



Frequently Asked Questions

Since 1983 Exploring Nature (EN) has been an education program designed to encourage young people's curiosity and concern about their world. Participants explore and investigate life around Rice Creek while discovering nature first hand through nature walks, activities and games.

1. How many children are in a group?

In accordance with the SUNY-wide Child Protection Policy, Exploring Nature will be limited by age group in order to meet the required ratio of children to staff.

Age 5	6 children	Age 8	8 children
Age 6	8 children	Age 9-10	10 children
Age 7	8 children	Age 11-13	10 children

With this information in mind, please register your child(ren) early to ensure their participation in the program.

2. How do I register a child?

PRE-REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED FOR ALL PROGRAMS.

Registration is on a first-come basis upon receiving full payment with the completed registration materials: Parts A, B, C, and the medical authorization form and immunization records. **Incomplete forms will be returned and will delay your child's registration.**

Required for all participants is the **signed medical authorization form** (page 3 of the registration materials) as well as a **photocopy of your child's Record of Immunization** obtained from your physician and submitted on the **physician's stationery**.

These forms can be sent to us by U.S. mail or dropped off at Rice Creek. If you email your registration materials, then your registration will not be processed until payment is received.

Registrations sent with a Scholarship Application will be considered incomplete until scholarships are determined and payment is received.

Upon completing your registration, a printable receipt and additional program information will be sent to you by email. Group sizes are limited and will be based on age.

✓ **Please, return to the main Exploring Nature web page and select the printable registration materials.**

3. What about the fees & deadlines?

Program fees are per child and do not include lunch or snack.

Scholarship Application deadline is March 1.

Registration and payment deadline is June 5.

No child will be allowed to participate in activities without the completed registration materials and full payment.

4. How do I apply for a Scholarship?

A limited number of needs-based scholarships are available for those who qualify.

✓ **Please, return to the main Exploring Nature web page and select the Exploring Nature Needs-Based Scholarship details and printable application.**

5. What are the payment methods?

CASH, CHECK, OR CREDIT CARD

Payment can be made online with your credit card. If you choose this method, return to the main EN page and you will be directed to a new page to complete the online secure payment information. Registration is not complete until all forms and payment have been received.

You may choose to use the EN payment form in the registration materials and include your credit card information when sending the registration materials by email.

You can use the U.S. mail or stop by Rice Creek to drop off your registration materials and payment. Before you come to Rice Creek, please call (315) 312-6678 or 312-6677 weekdays and 312-6677 Saturdays to determine if someone will be in the building to assist you.

6. How do I request a refund?

Program fees for withdrawing are refundable, less \$25 per child, when we receive written notification by June 15 that your child cannot attend. Refunds, less \$25 per child, will be given after June 15 only for documented medical or family emergencies. Refunds will be issued as checks.