

# EDUCATIONAL PROGRAM GUIDE



**US Army Corps  
of Engineers®**  
Portland District

*Building Strong Quality Programs to Serve Our Region*



**Our Vision:** To help the public gain a better understanding of the US Army Corps of Engineers and its role in the local and global communities.

**Our Mission:** To provide quality educational opportunities that teach Corps Missions and instill Army Values.

### **Scheduling Programs**

These programs typically take 45 minutes to an hour. Keep in mind that most programs can be adapted to suit any audience, however, please see the age appropriate box on the last page. Also, scheduling may be limited by the availability of staff, poor weather conditions and other seasonal considerations. To schedule, please call The Dalles Dam Ranger Office at (541) 506-7857. Please try to avoid last minute scheduling and if possible, have more than one date and time available, to allow for flexibility.

**Visiting Us? Schedule a tour, field trip, or both!**

### **Powerhouse Tour**

This tour explores the multi-purpose functions of The Dalles Dam. Some major topics are: hydropower, navigation, history, geology and the dams impact on wildlife. On the tour we see several unique displays, one of which was built by an engineer in the 1940's who worked here at the dam! Plus, we have a spectacular view of the generators and fish ladder.

### **The Dalles Dam Visitor Center Tour**

This guided tour lasts 30-45 minutes. We explore our many exhibits; including a live camera feed of fish moving up the fish ladder, a brand new 250 gallon aquarium filled with native fish species and a new interactive Jr. Ranger Office! A film about The Dalles Dam is a great way to learn about its many functions, the effect on habitat and wildlife, and its impact on navigation, flooding and recreation. While you're here, stroll through the Historic Seufert Rose Garden or have a picnic in the park and enjoy the scenic view of Mount Hood!

### **Eagle Watch Field Trip**

A great winter opportunity to learn all about the American Bald Eagle. Take a field trip to The Dalles Dam Visitor Center which offers a perfect location to see roosting eagles at Westrick Park from December through February. While at the visitor center, watch a Oregon Public Broadcast film about Bald Eagles. Also, park rangers will provide an interactive program complete with handouts and displays. Please call The Dalles Dam Ranger Office for details and availability.

## Visiting You?

If your group is unable to schedule a field trip then we can come to you! Our Rangers in the Classroom initiative offers a variety of opportunities for interactive learning; all of which are led by a US Army Corps of Engineers Park Ranger. We can bring our fun and educational programs to local schools, churches, clubs or any public entity within a 40-mile radius of The Dalles area. See the next page for details.

## Pick a Program!



One mission of the US Army Corps of Engineers is to promote water safety. We want to help keep you and our waterways safe! Some topics covered are: safety do's and don'ts, how to properly fit a life jacket, and how to recognize and save a drowning person. At the end, each person tries on a life jacket or practices tossing a throw rope or cushion. This program is a combination of discussion and fun!

## Cold Water Immersion

This is a perfect winter program that covers how cold water immersion affects the body. A 15-minute video, *Cold Water Boot Camp*, illustrates these effects: cold shock, cold incapacitation and hypothermia. Students will discuss water safety and ways to treat shock and hypothermia. This program ends with a chilling game of Cold Hand Luke!

## Fatal Vision

This program covers the effects of alcohol and boating and helps encourage situational awareness. A 15-minute video, *Almost A Perfect Day: Living With The Environmental Stressors*, illustrates environmental stressors, alcohol and the impacts the two can have while on the water. After demonstrating how these affect a person, students attempt to perform an activity with Fatal Vision goggles.

## Hydropower in a Bag

This program answers the: Who, What, When, Where, and most importantly How! All the requirements for generating hydroelectricity brought right to your classroom where we will discuss the process of turning water into power! Through a hands on approach, students explore not only terminology and how it works, but the cost versus benefit ratio. This program can serve as a stand-alone introduction to the functions a multi-purpose dam and agency serves, or a classroom precursor to prepare students for an on-sight tour.



## **Birds of the Columbia Gorge**

Living near the Columbia River and along a major migratory fly-route, we see many different types of birds. Some stay with us all year long while others just stop for a visit. Using power point, students get to see and hear birds! This introduction to birding will cover adaptations and identification. Students will get to apply their knowledge using a field guide.



## **Geocaching:**

### **Part One - Indoor Learning**

Geocaching is a hide and seek game that blends science and recreation! Students learn about global positioning and how to utilize it for family fun. This program begins with a power point presentation and ends with hands on use of a GPS Unit. If a computer and internet are available, we will explore the geocaching.com website.

### **Part Two - Outdoor Application**

Students take their knowledge and put it to the test. They will use a GPS unit to find their latitude and longitude and that of their hidden treasure. In pairs they will work together to find hidden geocaches that are placed on-site by yours truly!

### **Appropriate Ages for Programs**

	K	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9-12	Adult
Power house Tour				X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Visitor Center Tour	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Eagle Watch Field Trip	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Water Safety	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Cold Water Immersion				X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Fatal Vision								X	X	X	X
Hydropower in a Bag				X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Birds of the Columbia River				X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Geocaching						X	X	X	X	X	X

Thank you!  
The Dalles Dam Park Ranger Staff  
(541) 506-7857