

School Field Trips

Field trips are a great way to engage students in recycling and other environmentally beneficial behaviors. Below is a list of recommended school field trips in the areas of recycling, composting, reuse, waste, wastewater treatment, nature, gardens and farms.

Recycling

[Montgomery County Recycling Center](#)

The recycling center is a multi-stream facility that processes paper and mixed recyclables separately. Tours are available for all ages, including preschoolers. The visit includes an age-appropriate presentation about recycling, reuse, and waste reduction. Tour groups may have between 10 and 60 people, including chaperones.

Submit a tour request online. Scroll to the bottom of the page to select a date and time.
<http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/sws/facilities/rc/tours.html>

Address: 16105 Frederick Rd. Derwood, MD 20855

[Prince George's County Materials Recycling Facility](#)

This recycling facility is a process facility for single-stream collection, meaning that all recyclable materials are processed together. This facility demonstrates the process that DC residential waste goes through.

To schedule a tour, call the MRF at (301) 499 – 1707.

Address: 100 Ritchie Rd. Capitol Heights, MD 20743

Composting

[Western Branch Composting Facility](#)

This facility processes yard waste and food waste. The yard waste is ground, placed in windrows and processed into compost, known as Leafgro©. Food waste is also composted into a high quality compost product known as Leafrgo Gold©. Leafrgo © organic compost has been used to landscape FedEx Field, home of the Washington Redskins.

For tour information please call 1-888-214-8687 between 8:00am and 3:00pm.

Address: 6550 S.E. Crain Highway Upper Marlboro, MD 20772

[DPR Community Compost Cooperatives](#)

Launched in 2014, Department of Parks and Recreation's Community Compost Cooperative Network is a network of compost bins across all 8 wards at DPR gardens and partner gardens.

Suggested compost bins for a school field trip include:

- Twin Oaks – 1380 Taylor St NW – Contact: Tim Ledlie, timledlie@gmail.com
- Howard University – 2251 Sherman Ave NW – Contact: Jeffrey Neal, jnealpe@gmail.com
- Mundo Verde – 30 P St. NW – Contact: Tara McNerney, tmcnerney@mundoverdepcs.org

To locate the nearest compost cooperative, please visit the interactive link:
maps.espatial.com/maps/pages/map.jsp?geoMapId=34528&TENANT_ID=127506

DPR Contact: Joshua Singer, DPR Community Garden Specialist at joshua.singer@dc.gov

Waste Transfer Stations

[DPW Fort Totten Transfer Station](#)

The Fort Totten Transfer station provides residential drop-off services for solid waste, household hazardous waste, and unwanted electronic equipment, and provides personal document shredding. A waste transfer station is a site where local waste collection vehicles drop off waste. The waste is loaded into larger trucks which transport the waste to a recycling facility, incinerator, or landfill.

To schedule a tour, please call Ronald Marshall at (202) 409 – 2695.

Address: 4900 John McCormack Dr. NE Washington, DC 20011

[DPW Benning Road Transfer Station](#)

A waste transfer station is a site where local waste collection vehicles drop off waste. The waste is loaded into larger trucks which transport the waste to a recycling facility, incinerator, or landfill.

To schedule a tour, please call Ronald Marshall at (202) 409 – 2695.

Address: 3200 Benning Rd. NE Washington, DC 20019

Materials Reuse

Community Forklift

Community Forklift, a project of Sustainable Community Initiatives, is a nonprofit reuse center for home improvement supplies. The organization picks up donations of unwanted and salvaged building materials throughout the metro DC region. Then, they make the building materials available to the public at low cost, and provide vintage materials for restoring old homes. They offer public education about reuse. Tours are available for students in the middle and high school.

To schedule a tour, contact Alex Winter at alex@communityforklift.org.

Address: 4671 Tanglewood Dr. Edmonston, MD 20781

Wastewater Treatment

Blue Plains Advanced Wastewater Treatment Plant

The Blue Plains AWTP is the largest advanced wastewater treatment facility of its type in the world. Wastewater is collected by the DC sewer system and from the Maryland and Virginia suburbs and is delivered to the Blue Plains AWTP.

Request a tour online here: https://www.dewater.com/about/tour_request_form.cfm

Address: 5000 Overlook Ave. SW Washington, DC 20032

Nature

NatureBridge

NatureBridge environmental science programs in Prince William Forest Park offer students in grades five to eight the opportunity to learn hands-on science in the largest green space in the Washington, D.C. metropolitan area. The three-day residential environmental science programs are led by experienced educators and are tailored to reinforce and extend classroom learning.

To schedule a visit, contact Jim Serfrass, Outreach Manager, NatureBridge Mid-Atlantic Region at jserfrass@nature.bridge.com or (570) 439 – 1795.

Address: Cabin Camp 1 Prince William Forest Park Triangle, VA 22172

Cost: Free under [Meaningful Watershed Educational Experience \(MWEE\)](#) program



[Anacostia River Explorers Tour](#)

Join Anacostia River Explorers to learn about the Anacostia River's history, wildlife, the environmental threats it faces, and the solutions helping it realize its full potential. These free, guided pontoon boat tours launch from a variety of locations up and down the Anacostia River, and are funded by the District's disposable bag fee. Public and private tours are available. Each tour is either one or two hours long and can take up to 13 people.

To schedule a tour, email info@anacostiariverkeeper.org.

Address: Tours leave from a variety of locations:

- Anacostia Park, SE DC
- Diamond Teague Park, SE DC
- Kenilworth Park, SE DC

See also Anacostia Watershed Society: <http://anacostiaws.org/get-involved/recreation/anacostia-river-discovery-series>

Gardens & Farms

[City Blossoms](#)

City Blossoms is a non-profit working in D.C. dedicated to kid-driven, community engaging, creative green spaces. City Blossoms offers hands-on, garden-based field trips at two Community Green Spaces for preschool through high school groups. The Community Green Spaces (CGS) are educational, demonstration gardens located in Shaw and Columbia Heights. City Blossoms offers an assortment of field trip experiences between April and October, each designed to support learning standards.

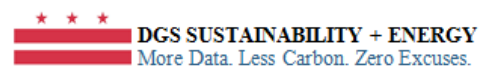
For more information visit the website at cityblossoms.org or contact willa@cityblossoms.org.

Address: Locations in Shaw and Columbia Heights

Cost: About \$60/hour for 15 students. Some scholarships are available upon request.

[Arcadia Center for Sustainable Food And Agriculture](#)

Arcadia is a nonprofit organization dedicated to creating a more equitable and sustainable local food system in the Washington, DC area. Arcadia Farm hosts field trips for DC and VA schools, which are designed to connect pre-kindergarten through fifth grade students (and other interested groups) with where food comes from while meeting age-appropriate curriculum standards. Field trips can accommodate a maximum of 60-65 students per trip.



Download a [pdf overview of our field trips](#) for Washington, DC schools.

To schedule a field trip, contact Morgan Maloney, Farm Education Director at morgan@arcadiafood.org. For more info: <http://www.arcadiafood.org/arcadia-farm-field-trips>

Address: 9000 Richmond Highway Alexandria, VA 22309

Cost: Qualifies for [OSSE Farm Field Trip Grant](#)

Check out other farm field trips. See OSSE's [List of Farm to School Field Trip Sites](#) in the DC/Maryland/Virginia area.



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