

Field Trips

TIME: Friday afternoon, October 08th, 2021 from 1:00-4:00pm

LOCATION: Please see address for each field trip site.

TRANSPORTATION: Field Trip Participants are responsible for their own transportation to each field trip location and should meet directly at the Field Trip location.

PLEASE NOTE: Keep in mind that these field trips may be converted to a virtual activity or canceled altogether based on safety guidelines associated with the pandemic. As of now, all trips are in person.

1. Greater Cincinnati Water Works Richard Miller Treatment Plant Tour (5651 Kellogg Avenue, Cincinnati, OH 45230)

Minimum participants required: none; Maximum participants Allowed: none

Greater Cincinnati Water Works serves about 1.1 million people in the Cincinnati, Ohio Area. About 900,000 of the area's residents are served by the Richard Miller Treatment Plant (RMTP) which draws water from the Ohio River. This 2.5 hour tour will show you the overall treatment process at the RMTP including Granular Activated Carbon and our new state-of-the-art ultraviolet disinfection facility. This cutting-edge drinking water treatment facility relies on much of the original early 1900s infrastructure combined with expanded and modern treatment technologies. GCWW relies heavily on multiple types of analytical and monitoring equipment to evaluate source water, various stages in the treatment process and water quality in the distribution system. You will see how online monitors and analytical equipment are used to ensure the drinking water is safe from the source to the tap. The tour will finish with a historical tour of the "Old River Station," the original 1907 pumping station complete with the original steam engines which moved water from the river up to the treatment plant.

2. SD1 Green Building and Public Service Park Tour (1045 Eaton Drive, Ft Wright, KY 41017)

Minimum participants required: 5; Maximum participants Allowed: none

For the first part of this tour, SD1 invites you to visit Public Service Park (PSP) for a ~ 1 hour guided tour. The park features environmental best management practices (BMPs) and cutting edge public educational programming. PSP is a national model for environmental outreach. This one-of-a-kind, innovative facility features the following educational tools and Best Management Practices (BMPs): vegetated roof, wetland classroom, storm water garden, retention and detention basins, vegetated bio-swales, watershed plaza, oil/water separator, porous pavements, cistern, urban forest, environmental art sculptures, Native American creek walk and more!

3. NKU Research and Education Field Station Tour (99 Harrison Court, Melbourne, KY 41059)

Minimum participants required: none; Maximum participants Allowed: 15

The NKU Research and Education Field Station (REFS) is located adjacent to and facilitates the use of 155 acres of the St. Anne Woods and Wetlands Natural Areas (SAWW), a conservation easement on and near the Ohio River. REFS is within the Outer Bluegrass Ecoregion, and it includes both open and closed canopy wetlands in the lowland and mixed mesophytic forest and open grassland in upland natural areas. There is substantial old growth forest, primarily dominated by beech. While research was first carried out there over 100 years by E. Lucy Braun, extensive NKU research and field studies over the past 15 years have focused on invasive species and their ecological impacts, biogeochemical processes, amphibian and reptile diversity, bird nesting biology, environmental restoration, and Ecological Research as Education Network (NSF-EREN) studies. The REFS facilities and associated land opens the door to an array of research initiatives. The facility provides space for indoor laboratory and field processing research, meetings, teaching areas, and indoor restrooms. REFS and SAWW are used extensively for university coursework from NKU and other area institutions, including undergraduate training in land management and restoration with the NKU Center for Environmental Restoration. Community outreach programs at REFS includes, summer camps, teacher continuing education, and a Talk-&-Walk summer nature series. Tours of the gated research wetland trails (north wetlands) will alternate between a closed canopy trail and the open canopy trail

with access to the Ohio River. The 3500 foot south wetlands trails will also be available. Rain/muck boots are advised, as some parts of the trails may be wet. Groups of up to 15 can be guided through the different trails. There is no minimum group size.

4. Thomas More University Biology Field Station Tour with Boat Electrofishing Demonstration (8309 Mary Ingles Highway, California, KY 41007)

Minimum participants required: 5; Maximum participants Allowed: 15

This field trip will consist of a tour of the Thomas More University Biology Field Station facilities, with emphases on the mussel propagation aquaculture laboratory, managed in conjunction with the USFW and KYFW and the harmful algal bloom detection system. Pending weather and interest level, boat electrofishing on the mainstem of the Ohio River will also be offered. The Field Station is a 25-acre teaching and research facility situated along the banks of the Ohio River (RM451) in Campbell County, Kentucky, just upstream from Cincinnati, Ohio. It was the previous site of the U.S. Government Lock and Dam 35, built in 1919, and one of 51 wicket dams along the Ohio River. The Field Station includes classrooms, research and teachings labs, a conference center & lodge, four houses, an interpretive nature trail and a fleet of research boats. The main activities involve undergraduate research in the field of aquatic biology and K-12 STEM outreach programs.