

Academic Year 2026–2027

Field Trips & Youth Programs

Fredericksburg, VA



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 Melchers Home and Studio at Belmont
- FXBG Parks
- Riverside Center for the Performing Arts
- Shannon Air Museum
- Fredericksburg Civil Rights Trail
- Patawomeck Museum and Cultural Center
- Spotsylvania County Museum
- John J. Wright Educational & Cultural Center Museum

Note: Prices listed herein are for the 2026-2027 school year and may change without notice.

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' 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:

Field Trip Coordinator
540-370-0732
learn@gwffoundation.org
<https://kenmore.org/education>



Prices:

Students: \$6
Chaperones: \$4
Teachers & School Staff: FREE
(Processing fees not included)
15 students minimum
2 chaperones per class maximum, including teachers



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 monument to Thomas Jefferson, who in 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

What can we learn about the American Revolution and early American life by walking in the footsteps of George Washington's mother, Mary? A tour of the Mary Washington House invites participants to explore a variety of sources including historical artifacts, primary and secondary sources, and maps. Students will understand life in colonial Virginia and make connections with their own modern-day experiences as they practice skills to decode the world around them. Through inquiry-based experiences, students will develop critical thinking, analyze cause-and-effect relationships, compare key ideas, and organize information with clarity. Notions of economic decision-making and responsible citizenship are discussed in a guided tour, empowering every participant to learn history and social-science concepts through content, vocabulary, and collaborative learning.

SOLs: VS. 1b, VS. 4a, b and f VS. 5b, VS. 6, US1.1, US1.4 c and d, US1.5 b and c, US1.6. **Science SOLs:** K.9b, 2.4b, 2.7a, 4.8a and b



Hugh Mercer Apothecary Shop

How did 18th-century medicine shape the lives of early Americans, and what can we learn from the practices of a Revolutionary War doctor? On this exciting tour, students will step back in time and uncover the secrets of colonial healthcare. They'll dive into the life of Dr. Hugh Mercer—a Revolutionary War hero and skilled doctor—and see strange and surprising remedies used to treat patients in early America. From rare herbs to leeches and curious tools, this guided tour brings history and science together in a way that sparks imagination and curiosity. Students will experience dramatic demonstrations, hear captivating stories, and investigate how medicine has changed over time. It's a one-of-a-kind experience that blends learning and fun. **SOLs:** VS.4b, e, f, VS. 5b, US1.1, US1.5, US1.6.

Science SOLs: 4.8a and b

Rising Sun Tavern

What stories can an early American tavern tell us about politics, travel, and daily life in a new nation? Originally built by George Washington's youngest brother, Charles, this museum of tavern life now offers students a glimpse into a new nation through the eyes of travelers, townspeople, and tavernkeepers. Young visitors will journey through time as they hear fascinating tales of daily life and explore how taverns served as the social hotspots of their time. Along the way, they'll uncover the roles taverns played in news-sharing, community building, and the spirit following the Revolutionary War, all while practicing observation, critical thinking, and respectful citizenship. **SOLs:** VS. 1c, VS.2, VS.4a and f, VS.5b, VS.6, US1.1, US1.5c, US1.6



Contact:

Stephanie Aldrich, Membership & Office Manager
540-373-5630

office@washingtongheritagemuseums.org

Prices:

Students: \$4 per site.

Teachers: Free (limit 2 per class)

Chaperones: \$6 per site

<https://www.washingtonheritagemuseums.org/>



Fredericksburg and Spotsylvania National Military Park

Fredericksburg and Spotsylvania National Military Park is excited to work with students and teachers to coordinate field trips and facilitate learning about the park and the history that the park protects. Education programs at the park cover topics related to the causes and consequences of the American Civil War, the context of the battles, and the social and political histories that shaped the course of events from before the Civil War until today.

All field trips to the park are free, and may be customized to meet the needs of each group. Classes typically spend 90 minutes 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

This stately house was built in 1771 as part of a large plantation that subsisted on enslaved labor. Students will tour the grounds and 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.

