

Weldon Spring Site  
**INTERPRETIVE CENTER**

# **FIELD TRIPS AND OUTREACH PROGRAMS**

**School Year 2023–2024 and Summer 2024**



**WELDON SPRING SITE**  
A Legacy of Service



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF  
**ENERGY**

Legacy  
Management

# About Our Staff

The Weldon Spring Site interpretive staff is proud to have achieved the Certified Interpretive Guide professional level certification through the National Association for Interpretation.



## Education/Outreach Program Requests

- Submit your program request anytime during the school year.
  - School year 2023–2024 scheduling begins Aug. 1, 2023.
  - Summer 2024 scheduling begins March 1, 2024.
- Staff will confirm all reservations and supplement them with an agenda, logistics, and special instructions.
- Priority is given to groups that can visit us at the Weldon Spring Site.
- Outreach programs may occur on a case-by-case basis.

Weldon Spring Site Interpretive Center field trips and programs are provided at no cost thanks to support from U.S. Department of Energy Office of Legacy Management.

### Request Process

1. Complete the Field Trip/Outreach Program Request Form:
  - <https://www.energy.gov/media/287092>
2. Submit via email, phone, or mail:
  - Email: [WSInterpretiveCenter@lm.doe.gov](mailto:WSInterpretiveCenter@lm.doe.gov)
  - Phone: (636) 300-2601
  - Mail: 7295 Highway 94 South, St. Charles, MO 63304



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The Weldon Spring Site is managed  
by the U.S. Department of Energy  
Office of Legacy Management





# Field Trips to the Weldon Spring Site

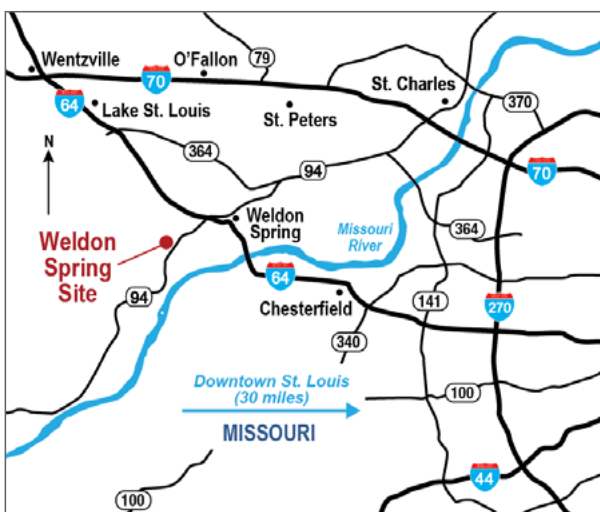
- Groups must provide their own transportation to and from the Weldon Spring Site.
- Generally, field trips are 3 hours long with starting times ranging from 9:30 a.m. to 1 p.m., including lunch time and a disposal cell hike.
- Student groups are divided into one, two, or three smaller groups (up to 36 students per group), depending on size and rotation needs.
- Please provide at least one teacher for every student class. Adult chaperones are encouraged.
- Total daily group attendance should not exceed 108 students, and 130 people total (students, teachers, and chaperones). Groups larger than 130 will require multiple days.
- Please ensure students are prepared with appropriate clothing, shoes, sunscreen, and bug spray.
- Outdoor lunch space is available. However, there are no vending machines or food available for purchase.

## Outreach Programs

- Staff can travel to your location at no cost to host outreach programs. However, we give scheduling priority to on-site field trips. We will confirm outreach programs at least two weeks before the event.
- We recommend multiple classes rotating into and out of the session in a single day, with a maximum of 50 students per session.
- Generally, outreach programming begins at 9:30 a.m. and lasts for several hours, depending on the number of sessions.
- Each outreach program session is 45 minutes long.
- Please provide a classroom setting for staff to present and display materials on tabletops. Students will need small breakout group work areas.

## Driving Directions

- The Weldon Spring Site is located in St. Charles County, Missouri, approximately 35 miles west of St. Louis. From I-64/Highway 40/61 or I-70, exit at Highway 94 and continue south toward Defiance.



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<https://www.energy.gov/lm/weldon-spring-site-interpretive-center>



# Field Trips to the Weldon Spring Site

## Prowling the Prairie

**Grades:**

**K-2**

**Number of Students:**

**10-108 per program**

Explore the lives and habits of the many different plants and animals that call Howell Prairie their home. With an up-close experience at the site's native prairie, students will learn about the ecosystem and how the animals and plants interact with each other, the environment, and humans.

