



Hammocks Beach Schools in Parks Offerings
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North Carolina State Parks
Naturally Wonderful

The state park's mission is to inspire all through: Conservation, Recreation, Education

Big Canoe Program: Canoes hold 14 passengers, plus the captain. Canoe programs tend to need an hour and 15 minutes to review safety and equipment: get vests on, discuss how to row, go out & back, clean-up, etc. The two canoes have to be transported here from a few hours away, so we need advance notice on if this something of interest. These dates also fill up fast. Weather conditions: the wind, air, and water temperatures all come into play with ideal conditions being less than 8mph winds, water temp in the 60's and weather somewhere near 70's. If the temp is above 93 degrees, then it would be too hot - solar oven hot. Attendees wouldn't be able to sit inside without roasting. Closed toed shoes would need to be worn. This program is geared for 5th grade and up.

School Ferry Service: This service runs in September and October, April and May on Tuesdays - Thursdays. We offer eco cruises as well as ferry rides to Bear Island. Eco-cruises offer tours through the estuary where passengers remain on the ferry and tend to run 30-45 minutes depending on the size of the group, other activities planned for that day, and time constraints of the party. The ferry service to Bear Island takes 15 minutes one way. Once on the island, there is a 10 minute walk from the dock to oceanside. Ferries hold a maximum of 40 people (including the captain and deck hand). The (current) cost is \$2 per person (adult & student) with a check payable to Hammocks Beach State Park.

We run programs on the mainland and the islands that cover various topics, but are not limited to, barrier islands, living shorelines, life in the estuary, life in terrestrial ecosystems, bird identification, sea turtles, tree identification and uses, and many more. We can tailor programs to the needs of our visitors and the standards/objectives being taught in the classroom.

In mid-May we open the kayak program. If interested, our rangers will train teachers to become certified to be one of the kayak guides. Our rule is 1 kayak leader per 5 students and 1 guide per 5 students, and we only take out 10 students out at a time.

We have four hiking trails ranging from easy to moderate, all of which intersect. Relax your mind while hiking through loblolly pines and along the coastline of yapon hollies.

Additionally the park recently opened a campground with 12 full hook-ups, 7 tent/trailer sites, 2 primitive spots along Queen's Creek, and 4 cabins. We also have a group camp site opening soon for school groups.

***Coming soon. Professional Development workshops for formal and informal educators. Several Schools In Parks members are trained facilitators and are planning to team up at our various locations to offer Project WET, Project WILD, Project Learning Tree, and many more workshops.**