



Girl Scout Programs at the Eloise Butler Wildflower Garden & Bird Sanctuary

The Eloise Butler Wildflower Garden and Bird Sanctuary is a spectacular 15-acre garden in Minneapolis with trails meandering through woodlands, wetlands and oak savannas. This natural setting showcases over 500 plant species and 140 migratory birds.

The Garden offers programs for Girl Scouts of all ages from Daisy Scouts to Seniors. Each program meets some of the requirements for Try Its and Badges, and are listed in the program description. Any program can be tailored to meet your troop's specific requirements.

Program Availability

The Garden is open April 1 to October 15. Programs are available seven days a week.

Group Size

The Garden requires a minimum of eight participants to schedule a program. To ensure the best experience, one naturalist is scheduled for every 10 participants.

Cost

The cost of Daisy programs is \$3 per participant per hour. The cost of Brownie and Junior programs is \$4 per participant per 90 minutes. Junior Badge Workshop programs are \$15 per participant per 3.5 hours. Chaperones are free of charge.

The Naturalists

Our naturalists have a total of 20 years experience teaching in the Garden. It is no exaggeration to say these experts bring their passion and excitement into the Garden every day.

Scheduling Your Group

Programs are 90 minutes. Groups may schedule more than one program per visit. All programs can be adapted to fit the needs of your troop. Programs for Daisy Troops are also available. Many of the Brownie programs can be modified for your Daisy Troop.

Please schedule your visit at least two weeks in advance.

To schedule a program call or e-mail.

Phone: 612-363-4722

E-mail: lborer@minneapolispark.org

Daisy Programs

Nature Scavenger Hunt (Spring - Fall) 1 hour

Learn about the insects and animals that use camouflage in the Garden. Look for some of the masters of natural disguise and some not-so-natural items on our "Un-Nature Trail."

Sensory Walk (Spring - Fall) 1 hour

Use your senses while taking a walk through the woods and prairie to search for items in nature. Look for colors, listen for sounds, feel textures and smell the flowers all around.

Nature Sketching (Spring - Fall) 1 hour

Spend an hour taking a close-up look at the beautiful flowers growing in the Garden and the insects that help pollinate our flowers. Students will spend time drawing and coloring what they see - flowers insects, birds - capturing the many colors of nature in their own "nature journals" to take home.

Brownie Programs

Creatures of the Air (Spring - Fall) 90 minutes

Look for creatures that rule the sky. We will search for feathered friends and insect friends as we walk through the Garden. Learn how to use binoculars to get a closer look at these winged creatures. Take time to draw your favorite flying friend. *This program meets the requirements for "Creatures of the Air" activity of the Earth and Sky Try It.*

Rainbow Hike (Spring - Fall) 90 minutes

How many colors can you find at the Garden? Take a walk through our Garden trails and discover how many different shades of greens, reds, yellows, purples and more you can see. Walk through the woodlands, wetlands and prairie drawing the many colorful plants and animals that live in the Garden. *This program meets the requirements for the "Day Hike" activity of the Outdoor Adventurer Try It.*

Sensory Hike (Spring - Fall) 90 minutes

Did you hear that bird singing? Do you see the leaves rustling in the wind? Can you smell the purple flowers? Can you feel how rough the tree bark is? Take a walk and use your senses to explore the Garden. Try a fun scavenger hunt for the senses. *This program meets the requirements for the "Touch, Smell, Listen" activity of the Outdoor Adventurer Try It.*

Animal Talk (Spring - Fall) 90 minutes

How do bees know where all the good flowers are in the Garden? How do wolves know if another wolf has been through their territory? Why do birds sing? Come to the Garden and find out. *This program meets the requirements for the "Animal Talk" activity of the Watching Wildlife Try It.*

Junior Programs

An Outdoor Career (Spring - Fall) 90 minutes

Spend time talking with one of our naturalists. She will tell you about what she does at work at the Garden, and take you on a walk to learn about phenology. Come prepared to ask her questions about her job and why she decided to become a naturalist. *This program meets the requirements for "An Outdoor Career" activity of the Your Outdoor Surrounds Badge.*

Color Palette Hike (Spring - Fall) 90 minutes

Search for a rainbow of colors as you walk through the Garden trails. Draw the flowers, birds, and insects in nature that color our world. Share your drawings with your friends and keep them all in a color palette journal to take home. *This program meets the requirements for "A Nature Hike" activity of the Your Outdoor Surroundings Badge.*

Birding 101 (Spring - Fall) 90 minutes

Learn a new hobby - bird watching. Learn how to use binoculars, spot birds and identify them through sight and sound. Our naturalist will teach you the tricks of the trade and start you off on your birding adventures. *This program meets the requirements for "An Outdoor Hobby" activity of the Your Outdoor Surroundings Badge.*

The Artist & The Scientist (Spring - Fall) 90 minutes

Are scientists and artists really all that different? Spend time at the Garden exploring how a scientist looks at nature and how an artist would look at the same thing. Challenge your friends to play the role of artist or scientist or both. *This program meets the requirements for "Classifying Outdoor Objects: the Artist and the Scientist" and "What Do You See?" activities of Your Outdoor Surroundings Badge.*

Poet-Tree (Spring - Fall) 90 minutes

Walk through our Garden and become inspired to create works of poetry and art. Try writing a haiku. Discover the cinquain poem. Or combine art and writing using "picture poetry". Bring home your poetry in your own nature journal. *This program meets the requirements for "Many Ways to Be Creative", "Nature in Three Lines", and "Diversity in Nature" activities of the Outdoor Creativity Badge.*

Junior Badge Workshops

These badge workshops can be scheduled as half day events or over a series of scheduled programs. The fee for these workshops is **\$15/scout** for a 3.5 hour program. Bring a snack for a break and some water. **Badges are not provided at the end of the workshop.**

Earth Connections Badge Workshop — 3.5 hours

Visit the Quaking Bog and the Garden to explore different habitats and discover how they are all connected.

Wildlife Junior Badge Workshop — 3.5 hours

Learn what plants grow here in the Garden and how wildlife depend on those plants. View our native birds through binoculars and learn how to identify some of our common species.