



Denison Pequotsepos
Nature Center

Snow much to explore at DPNC this winter!

Seasonal programs for
families & adults

Nature-focused care for
school vacation days

Luminaria & Winter
Solstice Celebrations

WINTER 2025–2026 CATALOG

December–February



Program Scholarships

DPNC is pleased to offer scholarships for many of our public programs, including preschool and Neighbors & Nature. For more information, contact info@dpnc.org or (860) 536-1216.

DPNC Locations

DENISON PEQUOTSEPOS NATURE CENTER

109 Pequotsepos Rd.
Mystic, CT 06355

COOGAN FARM

162 Greenmanville Ave.
Mystic, CT 06355

GUNGYWAMP ARCHAEOLOGICAL SITE

231 Gungywamp Rd.
Groton, CT 06340

THE PEACE SANCTUARY

233 River Rd.
Mystic, CT 06355

Board Member Changes

Thank you to our outgoing board members for their dedication and contributions to DPNC. We are pleased to welcome our incoming members and look forward to their leadership.

OUTGOING

Jane Dawson
Rowland Stebbins
Richard Steele

INCOMING

Justine Deming
Robin Harris

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

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Emily Macklin

Nicole Neigel

Abby O'Brien

Betty Pacelle

Jessie Steadman

Erin Toole

CONTACT US

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(860) 536-1216
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SENIOR & ADMIN STAFF

Kim Hargrave
Executive Director

Suzanne Burns
Preschool Director

Vera Harsh
Development Director

Jess Morris
*Public Programs & Summer
Camp Director*

Scott Parry
Facilities Director

Alissa Ryan
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Tessa Stuart
Outreach Program Director

Al Brown
Technology Associate

Sanny Chacanaca
Visitor Services

Colleen Duffy
*Volunteer Coordinator &
Marketing Assistant*

Lori Edwards
Animal Curator

Chelle Farrand
*Development & Design
Associate*

Koralee Lawrence
Giving Garden Manager

Sandra Lewis
Visitor Services

Una Schaffer
*Neighbors & Nature Head
Teacher*

Mayada Wadsworth
Database Administrator

DPNC MISSION

To inspire an understanding of the natural world and ourselves as part of it—past, present, and future.

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ADULT & BIRDING PROGRAMS



Waterfowl of Winter

Thursday, Dec. 4 at 6–7 PM
Virtual via Zoom

Members: \$8.50
Non-members: \$10

Join DPNC naturalists online to discover why winter is the best season for waterfowl watching in Connecticut. Learn how to identify local duck species and uncover the fascinating adaptations that help them thrive in icy waters.

Raptors of CT

Friday, Jan. 9 at 5:30–6:30 PM
@ DPNC

Members: \$8.50
Non-members: \$10

Learn about Connecticut's native raptors, including owls, hawks and falcons, as we get to know DPNC's resident animals.

Mindfulness Workshop Series

with Tyler Haling

Sundays, Jan. 18, 25, Feb. 1 & 8
at 2:30–4 PM
@ DPNC

Members: \$17/class
Non-members: \$20/class

Slow down this winter with a four-week guided mindfulness series at DPNC. Each week focuses on simple practices, where we'll learn to:

– **Breathe**

Ground ourselves in the present moment through mindful breathing.

– **Feel the Body**

Listen to and inhabit the body with curiosity and care.

– **Open the Heart**

Practice loving-kindness and compassion for ourselves and others.

– **Savor the Moment**

Experience mindful eating and the joy of presence with our senses.

Whether you're new to meditation or looking to deepen your practice, this series offers a peaceful space to reconnect with yourself and the natural world.

Intro to Fruit Tree Pruning

Saturday, Jan. 10 at 9–11 AM
@ the Giving Garden at Coogan Farm

Free with generous support from the Eastern Connecticut Community Garden Association

Learn the basics of pruning fruit trees to promote growth, prevent disease and improve harvests. This hands-on class in the Giving Garden covers proper techniques, timing and the tools you'll need.

Woodpeckers of the Winter Woods

Saturday, Jan. 17 at 1–2:30 PM
@ DPNC

Members: \$17
Non-members: \$20

Learn how woodpeckers are built for life in the trees, from shock-absorbing skulls to their powerful beaks. After a short talk, we'll head into the woods to look and listen for local species and the clues they leave behind.

