



# City of Kingston Parks and Recreation

## Environmental Education Program

### 2017-2018 Registration Information

#### *Winter Bird Watch*



*FAST FACTS:*

*What: Winter Bird Watch*

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

*Where: Classroom and Schoolyard*

*Who: Grades pre K-4th*

*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

- Lesson about attracting birds, bird migration, winter survival and adaptations
- Fill the Bill: Bird diet activity
- Bird Buffet: Construction and placement of simple, household supply birdfeeders
- Lesson about bird identification techniques
- Use of binoculars, field guides and posters (provided) on a guided bird walk around the school grounds

#### Program At A Glance

- 9:45-10:00am Educator will arrive to set up programming materials (class not involved)  
10:00am-12:30pm Winter Bird Watch Program (see above details)  
12:30-12:45pm Educator will stay after program to clean up materials (class not involved)

#### Program Details

This is an in-class and outdoor educational program. An environmental educator will arrive at your school with all of the necessary programming materials up to one half hour prior to the program and will need to stay to clean up until up to one half hour after the program.

We will make a variety of bird feeders and put out food for the birds to enjoy, for example: sunflower seeds, peanuts, fruit and suet (\*This program can be nut-free at teacher's request).



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The class can help us gather the materials to make our birds happy. All materials should be brought into school prior to the day of the program. We will also bring some materials to ensure that your site is well stocked. What do we need?

Apples

Oranges

Paper towels

Plastic spoons

Yarn (camouflage color)

Plastic tablecloths

Bird seed (sunflower or mix)

Bags of peanuts with shells

Jars peanut butter or Crisco

Empty plastic juice or milk containers

Ziploc sandwich bags

Suet cakes

Pine Cones

We will do the activities inside, make the feeders, then go outside and hang the feeders and take a bird walk around the school to identify winter birds and their habitats.

Preparation: The programming room should have one large prep table for the educator's materials. We will use all of the students' desks/table areas as work stations. The teacher should choose a suitable location for setting up bird feeders, ideally a place that is visible from inside for observation. A location with bushes/trees for cover and hanging capabilities is best, but any additional hooks or posts that can be brought in are beneficial.

The environmental educator will be engaging the students for the program 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

Inappropriate behavior will result in a loss of the privilege to participate in the program.

In the event of a **school delay/snow day**, the program will be automatically cancelled. If this occurs, the educator will contact the school program coordinator to set up a reschedule date as available.

*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*