



# Field Trips & Youth Programs

Fredericksburg, VA

**FXBG.com**

# Educational Programs

Fredericksburg, Virginia tells America's story - from 1608, when Captain John Smith sailed up the Rappahannock River, to George Washington's childhood and adolescence, to John DeBaptiste, a free Black man fighting in the Revolutionary War; from the Civil War, with four major battles here and 10,000 enslaved people crossing the river to freedom; from Reconstruction to the enduring struggles for Civil Rights and social justice. With its rich history, numerous historic sites, and compelling stories the Fredericksburg region provides teachers with opportunities to plan experiences designed to spark an interest in the true understanding of historical events and develop in their students an appreciation for the remarkable people who helped make this great nation.

When you plan a field trip to Fredericksburg, Virginia, your students will participate in an educational experience that is interactive, informative, and most of all, fun! These programs will satisfy numerous Standards of Learning (SOL) requirements. In the following pages you will be introduced to the programs offered by the historic and cultural properties of the Fredericksburg region, including:

- George Washington's Ferry Farm
- Historic Kenmore
- Trolley Tours of Fredericksburg
- Mary Washington House
- Rising Sun Tavern
- Hugh Mercer Apothecary Shop
- Fredericksburg and Spotsylvania National Military Park
- Fredericksburg Area Museum
- James Monroe Museum
- Friends of the Rappahannock
- Gari Melcher's Home and Studio at Belmont
- FXBG Parks
- Shannon Air Museum
- Fredericksburg Civil Rights Trail
- Patawomeck Museum and Cultural Center
- Spotsylvania County Museum
- John J. Wright Educational & Cultural Center Museum

## Ferry Farm & Historic Kenmore

### George Washington's Ferry Farm

George Washington's Ferry Farm is where young Washington spent his formative years and became an extraordinary man. The future general and first president was 6 years old when his family moved to Ferry Farm in 1738. Ongoing archaeological investigations have allowed the Foundation to reconstruct the Washington House and other outbuildings to better tell the stories of George's mother, Mary, Washington family members, and the enslaved community.



### Student Programs at Ferry Farm

- ***George Washington: Boy Before Legend (Grades K-5):*** Students learn about George Washington's life, starting from his childhood at Ferry Farm. This multi-disciplinary program examines the important roles that math and science played in his work—first, as a surveyor, and later, as a farmer. Various activities on the site's beautiful grounds teach Washington's historical significance as a soldier, a president, and a leader.
- ***I Dig George (Grades K-5):*** Applying critical thinking skills, primary sources, and historical research, Ferry Farm archaeologists regularly make new, exciting discoveries about George Washington. In *I Dig George*, students become archaeologists and conduct a simulated dig to learn more about the archaeological process. Students are challenged to think critically about the artifacts they uncover, and they learn how artifacts helped Ferry Farm archaeologists rebuild the Washington House.

### Historic Kenmore

Built for George Washington's sister, Betty Washington Lewis, and her husband, Fielding Lewis, this Georgian-style brick mansion reflects the wealth and status of a Virginia merchant. The house overlooked the port of Fredericksburg at the beginning of the American Revolution, a cause which Fielding and his family supported at great personal loss. In 2001, architects, historians, and tradespeople worked to restore the home to its Revolutionary War-era appearance. All those who lived and worked at Kenmore - the Lewis Family, their children, and the enslaved community - played an important role in the birth of the United States.



### Student Programs at Historic Kenmore

- ***Virginia: Crossroads of Revolution (Grades 4-5):*** Students use physical evidence and practical skills as tools for understanding the past, particularly Virginia's turbulent transformation from British colony to American state. By trying their hands at historic trades, analyzing original furnishings inside Kenmore House, training in the maneuvers of Revolutionary soldiers, students gain broader insight into the stories of both the Washington-Lewis family and the free and enslaved tradespeople who forged American independence at the Fredericksburg Guntery or on Fielding Lewis's river fleet.

- **Fredericksburg, 1776 (Grades 1-3):** Experience the science and hands-on practice of history in George Washington's own hometown! Through different games and activities, students learn about life in 18th-century Virginia through the lens of Fredericksburg, the home of influential patriots like Fielding Lewis and George Washington. Students explore the Kenmore house and grounds making connections and comparisons between past and present to develop skills for historical inquiry.

### Not Finding the Program That Fits Your Classroom's Needs?

The Education team is happy to work with teachers to create programs that fit their classroom and their students' needs.



### Contact:

Ann Waters  
 Director of Education, GWFF  
 540-370-0732  
 learn@gwffoundation.org  
<https://kenmore.org/>



The George Washington Foundation

### Prices:

Students: \$6:00  
 Chaperones: \$4.00  
 Teachers & School Staff: FREE  
*(Processing fees not included)*  
*15 students minimum/  
 2 chaperones (per class not including teachers)  
 maximum*



# Trolley Tours of Fredericksburg

A Trolley Tour of downtown Fredericksburg is not only entertaining but educational! Public schools, private schools and homeschool groups enjoy the historic downtown tour.