Birding at Niantic Boardwalk

Monday, Jan. 26 at 9–10 AM
@ Niantic Boardwalk

Members: \$17
Non-members: \$20

Bundle up and join us at the Niantic Boardwalk to search for wintering ducks and coastal birds. This program is great for birders of all experience levels. Dress for the weather and bring binoculars if you have them. Meets at 30 Main Street, Niantic.



Wildlife Winter Survival

Wednesday, Feb. 11 at 6–7 PM
@ DPNC

Members: \$8.50
Non-members: \$10

From wood frogs that freeze solid to hibernating groundhogs, explore the diverse ways local animals make it through winter. Learn about migration, dormancy, and other survival strategies of New England wildlife.

The American Woodcock

Thursday, Feb. 26 at 6–7 PM
Virtual via Zoom

Members: \$8.50
Non-members: \$10

Join us in learning all about the American Woodcock! We'll discuss the Woodcock's strange physical features, spectacular, spiraling aerial courtship display and much more in preparation for our early spring Woodcock Walks. Get ready to know about the most unique little bird in the woods!

Stonington Borough Birding

Saturday, Feb. 21 at 7:30–9 AM

Meet at Indulge Coffee & Sandwich Shop

Members: \$17

Non-members: \$20

The best winter birding can be right in town. Head to the heart of one of our local communities with Nature Center birders and explore downtown locations to look for resident and migratory birds.

Natural Pest Management in Your Garden

Saturday, Feb. 21 at 9–11 AM

Virtual via Zoom

Free with generous support from the Eastern Connecticut Community Garden Association

Learn how to protect your garden without harmful chemicals using regenerative methods. Identify common pests, attract helpful insects, and discover natural strategies for keeping your crops healthy.



Get into the holiday spirit by creating your own wreath or festive evergreen gnome to decorate your home!

All evergreens and supplies will be provided.

Holiday Wreath Workshop

Friday, Dec. 5 at 5:30–8:30 PM

@ DPNC

Members: \$34/person

Non-members: \$40/person

Create your own wreath or kissing ball in this hands-on workshop. Learn to identify evergreens and master wreath-making techniques using materials gathered from our woodland campus. Bring your creativity and leave with a handcrafted decoration for your home!

Evergreen Gnome Workshop

Saturday, Dec. 6 at 1–3 PM

@ DPNC

Members: \$38.25/gnome

Non-members: \$45/gnome

Get into the holiday spirit by creating your own tabletop-sized evergreen gnome. Have fun as you work to imagine and create your own festive gnome to decorate your home.

VACATION DAY PROGRAMS



*Ages 6–10 years | 9 AM–1 PM | \$42.50/program for members; \$50/program for non-members.
Please pack water and lunch for your child.*

All About Owls

Friday, Dec. 26

Spend the day getting to know DPNC's resident owls and learn what makes these nocturnal hunters so extraordinary. Discover their unique adaptations, explore their diets, and even dissect an owl pellet to uncover what's inside.

Predator/Prey

Wednesday, Dec. 31

Join us for an exciting, hands-on program exploring the dynamic relationships between predators and prey in the wild! Discover the incredible adaptations that animals have developed to become master hunters or expert evaders.

Rocks Rock!

Monday, Dec. 29

Unearth the fascinating world of rocks and minerals! Learn how different rocks form, explore the rock cycle, and examine real specimens up close. Then head outdoors to search for stones that tell their own geological stories.

Winter Birdwatchers

Monday, Jan. 19

Discover which birds spend the winter in Connecticut and how to spot them. We'll practice bird identification, use binoculars on a hike and make a bird feeder to take home.

Nature Creations

Tuesday, Dec. 30

Let nature inspire your creativity! Take a guided walk to collect materials like leaves, sticks, and stones, then use your finds to craft your own nature-based artwork. It's a day of imagination, exploration, and outdoor fun.

Animal Tracking

Monday, Feb. 16

Spend the morning learning how to track animals in snow and mud. After exploring outside and finding animal signs, we'll make plaster tracks to take home as a keepsake.

