



Walk on the Wild Side at Summer Earth Adventures!

Camp FAQs

Summer Earth Adventures is a day camp at Aullwood Audubon that offers exciting hands-on learning that allows children to explore the world of nature and sustainable farming. Through outdoor adventures, children develop awareness and care for the Earth.

Each week has a different theme. Activities are scaled based on student ages and abilities. Camp begins on June 9 and ends on August 1. There is no camp the week of June 30-July 4.

Camp hours are 9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. Extended Care early drop off beginning at 8:00 a.m. and late pick up until 5:30 p.m. is available for additional fees.

Camp Policies:

- Campers may not arrive more than 15 minutes before camp begins (early drop off excluded).
- Hand washing will be conducted throughout the day.
- Campers must be picked up promptly at the end of the day (late pickup excluded).
- Children must be signed in and out each day by a designated adult who must present a picture ID on the first day. On subsequent days, campers may be picked up using a password chosen on the first day. **Please do not share this password with campers.**
- Please apply sunscreen and bug spray to your camper before they are dropped off as our camp staff are not permitted to apply these products.
- Children must bring a sack lunch, 2 snacks, and a water bottle. We encourage the use of reusable lunch bags, food containers, and water bottles. **Please make sure your camper's name is marked on all items.**
- ***All children must be independent in the six activities of daily living: using the restroom, eating, bathing, dressing, transferring (i.e., walking), and continence. If your camper requires an accommodation to participate, please contact the Summer Camp Director at christina.simmons@audubon.org before you register.***

Registration Information:

- All programs require pre-registration and full payment at time of registration.
- A limited number of scholarships are available. Please email the Summer Camp Director at christina.simmons@audubon.org to ask for details and apply.
- Registration is online through Audubon's CampDoc system. You will be required to create an account, select your classes, complete medical information, liability forms, and more online prior to attending camp. We are unable to take off-line registrations.
- Please provide an email address that you check frequently to ensure the receipt of important camp correspondence and reminders for camp.
- Each camp registration includes one t-shirt and hiking staff.

Wait list and cancellation/transfer policies

- Campers who are wait-listed during registration will be contacted by email in the order their registrations were received. Please be sure to provide a preferred email address so you can be reached if an opening becomes available. If registration does not take place within 24 hours of email contact, the next camper on the waitlist will automatically be contacted. If the program opening is within 1 week of the program's start date, the 24-hour response policy will not apply.
- All requests for cancellation/transfers must be made via CampDoc and will be considered on a case-by-case basis. No refunds will be issued for cancellations made one week before the start date of a program.

What age should my camper be?

Campers are grouped by age with appropriate experiences for each level. Children must register for classes that correspond to their age as of the start date of their camp session.

What is the minimum/maximum for each program?

Groups are limited to a maximum of 10 campers. Minimum class size is 5 campers. If your session has insufficient registration, we will contact you with options, potentially including switching to a different group in the same week, transferring to a different week, or a refund.



How much does camp cost?

All full-day programs include two staff, craft and activity supplies, and a surprise or two. Base program rates \$275 for all-day programs. Specialized programs with more supplies are \$300. Friends of Aullwood members receive a 25% discount on all programs with a special member coupon. An early bird registration coupon is available to non-members before April 30 to receive a 10% discount. The early bird discount cannot be combined with the member discount.

What is Extended Care?

Early drop off extended care is from 8:00 – 9:00 a.m. Late pick up is from 4:00 – 5:30 p.m. Extended care will be inside one of our classrooms, with two staff members in attendance. We will provide puzzles, coloring pages, and some basic board games. Campers are encouraged to bring non-electronic entertainment such as a book or game. Picking up after these hours will incur an additional fee.

- Early drop off 8:00 – 9:00 a.m. - \$20 per week with registration or \$5/day on site.
- Late pick up 4:00 – 5:30 p.m. - \$40 per week with registration or \$10/day on site.
- Early drop off and late pick up - \$50 per week with registration or \$12/day on site.

Where should I drop off my camper?

All programs meet at the Marie S. Aull Education Center at 1000 Aullwood Road, Dayton, 45414.