### Downtown Fredericksburg Tour

Learn about the many famous and interesting people who have been here including those who called Fredericksburg home. Hear about events that have taken place since the founding of the City in 1728. During his formative years, George Washington lived just across the Rappahannock River, "a stones throw" from the City where he attended school and church. George's mother, sister, and brother had homes in Fredericksburg. See and hear about the monuments to Thomas Jefferson, who is 1777 gathered with his colleagues in Fredericksburg and drafted the Virginia Statute for Religious Freedom, See the museum and memorial library of our fifth president, James Monroe, who lived and worked in the city as a prominent attorney before entering politics and eventually being elected President. In 1862 the Battle of Fredericksburg was fought in and around the downtown historic district. You will have a chance to view many of the homes,

churches and buildings used during these battles, many of which still bare the scars of the Civil War. Hear the stories of Civil Rights in Fredericksburg to include the first stop of the Freedom Rides. Tour length may be adjusted to fit the needs of your classroom. A Trolley tour is often paired with transportation to one or more local attractions or historic sites.

### Contact:

Heidi Bass  
 Owner, Trolley Tours of Fredericksburg  
 540-898-0737  
 FXBGTrolley@gmail.com  
<https://fredericksburgtrolley.com/>



### Prices:

Vary - please contact the office today for a quote.



# Washington Heritage Museums

## Mary Washington House, Rising Sun Tavern & Hugh Mercer Apothecary Shop

### Mary Washington House

A visit to the home of Mary Washington, purchased by her son George, takes students back to a time when social customs were much different from those today. During the seventeen years that Mary Washington lived at the house in the late 1770s, she hosted her son and daughter-in-law, George and Martha Washington, as well as distinguished guests such as the Marquis de Lafayette, a hero of the Revolutionary war. Before attending his presidential inauguration in 1789, George Washington received his mother's blessing in this house. Students will learn about the enslaved people who lived on the property and how their work assisted Mary Washington with her daily activities. Students will also see a rare example of an original 19th-century kitchen built after Mary Washington's death. A gift shop is available at this site. (VS.1b, VS.5b, VS.6, US1.1, US1.5, US1.6)



### Rising Sun Tavern

Students will tour one of Fredericksburg's Federalist-era taverns, where interpreters in period costumes will explain traveling accommodations (lodging, meals, entertainment, etc.) in the early 19th-century. From the "bar" to the banquet hall, students will learn about the games early Americans played, the food they ate, the musical instruments they listened to, the news they shared, how they traveled and how taverns acted as centers of public life. As the building was originally the home of George Washington's youngest brother, students will also learn about Charles Washington's role in the American Revolution. Be sure to check the Tavern's "hip tub" and heavy mouse traps! (VS.1, VS.2, VS.4, VS.5, VS.6 US1.1, US1.5, US1.6)



### Contact:

Jenna Lutero, Membership & Office Manager  
540-373-5630  
office@washingtonheritagemuseums.org

### Prices:

Students: \$4.00 per site.  
Teachers: Free (limit 2 per class)  
Chaperones: \$8.00 per site  
<https://www.washingtonheritagemuseums.org/>



### Hugh Mercer Apothecary Shop

Interpreted as the Hugh Mercer Apothecary Shop, this 18th-century building is a small museum of colonial-era medicine and pharmacy. Dr. Hugh Mercer served the citizens of Fredericksburg for 15 years with medicines and treatments of the period. Students will learn about some of the remedies he likely employed, including leeches, lancets, snakeroot and crab claws. After the tour, students may explore the Physick garden to view (if in season) the many herbs and other plants that 18th-century physicians would have used in treating affliction. Dr. Mercer left his practice in Fredericksburg to join the Continental Army, dying as a Brigadier General at the Battle of Princeton in 1777. A gift shop is available at this site. (VS.4b,e, VS.5b, US1.1, US1.5, US1.6)

*\*Demonstration materials presented at this museum may be too graphic, unsettling or complex for younger audiences. This site is recommended for grades 4 and above.\**



# Fredericksburg and Spotsylvania National Military Park

All field trips to the park are free, and may be customized to meet the needs of each group. Classes typically spend 90 mins at each site, and often combine visits to multiple locations in the same day. Rangers strive to provide interactive, on-the-ground experiences for all students.

## Fredericksburg Battlefield

Students may explore multiple sites on the battlefield with a park ranger, including the Sunken Road, battle damaged Innis House, Marye's Heights and the National Cemetery.



## Chatham Manor

This stately house was built in 1771 as part of a large plantation that subsisted on enslaved labor. Students may tour the grounds and exhibits to learn about the civilians and enslaved at Chatham before, during and after the Civil War. Park Rangers share stories of the people who were at this site and the significant changes they experienced.



## Chancellorsville Battlefield

Visit the site where Confederate General "Stonewall" Jackson was wounded and learn stories of this battle from a park ranger.



