PreK – 5th) Learn about animals that can be found in the wild in Ohio. This program includes hands-on specimens such as animal pelts, skulls, feathers, etc. Children also interact with some of Aullwood’s captive animals such as a box turtle, snake, and/or bird of prey.

**Pond Life** – (Grades PreK – 12th) Discover the many different creatures that live in a pond. Learn about turtles, bugs, frogs and fish in this exciting program. This program requires a school to have an onsite pond or creek.

**Web of Life** – (Grades 4th – 7th) Explore natural food web relationships by focusing on birds of prey. Students also learn about extinction, effects of herbicides and pesticides on wildlife and their habitats as well as positive and negative human influences on wildlife. The program concludes with a few math problems and critical thinking questions that relate to birds of prey.
Aullwood Adventures School Program

*Aullwood Adventures* involves the entire school for a year of in-depth exploration of natural history and farming. With the assistance of Aullwood’s Education Manager, the school principal and teachers choose two guided field trips and one self-guided trip. *Aullwood Adventures* students who have participated in this program for several years have a greater understanding of science/natural history concepts, an increased awareness of the out-of-doors and a stronger environmental ethic. Principals should contact Aullwood’s Education Manager, Nicole Conrad, at (937) 890-7360 ext. 217 or email nconrad@audubon.org for more information about the Aullwood Adventures School Program.

**Cost of the Aullwood Adventures Full Program is $13/student and includes:**

- Two guided field trips
- One self-guided field trip
- One music school assembly with Aullwood’s Outreach Naturalist Chris Rowlands

**Cost of the Abbreviated Aullwood Adventures Program is $8/student and includes:**

- One guided field trip
- One self-guided field trip
- One music school assembly with Aullwood’s Outreach Naturalist Chris Rowlands

Homeschool Programs

Aullwood can be a valuable resource for homeschool groups. Students gain a better understanding of science, natural history and agriculture through unique experiences at Aullwood. All of our programs for students in PreK through 12th grade are available to homeschool groups during the school day. There is a minimum fee of $75 for each guided experience.