CHILDREN'S PROGRAMS



Adventures in Nature: Winter Survival Secrets

Ages 6–10 years

Saturday, Dec. 13 at 10 AM–12 PM
@ DPNC

Free with generous support from the Chelsea Groton Foundation

Join us the second Saturday of every month as we adventure into nature! Bundle up and join us for this month's Adventures in Nature as we explore how wildlife prepares for the cold season ahead. From frogs that freeze to squirrels that stash, learn the clever strategies animals use to survive winter. Meet some of our resident creatures up close and try your hand at building your own cozy winter shelter. Don't sleep through this awesome program!

Discovery Station

Kids of all ages with caregiver

Saturday, Dec. 20, Jan. 17, & Feb. 21 at 10 AM–12 PM

@ DPNC

Free with generous support from the Community Foundation of Eastern Connecticut

Discover the wonders of nature together at this monthly, inclusive family-friendly program! Move at your own pace as you explore themed activity stations, meet live animals, and examine fascinating natural artifacts. Then get creative with a hands-on craft before heading out on a self-guided hike and scavenger hunt that brings each month's topic to life.

Nature Night Out

Ages 6–12 years

Saturday, Dec. 20 & Feb. 21 at 5 PM–8 PM

@ DPNC

Members: \$34 per child

Non-members: \$40 per child

Treat your kids to a fun-filled evening at the Nature Center while you treat yourself to a night off! They'll explore the outdoors with exciting games, hands-on nature activities, live animal encounters, and an evening hike. To top it all off, we'll gather around the fire for pizza and s'mores! Don't forget to dress for the weather and bring a flashlight for the adventure ahead!



Nature Night Out at Coogan Farm

Ages 6–12 years

Saturday, Jan. 24 at 5 PM–8 PM

@ Coogan Farm

Members: \$34 per child

Non-members: \$40 per child

Everyone deserves a night out! Have an evening out while your kids, ages 6 to 12, spend the evening at Coogan Farm. We will enjoy cooking our own dinner, meeting animals and going for a night hike. We'll make our own pizza for dinner and create a delicious dessert! Please be dressed for the weather and bring a flashlight!

Adventures in Nature: How Animals Find Love

Ages 6–10 years

Saturday, Feb. 14 at 10 AM–12 PM

@ DPNC

Free with generous support from the Chelsea Groton Foundation

Discover how animals attract their mates! Explore how colors, behaviors, and calls help animals find the perfect partner. We'll also see why males and females of some species look or act differently. Meet some of our resident animals and uncover the fascinating strategies they use to find love.

Adventures in Nature: The Frozen World

Ages 6–10 years

Saturday, Jan. 10 at 10 AM–12 PM

@ DPNC

Free with generous support from the Chelsea Groton Foundation

Join us the second Saturday of every month as we adventure into nature! This month, we'll explore the frozen side of nature as we dive into the science of ice. Through hands-on activities, learn how ice shapes the water cycle and affects the world around us. See how animals survive freezing temperatures (some even become "living icicles!") and meet a few of our cold-hardy animal residents. We're snow excited to see you there!



EARLY CHILDHOOD



Hummingbirds

Ages 0 – 2 with caregiver
Mondays @ 9:30–10:30 AM

Session 3 (6 weeks)

Members: \$107
Non-members: \$126

Session 4 (5 weeks)

Members: \$89.25
Non-members: \$105

Experience nature with your little one! Through stories, songs, meeting live animals and lots of time exploring the trails, Hummingbirds will help to kickstart a lifelong love of the outdoors!

Please be prepared to use a front or back carrier for your child, strollers do not work on the trails.

Session 3

Jan. 5, 12, 26, Feb. 2, 9, 23
No class 1/19 or 2/16

Session 4

March 2, 9, 16, 23, 30

Chickadees

Ages 2 – 4 with caregiver
Fridays @ 9:30–11 AM

Session 3 (7 weeks)

Members: \$150.45
Non-members: \$177

Session 4 (5 weeks)

Members: \$107.35
Non-members: \$126

Embark on a nature adventure with your little chickadee! Join us Friday mornings for Chickadees to explore the wonders of the world through age-appropriate hikes, live animal encounters, creative crafts, and interactive nature activities. This class is perfect for bonding, exploring, and learning together.

