



# EDUCATION PROGRAMS

FOR SCHOOL AND YOUTH GROUPS



*This Classroom is larger and wilder than most...*

# THE FRIENDS OF ALGONQUIN PARK



The Friends of Algonquin Park, a not-for-profit, charitable organization, is dedicated to enhancing Algonquin's educational and interpretive programs. Thus, we are pleased to offer school and youth groups a wide variety of educational programs delivered by Park Naturalists that focus on themes of Algonquin Park's natural and cultural history.

The programs listed are for school and youth groups. Programs for adult groups are listed in a separate brochure. The programs have been organized into categories based upon their duration (e.g. half-day, full-day, sleepover). All programs are tailored to the specific needs and educational goals of participants.

If you have special program interests, please contact us and we will do our best to accommodate your needs.

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

### PROGRAM OFFERINGS

■ Half-Day Outdoor Programs	3
Sample Itinerary	6
■ Half-Day Indoor Programs	7
■ Full-Day Programs	10
■ Sleepover Programs	11
Sample Itinerary	12

### TRIP PLANNING INFORMATION

■ How Do I Get to Algonquin Park?	13
■ Transportation	13
■ Group Size	13
■ Safety and Supervision	13
■ Emergency Information	13
■ When to Visit Algonquin Park?	14
■ Weather and Clothing	14
■ Highway 60 Corridor and Map	15
■ Algonquin Visitor Centre	15
■ Algonquin Logging Museum	15
■ Walking Trails	15
■ East Beach Picnic Pavilion	15
■ Picnic Areas	15
■ Bathroom Locations	15

### RATES & BOOKING PROCEDURES

■ Rates	16
■ Booking Procedures	16
■ Booking Fees and Cancellations	16
■ Trip Planning Sequence	16

*Explore*

For more detailed information throughout this brochure, look for the website icon that will direct you to our website.



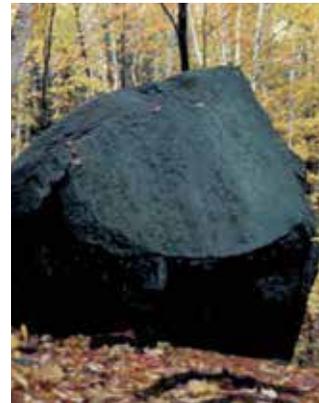
**ALGONQUINPARK.ON.CA**

# HALF-DAY OUTDOOR PROGRAMS

The half-day outdoor programs consist of Naturalist guided, outdoor walks that last approximately 1.5 to 2 hours.



**ALGONQUIN LOGGING MUSEUM TOUR**  
Take a step back in time by visiting the Algonquin Logging Museum to discover how the early loggers lived and worked. Curl up in the bunk of a reconstructed logging camp or examine logging tools and equipment, all while guided by a Park Naturalist dressed as an 1830s White Pine logger.



**ALGONQUIN ROCKS!**  
Geology is the foundation for life in Algonquin Park. Learn about the rocks and minerals found in the Park, how they got here and how these influence the growth and survival of living creatures.



**ALGONQUIN'S GIANTS**  
Trees are one of the most predominant features of the Algonquin landscape and yet their importance is often overlooked. Learn how trees are important to the lives of just about every other living thing and the challenges trees face to survive in the Park.



**BEAVERS**  
Discover how *Castor canadensis* change the Algonquin environment to suit their own needs through the construction of structures that you will see first-hand. Learn how important these impacts are to the survival of other creatures that reside in the Park.



For a longer visit to Algonquin Park combine programs (e.g. add more half-day, full-day or sleepover programs). Programs are conducted rain or shine. Seasonal recommendations for each program are also listed.



# HALF-DAY OUTDOOR PROGRAMS



## BIRD ADAPTATIONS

Study the great diversity of Algonquin's birds and learn how their adaptations allow them to feed, fly and perch in various Algonquin habitats. Observe some of Algonquin's common bird life in their natural habitat. *A limited number of binoculars, suitable for most groups, is available for loan during this program. Please inquire for details.*



## LOOK, SEE, PAINT

Pioneered right here in Algonquin Park, the Look, See, Paint concept allows people of all ages and skill levels to make connections with nature through the enjoyable process of painting. Join a Naturalist at a scenic Algonquin location, and put water colours to paper, while learning how Algonquin's landscape inspired painters such as Tom Thomson and the Group of Seven.



## BOG SLOG!

What is a bog? Learn how spruce bogs form and how various plants and animals are adapted to life in this harsh environment. Experience the possibility of observing Algonquin's carnivorous plants and a bird that begins nesting in the Park before the snow has melted.



## CHANGING SEASONS

Whether it's the blooming of spring wildflowers or the spectacular colours of autumn leaves, learn why and how these remarkable seasonal changes take place and their impacts upon species in the Park.



## SAFETY IN BEAR COUNTRY



On your visit to Algonquin Park you will be visiting bear country. Algonquin Park has an estimated 2,000 Black Bears. Few visitors are lucky enough to catch a glimpse of a bear during their visit, however anyone visiting the Park must protect themselves and our bears by following three very simple rules.

### 3 SIMPLE RULES

- 1. NEVER** feed or approach a bear, and if you encounter a bear, slowly back away — **DO NOT RUN.**
- 2.** Store all your food in the trunk of your vehicle (or suspend it high up between two trees if you are in the Park's backcountry).
- 3.** Pack out all garbage, or place it in bear proof garbage facilities available throughout the Park.

 If you would like more information about safety in bear country do not hesitate to talk with the Group Education Program Coordinator or check [algonquinpark.on.ca](http://algonquinpark.on.ca).

For a longer visit to Algonquin Park combine programs (e.g. add more half-day, full-day or sleepover programs). Programs are conducted rain or shine. Seasonal recommendations for each program are also listed.