## Wilderness and Spotsylvania Battlefields

General Robert E. Lee and General Ulysses S. Grant faced each other for the first time as some of the toughest fighting of the war occurred here.

## On-line Classroom

The Civil War touched every American's life and it's legacies still impact us today. The new online classroom, *Community in Conflict*, explores the experiences of war in Fredericksburg through interactive activities, primary sources and multimedia elements. Response and decision making features ask students to critically consider the information they learn and engage in a conversation with park staff and other students, creating a classroom that is truly nation-wide:

<http://www.fredspoteducation.weebly.com/>

## Contact:

Peter Maugle, Education Coordinator  
Fredericksburg and Spotsylvania National Military Park  
540-693-3200

[Peter\\_Maugle@nps.gov](mailto:Peter_Maugle@nps.gov)



## Prices:

There is no cost for students visits to any of the battlefield sites. Please be advised that sufficient advance notice is required to arrange for a park ranger tour.

<https://www.nps.gov/frsp/index.htm>

# Fredericksburg Area Museum

The Fredericksburg Area Museum (FAM) prides itself in being a local partner in education and building confident life-long learners. Our cross-curriculum programs connect Fredericksburg's past to subjects that students are studying in school. The museum's goal is to have preK-12 students understand our region's nation shaping history while building 21st-century learning skills like critical thinking, creativity, collaboration, and communication.

FAM educational programs are led by a trained museum educator and last an hour. Educators can schedule a program at the museum, virtually, or in your classroom. The programs are as follows:

## Stomp: Dinosaur Discoveries (Preschool, Kindergarten – 5th Grade)

Did you know that dinosaurs lived in Fredericksburg 112 million years ago? Students will become paleontologists and investigate the regions' fossilized dinosaur tracks. Field trip includes developmentally appropriate interactive activities such as creating dinosaur prints.

**Preschool Skills:** Communication, Curiosity and Initiative, Interacting with Others, Gross and Fine Motor Skills

**English SOLs:** K.1.A-J, 1.1.A-L, 2.1.A-J,L, 3.1.A-H, 4.1.A-G, 5.1.A-F

**Science SOLs:** K.1.F, K.7.A-B, 1.1.B, 1.5.A-C, 2.1.D, 2.5.A-C, 3.1.A-D,F, 3.4.C, 3.5.A-B, 4.1.A-D,F, 4.3.A.D, 5.1. A-D,F, 5.8.E

## The Colonial Marketplace (4th – 5th Grade)

**\*AVAILABLE SPRING 2025\***

Students will become historians and explore the intricate role Market Square played in shaping colonial Fredericksburg. Through hands-on station activities, classes will examine how the geography and environment shaped colonial economics. Topics include cash crops, Fredericksburg as a port city, Virginia commerce and its reliance upon enslaved labor. This program takes place outside in Market Square.

**History and Social Science SOLs:** Skills VS A-C, VS 4 F, Skills USI A-C, USI 3 B, Skills VUS A-B, D, H, VUS 3 A-E,

## Lafayette's World: Revolutionary Ideals and the Limits of Freedom (2nd – 4th Grade, 9th – 12th Grade)

Come tour the space where Lafayette once stood! Students will learn about the Marquis de Lafayette's role during the American Revolution and his abolitionist beliefs by close-viewing and analyzing artifacts from FAM's new exhibit.

**English SOLs:** 4.1.A-G, 5.1.A-F

**History and Social Science SOLs:** Skills VS A.C.I, VS.5.B, Skills USI .A.C.H.I, USI.6.d, VUS7, VUS8

## African American Voices and Stories (6th – 12th Grade)

Students will become historians and uncover local African American history and perspectives through analyzing primary sources. By exploring FAM's galleries, participants learn the stories of those who have come before and how that shapes the world they live in today.

**English SOLs:** 6.1.A-J, 7.1.A-J, 8.1.A.G, 9.2.A-E, 10.2.C-F,11.2.C-E, 12.2.C

**History and Social Science SOLs:** Skills USII.A.C.H, USII.2.E, USII.5.H, USII.8.A, Skills VUS.A.D.E.H, VUS.3.B.C, VUS.9.E, VUS.10.G, VUS.16.A



## SCHOOL VISITS

All previously listed FAM programs are also available as school visits. Additional programs available for school visits only are below:

### The Powhatan People (Kindergarten – 5th Grade)

Discover what life was like for the Powhatan people along the Rappahannock River. Through discussion of artifacts, photographs, and drawings, students learn about the Virginia Indians' traditional food ways, shelter, and clothing as well their reliance on natural resources.

**English SOLS:** K.1.A-J, 1.1.A-L, 2.1.A-J,L, 3.1.A-H, 4.1.A-G, 5.1.A-F

**History and Social Science SOLS:** Skills K.G.A-C,E,I, K.4.B, Skills 1.A-C.E.I, 1.4.A-B, 1.5.A, Skills 2.A-C.E.I, 2.5.A.D, 2.13.A.D, Skills 3.A-C.I, Skills VS. A-C,E, VS.2.A-E, Skills USI.A-C.E.H, USI.2.B

**Science SOLS:** K.3.A-D, K.7.A, K11.A, 1.3.A, 1.8.A, 2.8.A, 4.8.A-D

### Fredericksburg Underwater (3rd – 6th Grade)

The largest recorded flood in Fredericksburg's history happened in 1942. By examining this local event, participants will learn about the causes and effects of flooding and how rising water from environmental impact affects a community.