Session 3

Jan. 9, 16, 23, 30, Feb. 6, 13, 20

Session 4

Feb. 27, March 6, 13, 20, 27

Eager Explorers

Ages 2.5 – 4
Sign up for Tue, Wed, or Thurs
@ 9:30–11:30 AM

Session 3 (7 weeks)

Members: \$206.55
Non-members: \$243

Session 4 (6 weeks)

Members: \$177.65
Non-members: \$209

Is your child ready for a drop-off class of their own? Eager Explorers is just the place to start! Through nature play, circle time, meeting animals, and hikes on the trails, children learn important social, emotional, and school-readiness skills.

Tue. Session 3

Jan. 6–Feb. 17

Wed. Session 3

Jan. 7–Feb. 18

Thurs. Session 3

Jan. 8–Feb. 19

Tue. Session 4

Feb. 24–March 31

Wed. Session 4

Feb. 25–April 1

Thurs. Session 4

Feb. 26–April 2



Environmental Afternoons

Ages 4 - 15

Tuesdays @ 1:30-4:30 PM

Members: \$21.25

Non-members: \$25

Price is per child, per class

Our science-based curriculum introduces students to the wonders of the natural world. New topics are covered each week through hands-on activities, meeting live animals, games and time for nature play and socialization. Sign up for one, some, or all classes!

Please bring a snack and water bottle to each class and be prepared to go outside in all weather conditions!

Explorers: 4-5 years
Scientists: 6-8 years
Adventurers: 9-12 years
Animal Curators: 13-15 years*

**Please note that our Animal Curator Program does not follow the same curriculum as above. Students are immersed in hands-on activities working with our resident and rehabilitating wildlife.*



FAMILY PROGRAMS



Winter Solstice Celebration

Sunday, Dec. 21 at 4:30–5:30 PM
& 5:30–6:30 PM

@ DPNC

Members: \$4.25

Non-members: \$5

Celebrate the longest night with an evening walk through the quiet winter woods. Warm up by the fire with a hot drink, reflect on the year, and take part in a simple solstice tradition of sending your wishes into the night sky. Bring a flashlight and dress for the weather.

Owl Prowl

Friday, Dec. 19 at 6:30–7:45 PM

Friday, Feb. 27 at 6–7:15 PM

@ DPNC

Members: \$8.50

Non-members: \$10

It may be cold outside, but things heat up for owls in late winter. Bring your family to learn about Connecticut's native owls, meet one of DPNC's resident birds, and then head into the night to listen and look for wild owls along the trails.

Who's Been Here?: Animal Tracks & Signs

Sunday, Jan. 4 at 2–3:30 PM

@ DPNC

Free with generous support from Bodenwein Public Benevolent Foundation

Spend the afternoon learning how to read the clues animals leave behind. From footprints to scat, we'll uncover which creatures are active at the Nature Center and what their signs tell us.



Meet the Animals of DPNC

Friday, Jan. 16 at 5–6 PM
@ DPNC

Members: \$8.50
Non-members: \$10

Get up close and personal with DPNC's amazing animal ambassadors! Bring the family to meet snakes, turtles, owls, and more as we explore their fascinating adaptations and discover the vital roles these creatures play in our ecosystems. It's a fun and educational experience for animal lovers of all ages!

Valentines for Animals!

Saturday, Feb. 14 at 1–3 PM
@ DPNC

Free with generous support from Bodenwein Public Benevolent Foundation

Celebrate the season of love with your family by making edible treats for local wildlife. Using bird seed, acorns, and other natural materials, you'll craft edible gifts to help local wildlife through the winter. A perfect way to show some love to nature this Valentine's season! Drop in anytime between 1 PM and 3 PM for this hands-on activity.



GUIDED HIKES & WALKS

History & Views of the Peace Sanctuary

Sunday, Dec. 7 at 1–2 PM
@ the Peace Sanctuary
FREE

Enjoy a peaceful hike at the historic Peace Sanctuary. This moderately challenging hike will take you through beautiful landscapes with stunning views of the Mystic River, all while learning about the sanctuary's history. A perfect way to reflect and recharge in nature.



Gungywamp

Walk with us through the woods and absorb the mysteries of Gungywamp.