What will my camper be doing all day?

Your camper will be spending the majority of their time outside, with some indoor activities. We will use indoor space during extreme weather such as thunderstorms or excessive heat. Every day, all campers will begin camp by coming together to sing a song, play a quick game, and set the expectations for the day. There is plenty of time for outdoor exploration, hands-on discoveries, arts, crafts, and other activities. Of course there will be a lunch break, followed by free play, then it's back to focusing on the goals for the day, a Book Nook quiet time, more adventures and activities, and finally a camp-wide wrap up at the end of the day.

What should my camper wear and bring?

Campers should dress in comfortable clothes and shoes that can get wet or muddy. Wear shoes that can be worn all day. No flip flops or slide-in sandals. Bring a backpack, lunch, snacks, and a refillable water bottle. Bring a rain poncho or rain jacket if rain is in the forecast.

Lunch should be food that can be eaten along the trails and be able to fit into your camper's backpack for the day. We also suggest two snacks such as a Power Bar or fresh fruit, one to eat before lunch and one for the afternoon. Camp makes for hungry campers! Please avoid sending drinks with caffeine and/or sugar. Aullwood has filling stations where water bottles can be refilled. No refrigeration or cooking appliances are available.

Please make sure all items, including backpacks, lunches, and water bottles, are labelled with your camper's name.

Inclement Weather

Classes will be held rain or shine, so please dress campers accordingly. In case of thunderstorms or excessive heat, activities will be moved indoors.

Behavior/Accommodation

All children must be independent in the six activities of daily living: using the restroom, eating, bathing, dressing, transferring (i.e., walking), and continence. If your camper requires an accommodation to participate, please contact the Summer Camp Director at christina.simmons@audubon.org before you register.

Campers explore the natural world outdoors and should be able to move themselves along gravel, wood, grass, and dirt trails, up and down hills, across boardwalks, and over flat and uneven ground with minimal assistance. Please be aware that our camp is highly stimulating. Each camper should be capable of staying with their assigned group with minimal reinforcement. Due to the large size of our property and variety of water habitats, we cannot accommodate campers with a tendency to run away. Campers interact with peers in collaborative games and activities. To ensure safety for both campers and staff, each camper should be capable of maintaining appropriate self-control in social situations.

We are happy to make reasonable accommodations for children with individual needs, depending on their requirements and staff availability. Parents and guardians with questions regarding the ability of camp staff to meet a child's needs should contact the Summer Camp Director before registering for any programs. You can reach our staff at christina.simmons@audubon.org

Non-discrimination Policy

Aullwood Audubon does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, religion, sex, disability, age, income, ethnicity, sexual orientation, or marital or family status.

Code of Conduct

Summer Earth Adventure's Code of Conduct outlines expected conduct for campers, as well as our policy for handling behavioral issues that may arise. The Code of Conduct is included in the online registration process on CampDoc and is **required** be read and signed before campers arrive on the first day of camp.



Summer Camp Schedule at a Glance

Week 1 – June 9-13: Nature's Beauty

Nature Art – ages 5-6 • 9:00 am – 4:00 pm • \$275

Find inspiration in nature and make some unique art with a variety of natural objects. You'll hike the trails at Aullwood collecting natural materials to use in your creations. We will use sticks, leaves, acorns and seeds and even get to paint with mud! As part of participating in our Walk on The Wild Side summer camp, each camper also gets their own hiking staff to decorate with beads, bling and color bands to keep track of their hiking miles.

Sticks, Stones & Fairie Homes – ages 7-8 • 9:00 am – 4:00 pm • \$275

While hiking thru the trails at Aullwood, you'll be on the lookout for interesting natural materials like sticks, stones, pine needles and leaves to combine with recycled items to create your own take-home Fairie House dwelling. As part of participating in our Walk on The Wild Side summer camp, each camper also gets their own hiking staff to decorate with beads, bling and color bands to keep track of their hiking miles.

