

# Summer Nature Program

Join us! Right here, in-person, at The Wetlands Institute!

Spend a week (or two or three!) discovering the New Jersey Shore in a fun and hands-on way. Engage in science experimentation and exploration, play games, go on field trips, explore the beach, create arts and crafts, and so much more all while enjoying a new theme each week.

For children ages 5-13, programs are held weekly from June 24 - August 19, 2026 and include field trips and beach days. Children age 4 can enjoy special programs during the weeks of June 24, June 29, July 13, July 27, August 10 and August 17, 2026.

Children age 4 attend programs daily from 9:30am - 12:00pm and children ages 5-13 attend programs daily from 9:30am - 2:00pm.

**June 24-26**

## **Super Slimy Nature**

Get ready to dig into mud, investigate slime-making critters, explore the salt marsh, and uncover the science behind nature's slimiest creations. From fish eggs and marsh mud to tree sap and soil goo, we're exploring the ooey gooey side of nature.

**June 29-July 3**

## **Avian Adventures**

Take flight this summer! Learn about local bird species, investigate feathers and flight, and discover what it takes to survive and thrive as a bird. Join us for a week of exploration, discovery, and winged wonders.

*Field Trip to Garrett Family Preserve at Cape Island.*

**July 6-10**

## **Spectacular Sharks**

Discover the incredible world of sharks – one of the ocean's most misunderstood animals. Uncover the science behind shark senses, their teeth, and meet their local relatives. Get ready for a week of jaw-dropping ocean adventure that will change how you see sharks forever!

*Field Trip to Atlantic City Aquarium.*

**July 13-17**

## **Explore the Shore: Wetlands Wonders**

Explore the muddy, marshy, and magnificent world of wetlands. Discover why wetlands are some of the most important ecosystems on Earth while meeting the plants and animals that call this place their home. Join us for a week of exploration, conservation, and muddy fun as we discover Wetland Wonders!

*Field Trip to Cox Hall Creek Wildlife Management Area.*

**July 20-24**

## **You're Bugging Me!**

Get up close and personal with beetles, butterflies, ants, and more while learning what makes bugs so important to our planet. From pollinators to decomposers, discover how these small creatures make a big impact.

*Field Trip to Belleplain State Forest.*

**July 27-31**

## **Scutes and Scales**

From snakes and alligators to turtles and tortoises, reptiles are all around us! Get the opportunity to see Northern Diamondback Terrapins up close and personal and go behind the scenes to meet the scientists who help protect them.

*Field Trip to Cape May Point State Park.*

**August 3-7**

## **Amazing Animals**

Embark on an exciting adventure through the animal kingdom. Discover incredible creatures from the land, sea, and sky! From jungle giants to backyard critters, learn about what makes them so unique and how they survive in their habitats.

*Field Trip to Cape May County Park and Zoo.*

**August 10-14**

## **Marine Mammals: Thar, She Blows!**

Dive into an ocean of discovery as you explore majestic whales, playful dolphins, and intelligent seals. Learn how marine mammals thrive in their ocean habitat and act out some legendary maritime tales along the way.

*Field Trip to Cape May Whale Watch and Research Center.*

**August 17-19**

## **Art in Nature**

From creating mud paint to building nature mandalas, discover that art doesn't have to take place in a studio – it is all around. Find inspiration in the shell of a terrapin, blooming flowers, or scales of a fish, turning the natural world into your personal canvas. Join us for a week where creativity blooms!



## 2026 Summer Nature Program Participant Registration Form

**Please submit one application per participant. We cannot accept participant registration by phone. Mail, email, fax or walk-in completed application (registration and permission form) with full payment to:**

The Wetlands Institute  
1075 Stone Harbor Boulevard  
Stone Harbor, NJ 08247

Email: [admissions@wetlandsinstitute.org](mailto:admissions@wetlandsinstitute.org) • Fax: (609) 368-3871 • Any Questions? (609) 368-1211