Gungywamp is an archaeological site of distinct natural and cultural interest. It has rocky ridges, glacial erratics and swamps along with enigmatic stone shelter and structures whose use and origin are open to interpretation.

DPNC holds monthly guided hikes at Gungywamp. These hikes are suited for adults and families comfortable walking two miles over uneven terrain. Moderate difficulty.

Meets at Shepherd of the Sea Chapel parking area, 231 Gungywamp Road, Groton.

Members: \$25.50
Non-members: \$30

Dates:

Saturday, Dec. 20 at 10 AM–12:30 PM

Saturday, Jan. 24 at 12:30–3 PM

Sunday, Feb. 22 at 1–3:30 PM



Coogan Farm Hike

Thursday, Dec. 11 at 2–3 PM @ Coogan Farm
FREE

Explore the trails of Coogan Farm and discover the wildlife and habitats that make this landscape so special. From field to forest, we'll learn how plants and animals adapt to the season while enjoying one of Mystic's most beautiful natural spaces.

Avery Farm Nature Preserve Hike

Saturday, Dec. 27 at 1–3 PM
@ GOSA Avery Farm
FREE

Join us for a guided hike through Groton Open Space Association's Avery Farm Nature Preserve. This mostly flat trail passes through meadows, forests, and wetlands, offering great opportunities to observe winter wildlife and learn about the importance of habitat diversity. Meet at the entrance on Lambtown Road.

Full Cold Moon Hike

Saturday, Jan. 3 at 4–5 PM
@ Coogan Farm
FREE

Celebrate the Full Cold Moon with an evening hike at Coogan Farm. We'll take in the quiet winter landscape and moonlit views (even if the sky is cloudy!). Suitable for adults and older, interested children. Heavy rain cancels.

Denison Pequotsepos Stone Bridges Trail

Sunday, Jan. 18 at 11 AM–1 PM
@ DPNC
FREE

Take a winter hike along the Stone Bridges Trail at DPNC. We'll explore historic quarries and look for signs of wildlife along the way.

Hike the Pine Swamp Wildlife Corridor

Sunday, Jan. 25 at 10 AM-12 PM
@ Avalonia's Pine Swamp
FREE

Enjoy a quiet winter walk through Avalonia Land Conservancy's Pine Swamp in Gales Ferry. We'll search for animal tracks and admire frozen wetlands and streams along the trail. Moderate difficulty. Meet at the entrance on Whalehead Road.

Peace Sanctuary Hike

Sunday, Feb. 8 at 1-2 PM
@ the Peace Sanctuary
FREE

Enjoy a peaceful hike at the historic Peace Sanctuary. This moderately challenging hike will take you through beautiful landscapes with stunning views of the Mystic River, all while learning about the sanctuary's history. A perfect way to reflect and recharge in nature.

Coogan Natural Heritage Hike

Sunday, Feb. 15 at 1:30-3 PM
@ Coogan Farm
FREE

Take a guided walk through Coogan Farm to uncover clues about the people who shaped the land. From quarries to old farm roads, this New England landscape is full of clues to the past just waiting to be discovered.



Luminaria

December 12, 13, & 14



Celebrate winter by strolling through the Nature Center's trails lit by hundreds of luminaria, then warm up by a festive campfire with cider, cocoa, snacks, and spiked drinks.

This event is for all ages; bring friends, family, and holiday spirit!

Timed entry every 30 minutes from 4:30-7:30 PM

Adults: \$20; Kids: \$15

Adult drink tickets available for purchase.



BEFORE & AFTER CARE



Neighbors & Nature

Ages 5 – 12

@ Coogan Farm

Dates follow Stonington Public School schedule

Morning: 7 AM until bus pickup

Afternoon: End of school day until 6 PM

Before-school only: \$18/day

After-school only: \$22/day

Before & after: \$35/day

For questions or to enroll, contact neighbors@dpnc.org or call 860-536-1216 ext. 151.

Denison Pequotsepos Nature Center and Precious Memories Place (our neighboring day care center) collaborate on our Neighbors & Nature program to offer create a unique school-aged child care program, where nature is our playground. Each day before and after school (and for full days for most school vacation days and summer vacation days), our program participants spend time in outdoors, be it in our nature playground, on the trails or in the Giving Garden. From improved concentration to agility, confidence and coordination, nature play is proven to have lasting benefits for children.