Land Art – ages 9-10 • 9:00 am – 4:00 pm • \$275

Find inspiration in nature and make some unique art with a variety of natural objects. You'll hike the trails at Aullwood collecting natural materials to use in your creations. We will use sticks, leaves, acorns and seeds, whatever we can find to create ephemeral art, mandalas, sculptures, weavings and more. As part of participating in our Walk on The Wild Side summer camp, each camper also gets their own hiking staff to decorate with beads, bling and color bands to keep track of their hiking miles.

Mastering Major Mediums with Chris Rowlands – ages 8-12 • 9:00 am – 4:00 pm • \$300

Using watercolors, colored pencils and acrylic paints you'll create stunning bird art. Join naturalist and resident artist, Chris Rowlands, as you help paint birds on Aullwood's bathroom doors, observe birds in the prairie, woodland and wetlands and learn field marks that help with bird identification. You'll learn surprising bird facts and create your own piece of art to take home. Fee reflects additional supplies. As part of participating in our Walk on The Wild Side summer camp, each camper also gets their own hiking staff to decorate with beads, bling and color bands to keep track of their hiking miles.

Week 2 – June 16-20: Poultry, Pigs, and Puppets!

Oink, Baa, Moo! – ages 5-6 • 9:00 am – 4:00 pm • \$275

Did you know that pigs can't sweat? Did you know sheep and goats have rectangular pupils? How about cows not having any upper front teeth? Those are just a few of the marvelous facts you will learn during your time on the farm. Put on your work boots and enjoy a wagon ride around the pastures, make your own butter and ice cream from cow's milk, play farm themed games, and create farm themed puppet to use in a special performance with the Poultry in Motion class at the end of the week. As part of participating in our Walk on The Wild Side summer camp, each camper also gets their own hiking staff to decorate with beads, bling and color bands to keep track of their hiking miles.

Crops, Combs and Coops – ages 7-8 • 9:00 am – 4:00 pm • \$275

Did you know that some chickens can lay blue eggs and a chicken's comb can indicate how healthy they are? Those are just a few of the fun facts you will learn as you work with the chickens at Aullwood Farm. You will get to enjoy a wagon ride around the pastures, sample some scrambled turkey and chicken eggs to investigate the different tastes and assist with a variety of farm chores like collecting eggs and mucking a stall. You will also make a silly chicken puppet to use in a special performance with the Poultry in Motion class at the end of the week. As part of participating in our Walk on The Wild Side summer camp, each camper also gets their own hiking staff to decorate with beads, bling and color bands to keep track of their hiking miles.

All's Wool That Ends Wool – ages 8-9 • 9:00 am – 4:00 pm • \$275 (Non-Members)

Your sweater, your socks, your blankets, even your carpet can be made of wool! Join us at the farm to learn more interesting facts about our sheep. Enjoy a wagon ride around the pastures as you learn all about our farm animal ambassadors and the products they provide, like ice cream from cow's milk! We will try our hand at weaving with wool and create a unique woolly sheep puppet to use in a special performance with the Poultry in Motion class at the end of the week. As part of participating in our Walk on The Wild Side summer camp, each camper also gets their own hiking staff to decorate with beads, bling and color bands to keep track of their hiking miles.

Poultry in Motion with Chris Rowlands – ages 9-12 • 9:00 am – 4:00 pm • \$300

Explore Aullwood's farm habitat with Naturalist Chris Rowlands. You will get to design and create your own puppet, write your own farm story then have fun bringing your puppet to life with different voices during a special performance at the end of the week. As part of participating in our Walk on The Wild Side summer camp, each camper also gets their own hiking staff to decorate with beads, bling and color bands to keep track of their hiking miles. Fees reflect additional supplies.

Week 3 – June 23-27: Junior Herpetologists

***What's Hoppin'?* – ages 5-6 • 9:00 am – 4:00 pm • \$275**

Can you leap like a frog, or hop like a toad? As a Jr. Herpetologist, you will explore the fascinating world of amphibians and reptiles that hang out at Aullwood. Our naturalists will provide turtle talks and a snake encounter. As part of participating in our Walk on The Wild Side summer camp, each camper also gets their own hiking staff to decorate with beads, bling and color bands to keep track of their learning experiences and total hiking miles.

