



# City of Kingston Parks and Recreation

## Environmental Education Program

### 2017-2018 Registration Information

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#### *Into the Forest*



#### ***FAST FACTS:***

*What: Into the Forest*

*When: 10:00am-12:30pm*

*Where: Hasbrouck Park*

*Who: Grades preK-5*

*Cost: Fees are waived for programs held in 2017-2018 for Ulster County Schools.*

*Support from: Office of Children and Family Services, NYS Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation*

#### Program Description

The canopy above, the caverns below. The unique woodland habitat of Hasbrouck Park provides a cool setting for the investigation of temperate forest ecology. This program includes:

- Hiking preparedness discussion
- Guided nature hike on a moderate forest trail
- Nature scavenger hunt
- Examination of forest types, structure, transitions
- Examination of native flora and fauna, edible and poisonous plants, growth and decomposition
- Exploration of seasonal forest changes
- Insight into the historical and current land uses of Hasbrouck Park

#### Program at a Glance

- 10:00-10:30am Transport students to Hasbrouck Park from school (\*if needed)
- 10:30-10:40am Welcome and Introductions
- 10:40-12:00noon Guided Nature Hike
- 12:00-12:30pm Return students to school (\*)



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#### Program Details

We will be hiking on a moderately sloped trail through a temperate mixed forest at Hasbrouck Park, from the base of the park to the top. The terrain is somewhat rocky in portions.

All participants should be prepared with appropriate footwear with ankle support and comfortable socks. Flip flops are not appropriate. Participants should bring a sweatshirt/jacket as it is always cooler in the forest.

Participants should be aware of the possibility of the presence of deer ticks at Hasbrouck Park, and should conduct a “Tick Check” upon completion of the program. Additionally, there is some poison ivy in the park, adjacent to the trail at some points.

Adult chaperones are certainly welcome and encouraged. We require a minimum of 2 adults to attend with the class, and a minimum of a 12 to 1 ratio of students to adults at the program site. Adult chaperones should meet us at Hasbrouck Park (\*except the two riding in the vans, if using). Adults should definitely come prepared to be hands on and engaged in the program as we will need assistance throughout the program.

**In the event of inclement weather**, we will call the school that morning to make any cancellations. At that point, we will offer another reschedule date if one is available. If you need to cancel for any reason, please call the Recreation Department as soon as possible at 481-7339 (Julie Noble’s Extension).

The environmental educator(s) will be engaging the students in the outdoor learning environment and an appropriate code of conduct is expected from each participant:

- Classroom teachers will be present for entire program
- All discipline issues will be addressed by classroom teachers
- Any student or chaperone who is disrupting the program may be asked to leave
- Use of cell phones and texting is not permitted
- Safety is of utmost priority

This is an outdoor education experience, but should be treated the same as any learning experience, that is hands-on, interactive and fun. Inappropriate behavior will result in a loss of the privilege to participate in the program.



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Transportation:

If you are able to provide your own transportation, please arrive at Hasbrouck Park at 10:00am.

Directions to Hasbrouck Park:

From the Kingston Thruway Traffic Circle, take Route 587 (Locally called Colonial Chandler Drive) towards Broadway/Kingston. At the stop light, proceed straight onto Broadway. Follow Broadway to the Eighth light. Take a left at Stewart's onto Delaware Avenue. Follow Delaware Avenue over the Route 9W overpass and veer to the right. ½ mile on your right just past the Kingston Business Park is the entrance to Hasbrouck Park. There is a lower and upper parking area. Meet at the lower parking area. You will know you missed Hasbrouck Park if you descend a steep hill.

\*\*\*If you need transportation\*\*\*: The Parks and Recreation Department is able to provide transportation as a collaboration with Kingston Citibus at a fee of \$1 per student. Adults are free. We will pick up your class at 9:30am at the Front Door of your school. The \$1 per student transportation fee is due by cash or check made payable to The City of Kingston upon their arrival.

*If there are any questions, concerns or changes, the teacher should contact:*

*Julie Noble*

*Environmental Education and Sustainability Coordinator*

*Kingston Parks and Recreation*

*845-481-7339*

*JulieLNoble@kingston-ny.gov*