Each day, children will spend time appreciating the natural world, developing social skills and enjoying activity through exploration of Coogan Farm, playing games, crafting, hiking, fort building, dramatic play, gardening and much more!

SCHOOLS, LIBRARIES, & GROUPS



DPNC offers year round opportunities for children, adults and families to connect with nature. Whether you come to us or we go to you, DPNC educators help expand understanding and appreciation of the natural world and foster scientific capability. In the classroom or in the field learn with live animals, mounted specimens, monitoring and natural objects.

For questions or to set up a program, please contact Tessa Stuart, Outreach Director, at tstuart@dpnc.org.

Schools

We have decades of experience educating students of all grade levels about the diverse ecosystems of southern New England. Whether in class, online, or at one of our locations, we help students of all ages learn about the natural world, while meeting Next Generation Science standards.

Libraries

Our Nature Center educators are ready to deliver high-quality, interactive, nature-inspired programs tailored to a mixed-age library audience. We work with all ages (and adults, too!) and can customize each of our nature programs to best suit your needs of your location, timing and audience.

Scouts

Scouting and the outdoors go hand in hand! DPNC will help your group complete badge requirements through hikes, live animal encounters, and engaging, hands-on activities. Programs can be completed at your location or as a field trip to either DPNC or Coogan Farm.



VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Volunteers are vital to our mission at DPNC. Take your first step to becoming a part of an amazing group of people while helping DPNC and the environment! Visit dpnc.org/volunteer to sign up.



Conservation & Habitat Restoration

Do you love getting outside and making improvements to the land around you? In this area, volunteers work in teams to help restore native plants, eradicate invasive plant species, and maintain trails around the greenway at both the Nature Center and Coogan Farm. Must be 18 or older to volunteer in this department.

Trail Maintenance

Do you enjoy the great outdoors and working with your hands? DPNC is looking for both experienced trail volunteers and those interested in learning more about trail work to help maintain the various hiking trails around and between the two campuses through our Trail Blazers program.



Animal Care

Interested in working with our resident animals? In animal care, you can work with a diverse variety of species. This work requires a commitment of time and a period of shadowing before working on your own. We also offer opportunities for high school students interested in working in Animal Care.

Giving Garden

The Craig Floyd Giving Garden at Coogan Farm educates the public about earth friendly, regenerative gardening practices while growing produce for mobile food pantries. Thousands of pounds of fresh produce is donated to families in need across New London County.



Special Events

Are you an outgoing and enthusiastic person who enjoys working with people of all ages? We are looking for volunteers to assist with special events throughout the year. You can help with planning, prepping, event day duties such as supervising art projects or manning a food or ticket table, photography, video and content creation, and more!

Camp Assistant

Volunteers in our Summer Nature Camp program assist with daily activities like hiking, pond dipping, exploring, art projects, animal encounters, sharing stories, and playing games. We have half-day and full-day volunteer opportunities within this program. Must be 13+ years.



See how your gifts directly benefit the Nature Center programs and operations in our annual impact report at dpnc.org/support.



Photo by Anna Sawin

Membership

Your membership does more than provide access to the Nature Center. Member support ensures that we can maintain our facilities, care for our sanctuary, continue to provide quality environmental education programs, preserve our valuable nature resources, and rehabilitate injured animals and return them safely to the wild.

DPNC members enjoy:

- Free admission to the museum, facilities, and live animal exhibits
- Discounted programs, events, and merchandise
- Discounted early registration for Summer Nature Camp
- Member rates for birthday parties at DPNC and Coogan Farm
- Learn more about our membership levels at dpnc.org/support.

Giving

Your gift to the Nature Center supports our environmental education programs, nourishes our resident and rehabilitating animals and helps us steward hundreds of acres of land. We accept one-time and monthly gifts, planned gifts, gifts of securities, donations via our Amazon Wish List, and more.

WINTER APPEAL

This season, your donation has an even greater impact. Our annual winter appeal helps fund the daily care of our animals, family programs during school breaks, and year-round stewardship of our trails and habitats. Your support ensures that our creatures and our community continue to thrive through every season.