# HALF-DAY OUTDOOR PROGRAMS



## NIGHT WALK

Afraid of the dark? Why? Join a nighttime adventure (without flashlights!) to learn about nocturnal animals such as wolves, owls, frogs, bats, and fireflies that both frighten and intrigue us. *Offered as an evening program.*



## SURVIVAL GAME

Through the very popular Survival Game, learn about wildlife interactions. Examine the importance of food webs, population fluctuations of herbivores and carnivores, and the effects that management strategies have on ecosystems.



## OWL PROWL

Head out into the Algonquin night and discover the amazing adaptations that permit owls to hunt. Learn how to imitate their calls, and then try to see if real owls will respond. *Offered as an evening program.*



## TECHNOLOGY AND WILDLIFE RESEARCH

How many moose are there in Algonquin Park? Where are the wolves? Discover how biologists determine the answers to these questions. Through a series of hands-on activities, learn how technology has increased the biologists ability to study wildlife.



## SNOWSHOEING

Strap on a pair of snowshoes and prepare yourself for an outing to discover the wonders of Algonquin in winter. Follow in the footsteps of many Algonquin animals such as the Snowshoe Hare, Fisher, and Ruffed Grouse and learn how each survives Algonquin's winter. *Use of a limited number of snowshoes, suitable for most groups, is provided with this program. Please inquire for details.*



## VAMPIRES AND ASSASSINS

From blood-sucking mosquitoes to predatory assassin bugs, explore the often forgotten world of Algonquin's insects. Search for insects and learn about their life cycles and the amazing adaptations that enable them to survive in their respective habitats.



For a longer visit to Algonquin Park combine programs (e.g. add more half-day, full-day or sleepover programs). Programs are conducted rain or shine. Seasonal recommendations for each program are also listed.



# HALF-DAY OUTDOOR PROGRAMS



## WINTER TREE IDENTIFICATION

In winter, deciduous trees and shrubs have lost their leaves to cope with Algonquin's coldest season. During this season, these plants may all appear the same to the novice, but they can still be easily identified by looking at their bark, twigs, and buds. Learn how to use a pictorial key to identify winter trees and shrubs plus test your newly developed skills by trying to identify common species in the woods.



## WINTER WILDLIFE

Algonquin's winters are long and cold. Learn how various animals manage to survive winter, and look for signs of their activity in the snow. Through activities learn first-hand why these animals spend their winters here and how they survive the longest and coldest months of the year.



## WEATHER AND WILDLIFE

Algonquin Park lies at a slightly higher elevation than many other parts of central Ontario. Whether it is the heat of a summer day, a heavy rainstorm, or the freezing cold of winter, learn what effects this elevation has on Algonquin's temperature and precipitation, and how this, in turn, affects the types of plants and animals that are found here.



## WOLF HOWL

Learn about the biology and ecology of wolves in Algonquin, as well as the history of wolf howling in the Park. Go to a location where wild wolves may respond to human imitations of their howls. *Recommended as an evening program.*



## SAMPLE ITINERARY: Typical One Day Visit

DAY I	
9:00 am	Meet Naturalist at Big Pines Trail (km 40.3) for Algonquin Giants Walk*
11:00 am	Depart Big Pines Trail for Algonquin Visitor Centre (km 43.0)
11:15 am	Self-guided tour of the Algonquin Visitor Centre including the movie <i>Images of Algonquin</i> and a stop at The Friends of Algonquin Park Bookstore
12:30 pm	Lunch at Costello Creek Picnic Area (1 km north of km 46.3)
1:00 pm	Depart Costello Creek Picnic Area for Algonquin Logging Museum (km 54.5)
1:15 pm	Meet Naturalist at the Algonquin Logging Museum (ALM) for ALM Tour*
3:15 pm	Depart Algonquin Park

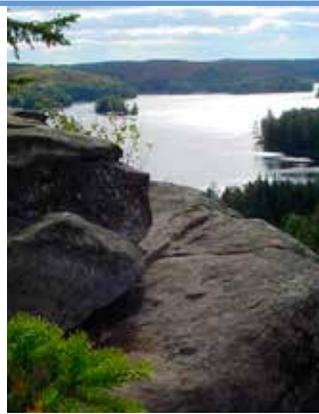
\* Naturalist-led program with associated fee (see Rates and Booking Procedures)

For a longer visit to Algonquin Park combine programs (e.g. add more half-day, full-day or sleepover programs). Programs are conducted rain or shine. Seasonal recommendations for each program are also listed.



# HALF-DAY INDOOR PROGRAMS

A variety of half-day indoor programs allows visitors to the Park to discover Algonquin's natural and cultural history through a combination of interactive demonstrations and presentations. Half-day indoor programs are approximately one hour in duration, including time for questions.



## ALGONQUIN'S GEOGRAPHY

Algonquin's geology, soils, and elevation all have important interactions in the survival of both flora and fauna in the Park. Through the use of photographs, discover the physical and human geography of the Highway 60 Corridor and the backcountry of Algonquin Park.



## ALGONQUIN THROUGH TIME

Journey back to the days when locomotives steamed through Algonquin, when rough and ready loggers chopped down the White Pine, and Park Rangers chased poachers in the snow. Priceless historical photographs bring these days back to life.



## AN INTRODUCTION TO ALGONQUIN PARK

Algonquin Park covers over 7,630km<sup>2</sup> in central Ontario. This protected area is larger than the province of Prince Edward Island, and has many fascinating natural and human history characteristics inconspicuous to many new visitors. Through the use of historic and current images, take a quick visit of Algonquin Park.



## ALGONQUIN WILDLIFE TRIVIA GAME

So you think you know wildlife! Test your skills against your classmates in the Algonquin Wildlife Trivia Game. In a game show format discover many interesting and relevant facts about Algonquin Park wildlife.