**English SOLS:** 3.1.A-H, 4.1.A-G, 5.1.A-F, 6.1.A-C

**History and Social Science SOLS:** Skills 3.A-C.I Skills VS. A-C.E, Skills USI. A-C,F, Skills USII. A-C, F

**Science SOLS:** 3.8.A,C, 4.4.A-B, 4.8.A, 6.6.F, 6.8 A – D

**Math SOLS:** 3.MG.1, 4.MG.1, 5.MG.1



## VIRTUAL PROGRAMS

FAM is pleased to offer two virtual field trip options. Please refer to the programs descriptions in the preceding sections.

### Powhatan People (Kindergarten - 5th Grade)

### African American Voices and Stories (6th - 12th Grade)

#### Contact:

Theresa Cramer  
Education and Public Programs Coordinator  
540-374-3037 x 138  
tcramer@famva.org

#### Prices:

FREE for all Fredericksburg City Schools (all programs)

FAM Field Trip: \$4 per student

Off-site Field Trip: \$6 per student within 25-mile radius of FAM/\$9 per student for schools exceeding 25 mile radius

Virtual Field Trip: \$60 program fee

<https://famva.org/>



Fredericksburg Area Museum





# James Monroe Museum

The James Monroe Museum offers both on-site and supplemental on-line educational opportunities for teachers, classroom students, and homeschoolers. The on-site programs include grade level appropriate educational tours of the extensive collection, which reflects both James Monroe and early America.

Additional information and activities can be added to tours as needed to focus on particular time periods, such as the American Revolution. Supplemental materials available on-line include lesson plans, chronology of James Monroe's life and career, and virtual exhibits; all of which can be utilized both at home and in the classroom.

The James Monroe Museum offers a unique look at the life and legacy of our fifth president and former Fredericksburg resident through our unrivaled collection of artifacts that belonged to and were used by Monroe and his family. Topics Include: American Revolution, Westward Expansion, Monroe Doctrine, Louisiana Purchase, Early American Republic, the White House, and more!

## Contact:

Lindsey Coates-Crawford  
Public Programs Coordinator  
540-654-2111  
lcrawfor@umw.edu

## Prices:

Students: \$5.00  
Chaperones: \$7.00  
(One adult free per every  
10 students)

<https://jamesmonroemuseum.umw.edu/>



# Gari Melchers Home and Studio at Belmont

Come, explore creativity! Our museum, the country retreat of artist Gari Melchers and his wife, Corinne, is one of the best-preserved artist homes and studio in America. Overlooking the Rappahannock River's Fall Line, the 27-acre estate features the historic home, art studio and galleries, tours, gardens, historic buildings and several miles of walking trails.

## Field Trips:

Our site offers unique learning experiences for all groups and ages. Interactive, inquiry based programs offer a hands-on approach to history, art, and nature.

Amenities include outdoor picnic tables, ample restrooms, water station, hiking trails and a large parking lot.

## Contact:

Michelle Crow-Dolby  
Education and Communications  
Manager  
540-654-1851  
mdolby@umw.edu  
<https://www.garimelchers.org/>

## Prices:

\$8/student  
\$12/student with art activity



# FXBG Parks Field Trips

Fredericksburg Parks, Recreation and Events has environmental education field trips and classroom visits available for local schools.

## Field Trips

Field Trips typically include a rotation of a naturalist-led session, lunch and a teacher-led hike. These trips can take place at Motts Run Reservoir, Alum Spring Park or any other park (unless otherwise noted). Limit 2 classes per day.

## Classroom Visits

A naturalist will bring the activity to your classroom - no busses necessary! All topics available for classroom visits except Dip-Netting.

## **Topics:**

### **Seedsploration**

Through collections, observations and games, we will learn simple seed identification and the perils they face growing into mature plants.

*SOLs: K.1, K.4, K.6, K.7, K.9, 1.1, 1.4, 1.7, 2.1, 2.5, 2.7, 2.8, 3.1, 3.6, 3.7, 3.8, 4.1, 4.4, 4.5, 4.9, 5.1, 6.1, LS.1, LS.4, LS.5, LS.6, LS.10, BIO.1, BIO.6*

### **For Goodness Snakes**

Discover more about the anatomy of a snake, the difference between venomous and non-venomous snakes, and even get to meet a live corn snake.

*SOLs: K.1, K.7, 1.1, 1.5, 2.1, 2.4, 2.5, 3.1, 3.4, 4.1, 4.2, 4.3, 5.1, 6.1, LS.1, LS.7, BIO.1, BIO.6*

### **Be a Beaver Believer**

Discover the effects of these cool creatures on the environment and explore these adaptations that make beavers the master builders they are.