Adopt an Animal

As a federally licensed wildlife rehabilitation and education facility, we regularly take in, rehabilitates and cares for native creatures. Our goal is to release healthy animals back into areas of good habitat, but some are unreleasable due to the nature of their injuries. The animals remaining in our care become Animal Ambassadors, and a part of our education programs. Your purchase of an Adopt-an-Animal gift package helps offset the costs of our rescue and rehabilitation efforts and supports our resident animals and their care. While you can't take Mr. Bill home with you, your gift directly makes a difference in his life and the lives of countless other wild animals.

Adopt-an-Animal packages range in cost and can include anything from a photo of the animal to a unique piece of animal-created art!

HIKE OUR TRAILS!

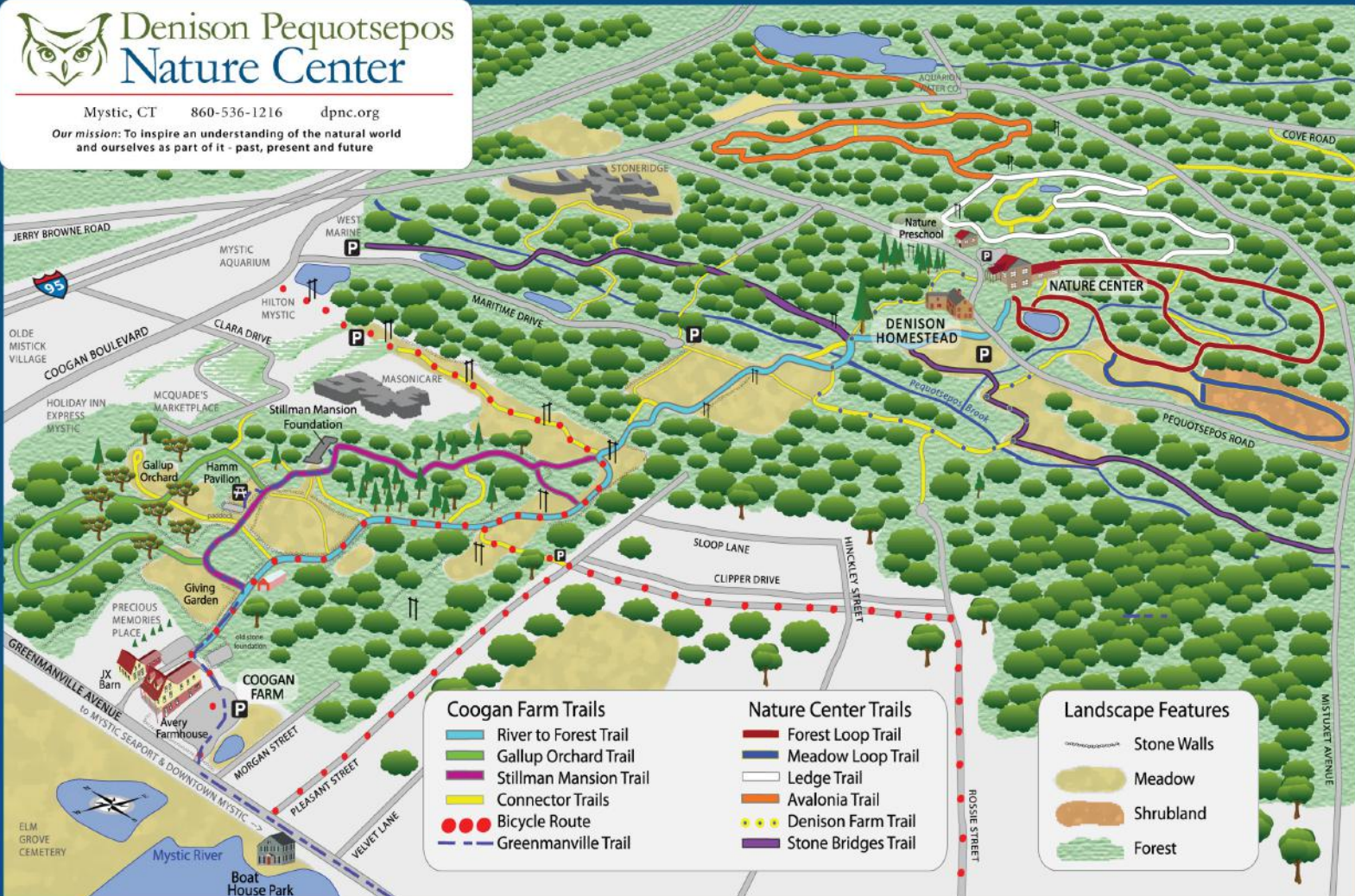
While we hold free guided hikes regularly, sometimes you might want to strike out on your own. DPNC stewards 10+ miles of trails between the Nature Center and Coogan Farm campuses. Visit dpnc.org/trails to see our full trail map, information about each route, and download a copy to bring with you on your hike!