***Frogsicles and other Fun Facts* – ages 6-7 • 9:00 am – 4:00 pm • \$300**

Did you know that when the temperature drops, Alaskan wood frogs have natural antifreeze in their blood and that there are certain toads that use their mustaches for defense? As a Jr. Herpetologist, you will explore the fascinating world of amphibians and reptiles that hang out at Aullwood. Our naturalists will provide turtle talks and a snake encounter. As part of participating in our Walk on The Wild Side summer camp, each camper also gets their own hiking staff to decorate with beads, bling and color bands to keep track of their learning experiences and total hiking miles. Campers will also experience what it's like to be a climbing reptile or amphibian when we take a day trip to Vandalia Rec Center to try out their climbing wall. Fee reflects rock-climbing session.

***Un-Frog-Gettable* – ages 7-8 • 9:00 am – 4:00 pm • \$300**

Did you know that just like people, waxy monkey tree frogs put on sunscreen? Where else can you learn un-frog-gettable facts like this other than at our Walk on The Wild Side summer camp. As a Jr. Herpetologist, you'll explore the fascinating world of amphibians and reptiles that hang out at Aullwood. Our naturalists will provide turtle talks and a snake encounter. As part of participating in our Walk on The Wild Side summer camp, each camper also gets their own hiking staff to decorate with beads, bling and color bands to keep track of their learning experiences and total hiking miles. Campers will also experience what it's like to be a climbing reptile or amphibian when we take a day trip to Vandalia Rec Center to try out their climbing wall. Fee reflects rock-climbing session.

***Scutes, Scales and Slimy Tails* – ages 9-10 • 9:00 am – 4:00 pm • \$300**

Have you ever touched a turtle or a snake. Have you been hunting for salamanders or tried to net a frog? Have you ever heard of a salamander whose nickname is the SNOT OTTER? As a Jr. Herpetologist, you'll explore the fascinating world of amphibians and reptiles that hang out at Aullwood. Our naturalists will provide turtle talks and snake encounters. As part of participating in our Walk on The Wild Side summer camp, each camper also gets their own hiking staff to decorate with beads, bling and color bands to keep track of their learning experiences and total hiking miles. Campers will also experience what it's like to be a climbing reptile or amphibian when we take a day trip to Vandalia Rec Center to try out their climbing wall. Fee reflects rock-climbing session.

No camp the week of June 30-July 4

Week 4 – July 7-11: Junior Ornithologists

Bird Nerd– ages 5-6 • 9:00 am -4:00 pm • \$275

They have beautiful feathers, really cool nests, colorful eggs-Birds are the best! Grab your binoculars for fun filled explorations into the world of birds. Hands-on investigations and crafts include coloring your own eggs and building your own nest. Be on the lookout for our special “pizza bird”. If it is spotted, we celebrate with pizza! As part of participating in our Walk on The Wild Side summer camp, each camper also gets their own hiking staff to decorate with beads, bling and color bands to keep track of their learning experiences and total hiking miles.

Bird Brains– ages 7-8 • 9:00 am – 4:00 pm • \$275

After a week of being a Junior Ornithologist, your brain will be filled with amazing facts. You will be talking bird slang. Wing bands and mobbing behavior, bushwhacking and butter butts! You’ll be identifying and observing the usual suspects. Learning about mobbing, chasing and streaking - don’t worry, all the birds keep their feathers on. You will open an owl pellet to check out cool bones. Learn to use binoculars and a spotting scope and be on the lookout for our special “pizza bird”. If it is spotted, we celebrate with pizza! As part of participating in our Walk on The Wild Side summer camp, each camper also gets their own hiking staff to decorate with beads, bling and color bands to keep track of their learning experiences and total hiking miles.

Recognizing Raptors– ages 8-9 • 9:00 am – 4:00 pm • \$300

Join artist, Chris Rowlands, to get up close and personal with Aullwood’s raptors. Learn how these apex predators use keen eyesight, strong feet, and a hooked beak to capture their prey. Grab your binoculars and sketch book to create a finished art piece using your choice of mediums. Learn to ID owls by their calls. Open an owl pellet to investigate the bones and fur. As part of participating in our Walk on The Wild Side summer camp, each camper also gets their own hiking staff to decorate with beads, bling and color bands to keep track of their learning experiences and total hiking miles. Fee reflects additional supplies.

