

Bring your Scouts to the Darien Nature Center for adventures in the natural world. Meet the Nature Center animals; hike through a local park with our naturalist; or complete a Try-It or Badge with our trained environmental educators. Choose from the program options listed below or call us to create your own!

**Our Naturalist is available to discuss options or schedule a program. They can be reached at (203) 655-7459 or via email at [naturalist@dariennaturecenter.org](mailto:naturalist@dariennaturecenter.org).**

## PROGRAM OPTIONS

### Brownie Try-Its

**Animals:** Looks mean something. Discover which animals have fur, which have feathers and which have scales. Scouts learn to classify Nature Center animals.

**Water Everywhere:** Become a water explorer. With net and bucket in hand, girls will discover the many interesting creatures that call Cherry Lawn pond home.

**Outdoor Adventurer:** Touch, smell, listen. Girls will participate in a different kind of nature hike, one where they use their ears and noses as well as their eyes.

**Watching Wildlife:** Groceries in the forest?! That's right, Brownies will walk through the woods and learn how animals meet their food, water and shelter needs in the forest habitat.

**Space Explorer:** Explore the heavens above from the fields of Cherry Lawn Park. Learn about the night sky using star charts and story-telling. Schedule an evening program for real-time star gazing.

## Junior Badges

**Ecology:** Learn to identify native trees, play a game simulating predator-prey relationships or discover the different layers of soil. Scouts will be involved in a number of activities which illustrate natural processes.

**Finding Your Way:** Girls will learn to use a compass and follow a pre-set orienteering course. Map reading may also be included.

**Wildlife:** Do all birds fly? What makes a person a mammal? Girls will classify organisms as well as learn about the special adaptations they possess.

**Plants and Animals:** Talk with our naturalist about the many interesting species living here and learn about what it's like to work with animals.

**Sky Search:** Explore the heavens above from the fields of Cherry Lawn Park. Learn about the night sky using star charts and story-telling. Schedule an evening program for real-time star gazing.

## Webelo Activity Badges

**Forester Badge:** Learn how and where certain trees grow. Also learn how to identify trees and the special role they play in nature and society.

**Naturalist Badge:** Naturalists study plants and animals. Visit our zoo room or take a hike with our naturalist and learn how to attract and identify local fauna.

**Outdoorsman Badge:** A good outdoorsman possesses certain skills and is comfortable in the woods. Scouts can complete part of this badge by participating in a naturalist led night hike, campfire or knot tying session.

## Wolf Achievements

**Your Living World:** Scouts will learn the importance of protecting our natural world and engage in a small project to improve a local park.

**Birds:** Scouts will learn to identify common backyard visitors and build a feeder to help our fine-feathered friends through the winter.

## Bear Achievements

**Sharing Your World with Wildlife:** Visit the Nature Center and learn which birds are visiting our feeders. Also find out how Scouts can help them find food, water and shelter.

**Indian Life:** Scouts will learn about Native American life through games, stories and art.

## Just For Fun

### Live Animal Demonstration

**From slithery snakes to leathery lizards, from cuddly chinchillas to groovy guinea pigs; these are just some of the creatures Scouts will be able to meet and greet during this hands-on program. (*Program can be held off-site*)**

### Nature Hike/Scavenger Hunt

**Scouts, along with the Naturalist, will navigate the wooded trails of Cherry Lawn Park, Selleck's Woods or Woodland Park.**

### Teambuilding

**Use critical thinking and problem solving skills to complete group challenges and learn what it takes to build an effective team. (*Program can be held off-site*)**

## Nature Games

**Enjoy learning about ecological concepts through a series of action-packed games and activities. (*Program can be held off-site*)**

## **Conservation Projects**

Complete a conservation project while lending a hand to your local nature center. Projects may include trail work, landscaping or projects in neighboring Selleck's Woods.

## **PROGRAM FEES**

**One Hour Program.....\$60.00**

Ideal for afterschool scout meetings. It can be a one-time program or continued throughout the scouting season.

**Hour and a half Program.....\$75.00**

Ideal for large groups and/or having extra time to explore nature and the animals.

**Two Hour Program.....\$100.00**

Ideal for long hikes or service projects. Allows for more in-depth programs.

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