Contact:

Peter Maugle, Education Coordinator
Fredericksburg and Spotsylvania National Military Park
540-693-3200
Peter_Maugle@nps.gov



Prices:

There is no cost for student 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) is proud to be a local partner in education supporting the development of confident, life-long learners. Our inquiry-based museum field trips and classroom visits connect local history to the Virginia state curriculum.

Led by trained museum educators, students will investigate the history of the Fredericksburg area through analyzing primary sources and historical reproductions, interacting with maps, engaging in discussions, and participating in hands-on activities. Our programs are designed to foster critical thinking and curiosity by encouraging students to explore history actively.

Whether visiting the museum or welcoming educators into the classroom, we tailor experiences to complement classroom lessons and connect students with history in a meaningful way. All programs can be a FAM field trip or classroom visit.

Booking a Program

Contact:

info@famva.org
540-371-3037



Prices:

FAM Field Trip: \$4 per student, Teachers are free

Classroom Visits: \$6 per student within 25-mile radius
\$9 per student for schools exceeding 25-mile radius
Teachers are free.

FREE for all Fredericksburg City Schools

<https://famva.org>



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.

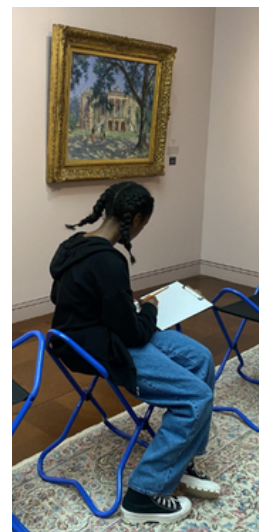
Amenities include: outdoor picnic tables, ample restrooms, water station, walking trails, and a large parking lot.

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



James Monroe Museum

Field Trips at the James Monroe Museum

The James Monroe Museum offers a unique look at the life and legacy of our fifth president and former Fredericksburg resident through an unparalleled collection of artifacts that belonged to and were used by Monroe and his family. We offer a variety of field trip experiences tailored to different age groups and learning needs. We're happy to work with you to create a customized program that fits your students' interests and curriculum goals.

Please note that we can accommodate a maximum of 20 students per session. If your group is larger, we're glad to break the visit into multiple sessions or partner with another local museum to ensure everyone has a great experience.



Petite Patriots (Grades 3 and under)

Step back in time with your young explorers! Bring your Pre-K through 2nd grade students on a fun and interactive field trip that brings history to life! Each seasonal visit includes a lively read-aloud story, a themed take-home craft, and a short, age-appropriate history chat designed to spark curiosity and imagination. It's the perfect way to introduce little learners to big ideas from the past.

Exploring Eagles (Grades 4-8)

This interactive field trip is ideal for students in grades 4-8 and explores key topics, including the American Revolution, Westward Expansion, the Monroe Doctrine, the Louisiana Purchase, the Early American Republic, the White House, and more. Students will participate in a hands-on activity and take home a themed keepsake to extend the learning experience beyond the visit. It's a fun and engaging way to connect with the past!

Future Framers (Grades 9-12)

This field trip offers a formal tour exploring key events in early American history, including the American Revolution, Westward Expansion, the Monroe Doctrine, the Louisiana Purchase, the Early American Republic, the White House, and more. This program is perfect for sparking discussion and deeper understanding in U.S. History and Government classes.



THE JAMES MONROE MUSEUM

Contact:

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

Prices:

Students: \$5
Chaperones: \$7
(One adult free per every 10 students)

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



FXBG Parks Field Trips

Each environmental education topic can be used as field trips and/or classroom visits (unless otherwise noted) and can be adapted to meet the SOL standards listed.

Field Trips

Field trips typically include a rotation of two naturalist-led sessions, lunch, and a teacher-led hike. These trips can take place at Motts Run Reservoir or Alum Spring Park (topic will be noted with applicable park). Limit four classes per day.