Junior Birders – ages 9-10 • 9:00 am – 4:00 pm • \$275

As a Junior Birder, you will be joining naturalist Sam Romeo as he guides you with monitoring bluebird boxes, using birding apps like Merlin and e-Bird to complete Community Science Projects. You will learn how to use binoculars and spotting scopes to identify local birds. You will get to explore study skins and learn more about bird behavior. Be on the lookout for our special “pizza bird”. If it is spotted, we celebrate with pizza! As part of participating in our Walk on The Wild Side summer camp, each camper also gets their own hiking staff to decorate with beads, bling and color bands to keep track of their learning experiences and total hiking miles.

Week 5 – July 14-18: Rocks Are Gneiss

Magnificent Mud– ages 5-6 • 9:00 am – 4:00 pm • \$275

Create magnificent sculptures and artwork using mud, sticks, stones, and plants. Learn all about mud as you stomp through mud puddles. Warning: Campers are guaranteed to get muddy! As part of participating in our Walk on The Wild Side summer camp, each camper also gets their own hiking staff to decorate with beads, bling and color bands to keep track of their learning experiences and total hiking miles.

Rock and Rollers– ages 6-7 • 9:00 am – 4:00 pm • \$300

Learn all about rocks and how they are formed. You will get to erupt a volcano, identify and collect Ohio's fossils, make your own lava toy, create a crystal, and smash a geode. Each day will include outdoor exploration while adding to your take home rock & mineral collection As part of participating in our Walk on The Wild Side summer camp, each camper also gets their own hiking staff to decorate with beads, bling and color bands to keep track of their learning experiences and total hiking miles. Campers will also experience what it's like to be a rock climber when we take a day trip to Vandalia Rec Center to try out their climbing wall. Fee reflects rock-climbing session.

Rockhounds – ages 8-9 • 9:00 am – 4:00 pm • \$300

You too can become a Rockhound (an amateur collector of rocks, fossils, or minerals) this summer. Learn all about rocks and how they are formed. You will get to erupt a volcano, identify and collect Ohio's fossils, make your own lava toy, create a crystal, smash a geode, and perhaps even eat some rocks? Each day will include outdoor exploration while adding to your take home rock & mineral collection. As part of participating in our Walk on The Wild Side summer camp, each camper also gets their own hiking staff to decorate with beads, bling and color bands to keep track of their learning experiences and total hiking miles. Campers will also experience what it's like to be a rock climber when we take a day trip to Vandalia Rec Center to try out their climbing wall. Fee reflects rock-climbing session.

Junior Geologists – ages 9-10 • 9:00 am – 4:00 pm • \$300

As a scientist who studies the earth, you will learn about the crust, mantle, core and so much more! Join us as we explore volcanoes, Ohio fossils, crystal making, smashing geodes, lava toys, rock collecting and even edible rocks. Each day will include outdoor exploration, adding to your take home rock & mineral collection, cool facts, and games! As part of participating in our Walk on The Wild Side summer camp, each camper also gets their own hiking staff to decorate with beads, bling and color bands to keep track of their learning experiences and total hiking miles. Campers will also experience what it's like to be a rock climber when we take a day trip to Vandalia Rec Center to try out their climbing wall. Fee reflects rock-climbing session.

Week 6 – July July 21-25: Walking on The Wild Side

Camo Critters– ages 5-6 • 9:00 am – 4:00 pm • \$275

Would you use spots, stripes, or change color completely if you were trying to survive in the wild? This week is all about survival techniques. Learn how birds and other animals use camouflage to survive in their habitats as you hike the trails at Aullwood. Create camo arts & crafts like a tie-dyed bandana. Construct an outdoor shelter to camouflage yourself. As part of participating in our Walk on The Wild Side summer camp, each camper also gets their own hiking staff to decorate with beads, bling and color bands to keep track of their learning experiences and total hiking miles.