*SOLs: K.1, K.7, 1.1, 1.5, 2.1, 2.4, 2.5, 3.1, 3.4, 4.1, 4.2, 4.3, 5.1, 6.1, LS.1, LS.7, LS.8, LS.9, BIO.1, BIO.6*



### **All About Owls**

Owls are some of our coolest nocturnal creatures. We will discuss some of their traits that make them good hunters and look inside an owl pellet to see what owls like to eat. \*\* add \$3/owl pellet

*SOLs: K.1, K.7, 1.1, 1.5, 2.1, 2.4, 2.5, 3.1 3.4, 4.1, 4.2, 4.3, 5.1, 6.1, LS.1, LS.7, BIO.1, BIO.6*

\*For Classroom Visits Only

### **Dip-Netting**

Dragonfly nymphs and other amazing aquatic life will be netted and observed along the lakeshore. We'll focus on adaptations, life cycles and food webs.

*SOLs: K.1, K.4, K.6, K.7, 1.1, 1.4, 1.5, 2.1, 2.4, 2.5, 3.1, 3.4, 3.5, 3.8, 4.1, 4.2, 4.3, 4.8, 5.1, 5.9, 6.1, 6.8, 6.9, LS.1, LS.4, LS.5, LS.6, LS.8, LS.9, LS.11, BIO.1, BIO.6, BIO.8*

\*Field Trips to Motts Run Only



### **The Incredible Journey**

Water is an important natural resource! Become familiar with the water cycle by simulating the journey of water molecules as they move through the water cycle.

*SOLs: K.1, K.5, K.9, K.10, 1.1, 1.6, 1.7, 1.8, 2.1, 2.3, 2.6, 2.7, 3.1, 3.8, 3.9, 4.1, 4.6, 4.9, 5.1, 5.7, 6.1, 6.3, 6.5, LS.1, LS.6, ES.6, ES.12*

### **Contact:**

Callie Brown, Superintendent of Recreation  
Fredericksburg Parks, Recreation & Events  
540-372-1086 x 213

[cmbrown@fredericksburgva.gov](mailto:cmbrown@fredericksburgva.gov)

[www.FXBGparks.com](http://www.FXBGparks.com)

### **Prices:**

**Field Trips:** \$100/class (city)  
\$125/class (non-city)

**Classroom Visits:** \$100/class (city)  
\$125/class (non-city)



# Friends of the Rappahannock

## At the River's Edge Environmental Education Program

*At The River's Edge* provides students with interactive, outdoor science and history education opportunities. The goal is to give teachers and students a safe, hands on experience that will inspire respect and stewardship for the Rappahannock and its watershed. The curriculum is aligned with the VA standards of learning and National Science Standards. Programs are available from preschool through high school and beyond.

Each age specific programming level offers Environmental STEM or E-STEM program options. The E-STEM program offerings engage students in learning about the renewable natural resources of water, wind, or solar energy. Students design, engineer, and test solutions to environmental challenges while completing design challenges. E-STEM is creativity and functionality in one succinct bundle of environmental fun.

## Preschool

Program A (1.5 hrs): *Walking the Path of the American Indian* – Discover how American Indians used nature to provide all their food, shelter, and water. Make pottery and experience the American Indian oral tradition with a story that still applies today.

Program B (1.5 hrs): *Walk Like the Animals* – Use your senses to discover how the forest and river provide a good place for animals to live.

Program C (1.5 hrs): *Water Properties* – Why does the river look different at different times? Little scientists will love to experiment with this question while learning about our beloved Rappahannock River.

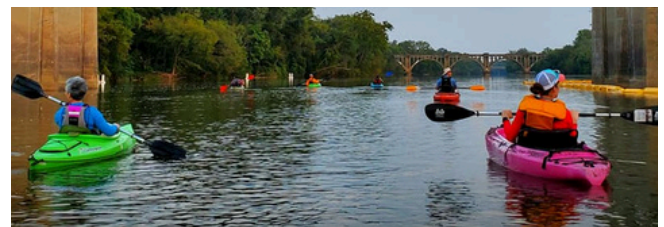
## Kindergarten and First Grade

Program A (3 hrs): VA Science SOL's: K.1, K.3, K.4, K.5, K.6, K.7, K.9, 1.1, 1.4, 1.5, 1.6, 1.7, 1.8

- *River Investigation Hike* – Investigate the river habitat with your senses – observing, describing, and charting. Discover how animals use their senses for survival.
- *Trees* – Gain a better understanding of tree parts, trees as a resource, and why trees are so important to our river.
- *Life in the River Habitat* – Explore many different plants and animals along the river and discover why they live next to the river.