**NGSS:** PS3.B (K-2), LS1.A (K-2), LS1.C (K-2), LS2.A(K-2), LS3.A (K-2), and ESS3.A (K-2)



## Seeds Move!

**Grades:**

**K-2**

**Number of Students:**

**10-108 per program**

Plants use many strategies to transport and germinate their seeds to live and grow. Using science and engineering, students will learn and discover how seeds are designed to move. Exploring the prairie and playing Interactive games will challenge the students to discover the importance of seeds in a healthy ecosystem.

**NGSS:** LS1.A (K-2), LS2.A (K-2)

## What's the Matter?

**Grades:**

**3-5**

**Number of Students:**

**10-108 per program**

Chemists, engineers, and environmental scientists all need to understand how molecules are arranged as well as how they behave, change, and combine. Students will explore the properties of solids, liquids, and gases through hands-on investigations and exciting scientific explorations.

**NGSS:** PS1.A, PS1.B





# Field Trips to the Weldon Spring Site

## Ecology and Geology of the Weldon Spring Site

**Grades:**

**3-5**

**Number of Students:**

**10-108 per program**

Use an aquifer model to show how water and contamination behave underground, affecting nature and people on the earth's surface. Explore the native prairie and investigate the strategies plants and animals use to survive. Hike to the top of the disposal cell to get a bird's-eye view of the area and a better understanding of the science, history, and environmental impacts of the Weldon Spring Site.

**NGSS:** LS2.A, LS2.B, LS4.C, ESS2.A, ESS2.E, ESS3.A, 5-ESS2-1



## History and Science Connections

**Grades:**

**6-8**

**Number of Students:**

**10-72 per program**

Take a trip through time to explore the history of the Weldon Spring Site. Students will learn about the environmental impact of the factories that used to be on the site and its remediation. In the galleries, students will analyze past historical decisions and evaluate and propose their own solutions. They will take on different roles during the cleanup and learn about water, soil, and rock sampling and how scientists worked to clean up and monitor the site.

**NGSS:** ESS3.B (6-8) and ESS3.C (6-8)

**Missouri Social Studies Standards:** American History (6-8)  
— Geography, Continuity and Change, and Tools of Social Science Inquiry.



## Atomic Legacy: Past, Present, and Future of the Weldon Spring Site

**Grades:**

**9-12**

**Number of Students:**

**10-72 per program**

Radiation is all around us, from natural and man-made sources. Investigate radiation and nuclear science while examining its effect on people and the environment. Explore the history of the Weldon Spring Site. Analyze the past historical decisions and how they affected the area and our history. Evaluate solutions and discuss ideas for the future. This field trip includes a hands-on experience with Geiger counters.

**NGSS:** EPS4.B, ESS3.A, ETS1.B, ESS3.C, ETS1.B, and ESS2.A

**Missouri Social Studies Standards:** 9-12.WH.1.PC.A, 9-12.WH.4.PC.B



# Outreach and Off-site Programming

## Animals of the Howell Prairie

**Grades:** K-2

**Number of Students:** 50 per session

Explore the lives and habits of the many different plants and animals that call Howell Prairie their home. Students will learn about the ecosystem and how the animals and plants interact with each other, the environment, and humans.

**NGSS:** PS3.B (K-2), LS1.A (K-2), LS1.C (K-2), LS2.A (K-2), LS3.A (K-2), and ESS3.A (K-2)



## Solids, Liquids, Gases

**Grades:** 3-5

**Number of Students:** 50 per session

Chemists, engineers, and environmental scientists all need to understand how molecules are arranged as well as how they behave, change, and combine. Students will explore the properties of solids, liquids, and gases through hands-on investigations and exciting scientific explorations.

**NGSS:** PS1.A, PS1.B





# Outreach and Off-site Programming

## Event Table and Booths

**Grades:** K-12

**Number of Students:** Any

If your school is having a science night, career fair, or similar event, we can offer a table with a variety of different themed activities to fit your needs. Reach out and let us know what you're looking for.



**Colleges and Universities** - We have scientists, engineers, geologists, hydrologists, and many more professionals on staff. We'd love to cater a program or career mentoring opportunity for you. Contact us!







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