Classroom Visits

A naturalist will bring the activity to your classroom—no buses necessary! All topics are available as classroom visits except for Dip-Netting. Limit four classes per day.

Topics:

Seedsploration

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

Science SOLs: K.1,4,6-7&9, 1.1,4&7, 2.1,4-5&7-8, 3.1&6-8, 4.1,4-5&9, 5.1, 6.1, LS.1,4-6&10, BIO.1&6

Alum Spring Field Trips & Classroom Visits

For Goodness Snakes

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

Science SOLs: K.1&7, 1.1&5, 2.1&4-5, 3.1&4, 4.1-3, 5.1, 6.1, LS.1&7, BIO.1&6

Motts Run Field Trips & Classroom Visits

Be a Beaver Believer

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

Science SOLs: K.1&7, 1.1&5, 2.1&4-5, 3.1&4, 4.1-3, 5.1, 6.1, LS.1&7-9, BIO.1&6

Motts Run Field Trips & Classroom Visits



All About Owls

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

Science SOLs: K.1&7, 1.1&5, 2.1&4-5, 3.1&4, 4.1-3, 5.1, 6.1, LS.1&7, BIO.1&6

Classroom Visits Only

Dip-Netting

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

Science SOLs: K.1,4&6-7, 1.1&4-5, 2.1&4-5, 3.1,4-5&8, 4.1-3&8, 5.1&9, 6.1&8-9, LS.1,4-6,8-9&11, BIO.1,6&8

Motts Run Field Trips Only

The Incredible Journey

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

Science SOLs: K.1, 5&9-10, 1.1&6-8, 2.1,3&6-7, 3.1&8-9, 4.1,6&9, 5.1&7, 6.1,3&5, LS.1&6, ES.6&12

Alum Spring Field Trips & Classroom Visits



Contact:

Mackenzie Guenther, Superintendent of Recreation
Fredericksburg Parks, Recreation & Events
540-372-1086 x 218

mguenther@fredericksburgva.gov

www.FXBGparks.com

Prices:

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

Classroom Visits: \$60/class (City)
\$75/class (non-City)



Friends of the Rappahannock

Friends of the Rappahannock Environmental Education Programs

At the River's Edge Field Trip Program provides students with an interactive, outdoor science and history education. 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

Approx. Time: 3 hrs

VA Science SOLs: 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.

Optional E-Stem Add-On: 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!?



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.

Optional E-Stem Add-On: 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.

Contact:

Jennifer Gron
540-373-3448 x113
fieldtrips@riverfriends.org
<https://riverfriends.org/>

Prices:

Program Fees: \$10 per attendee, excluding teachers and school staff. Minimum program fee is \$175.



Fourth and Fifth Grade

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

- *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; Health SOLs: 4.1*

- *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.

Optional E-Stem Add-On: 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 storm drain 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.

Contact Us for more information on the Meaningful Watershed Program (MWEEs) for Grades 4, 6, and 9



Shannon Air Museum

Step into aviation history at the Shannon Air Museum, where you'll discover rare, vintage aircraft and fascinating stories from the early days of flight. Our collection focuses on the "Golden Age of Aviation," the exciting time between World Wars I and II when aviation took off and transformed the world.

Explore how aviation pioneers from the Fredericksburg area and beyond helped shape the future of flight. Learn how planes were used after WWI for airshows and adventure rides, and how aviation began to connect small towns across the country.

Museum tours start with aircraft dating back as early as 1917 and move through history to the 1939 Douglas DC-3, the first passenger plane to make air travel affordable for everyday people.

You'll also learn about people who made aviation history, like Tuskegee Airmen, Charles and Ann Lindbergh, Dick Merrill, and many others.

