

ABOUT LITTLE CREEK

Little Creek Nature Area is a 97-acre outdoor educational facility owned and operated by the Ferguson-Florissant School District. Since 1974, students in our district have received lessons in ecology, environmental science, field biology and living history at Little Creek.

Little Creek Nature Area supports approximately eighteen acres of developed facilities. Included are a residence converted to a museum, a high school classroom, and an elementary building with two classrooms. A small farm is comprised of a barn, chicken coop, apiary, a vegetable garden, and pastures. There is a nineteenth century log cabin, a butterfly garden, a reconstructed prairie, a conservation windbreak, and an arboretum on the property as well. The remaining acreage is largely wooded and preserved as natural areas. It includes five designated trails, two woodland ponds, a field pond, and several tributary streams that drain into the Maline Creek watershed.

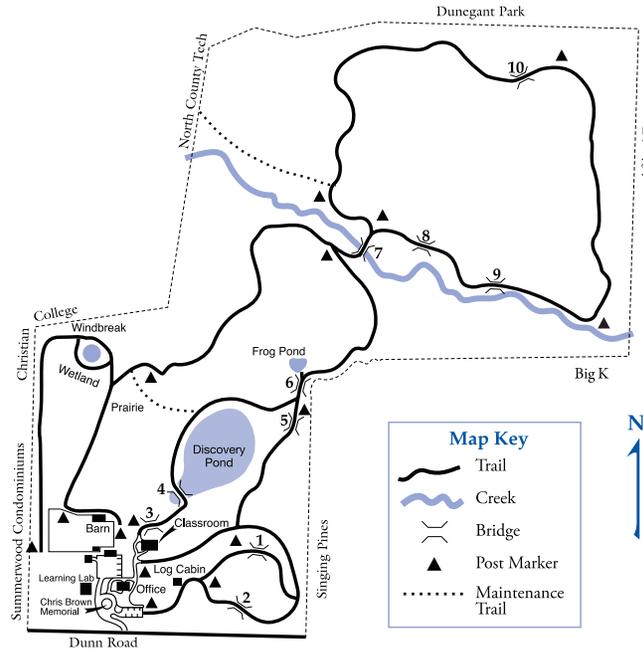
The instructional programs offered support and enhance the pre-K to 12 curricula in a variety of ways. The pre-K and elementary programs allow students and teachers to meet state and local science, social studies and communication arts objectives. Hands-on inquiry-based activities provide students with experiences to cultivate a life-long interest in the natural world.

Our trails are not open to the public on weekends or after normal business hours, except by reservation. Little Creek hosts annual events that are open to the public each fall and spring.



Eric Hadley
Little Creek Coordinator
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Little Creek Nature Area is open from
9 a.m. to 4 p.m.
Monday through Friday.



For more information, please contact:

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**FERGUSON-FLOISSANT
SCHOOL DISTRICT**



**A Natural Oasis
Surrounded By
Urban Development**

Opportunities to learn in a natural environment abound at Little Creek

Pond

Elementary School students use the pond to observe pond life by collecting pond organisms like water insects.

Seventh graders use the pond to study water quality by collecting macro- invertebrates and chemically test it. They also catch and release fish. The pond has sunfish, blue gill, catfish, and bass.

High School students use the pond for studying macroinvertebrates and test the quality of the water through chemical testing. They also observe water fowl, aquatic reptiles like red eared sliders (turtles), frogs and their tadpoles.



Woods

Elementary School students use the trees for identifying and looking at adaptations. They make observations in the woods about animal habitat including food for animals and places for them to live. They also study the birds. They discover wildflowers and special places in the woods.

Middle School students use the woods to discover the different plants animals can eat and habitats for animals.

High School students study habitats for animals, identify trees, identify wildflowers, study and identify birds. The woods at Little Creek helps them learn and understand the deciduous forest of Missouri. They are part of forest revitalization projects at Little Creek by ridding the forest of non-native and invasive species and plant native species from Forest ReLeaf. They study the animal's food through learning about wildflowers, berries, leaves, and roots they can eat.

Prairie

Elementary School students use the prairie to find insects and wildflowers.

High School students use the prairie for diversity studies on plants and insects. They burn parts of the prairie each year to keep the prairie healthy and teach students about prairie ecosystems.

Creek

High School students use the creek for water quality monitoring by studying macroinvertebrates and the chemistry of the water. They observe crawfish, small fish, aquatic plants and animals. This is where the students learn about creek stabilization and watershed flow.