Program B (3 hrs): Choose one of the E-STEM challenges below (Option 1 or Option 2) and one of the bulleted offerings from Program A (above) to create your own experience. VA Science SOL's: K.1, K.2, K.3, K.4, K.5, K.11, 1.1, 1.2, 1.3, 1.8

- *E-STEM Option 1 Storm Drain Litter Catcher Design Challenge* – Learn the top pollutants in the Rappahannock River while discovering the importance of our storm drain systems. How can humans use storm drains to keep our water clean?
- *E-STEM Option 2 Build A Barge* – The Rappahannock River is used for travel, commerce, and recreation. Students experiment with the properties that cause items to sink and float then design and build their own barges. Which team's barge will float the most weight!?!?
- *After you have chosen E-STEM Option 1 or 2*, pick a bullet from Program A to design the unique field trip for your students.



## Second and Third Grade

Program A (3.5 hrs): VA Science SOLs: 2.1, 2.3, 2.4, 2.5, 2.7, 2.8, 3.1, 3.5, 3.6, 3.7

- *Wetlands: Snowden and Beyond* – Hike to a wetland ecosystem, learning about plants and animals along the way. Deduce how wetlands help wildlife and the river.
- *Just Around the River Bend* – Explore the diversity of plant and animal life, their inter-dependency, and their relationship with the river.
- *Water Cycle Game or Food Web Game (choose 1)* – Both of these activities cover important topical vocabulary disguised as a fun game!

Program B (3.5 hrs.): VA Science SOLs: 2.1, 2.3, 2.5, 2.7, 2.8, 3.1, 3.4, 3.7, 3.8; History and Social Science SOLs: 2.2, 2.6

- *Signs of Seasonal Change* – Why do the leaves change colors and drop from some trees? How do animals survive during winter? Collect and analyze evidence of seasonal change to answer these and other questions.
- *Rappahannock Connections* – Discover how the Rappahannocks, an American Indian Tribe of the Eastern Woodlands, used their natural resources to meet life needs. Investigate their respect for nature through pottery, artifacts, and oral tradition.

Program C (3.5 hrs.): Choose one of the E-STEM challenges below (Option 1 or Option 2) and one of the bulleted offerings from Programs A or B (above) to create your own experience. VA Science SOLs: 2.1, 2.2, 3.1, 3.2, 3.7, 3.8

- *E-STEM Option 1 Paddleboat Design Challenge* – Students learn about renewable natural energy while designing paddleboats that use stored chemical energy (batteries) or solar energy (with sun cooperation). Students will learn about basic electrical concepts as they design boats that will be tested on the river!
- *E-STEM Option 2 Windmill Design Challenge* – Students discuss how humans use renewable natural energy in wind to generate energy that will perform work. Students discover how windmills convert moving air into usable mechanical energy.
- *After you have chosen E-STEM Option 1 or 2, pick a bullet from Program A or B to design the unique field trip for your students.*

### Contact:

Education Coordinator  
540-373-3448  
fieldtrips@riverfriends.org  
<https://riverfriends.org/>

### Prices:

Program Fees: \$10 per child/student (snorkeling and boating prices vary, call for details). \$80 registration fee (applied to the total program fee). Minimum group visit is \$100 (10 students).

## Fourth and Fifth Grade

Program A (3.5 hrs): VA Science SOLs: 4.1, 4.3, 4.8, 5.1, 5.8

- *We All Live Downstream* – Deduce the benefits of riparian buffer zones along our river, discuss erosion and pollution's impact, and propose solutions.
- *What Is A Watershed?* – Where does the water go? Manipulate a model of a watershed to better understand human impacts on ecosystems.
- *Commit to Conserve* – Find out how you can protect our waterways and commit to an action that will help.

Program B (3.5 hrs): History and Social Science SOLs: VS.1, VS.2, VS.3, VS.4; USI.1, USI.2, USI.3, USI.5; VA Science SOLs: 4.3, 4.8, 5.9

- *Survivor: John Smith* – Visit the northwest extent of John Smith's exploration of the Rappahannock, comparing Virginia resources now and then. Through tasks and role playing, simulate the Jamestown settlers' effort to survive and fulfill responsibilities to the Virginia Company and the King.
- *Rappahannock Connections* – Discover how the Rappahannocks, an American Indian Tribe of the Eastern Woodlands, adapted to their environment and used their natural resources. Investigate their respect for nature through pottery, artifacts, and oral tradition.

Program C (3.5 hrs): Choose one of the E-STEM challenges below (Option 1 or Option 2) and one of the bulleted offerings from Programs A or B (above) to create your own experience. VA Science SOLs: 4.1, 4.3, 4.8, 5.1, 5.2, 5.9, 6.1, 6.4, 6.6, 6.8, 6.9

- *E-STEM Option 1 Stormwater Sediment Filter Design Challenge* – Learn the top pollutants in the Rappahannock River while discovering the importance of our stormdrain systems. Students learn while they engineer stormwater filters for the top pollutant.
- *E-STEM Option 2 Hydro Power Design Challenge* – Students will discover how humans harness and use the renewable natural resource of water as they design and test their own prototypes.
- *After you have chosen E-STEM Option 1 or 2, pick a bullet from Program A or B to design the unique field trip for your students.*



# Shannon Air Museum

The Shannon Air Museum is unique in that its rare, vintage aircraft and artifacts are focused on a very specific theme: the history and development of commercial aviation and air commerce. The museum also reveals the important role of aviation pioneers from the Fredericksburg region in the history and growth of aviation during the years between World War I (WWI) and World War II (WWII), often referred to as "The Golden Age of Aviation." The Shannon Air Museum is a time capsule of our community's role in commercial aviation.