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; 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



Coming Soon

Experience the new, Genesis of Flight Experience, opening in 2027. Home to one of the largest collections of Wright aircraft and Wright Brothers exhibits in the world, the Genesis of Flight Experience, brings their remarkable story to life in a way that cannot be experienced anywhere else. Visitors will encounter exceptionally rare aircraft, artifacts, and environments that tell the story of Wilbur and Orville Wright with a depth found in very few places in the world.

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

Please note that pricing is subject to change upon the opening of the Genesis of Flight exhibit.

<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 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 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
vamattthews@fredericksburgva.gov
<https://fxbg.com/civil-rights-trail/>



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



SCAN HERE



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, its 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:

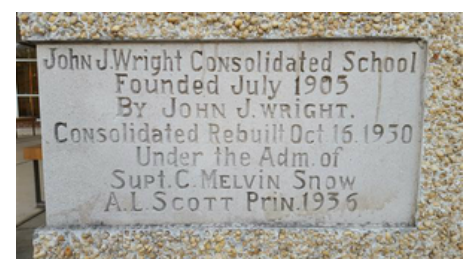
7565 Courthouse Rd. Spotsylvania, VA 22551
540-582-7583
jwmuseum2022@gmail.com

Prices:

Admission is Free;

Group Reservations available by appointment

<https://www.spotsylvania.k12.va.us/o/wright>





Riverside Center for the Performing Arts

Discover the magic of live theatre at Riverside Center, where creativity shines. Opportunities are available for students to not just experience a live stage performance, but also engage with theatrical arts.

Children's Theatre

Children's Theatre programming is great entertainment for younger grade levels, Pre-K - 5, with select shows that are great for audiences of all ages, especially if combined with an Actor Talkback or Behind-the-Scenes Tour.

Children's Theatre productions for schools are generally held on Tuesdays and Thursdays with a 10:15 am arrival, and performance from 10:45 am- 12:45 pm. Packed lunches may be eaten during intermission. Theatre capacity is 400.

Upcoming Children's Theatre Performances:

Shrek: The Musical - September 29- October 24, 2026

Spring Show - TBD - April 9 - 26, 2027 (*Spring Show details will be available soon so check riversidedt.com for updates.*)

Student Matinees

Student Matinees are performances of our mainstage productions designated for student audiences with a lower ticket rate and bring your own lunch to eat at intermission. These showings are perfect for middle and high school field trips.

Upcoming Student Matinees

A Christmas Carol - Thursday, December 3, 2026 with an ActorTalk back just after the show to allow students to ask the cast questions about their craft.

A Few Good Men - Friday, April 23, 2027



Behind-the-Scenes Tours

These tours are an excellent addition to your smaller group reservation and include a look into the scene shop, costume shop, and a peek backstage.

Student groups who wish to enjoy the full dinner and performance experience may attend any of our regular performances at a special student rate.



Contact:

Alyssa Fleming
Riverside Center Group Sales
540-681-1223
groupsales@riversidedt.com

RIVERSIDE CENTER
FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS

Prices:

Children's Theatre - \$25/person, every 25th ticket is complimentary

Student Matinee 2026 - \$40/person, every 25th ticket is complimentary

<https://riversidedt.com/>



FXBG FIELD TRIP PLANNING SUPPORT

Field Trip Planning Support Services

FXBG.com

X Itinerary Planning

Planning a field trip to Fredericksburg? Our team can help you build a custom itinerary that fits your group's interests, educational goals, and schedule. We can assist with coordinating timing, group flow, and visits to multiple nearby attractions to create a seamless and engaging experience for students and teachers.

X Bus Parking

We assist with coordinating bus parking for school groups visiting downtown Fredericksburg to ensure smooth arrivals and departures. Parking requests must be submitted to our office at least **four business days** in advance to allow time for proper arrangements.

X Lunch Planning Assistance

Planning a picnic lunch during your field trip? Our team can help your group reserve a picnic shelter at Old Mill Park, subject to availability. Reservation requests should be submitted through our office at least **two weeks in advance**.

