

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Looking for a way to give your free time to a good cause? Volunteer with us! The Sandia Mountain Natural History Center offers many opportunities in teaching, building and maintaining trails, and designing new teaching spaces. For more information on volunteering with us, contact Paul Mauermann, below.



SMNHC Volunteers constructing a new trail.

CONTACT INFORMATION

Paul Mauermann, SMNHC Manager

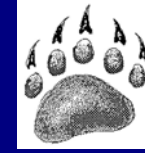
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*Sandia Mountain
Natural History
Center*

The Sandia Mountain Natural History Center is an environmental education center located in the Sandia Mountains just east of Albuquerque, NM. This beautiful 128-acre piece of piñon-juniper forest is owned by the Albuquerque Public School System and operated by the New Mexico Museum of Natural History and Science. Since 1967 the center has been teaching the school children of New Mexico about the environment and how to preserve it. The Center serves approximately 13,000 people a year in a variety of different programs for both the general public and school groups. SMNHC offers exciting experiences for people of all ages.



Visit us at:
www.nmnaturalhistory.org/smnhc

We provide various programs and resources for all age groups...

SCHOOL PROGRAMS

The Ecology Field Program – The Ecology Field Program is the main focus at the SMNHC and serves all APS fifth-grade students as well as students from school districts within an hour or two driving distance. This *free* program is tied to the New Mexico State Standards and Benchmarks. It introduces students to ecosystems and human connections to ecosystems through a day of field explorations, discovery, and hands-on learning in the outdoors.

OUTREACH PROGRAM

Traveling Ecology Field Program and Ecology Road Show – Faculty present standards-based local wilderness or school-site-based ecology programs to fifth-grade students at schools across the state.

TEACHER RESOURCES

Ecosystem Explorations Curriculum – This comprehensive, standards-based curriculum is a popular choice for integrating the Ecology Field Program into the fifth-grade classroom. The curriculum contains eleven original bilingual lessons teachers can implement into

their classroom in combination with a trip to the SMNHC, another outdoor field location, or a site visit from SMNHC faculty. This curriculum is also available through APS in the Ecosystems Science Kit. Resources are available on the web at www.nmnaturalhistory.org/smnhc

Sandia Mini-Curriculum – This concise curriculum is standards and place-based. Based on local New Mexico ecosystems, it is an effective way to prepare a class for their field trip to the SMNHC in a short amount of time. This curriculum focuses on teaching basic ecology vocabulary and a few key concepts. It requires very little prep time. While not as thorough as the Ecosystems Explorations Curriculum, it is a great choice for



an abbreviated introduction to ecosystems or as a supplement to the Ecosystems Explorations Curriculum. Available on the web at www.nmnaturalhistory.org/smnhc

Ecosystem Explorations Kit – Eleven Ecosystems Explorations Kits are available to APS fifth grade teachers through the APS Unified Resources Library. The kits contain specimens of rock, fur, plants, and materials for implementing the Ecosystem Explorations curriculum lessons, as well as microscopes and other equipment for focused schoolyard ecosystem investigations. Non-APS teachers can contact the Center to borrow a kit.

Natural History of the Sandia Mountains Workshops – The SMNHC staff conduct natural history workshops and events for teachers, museum members, and the local community.

Sandia Mountain Natural History Center Library – SMNHC offers books and other resource guides on various topics and subject interests. Books and materials are available for loan to APS teachers. Contact SMNHC for more information.

PUBLIC PROGRAMS

The Sandia Mountain Natural History Center is opening its doors to the public the first Saturday of every month from **9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.** from March through September. Each Saturday program will include a self-guided hike, two hands-on exhibit rooms, a bird viewing deck, as well as an education session. Education sessions will begin at **10:00 a.m.** These programs offer an inexpensive way to experience the Sandia Mountains that is fun for the whole family. Visit us at www.nmnaturalhistory.org/smnhc for current listings.



This group enjoys bird watching on one of our trails, during one of our public program days.