Poodunit? – ages 6-7 • 9:00 am – 4:00 pm • \$275

Can you follow the clues to determine what is in the woods and figure out “poodunit”? Lace up those hiking boots, grab your hand lens and field notebook as we get up close and personal with numerous animal skulls, pelts, and more! Identify different animal tracks and scat (yes that is the scientific word for poop) and learn interesting facts about Ohio animal species. As part of participating in our Walk on The Wild Side summer camp, each camper also gets their own hiking staff to decorate with beads, bling and color bands to keep track of their learning experiences and total hiking miles.

What’s In The Woods? – ages 7-8 • 9:00 am – 4:00 pm • \$275

Lace up those hiking boots, grab your hand lens and field notebook as we get up close and personal with numerous animal skulls, pelts, and more! Identify different animal tracks and scat (yes that is the scientific word for poop) and learn interesting facts about Ohio animal species. We will visit and learn about a variety of habitats such as the prairie, wetland, marsh, and meadow. As part of participating in our Walk on The Wild Side summer camp, each camper also gets their own hiking staff to decorate with beads, bling and color bands to keep track of their learning experiences and total hiking miles.

Wilderness Walkers – ages 9-10 • 9:00 am – 4:00 pm • \$300

Lace up those hiking boots and get ready to explore the wilderness of Aullwood. Learn how to build a fire, construct various outdoor shelters, cook over a wood fire and navigate the woods with and without a compass. As part of participating in our Walk on The Wild Side summer camp, each camper also gets their own hiking staff to decorate with beads, bling and color bands to keep track of their learning experiences and total hiking miles. Fee reflects additional supplies.

Week 7 – July 28-August 1: What-R-World

Busy Beavers – ages 5-6 • 9:00 am – 4:00 pm • \$275

Why are a beaver's teeth orange? Why do beavers slap their tails on the water? You will be super busy learning the answers to these and more water critter questions as you are running, jumping, and splashing in the water. Grab your water gear and come join us to explore the magic of water and water creatures. Play water games, use nets to catch aquatic insects, learn about the water cycle, explore Aullwood's different water habitats and best of all...get WET!! Wear clothes that can get wet, muddy, or soapy as you increase what you know about our What-R-World. As part of participating in our Walk on The Wild Side summer camp, each camper also gets their own hiking staff to decorate with beads, bling and color bands to keep track of their learning experiences and total hiking miles.

Pond Hoppers – ages 7-8 • 9:00 am – 4:00 pm • \$275

Did you know frogs can leap more than 20 times their body length? Ponds are not only homes for fascinating frogs but also home to many interesting animals including fish, insects, birds, and mammals. Grab your water gear and come join us to explore the magic of ponds and pond life. Play water games, use nets to catch aquatic insects, learn about the water cycle, and best of all...get WET!! Wear clothes that can get wet, muddy, or soapy as you increase what you know about our What-R-World. As part of participating in our Walk on The Wild Side summer camp, each camper also gets their own hiking staff to decorate with beads, bling and color bands to keep track of their learning experiences and total hiking miles.

Water Striders – ages 8-9 • 9:00 am – 4:00 pm • \$275

Do you know why water striders can stand on the water's surface? You'll find out as you dip your net into a variety of watery habitats looking for cool creatures. Build your own boat and see if it will float like a water strider. Learn about the water cycle and the importance of keeping our water clean and best of all...get WET! As part of participating in our Walk on The Wild Side summer camp, each camper also gets their own hiking staff to decorate with beads, bling and color bands to keep track of their learning experiences and total hiking miles.

Wetland Warriors – ages 9-10 • 9:00 am – 4:00 pm • \$275

Have you seen frogs, salamanders, turtles, and crayfish? As a Wetland Warrior, you will be hiking through and investigating Aullwood's wetlands, catching aquatic insects, learning about the water cycle, and best of all...getting WET!! As part of participating in our Walk on The Wild Side summer camp, each camper also gets their own hiking staff to decorate with beads, bling and color bands to keep track of their learning experiences and total hiking miles.