For a longer visit to Algonquin Park combine programs (e.g. add more half-day, full-day or sleepover programs). Programs are conducted rain or shine. Seasonal recommendations for each program are also listed.



# HALF-DAY INDOOR PROGRAMS



## ANIMAL DEFENCES

From the American Toad to the Porcupine, Algonquin's animals have many different techniques for protecting themselves from predators. Through a series of interactive activities, participants will identify the major strategies that wildlife use to avoid predators in the Park.



## BLACKFLIES, BRAINWORMS, AND BLOODSUCKERS

Gross!! is often the first reaction to the topic of blackflies, brainworm and bloodsuckers, but all three groups of animals lead interesting and astonishing lives. Look at the life history of these parasites and the important roles they play in Algonquin Park.



## ANIMAL SOUNDS

Through the use of images and activities learn why animals expend energy on making a variety of sounds. Be prepared to try and imitate some of these sounds too!



## CANOEING IN ALGONQUIN'S BACKCOUNTRY

There is only one real way to see Algonquin Park — by canoe. Join a skilled canoe tripper to learn about the incomparable experience of canoeing the Park's vast backcountry. Learn how to plan a trip, plus how to paddle and portage correctly.



## BEARS AND BEAR SAFETY

Learn how bears survive in the wild through an interactive demonstration, and be trained in the proper techniques to protect both yourself and the bears while visiting bear country.



## DEER AND MOOSE

Two hundred years ago there were few, if any, White-tailed Deer in Algonquin. Since the arrival of Europeans in the 1800s, deer and moose populations have climbed and crashed. Discover how deer, moose and humans have influenced each other over the years.



For a longer visit to Algonquin Park combine programs (e.g. add more half-day, full-day or sleepover programs). Programs are conducted rain or shine. Seasonal recommendations for each program are also listed.



# HALF-DAY INDOOR PROGRAMS



## LOONS, LAKES AND LAKE TROUT

Discover how loons, Lake Trout and other aquatic creatures survive in the cold, dark and harsh world of an Algonquin lake.



## REPTILES AND AMPHIBIANS

Reptiles and amphibians are among the most misunderstood of Algonquin's animals. Learn to differentiate their characteristics, life histories and habitat requirements through an introduction to these fascinating, and sometimes bizarre, creatures.



## TECHNOLOGY AND WILDLIFE RESEARCH

How many moose are there in Algonquin Park? Where are the wolves? Discover how technology has helped biologists determine the answers to these questions through a series of activities.



## TOM THOMSON

This famous Canadian artist captured the rugged beauty of Algonquin unlike anyone before him. Tom Thomson was more than just an artist in Algonquin, he also worked as a guide and a fire ranger. Through his brilliant art and historic photographs, learn about Tom Thomson and his mysterious death on Canoe Lake in 1917.



## WANT A LONGER VISIT TO ALGONQUIN PARK?

### Participate in a Sleepover Program

The Group Education Program offers sleepover programs where participants have dinner, participate in a program of their choice, and then spend the night sleeping in the warm, dry Algonquin Park Visitor Centre next to exhibits featuring a pack of wolves and other wildlife. See page 11 for more details.

### Stay at the Whitefish Lake Group Campground

The Whitefish Lake Group Campground, located at km 36.9 on Highway 60, has large campsites designed to accommodate school and youth groups ranging in size from 20 to 40 people. The campground is open from late April/early May to mid-October.

### Sleep at the Mew Lake Campground & Yurts

The Mew Lake Campground, open year round, offers traditional camping experiences on campsites, or visitors may sleep in structures called yurts which are eight sided, 5 meter diameter, tent-like structures installed on a wooden deck floor. All yurts include heat, making camping comfortable during the spring, fall and winter.



### Find Accommodation Outside the Park

Every type of accommodation can be found just outside the boundaries of Algonquin Park, check our website for an accommodation provider that is right for you.



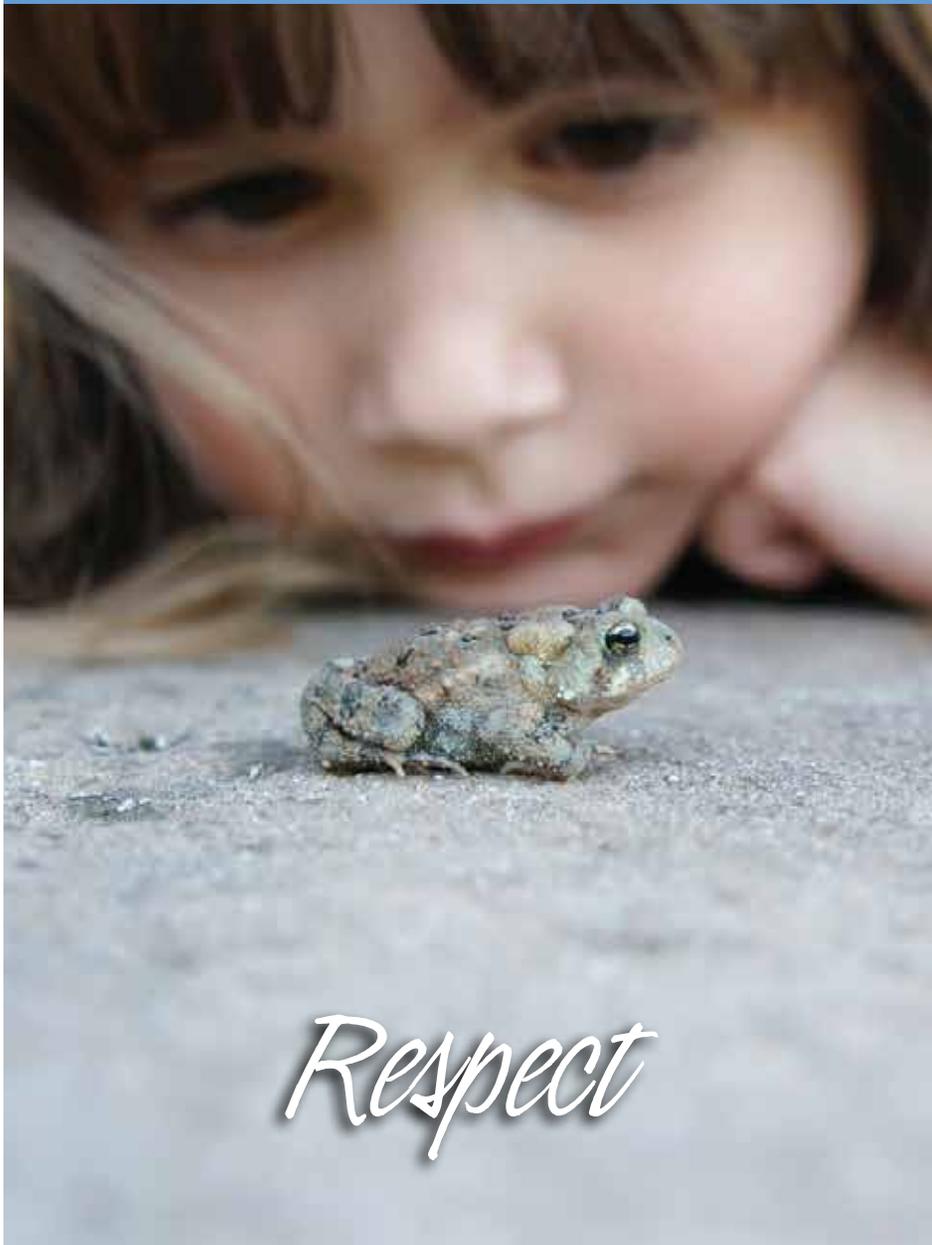
For more information please visit our website  
**ALGONQUINPARK.ON.CA**

For a longer visit to Algonquin Park combine programs (e.g. add more half-day, full-day or sleepover programs). Programs are conducted rain or shine. Seasonal recommendations for each program are also listed.



# FULL-DAY OUTDOOR PROGRAMS

A full-day program allows participants to understand more fully the complexity of Algonquin Park's natural and cultural history. Typical full-day, outdoor programs include between four and five hours of Naturalist-led programming with a lunch break.



## ALGONQUIN BY CANOE

Algonquin Park has over 2,100 km of canoe routes — spend a day exploring a small portion of the Park by canoe. The day begins with a Naturalist-led lesson on paddling techniques and safety. Then the group will depart for a day of paddling (and portaging, if desired). At lunch learn how to prepare and pack for an overnight canoe trip and how to pick a suitable route through Algonquin's wild country. *Use of canoes, paddles, PFDs, and safety kits is included in the cost. Program led by certified canoeing instructor(s). Participants must bring their own lunch.*



## SNOWSHOEING

Strap on a pair of Faber snowshoes and prepare to discover the wonders of Algonquin in winter. Follow in the footsteps of many Algonquin animals such as the Snowshoe Hare, Fisher, and Ruffed Grouse and learn how each survives Algonquin's winter. After the morning's snowshoeing, enjoy your lunch around a campfire and learn how to build a snow shelter. *A limited number of Faber snowshoes are provided with the cost of this program, please enquire for details. Participants must bring their own lunch.*



## SURVIVAL GAME

Through the very popular Survival Game, learn about wildlife interactions. Through multiple rounds of this exciting interactive activity, examine the importance of food webs, population fluctuations of herbivores and carnivores, and the effects that management strategies have on ecosystems. *Participants must bring their own lunch.*

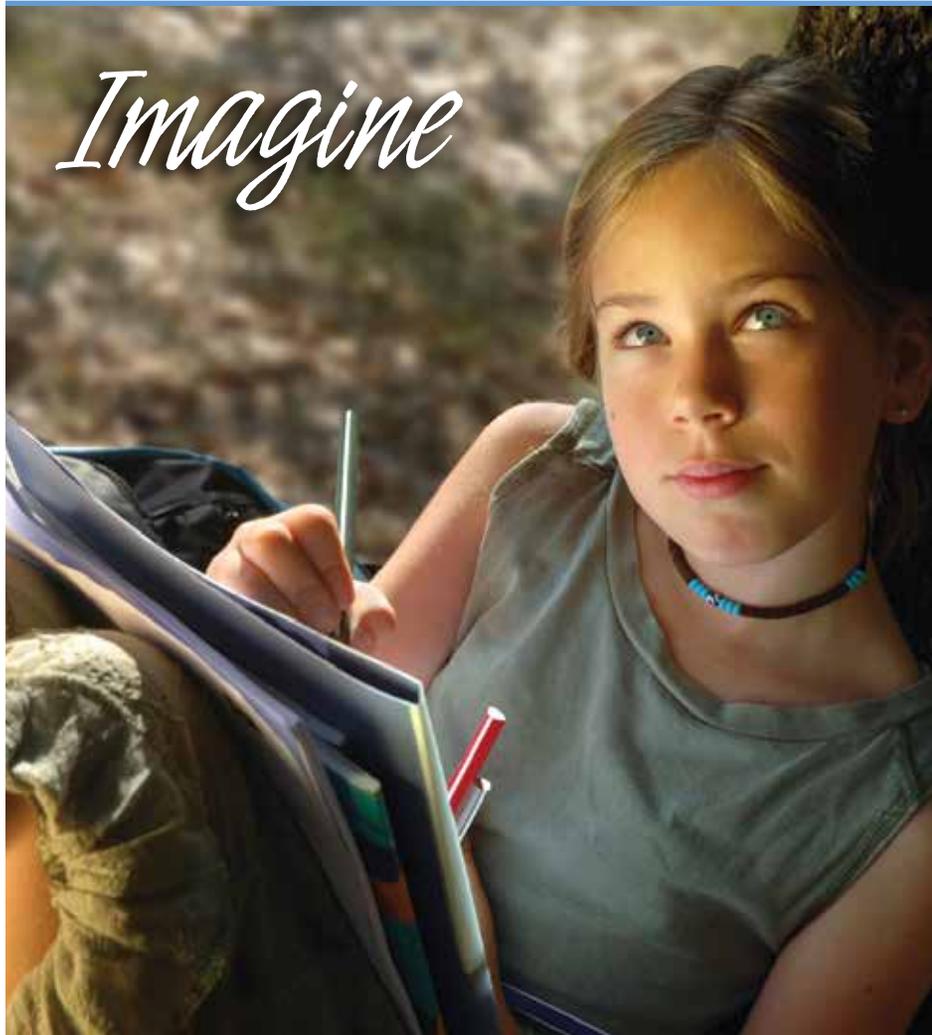


For a longer visit to Algonquin Park combine programs (e.g. add more half-day, full-day or sleepover programs). Programs are conducted rain or shine. Seasonal recommendations for each program are also listed.



# SLEEPOVER PROGRAMS

The sleepover programs allow Group Education Program participants to spend more than one day in Algonquin Park. Sleepover program participants have dinner, participate in one of the following Naturalist-led programs, and then spend the night sleeping at the Algonquin Park Visitor Centre next to exhibits featuring a pack of wolves and other wildlife.



## SAMPLE ITINERARY: Overnight Visit (one night, two days)

DAY 1	
3:00 pm	Meet Naturalist for Survival Game* program at prearranged location
5:00 pm	Self-guided walk of Lookout Trail (km 39.7)
6:00 pm	Arrive at Algonquin Visitor Centre (km 43.0) for The Mystery of the Timberdoodle
6:15 pm	Dinner in the Sunday Creek Café at the Algonquin Visitor Centre
7:00 pm	The Mystery of the Timberdoodle* program begins at the Algonquin Visitor Centre
9:30 pm	Evening Snack in the Sunday Creek Café
DAY 2	
7:00 am	Wake-up, prepare for the day, and pack up sleeping gear
8:00 am	Breakfast in the Sunday Creek Café
9:00 am	Meet Naturalist for Algonquin Logging Museum Tour*
11:15 pm	Arrive at Costello Creek Picnic Ground (1 km north from km 46.3) [Lunches provided as part of the Sleepover Meal Package]
12:00 pm	Self-guided walk of Beaver Pond Trail (km 45.3)
1:30 pm	Depart Algonquin Park

\* Naturalist-led program with associated fee (see Rates and Booking Procedures)

Sleepover meals are prepared and consumed within the Algonquin Park Visitor Centre and include dinner the night you arrive, an evening snack, breakfast the following morning, and a boxed lunch for your group to take into the field. To learn more about current menu options and pricing, see page 16 and contact the Group Education Program Coordinator.



### NIGHT WALK SLEEPOVER

Afraid of the dark? Why? Join along on a nighttime adventure (without flashlights!) to learn about nocturnal animals such as wolves, owls, frogs, bats, and fireflies that both frighten and intrigue us.



For a longer visit to Algonquin Park combine programs (e.g. add more half-day, full-day or sleepover programs). Programs are conducted rain or shine. Seasonal recommendations for each program are also listed.



## SLEEPOVER PROGRAMS



### THE CANOE LAKE MYSTERY

Tom Thomson was a famous Canadian artist who captured the rugged beauty of Algonquin unlike anyone before him. Tom Thomson was more than just an artist in Algonquin, he also worked as a guide and a fire ranger. Through his brilliant art and historic photographs, learn about Tom Thomson's life and his mysterious death on Canoe Lake in 1917.



### THE MYSTERY OF THE TIMBERDOODLE SLEEPOVER

Mysterious, fantastic creatures called Timberdoodles live right here in the Park! Work together with your friends and as part of a larger team (in the dark!) as you gather clues hidden throughout the Algonquin Visitor Centre's exhibits to solve the mystery of the Timberdoodle. *Recommended for elementary students, Beavers, Cubs, Sparks, Embers, and Guides.*



### WOLF HOWL SLEEPOVER

Spend an evening learning about the biology and ecology of wolves in Algonquin, as well as the history of wolf howling in the Park. Go out to a location where wild wolves may respond to human imitations of their howls. Then head back to the Algonquin Park Visitor Centre to sleep next to a pack of wolves!



## SAMPLE ITINERARY: Typical Multi-Day Visit

DAY 1	
3:00 pm	Meet Naturalist at the Algonquin Logging Museum (km 54.5) for Algonquin Logging Museum Tour*
5:00 pm	Self-guided walk of the Spruce Bog Trail (km 42.5)
6:00 pm	Arrive at the Algonquin Park Visitor Centre (km 43.0)
6:15 pm	Dinner in the Sunday Creek Café at the Algonquin Visitor Centre
7:00 pm	Wolf Howl Sleepover* program begins
10:00 pm	Evening Snack in the Sunday Creek Café
DAY 2	
7:00 am	Wake-up, prepare for the day, and pack up sleeping gear
8:00 am	Breakfast in the Sunday Creek Café
8:45 am	Depart the Algonquin Visitor Centre for Algonquin by Canoe program
9:15 am	Algonquin by Canoe* program begins
12:00 pm	Group stops for lunch. Bagged lunches included with Sleepover.
3:15 pm	Conclusion of Algonquin by Canoe program
3:45 pm	Self-guided hike of Hemlock Bluff Trail (km 27.2)
6:15 pm	Dinner in the Sunday Creek Café at the Algonquin Visitor Centre (km 43.0)
7:00 pm	Mystery of the Timberdoodle Sleepover* program begins
9:30 pm	Evening Snack in the Sunday Creek Café
DAY 3	
7:00 am	Wake-up, prepare for the day, and pack up sleeping gear
8:00 am	Breakfast in the Sunday Creek Café
8:45 am	Depart the Algonquin Visitor Centre
9:00 am	Meet Naturalist at prearranged location for Survival Game* program
12:00 pm	Lunch at Two Rivers Picnic Ground (km 33.8). Included with second Sleepover Meal Package.
1:00 pm	Self-guided hike of Track and Tower Trail (km 25.5)
3:30 pm	Depart Algonquin Park

\* Naturalist-led program with associated fee (see Rates and Booking Procedures)

For a longer visit to Algonquin Park combine programs (e.g. add more half-day, full-day or sleepover programs). Programs are conducted rain or shine. Seasonal recommendations for each program are also listed.



# TRIP PLANNING INFORMATION

## HOW DO I GET TO ALGONQUIN PARK?

Algonquin Provincial Park covers a total of 7,630 km<sup>2</sup> and is located in the area approximately south of North Bay, east of Huntsville, north of Haliburton, and west of Pembroke (see Map 1). To navigate to the Highway 60 portion of Algonquin Park, where Group Education Programs take place, use the map of the Highway 60 Corridor of Algonquin Park (see page 15).

### Approximate Travel Time to the Highway 60 Corridor of Algonquin Park

#### TRAVEL TIME

Barrie 2.5 hours • Belleville 2.75 hours  
 Huntsville 1.25 hours • North Bay 3 hours  
 Ottawa 3 hours • Pembroke 1.5 hours  
 Peterborough 2.5 hours • Toronto 3.5 hours

 Determine your travel time to the Algonquin Visitor Centre

## TRANSPORTATION

Transportation to and from Algonquin Park, and also between sites in the Park used for programs is the trip leader's responsibility.

## GROUP SIZE

It is recommended that most groups participating in outdoor programs limit themselves to a maximum of 35 participants. By doing so, participants will receive more personalized attention. Please enquire with the Group Education Program Coordinator concerning the ideal number of participants for the program you are interested in.

## SAFETY AND SUPERVISION

All Naturalists leading Group Education Programs come prepared with first aid kits and two-way portable radios in the case of an emergency. The trip leader must stay with the participants at all times. Group leaders are responsible for the safety and proper conduct of the group.



Map 1: Algonquin Provincial Park and the Highway 60 Corridor

## EMERGENCY INFORMATION

In the case of an emergency during a Group Education Program, your Naturalist will notify appropriate emergency personnel. Should you have an emergency while not participating in a supervised program, you can visit staff located at many Park facilities (e.g. campground office, Visitor Centre, etc.) or you may wish to contact emergency personnel directly by calling:

## Ontario Provincial Police 1-888-310-1122

At the current time, limited cellular phone service is available along the Highway 60 Corridor of Algonquin Park. Cell phone service is not necessarily available away from the highway or on secondary Park roads. Do not use cell phone service as your only means of emergency preparedness.



# TRIP PLANNING INFORMATION



## WHEN TO VISIT ALGONQUIN PARK?

**FALL** — Autumn in Algonquin Park begins with cool, crisp mornings and warm days that require long pants and a light jacket. During this time of the year some days are warm enough for summer activities such as swimming. By late September or early October Algonquin's deciduous trees are usually ablaze of red, orange, and purple. As fall progresses, many visitors are caught off guard by cooling temperatures and an occasional snowfall as early as mid-October. Fall in Algonquin is an excellent time for canoeing, participating in a Wolf Howl, observing the outstanding autumn colours and studying the moose rut and bird migration. Whenever you visit in the fall, it is a wise idea to pack an additional warm layer, a warm hat and gloves or mittens, should you experience early winter conditions.

**WINTER** — Conditions in Algonquin Park are extremely variable during the period from November to March. Temperatures can change from just above freezing to well below freezing in short periods. Therefore, groups coming to the Park during these months should prepare for colder than expected weather. This means bringing winter boots (ideally waterproof), a warm hat, gloves or mittens, sunglasses, dressing in layers with a waterproof outer layer, and warm moisture-wicking inner layer(s). A backpack that contains additional gear such as a water bottle, snacks, or even

an extra pair of gloves or socks may be useful. Winter provides visitors with an opportunity to enjoy snowshoeing and winter camping. The colder months also allow visitors to have excellent opportunities to view non-migratory wildlife, in a forest partially devoid of leaves. Many visitors will attest, Algonquin has a beauty all its own in winter.

**SPRING** — With warming temperatures in spring, many groups believe that it will be as warm in Algonquin as in surrounding areas. In fact, as a result of higher elevation, Algonquin is on average cooler than surrounding areas, and thus spring generally comes later. Barred and Saw-whet Owls begin calling in early spring usually before the snow has completely melted. Wildflowers push forth from the recently thawed ground even while unsuspecting visitors are caught off guard by an occasional snow storm as late as mid-May. As a result of these cooler conditions it is not uncalled for in early spring, to bring a winter jacket, waterproof boots, a warm hat, and mittens or gloves. A rain jacket and pants are also a wise idea. In most years however, the majority of snow has melted by mid to late April and ice is off our larger lakes by late April or early May. During late April and into May, tree leaves emerge and migratory birds return to a warming Algonquin Park. By the middle of May biting insects, such as blackflies and mosquitoes, traditionally emerge.

**SUMMER** — Most biting insects have concluded their life cycles by early July, with a few mosquitoes lingering at dusk, or in years with abundant moisture. Summer's warm, (sometimes humid) days are interrupted by typically brief, but occasionally intense thunderstorms which bring cooler and drier air to the highlands of Algonquin Park.

Summer marks the most popular season for visiting the Park. Whether it is spending time in a developed campground, or "getting away from it all" on an extended journey into the Park's vast backcountry — summer offers everyone plenty of opportunities for recreational activities like canoeing, backpacking, swimming, bicycling, and wildlife watching.

With Algonquin located at a higher elevation that surrounding areas, summers are short and cool. By mid to late August, days are becoming shorter and nights cooler, signaling some migrating birds to begin their southward journey and others to prepare for it. Early September offers visitors, cool, crisp days with obvious hints of impending colour change in the hardwood forest.

## WEATHER AND CLOTHING

One of the most important aspects of preparing for your Algonquin Group Education Program is being ready for the anticipated weather conditions. By bringing and wearing the correct garments for the expected weather conditions, participants are better able to enjoy their day(s) in the field without worry of cold, wet feet or sunburn. Many Group Education Programs take place outside and thus are conducted rain or shine. Use the information below to help prepare your group for the anticipated weather conditions for your upcoming visit.

**Several days before your visit to the Park check the weather forecast.**

## ESSENTIAL EQUIPMENT FOR ALL OUTDOOR PROGRAMS

- Rain jacket and pants
- Warm layer (or two)
- Appropriate footwear (ideally warm and waterproof!)
- Hat or toque
- Mittens or gloves
- Water bottle
- Sunscreen
- Sunglasses
- Insect repellent (spring only)

## ADDITIONAL 'MUST BRING ITEMS' FOR SLEEPOVER PROGRAMS

- Sleeping bag
- Sleeping pad
- Pillow
- Toiletries
- Water bottle
- Flashlight

For a complete list, see our website.

SEASON	WINTER			SPRING			SUMMER			AUTUMN		
MONTH	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUNE	JUL	AUG	SEPT	OCT	NOV	DEC
Daily Mean Temperature (°C)	-11.7	-9.4	-4.4	3.7	11.0	15.8	18.1	16.9	12.6	6.2	-0.5	-7.3
Rainfall (mm)	24.0	19.3	39.5	55.6	93.5	89.9	89.6	96.4	114.3	107.1	84.0	27.1
Snowfall (cm)	82.8	59.6	44.8	17.6	1.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	6.9	45.7	86.6

For more information please visit our website [ALGONQUINPARK.ON.CA](http://ALGONQUINPARK.ON.CA)

Source: Environment Canada, Canadian Climate Normals 1981-2010 for Dwight, ON



# TRIP PLANNING INFORMATION

## WATCH FOR MOOSE!

Moose pose a serious danger. Stay alert and never exceed the speed limit. At night 60-70km/hr is even better.

## VIEWING WILDLIFE...BE CAREFUL!

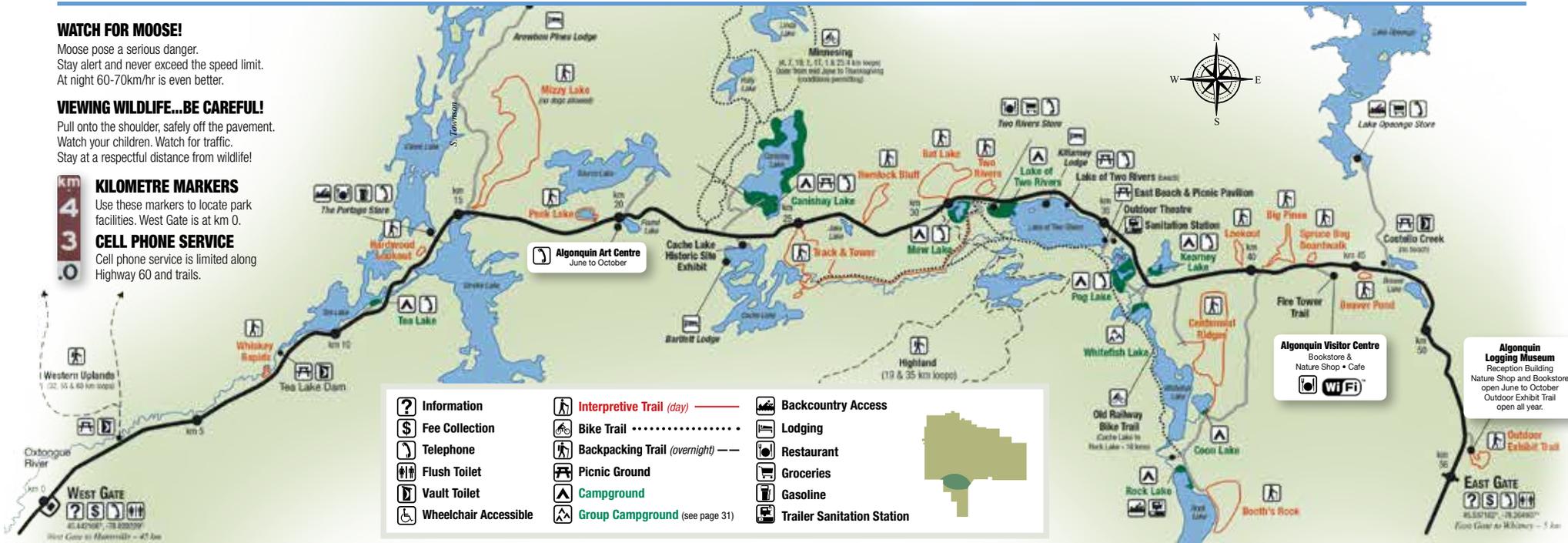
Pull onto the shoulder, safely off the pavement. Watch your children. Watch for traffic. Stay at a respectful distance from wildlife!