**Summer Nature Program Availability, Theme and Pricing Information**

	June 24-26 <i>Super Slimy Nature</i>	June 29 - July 3 <i>Avian Adventures</i>	July 6-10 <i>Spectacular Sharks</i>	July 13-17 <i>Wetland Wonders</i>	July 20-24 <i>You're Bugging Me!</i>	July 27-31 <i>Scutes and Scales</i>	August 3-7 <i>Amazing Animals</i>	August 10-14 <i>Thar, She Blows!</i>	August 17-19 <i>Art in Nature</i>
Age 4	\$130	\$200		\$200		\$200		\$200	\$130
Age 5	\$200	\$275	\$275	\$275	\$275	\$275	\$275	\$300	\$200
Ages 6-7	\$200	\$275	\$275	\$275	\$275	\$275	\$275	\$300	\$200
Ages 8-9	\$200	\$275	\$275	\$275	\$275	\$275	\$275	\$300	\$200
Ages 10-13	\$200	\$275	\$275	\$275	\$275	\$275	\$275	\$300	\$200

**Participant Information**

Participant Name (Please Print):	Age as of June 24, 2026:
Parent/Grandparent/Guardian Name (Please Print):	
Email Address (Required for Registration Confirmation):	
Permanent Mailing Address:	Phone:

**Summer Nature Program Registration Information**

Program Dates	Program Theme and Age Group	Program Fee
<b>T-shirt Size</b> Circle One: XS S M L XL *For safety reasons, our t-shirt is required for all age groups. Adult sizes upon request, extra charge. Order now, pick up first day.		<b>+ \$13.00 youth / + \$15.00 adult</b>
<b>Member's Only Discount</b> Member Number (Required): _____		<b>- \$0.00 nonmember / - \$15.00 member</b>
<b>Total Amount Due</b>		

**Choose payment method. Full payment must accompany complete application.**

Please Note: Payment is nonrefundable unless notice of withdrawal is given by June 1, 2026.  
Any program changes will incur a \$50.00 administrative fee.

Credit Card 
 Check payable to "The Wetlands Institute"  Cash

Card #: \_\_\_\_\_ CVV \_\_\_\_\_ Exp. \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_ Name on Card: \_\_\_\_\_

Regardless of payment method, please sign and date. Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_



1075 Stone Harbor Blvd  
Stone Harbor, NJ 08247  
P: 609.368.1211 F: 609.368.3871  
wetlandsinstitute.org

**2026 Summer Nature Program Participant Permission Form**  
*All information will be kept confidential.*

Participant's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Age as of June 24, 2026: \_\_\_\_\_

Date(s) of Registered Program(s): \_\_\_\_\_

I, \_\_\_\_\_, hereby give permission for \_\_\_\_\_  
(Parent/Grandparent/Guardian Name—Please Print) (Child's Name—Please Print)

to participate in Summer Nature Program on site at The Wetlands Institute, at Stone Harbor Point beach dune areas (ages 5–13), and on special field trips off the Institute grounds specified at the beginning of each week (ages 5–13). I recognize that The Wetlands Institute reserves the right to change plans if weather or other circumstances dictate.

I understand that The Wetlands Institute staff will take all precautions to ensure the welfare of my child. I understand that activities can bring with them dangers from known and unexpected risks. I do waive and release any and all rights and claims for damages I may have against The Wetlands Institute and its staff for any injuries that may be suffered by the child named above during this program.

I give permission for The Wetlands Institute staff to administer emergency first aid in the event of an accident. I further give permission for the staff to take my child to the hospital if in their opinion this is necessary. I understand that every effort will be made to notify me in the event of an emergency. I give permission for a staff member to drive my child in his/her own car if this is necessary.

In signing this agreement I certify that my child is healthy and free from problems that could be detrimental to his/her safety and that of others involved in Summer Nature Program. I am aware that precautions will be taken to avoid tick-infested areas, but I understand that ticks are an ongoing problem in New Jersey and that they can be picked up anywhere in the out-of-doors.

I authorize The Wetlands Institute to have and use photographs of the above named child as may be needed or for public relations purposes.

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Relationship to Child: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**Emergency Contact and Healthy History Information**

Primary Contact	Secondary Contact
Name:	Name:
Relationship to Child:	Relationship to Child:
Daytime Phone #:	Daytime Phone #:
Cell Phone #:	Cell Phone #:

Please indicate if your child has any allergies. If so, please explain or provide more detail as necessary.

None    Bee Stings: Yes / No    Medications: Yes / No    Food/Drink: Yes / No    Other Allergies: Yes / No

Please list any disabilities or medical conditions that our staff should be aware of:

