

ILLNESS-RELATED GUIDELINES

- For the safety of our staff and campers, if your child is feeling ill, please DO NOT SEND YOUR CHILD TO CAMP! Contact our Camp Director to notify us of any illness or absence. This includes, but is not limited to, stomachache, headache, sore throat, vomiting, and/or diarrhea.
- If a camper becomes ill while at camp, a guardian/emergency contact will be notified to come pick up the student.
- A student may not return to camp until they are fever-free (without medication) or have not vomited for 24 hours. Please use common sense for other illness symptoms. If your child is super tired and not feeling as though they can participate in camp activities, it is probably best to keep them at home to rest.
- We are a nature camp. Camp will primarily be held outdoors and under tents, unless there is severe weather such as a thunderstorm. If the weather forecast is calling for rain, please be sure to send your camper with a raincoat, rain boots, or even a change of clothes, as we will be outside.

EDADVANCE FREE LUNCH AND SNACK PROGRAM

For the past several years, our camp program qualified for and has participated in the free breakfast and lunch program distributed by EdAdvance. This organization distributes healthy snack and meal options to local schools and summer camps and ALL CAMPERS were able to receive a free breakfast (more of a snack for our camp) and a free cold lunch and milk. Campers had the option of choosing between either a packed snack and/or lunch from home OR one snack and one lunch from EdAdvance (chosen by Audubon Staff) that was packaged and delivered directly to us each morning.

It is unknown at the time of print of this brochure whether or not we will be participating in the EdAdvance program this summer. If we do not participate, campers will need to bring a packed snack and lunch to camp each day in a lunch bag with an ice pack to keep food cold. Registrants will receive an email before the first day of their camp session regarding camp meals.



Sharon
Audubon Center

[audubon.org/sharon/
camps](http://audubon.org/sharon/camps)

325 Cornwall Bridge Road
Sharon, CT 06069
860-364-0520

Summer Nature Programs

2026



2025 Campers Meet Turkey Vulture Ambassador. Photo: SAC Staff

Discover the magic of nature in the Northwest Corner

**Students ages 3 through 12th grade join
us for a fun-filled summer of laughter,
hands-on activities, and adventures.
Enjoy exciting day camp themes and
experience summer the way it's meant
to be!**



Sharon
Audubon Center



Join us at Sharon Audubon Center—where FUN, FRIENDS, and NATURE come together!

CAMP HOURS

Sprouts and Explorers: 9 a.m. – 3 p.m., Monday – Friday

Early Childhood Discovery: 9:30 – 11:30 a.m., one week only

T.R.I.P.—Teen Rehabilitation Internship Program: 10:00 a.m. – 2:30 p.m., one week only

FEES & REGISTRATION

Our weekly sessions are organized into age groups based on grades the students will be entering in the fall (see at-a-glance chart). We have a user-friendly online registration system (CampDoc), which allows parents to submit documents (like health forms) online. Our online registration is available at audubon.org/sharon/camps.

PAYMENT

- Camp fees must be paid in full at the time of registration unless special circumstances are approved by Audubon staff.
- Preferred payment method is by credit card. Please contact the center to discuss other possible payment options.
- We are not able to register children for camp over the phone or hold spaces. Session payments are by the week only, not per day.
- Please read and understand our Cancellation/Refund Policy BEFORE registering your child.

Camp at-a-Glance

Dates	Sprouts* K-2nd grade \$350 per week	Explorers* 3rd-6th grade \$350 per week	Specialty Camps
June 22-26	Story Time!	No Backbone Required	Junior Buddies
June 29-July 2 (No camp July 3) \$280/wk	Habitat Hunters	Audubon Adventurers	Junior Buddies
July 6-10	Nature's Alphabet	Wildlife in Focus	Junior Buddies
July 13-17	Things That Make You Go Eww!	Icky-ology	Junior Buddies
July 20-24	Aquatic Adventures	Wonders of Water	Early Childhood Discovery Junior Buddies
July 27-31	Daylight/Moonlight	No Place Like Home	Junior Buddies
August 3-7	Welcome to the Wild	Hoo's Hunting Who?	T.R.I.P (9th-12th grade) Junior Buddies
August 10-14	On the Fly	Bird's the Word	Junior Buddies

*Sprouts and Explorers camp sessions will be limited to 15 campers each.