## KILOMETRE MARKERS

Use these markers to locate park facilities. West Gate is at km 0.

## CELL PHONE SERVICE

Cell phone service is limited along Highway 60 and trails.



## THE HIGHWAY 60 CORRIDOR

The Highway 60 Corridor provides visitors with a less strenuous visit to Algonquin than canoeing or hiking into the Park's vast backcountry. Enjoy camping, hiking, picnicking, and other activities along Highway 60, which travels 56 kilometres through the southern section of the Park. Kilometre markers at one kilometre intervals indicate distances from the West Gate (km 0.0). By referring to these numbers you will be able to locate Park facilities quickly.

## ALGONQUIN VISITOR CENTRE



No visit to the Park would be complete without a stop at Algonquin's fabulous Visitor Centre at km 43.0. Opened in 1993 to celebrate the 100th anniversary of Algonquin Park and the entire Ontario provincial park system, the centre has world class exhibits on the Park's natural and cultural history, and an excellent bookstore. A theatre presentation sums up the Park story and

then takes you out to the viewing deck from where you can admire a breathtaking panorama of a wild Algonquin landscape.

## ALGONQUIN LOGGING MUSEUM



Just inside the East Gate, the Algonquin Logging Museum brings the story of logging to life from the early square timber days to the last of the great river drives. A recreated camboose camp and a fascinating steam powered amphibious tug called an "alligator" are among the many displays.

## WALKING TRAILS

Not to be confused with Algonquin's three overnight backpacking trails, these much shorter walking trails are available for day outings in the Corridor. Each trail is designed to explore a different aspect of Algonquin and each has a trail guide booklet.

## EAST BEACH PICNIC PAVILION



The East Beach Picnic Pavilion (EBPP) is a 140 square metre rental facility designed for large gatherings such as group picnics, family reunions, weddings, or other social events. The EBPP can accommodate up to 110 people (or two smaller groups at the same time).

## PICNIC AREAS

Six picnic ground are located throughout the Highway 60 Corridor of Algonquin Park.

## BATHROOM LOCATIONS

Bathrooms are located throughout the Highway 60 Corridor at major Park facilities such as gates, campgrounds, museums, and selected trailheads.

For more detailed information click on the website icon that will direct you to our website.



[ALGONQUINPARK.ON.CA](http://ALGONQUINPARK.ON.CA)



# RATES AND BOOKING PROCEDURES

PROGRAM	COST	DEPOSIT
HALF-DAY PROGRAMS (indoor or outdoor)	\$12.50 per person (\$250 minimum program cost)	\$100
WOLF HOWL AND LOOK, SEE, PAINT PROGRAMS	\$15.00 per person (\$300 minimum program cost)	\$100
FULL-DAY PROGRAMS	\$25.00 per person (\$500 minimum program cost)	\$200
ALGONQUIN BY CANOE FULL-DAY PROGRAM (includes canoeing equipment)	\$75.00 per person (\$1500 minimum program cost)	\$300
SLEEPOVER PROGRAMS	\$55.00 per person (\$1100 minimum program cost) <i>A Sleepover Meal Package (including dinner, evening snack, breakfast, and a boxed lunch) is required for each person and costs \$35.00 per person.</i>	\$300

*Program fees include Algonquin Park entrance fees for the day of the program. There is no charge for a reasonable number of chaperones, as determined by the Group Education Program Coordinator. Taxes not included.*

## BOOKING PROCEDURES

To book a program, call The Friends of Algonquin Park Group Education Program Coordinator at 1 (877) 212-9514 during regular office hours. You can also contact the Group Education Program Coordinator by e-mail at <groupeducation@algonquinpark.on.ca>. Bookings are taken on a first-come, first-served basis. To avoid disappointment, please ensure that you book well in advance.

## BOOKING FEES AND CANCELLATIONS

When booking a program, a deposit by credit card is required to reserve the date and time of your program. All of the deposit will be applied against a group's outstanding account. The deposit will be forfeited if the group cancels more than 14 days prior to the program. However, if the group fails to cancel 14 or fewer days prior to the date scheduled for their program or if the group fails to show at the time and place scheduled for their program, the entire program cost will be owed. A late arrival may result in a shortened program. Please make cheque payable to The Friends of Algonquin Park.

## TRIP PLANNING SEQUENCE

- Book a program(s) by contacting the Group Education Program Coordinator and pay appropriate deposit
- Book travel arrangements for trip and gain appropriate parental consent for trip participation
- Receive and check confirmation letter regarding program date, time, meeting location, etc.

### More than 14 days prior to your trip

- Return/submit Sleepover Meal Package Menu Selection Form and Equipment Loan Form to Group Education Program Coordinator
- Confirm participant numbers with Group Education Program Coordinator (last chance to cancel, adjust participant numbers, or to receive a refund minus the booking fee)
- Confirm transportation arrangements

### The day prior to your trip

- Remind participants of your itinerary and key personal care points (e.g. appropriate dress for the weather, proper behaviour, safety, etc.)

## When booking a GROUP EDUCATION PROGRAM please have the following information available:

- Preferred program date(s) plus secondary dates
- Program(s) of interest
- Number of participants
- Grade or age of participants
- Organization contact information, including mailing address, phone number (work & cell), and email
- Credit card number and expiry date

For more information, please contact:



### Group Education Program Coordinator THE FRIENDS OF ALGONQUIN PARK

Box 248  
Whitney, ON K0J 2M0  
Phone: 1 (877) 212-9514  
[www.algonquinpark.on.ca](http://www.algonquinpark.on.ca)  
groupeducation@algonquinpark.on.ca

For more detailed information click on the website icon that will direct you to our website.



[WWW.ALGONQUINPARK.ON.CA](http://WWW.ALGONQUINPARK.ON.CA)

© 2024 The Friends of Algonquin Park