Denison Pequotsepos
Nature Center

Mystic, CT 860-536-1216 dpnc.org

Our mission: To inspire an understanding of the natural world and ourselves as part of it - past, present and future



Trail Etiquette

- Trails are open from dawn to dusk.
- Please stay on trails to avoid trampling delicate plants and ground-nesting animals.
- Fires, camping, hunting, and motorized vehicles are prohibited.
- Bikes only on designated paths (see map).
- Pack out your trash.
- Removing, picking, collecting, or otherwise disturbing plants and animals is prohibited.
- No smoking in DPNC buildings or anywhere on DPNC grounds.

What about my dog?

We love seeing your leashed dogs on the trails at Coogan Farm! Please help us protect delicate plants and habitats by keeping your dog leashed and on the marked trails. For the health and safety of our resident animal ambassadors, pets are prohibited on the trails around the Nature Center (east of Pequotsepos Road).

See dpnc.org/trails for our full trail map, including descriptions and lengths of each trail.



How to register for a program or event

ONLINE

Click the “register” link for any program in this catalog or visit our events calendar at dpnc.org/events.

OVER THE PHONE

Call us at (860) 536-1216 and we can sign you up via phone.

IN PERSON

Visit us at 109 Pequotsepos Rd in Mystic and we can register you at the front desk.

Cancellation Policy

Pre-registration allows DPNC to secure staffing and materials for programs so that we may best serve you and your family. We require pre-registration and pre-payment for all DPNC programs in order to reserve a space. If DPNC cancels a program, you will receive a full refund. If you withdraw from a program more than four days in advance, you will receive a refund less a 15% administrative fee. Withdrawals within four days of a program are not refundable.

The Chickadee Newsletter

DPNC sends out quarterly e-newsletters with the release of seasonal program catalogs, as well as monthly newsletters highlighting upcoming programs, news, and Nature Notes. To sign up to receive the Chickadee newsletter, click [here](#).

About DPNC

The Denison Pequotsepos Nature Center (DPNC) is a leading nonprofit organization in southeastern Connecticut dedicated to environmental education, conservation, and wildlife rehabilitation. Each year, DPNC connects thousands of people to nature through hands-on programming, preserves over 350 acres of protected land, and cares for injured and orphaned wildlife.

VISITING DPNC

Museum Hours

Sunday–Friday: 10 AM–4 PM

Saturday: 9 AM–4 PM

Open 7 days a week except New Years Day, Easter, Independence Day, Thanksgiving, and Christmas.

Admission

Children (3–12): \$7

Adults: \$10

Seniors: \$7

Trails

Trails at DPNC, Coogan Farm, and the Peace Sanctuary are open to the public from dawn to dusk, free of charge. Hiking at Gungywamp requires a DPNC staff member on site; sign up for one of our scheduled hikes or email jmorris@dpnc.org to book a private tour.

DPNC Locations

Denison Pequotsepos Nature Center: Main campus with museum, trails, programming & public events, private events, Summer Nature Camp, Early Childhood programming, and Homeschool programming.


Coogan Farm: Trails, Craig Floyd Giving Garden, Neighbors & Nature, Nature Preschool, events, and administrative offices.

Gungywamp: CT State Archaeological Preserve stewarded by DPNC. Closed to the public; access via public or private guided tours.


Peace Sanctuary: 30-acre preserve owned by the Mary Jobe Akeley Trust and stewarded by DPNC; open to public dawn to dusk.


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Denison Pequotsepos Nature Center

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