The museum tour begins with examples of WWI surplus aircraft used by former military pilots to give airplane rides and conduct acrobatic airshows. Students are introduced to the term "barnstorming" and discuss how the social impact of aviation emerges from barnstorming shows throughout the small towns and communities of rural America.

The early airmail aircraft in the museum introduce the growth of technology and economics. The economics are apparent in the Postal Service subsidies for airmail service, but students also hear of the compelling interests of banks and large businesses regarding moving financial documents long distances more quickly.

Aircraft on display also illustrate steady advances in technology. One of the first aircraft designed for transcontinental and intercontinental passenger service is on display. The final aircraft of the collection is a Douglas DC-3, the first aircraft with the passenger capacity to make passenger service profitable. The DC-3 became the principal aircraft used by passenger airlines throughout the world for decades.

Static displays highlight important historical events and aviation pioneers. Charles and Ann Morrow Lindberg, the Tuskegee Airmen, Amelia Earhart, and Eleanor Roosevelt are featured.

Museum tours and classroom activities are led by a docent team with experience as pilots, as well as in aeronautical engineering, history and education.

Grades 3 and below will learn basic fundamentals of flight and be able to identify the different parts of an aircraft and learn how those pieces contribute to flight. Educational benefits of museum tours are greatest for students grade 4 and up, and may include the following SOL learning objectives: History & Social Science- K.1, K.2, K.3, K.4, K.8, K.9, 1.1, 1.2, 1.7, 1.8, 1.9, 2.1, 2.2, 3.1, 3.10, 3.13, VS.1 a, b, d, e, f, g, h, i, j; VS.8 b, c; VS.9 a, b, c; VS.10 b, c; USII.1 a, b, d, e, f, g, h, i, j; USII.2 b, c; USII.4 b, c, d; USII.5 c; USII.6 a, b, c, d; USII.7 a, b, c; USII.8 c, d; USII.9 b; CE.1 d, e, f, g, h, i; CE.3 c, d, e; CE.5 c, d; CE.10 a, b, c; CE.11 a, b; CE.12 a, b, c, d, f; CE.13 a, b, c, e, f; CE.14 a, b, c, d; WHII.10 a, b, e; WHII.11 a, b, c; VUS.8 b, e

## Contact:

Kristen Curtas-Barnum  
Assistant Director  
540-642-4387  
kcurtas@shannonairmuseum.com



## Prices:

\$15 - Ages 4-17  
\$18 - Ages 18 & Up  
20% discount to all organized school groups

<https://shannonairmuseum.com/>



# Fredericksburg Civil Rights Trail

The City of Fredericksburg's Civil Rights Trail "Freedom, a Work in Progress", now a part of the U.S. Civil Rights Trail, is a new trail that will take visitors on a path to understand what happened in Fredericksburg, Virginia from a Civil Rights perspective starting in 1865 to present day.

In this new, digital field trip, learn about the 13 Freedom Riders who's first stop was in Fredericksburg. Hear about the role of Shiloh Baptist Church (Old Site) and Shiloh Baptist Church (New Site) in the Civil Rights Movement. Hear stories from Fredericksburg's community about desegregating local schools, the University of Mary Washington and the Sit-In movement. Learn about John Washington who escaped to freedom across the Rappahannock River to the Union Army. Visit Dr. James Farmer's memorial at the University of Mary Washington, one of the big six in the Civil Rights Movement.

Hear the story of the Walker-Grant High School graduating Class of 1950 and why they protested the City of Fredericksburg. Learn about Urbane Bass and his heroic efforts in World War I. Additional in-person programming is in development; stay tuned for additional options.

## Contact:

Victoria Matthews, Tourism Sales Manager  
540-372-1216 x 7206  
vamattews@fredericksburgva.gov



*Limited in-person tours currently available. Call for additional information.*



# Patawomeck Museum and Cultural Center

Bring your students to the Patawomeck Museum for a fun learning experience! Visitors will walk the land of our ancestors and be immersed in an authentic Patawomeck Village. Experience our culture and discover how to start fire with a bow drill, grind corn, prepare and cook food. Explore and discover the rich history and culture of Stafford's FIRST people. The Museum has thousands of artifacts that help to tell the complex history of the Patawomeck Tribe. The artifacts include war clubs, gardening implements, pottery and ancient weaponry. The collection represents 10,000 years of history. Be sure not to miss the replica of the cape believed to have been worn by Powhatan.



The Patawomeck Indian Tribe of Virginia, Inc. is a registered 501(c) 3 not-for-profit corporation operated by the Officers and Directors of the organization, known as the Elected Tribal Council.

