



Program Sites

Our most effective classrooms

Abbott's Mill Nature Center – Milford, DE

Abbott's Mill Nature Center is owned by Delaware's Division of Historical and Cultural Affairs in a unique partnership with the Delaware Nature Society. Located along scenic Abbott's Pond just southwest of Milford, the Nature Center manages the 313 acre Milford Millponds Preserve for DNREC. This diverse nature preserve supports a variety of forested, field, and wetland habitats along Johnson and Tantrough Branch. Hiking trails, boardwalks, and teaching stations provide unique education opportunities discovering the natural wonders of Southern Delaware. Trails are open to the public as well.

Ashland Nature Center – Hockessin, DE

Located near Hockessin, Delaware, Ashland Nature Center serves as the Delaware Nature Society headquarters and the hub for all activities of education and natural resource conservation. The facility is open to the public year round, features an overnight lodge for school and public groups, a seasonal butterfly house, picnic area and four self-guided trails through a variety of habitats. Programs are offered for all ages as well as courses for teachers. The property includes over 242 acres and is owned by the Red Clay Reservation, a private land trust.

Coverdale Farm – Greenville, DE

The Coverdale Farm complex at Burrows Run Preserve encompasses an 18th-century stone bank barn, pastures and fields, idyllic ponds and woodlands and panoramic views of rolling countryside. Students will help feed livestock, try their hand at harvesting and see hatching chicks. While observing demonstration plots, they will learn about organic gardening, the value of composting, and the sources of food and fiber needed by people and animals.

Cooch-Dayett Mills – Newark, DE

Located south of Newark, Delaware, Cooch-Dayett Mills was constructed in 1838 by William Cooch, Jr. as a grist mill to grind wheat and corn into flour. It was operated by waterpower, but in 1884 was remodeled and refitted to include engines for use when water supply was insufficient. The mill remained in operation until the 1980's and was sold to the State of Delaware under the control of the Division of Historical and Cultural Affairs. When the mill closed it was one of only two operating mills in Delaware.

Blair's Pond – Milford, DE

Blair's Pond is one of several mill ponds in the Milford area. The site also includes 64 acres of woods adjoining the pond and the Tantrough Stream, and a loop trail system.



Bucktoe Creek Preserve – New Garden, PA

The Bucktoe Creek Preserve is approximately 285 acres of forest, meadows and marsh in New Garden Township, Pennsylvania.

Burrows Run Preserve – Centreville, DE

The 352-acre Burrows Run Preserve features one of the finest quality streams in northern Delaware and sweeping meadows teeming with bluebirds, wildflowers, and butterflies.

Flint Woods Preserve – Centreville, DE

The Flint Woods Preserve is designated as one of Delaware's premiere Natural Areas and features the largest remaining old growth hardwood forest in Delaware.

Isaacs Preserve – Milford, DE

This 21-acre tract has a boardwalk and earthen trail through large old white cedars and abundant wetlands.

Lindale Tract Preserve – Milford, DE

The 27-acre Lindale Tract Preserve features agricultural land as well as a wooded area, adjacent to Abbott's Pond.

Marvel Saltmarsh Preserve & Slaughter Beach – Slaughter Beach, DE

A 110-acre preserve, the Marvel Saltmarsh is adjacent to Slaughter Beach and the sites together are home to horseshoe crabs, fiddler crabs, diamondback terrapins, and shorebirds.

Pope Property Trail – Milford, DE

This 42-acre property has a wooded trail that winds its way to the Tantrough Branch and Blair's Pond headwaters and is part of the millponds loop trail system.