X Digital Program Promotion

Visit [FXBG.com](https://fxbg.com) to explore educational programs and field trip opportunities available throughout Fredericksburg. We also share local field trip experiences through targeted email campaigns to teachers and school contacts, helping you discover new programs and ideas for your next educational outing.

X Field Trips & Youth Programs Guide

Our annual Field Trips & Youth Programs Guide makes it easy to discover educational experiences and field trip opportunities in Fredericksburg. The guide features local museums, historic sites, cultural attractions, and youth programs to help teachers and group leaders plan engaging learning experiences outside the classroom.

About Us

The Fredericksburg Department of Economic Development and Tourism is here to help teachers, schools, and youth group leaders plan memorable and educational experiences in our city. From itinerary planning and bus parking coordination to discovering field trip programs and youth activities, our team offers free resources and assistance to help make your visit to Fredericksburg as smooth as possible.

Sample Field Trip Itinerary

100 Students + Adults | 4 Sites | 2 Lunch Shifts

This sample itinerary shows how larger groups can rotate through multiple Fredericksburg attractions while enjoying a variety of educational experiences.

GROUP A — FIRST LUNCH SHIFT

50 Students + Adults

GROUP 1 — 25 Students + Adults

9:30–10:15 a.m.

Rising Sun Tavern

10:15–10:30 a.m.

Transition to Hugh Mercer Apothecary Shop

10:30–11:15 a.m.

Hugh Mercer Apothecary Shop

11:15–12:00 p.m.

Lunch – Old Mill Park / Bus to Fredericksburg Battlefield

12:00–1:00 p.m.

Fredericksburg Battlefield Visitor Center

1:00–1:15 p.m.

Bus to Historic Kenmore

1:15–2:15 p.m.

Historic Kenmore

2:15 p.m.

Depart for school

GROUP 2 — 25 Students + Adults

9:30–10:15 a.m.

Hugh Mercer Apothecary Shop

10:15–10:30 a.m.

Transition to Rising Sun Tavern

10:30–11:15 a.m.

Rising Sun Tavern

11:15–12:00 p.m.

Lunch – Old Mill Park / Bus to Historic Kenmore

12:00–1:00 p.m.

Historic Kenmore

1:00–1:15 p.m.

Bus to Fredericksburg Battlefield Visitor Center

1:15–2:15 p.m.

Fredericksburg Battlefield Visitor Center

2:15 p.m.

Depart for school

GROUP B — SECOND LUNCH SHIFT

50 Students + Adults

GROUP 3 — 25 Students + Adults

9:30–10:30 a.m.

Historic Kenmore

10:30–10:45 a.m.

Bus to Fredericksburg Battlefield Visitor Center

10:45–11:45 a.m.

Fredericksburg Battlefield Visitor Center

11:45–12:30 p.m.

Lunch – Old Mill Park / Bus to Hugh Mercer Apothecary Shop

12:30–1:15 p.m.

Hugh Mercer Apothecary Shop

1:15–1:30 p.m.

Transition to Rising Sun Tavern

1:30–2:15 p.m.

Rising Sun Tavern

2:15 p.m.

Depart for school

GROUP 4 — 25 Students + Adults

9:30–10:30 a.m.

Fredericksburg Battlefield Visitor Center

10:30–10:45 a.m.

Bus to Historic Kenmore

10:45–11:45 a.m.

Historic Kenmore

11:45–12:30 p.m.

Lunch – Old Mill Park / Bus to Rising Sun Tavern

12:30–1:15 p.m.

Rising Sun Tavern

1:15–1:30 p.m.

Transition to Hugh Mercer Apothecary Shop

1:30–2:15 p.m.

Hugh Mercer Apothecary Shop

2:15 p.m.

Depart for school

Planning Note: This sample itinerary is designed to accommodate a larger group by dividing students into smaller groups and staggering lunch and site visits. Actual site capacity, availability, travel times, and program schedules may vary.