The history of the Tribe pre-dates the 1300's in Stafford County. Our Tribe was instrumental in the sustaining of the Jamestown Colony and continues to positively impact Stafford County today.

## Contact:

Field Trip Coordinator  
540-225-3900  
PatawomeckTribalCenter@gmail.com  
Submit a field trip inquiry form here:  
<https://tribalstore.square.site/group-form>



## Prices:

Vary - please contact the office today for a quote.

# Spotsylvania County Museum

The Spotsylvania County Museum provides a comprehensive history of Spotsylvania County from American Indian heritage, to establishment of the county in 1721, through the Civil War up to the 21st century, including notable figures from Spotsylvania. The Museum features artifacts, photographs, documents and textiles from as early as the 1600s. The Spotsylvania County Museum sits on the First Day of Chancellorsville Battlefield which provides scenic walking trails and wayside exhibits that enhance any museum experience.

The Spotsylvania County Museum welcomes youth tours which include guided tours through the museum building led by trained museum staff (split into groups of 20), the popular Seek 'N Find scavenger hunt game, behind the scenes tours of the collections/artifacts building and specialty topics and activities upon request. The Spotsylvania County Museum is happy to work with group leaders to create a custom experience that fits their needs. Students can take advantage of the Museum Gift Shop where they can find affordable and fun gifts and souvenirs including books, coloring books, jewelry and old-fashioned children's toys.

SOLS covered depend on specific programming chosen but can include:

*Kindergarten: K.1; K.2a,b; K.3; K.6; K.7; K.8; K.9a; K10d,e,g;  
1st Grade: 1.1; 1.2a; 1.3a; 1.5a,b; 1.6b; 1.10b;  
2nd Grade: 2.1a,b,c,d,e,f,g,i; 2.3a; 2.4c; 2.7a; 2.11a,f; 2.12a;  
3.1a,d,f,g,i;  
3rd Grade: 3.5; 3.6d; 3.8; 3.9; 3.11a,f; 3.12b,c;  
4th and 5th Grades: VS.1; VS.2c,d,e,f; VS.4b,e; VS.7b; VS.10c;  
5th and 6th Grades: USI.1a,b,c,d,e,f,g; USI.2b,c,d; USI.3b,c;  
USI.4b; USI.5b; USI9d,e,f  
6th Grade: USII.1a,b,c,d,e,f,g,h; USII.3c*

## **Contact:**

Angel Rose  
Tourism Manager  
540-507-7755  
museum@spotsylvania.va.us

Prices: FREE (3 weeks notice requested)  
<https://www.spotsylvania.va.us/898/Museum>



SPOTSYLVANIA  
COUNTY  
MUSEUM

# John J. Wright Educational and Cultural Museum

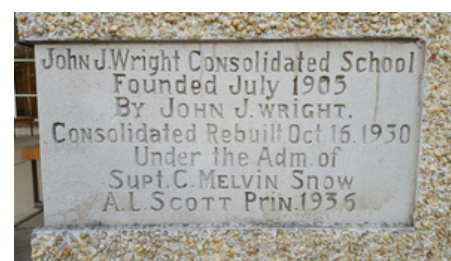
In the early 20th-century, Mr. John J Wright championed for the education of African American students in Spotsylvania County. One hundred years later, the museum that bears his name and stands on the site of the first high school for African American students in the county, endeavors to continue his legacy. Journey through the social context of African American education in Spotsylvania County, it's transformation through successful integration, and the closure of the historic John J. Wright Middle School. The museum is located inside the original school's library. The key topics addressed at the museum include segregation, African American culture, local history and integration.

## **Contact:**

7565 Courthouse Rd. Spotsylvania, VA 22551  
540-582-7583, ext. 5545  
museumadmin@jjwmuseum.org

## **Prices:**

Admission is Free;  
Group Reservations available by appointment  
<https://www.spotsylvania.k12.va.us/o/wright>



# Planning & Scheduling Tours

Assistance in planning School Tours is provided by the Fredericksburg Department of Economic Development and Tourism. The following information is very helpful in planning a school tour:

Point of Contact:

School Name:

School Address:

Point of Contact Phone Number:

E-mail Address:

Day of tour contact and phone number if different than above:

Date(s) Desired :                      2nd choice:                      3rd choice:

Arrival time in Fredericksburg:

Departure time from Fredericksburg:

Number of Students:

Grade level (numbers in grade if multiple grades are planned):

Number of Teachers:

Number of Chaperones:

Sites to visit:

Note if you need assistance in making lunch plans. YES/NO



Submit the above information to Haley Backlund at [hbacklund@fredericksburgva.gov](mailto:hbacklund@fredericksburgva.gov) if assistance is desired in booking school tours.

City of Fredericksburg

Department of Economic Development and  
Tourism

601 Caroline Street, Suite 303, Fredericksburg, VA 22401

540-372-1216

<https://fxbg.com/>



*Note: Prices listed herein are for the 2024-2025 school year and may change without notice.*