PLEASE BE MINDFUL OF CAMP SPACE LIMITATIONS

Please note that we hold two duplicate K-2 sessions each week, which allows more children to attend camp and shorten waitlists for this age group. Maximum overall attendance for each week is 30 children and the group will then be split into two (by Audubon staff) with up to 15 students in each, and their own designated counselors and tent area. Please try to limit your child to three sessions to start to allow more space for other families and avoid camper burnout. Thank you for your cooperation.

CANCELLATION / REFUND POLICY

Payment (minus 20%) will be refunded for cancellations received at least two weeks prior to the first day of camp to be attended. Cancellation/Refund requests must be done through the online registration platform CampDoc. NO REFUNDS will be given for cancellations within two weeks of the first day of camp to be attended. Please read and understand this policy, as you will be asked to check off that you understand it during registration.

OPTIONAL CAMP DOC INSURANCE

Upon registration, you will notice an optional third party "Protection Plan" that you can purchase through CampDoc. Please note that this is NOT a policy through Audubon, and in most cases will NOT cover your non-refundable payment should you need to cancel camp, so we highly recommend that you reach out to CampDoc directly to discuss what is covered before purchasing, or opt out completely.

FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

Limited financial assistance is available. If you are in need of assistance, contact the center for scholarship information and applications before camp registration opens. Scholarships will only be awarded for one camp session per student.

CONTACT

For Sharon Audubon Center camp questions and queries, contact Wendy Miller, Camp Director, at wendy.miller@audubon.org or 860-364-0520 ext. 105. We ask for your patience as we all work together to make our camp as safe as possible for everyone!

WHAT TO BRING TO CAMP

An email will be sent out to all camp participants one week before their session begins explaining what you need to know for the first day of camp.

LEND A HELPING HAND

Camp scholarship donations provide critical assistance to families in need. If you are interested in helping another student attend summer camp, please consider making a tax-deductible donation to our Summer Camp Scholarship Fund.

Please send donation checks payable to Sharon Audubon Center (with "SAC Camp Scholarship" written in the memo) to: SAC Summer Nature Programs, 325 Cornwall Bridge Road, Sharon, CT 06069. To make your gift via credit card, please contact Wendy at (860) 364-0520 x105.



2025 Campers. Photo: Vicki Lynch

DROP OFF AND PICK UP PROCEDURES

- Drop off will take place from 8:45 – 9:10 a.m. Follow the signs around the driveway circle to the drop-off area and pull up as close as you can to the stop sign and stay in your vehicle.
- Staff will come to your vehicle to check your child in, and at that time campers will be escorted out of the vehicle to their correct camp group on the front lawn. This method has proven to work well and creates far less tears from campers than in previous years. We found that the children settle in and adjust much quicker to the camp day than when a parent hangs around at drop off. Thank you for your cooperation!
- If your child needs assistance getting out of a car seat, you may, of course, quickly get out to assist them. For our youngest campers, we understand that going to drop-off camp for the first time can be scary (for the kids and parents,) so we will do our very best to help everyone feel comfortable! We ask that you do not hang around, as it often makes saying good-bye harder for your child.
- Please be sure to have any sunscreen and bug spray on your child and give big hugs and kisses before coming to camp.
- At the end of the camp day, parents will again line up in the driveway circle and your child will be called to your vehicle by staff for pick up. Parents/guardians are once again asked to stay in the vehicle.
- Pick up will be from 2:50 – 3:10 p.m.
- For everyone's safety, PLEASE DRIVE SLOWLY, do not pass other vehicles that are loading/unloading children, and do not drive onto the lawn.

Specialty Sessions



EARLY CHILDHOOD DISCOVERY (AGES 3-4 WITH AN ADULT)

July 20-24 — 9:30 — 11:30 a.m.

\$250 per child/adult pair

This camp program brings parents, grandparents, and caregivers and their young children together to experience the outdoors. Activities and crafts will focus on helping caregivers introduce their children to the wonders of the natural world through the use of their five senses. Explore the garden in search of insects and the pond in search of water critters, meet the center's birds and reptiles, read stories, and just have fun playing games and activities on the front lawn. Adult(s) must participate with children during this program.