Plan Your Field Trip

A successful field trip starts with a little planning. Use these tips to help create an educational and enjoyable experience for your students.

Start Planning Early

Popular field trip dates can fill quickly, particularly during the spring and fall. Contact sites as early as possible and have a few potential dates in mind.

Consider Your Group Size

Many Fredericksburg-area historic sites are located in smaller historic buildings with limited capacity. Groups of 100 or more may need to be divided into smaller groups or scheduled across multiple dates.

Allow Time for Transitions

When building your itinerary, allow time for:

- Bus arrival and unloading
- Walking between locations
- Restroom breaks
- Lunch
- Moving between activities
- Loading students back onto the bus

Think About Transportation

If you are traveling by school bus, plan ahead for drop-off and pick-up locations. Bus parking arrangements may be required for groups visiting downtown Fredericksburg.



Plan for Lunch

Decide in advance whether your group will bring lunches and enjoy a picnic or return for lunch at school. If you need help making lunch plans or reserving a picnic space, our team can assist.

Prepare for the Weather

Even if your itinerary includes indoor attractions, you may spend time walking between sites or eating lunch outdoors. Encourage students to dress appropriately for the forecast and wear comfortable shoes.

Bring Enough Chaperones

Additional adults may be helpful when groups are divided between multiple attractions. Confirm with each site regarding adult minimums and maximums per group.

Confirm Before You Go

A few days before your trip, confirm your reservations and make sure you have the correct arrival time, meeting locations, parking information, and day-of-trip contact information.



Need Help Planning?

The Fredericksburg Department of Economic Development and Tourism can help you build an itinerary that works for your group, schedule, and educational goals.

540-372-1216 | hbacklund@fredericksburgva.gov



Field Trip Planning Worksheet

1. School & Group Information

School Name: _____
School Address: _____
Primary Point of Contact: _____
Phone Number: _____
Email Address: _____
Day-of-Trip Contact: _____
If different from primary point of contact _____
Day-of-Trip Phone Number: _____

2. Visit Details

Preferred Date: _____
Second Choice: _____
Third Choice: _____
Arrival Time in Fredericksburg: _____
Departure Time from Fredericksburg: _____
Number of Students: _____
Grade Level(s): _____
Please include the number of students in each grade if multiple grades are attending.
Number of Teachers: _____
Number of Chaperones: _____

3. Planning Your Itinerary

Sites or Attractions You Would Like to Visit: _____
Are you interested in assistance building your itinerary?
☐ Yes ☐ No
Would you like assistance coordinating visits to multiple sites?
☐ Yes ☐ No
Are there specific educational topics, curriculum connections, or learning goals you would like to incorporate into your visit? _____

4. Lunch & Transportation

Do you need assistance making lunch plans?
☐ Yes ☐ No

Will your group be arriving by school bus?
☐ Yes ☐ No
Do you need assistance with bus parking?
☐ Yes ☐ No
Accessibility Needs: _____

5. Additional Planning Notes

Is there anything else we should know to help make your field trip a success? _____

Planning Note: Many of Fredericksburg's historic sites and attractions are located in historic buildings with limited capacity. For groups of 100 or more, it may be necessary to divide your group into smaller groups and/or schedule your visit across multiple dates to ensure the best possible experience. Our team can assist with exploring itinerary options that accommodate larger groups.

Bring Your Classroom to Fredericksburg

Explore history. Discover new perspectives. Create lasting memories.



Plan Your Next Field Trip

Whether you're looking for hands-on history, museum experiences, cultural programs, or opportunities to connect classroom learning with the real world, Fredericksburg offers a variety of educational experiences for students of all ages.

We're here to help you plan your visit.

- Itinerary planning
- Connecting you with local attractions and educational programs
- Bus parking information
- Lunch planning assistance
- Group logistics



 601 Caroline Street,
Fredericksburg, VA 22401

 540-372-1216

 hpbacklund@fredericksburgva.gov