T.R.I.P.- TEEN REHABILITATION INTERNSHIP PROGRAM (9TH-12TH GRADE)

August 3-7 — 10:00 a.m. — 2:30 p.m.

\$385 per child

Our popular TRIP session is for students with a strong interest in wildlife rehabilitation, animal care, and bird conservation. Learn the "do's and don'ts" of dealing with injured wildlife in a rehab setting, as well as conservation initiatives connected to our wildlife rehab work. This course has presentations and instruction, along with hands-on practice on both deceased and live specimens. Participants will undergo some work in the wildlife rehab clinic. Enrollment is limited to 8 students. Participants must be responsible, willing to communicate with others in the group and work together on activities, work quietly in a rehab clinic setting and abide by clinic rules. **Some labs will involve working with deceased specimens.

JUNIOR BUDDIES (12-15 YEAR OLDS)

9:00 a.m. — 3:00 p.m., Each week of our Sprouts camps

\$200 per child

This program is for any SAC Nature Camp alum who has aged out of our regular camp sessions but is still too young to be a CIT. Junior Buddies are placed with our Sprouts groups and help our first-time younger campers adjust to each camp day and feel more comfortable by having an older, experienced "buddy" to help with crafts, play games, assist with activities, and be an overall great role model while still having fun and having added responsibilities! *Because this age group is still considered a camper by the State, space is limited to two per K-2 camp session.

COUNSELORS-IN-TRAINING (CITS) (16-18 YEAR OLDS)

CITs are teen volunteers between the ages of 16-18 who are interested in assisting with camp. CITs help with various aspects of camp throughout the day, from assisting campers with activities to helping counselors with lessons, camper safety, activity prep, and more. This is a wonderful opportunity for older teens interested in gaining skills and experience needed to become a paid Camp Counselor or continuing in the Education field. Arrangements can be made for community service hours, if needed.

*Please note that CITs MUST be at least 16 years old by the start of the first camp week with which they wish to assist. NO EXCEPTIONS. Contact Wendy at wendy.miller@audubon.org if interested.



2025 Campers. Photos: SAC Staff

To register, go online to
audubon.org/sharon/camps

SPROUTS

Entering Kindergarten - 2nd Grade
9 a.m. - 3 p.m. | \$350 per child per week*



2025 Campers. Photos: SAC Staff

STORY TIME! — JUNE 22-26

Who doesn't love a good story? Each day's theme and activities during this week will be based on a different nature or wildlife storybook or two that we will read together. We may even come up with a story or two of our own based on our camp adventures.

HABITAT HUNTERS — JUNE 29-JULY 2*

Everyone needs a place to live, whether it be in a house, under a log, in the mud or high up in the treetops! In this session, we will become Habitat Hunters and explore the many different places that plants and animals call home. *There is no camp on Friday, July 3rd. Cost of this camp session is \$280.

NATURE'S ALPHABET — JULY 6-10

Do you like scavenger hunts? This week of camp is one big scavenger hunt, as we explore the outdoors trying to find cool things in nature that start with each letter of the alphabet! We'll search for everything from ants to zebras (well, probably not zebras, but we'll try our best to find another Z-word!). We'll also try to find hidden letters formed by various objects in nature.

THINGS THAT MAKE YOU GO EWW! — JULY 13-17

Worms, slugs, leeches, mud, slimy frogs, scat (if you don't know what it is, you'll find out!) Do any of these things make you say "Eeewww!?" If so, then this is the camp for you! There are quite a few things in nature that may seem gross, but when you really take the time to learn about them, you'll find they are extremely fascinating.

AQUATIC ADVENTURES — JULY 20-24

Are you ready for some water adventures? We'll have fun getting wet as we explore the stream, pond, and even puddles (if they're around.) We'll learn about what lives in, on, and around water, do some water activities and crafts, and even play some water games on the front lawn.

DAYLIGHT/MOONLIGHT— JULY 27-31

Not all animals go to sleep when the sun goes down. During this week of camp, we'll discuss diurnal (daytime) vs. nocturnal (nighttime) animals and learn where those sneaky nighttime critters hide during the daytime. We'll learn to look for animal clues and learn different sounds we may hear in the night.

WELCOME TO THE WILD — AUGUST 3-7

An introduction to the outdoors! Come learn about basics of outdoor safety, what to do when hiking, being aware of what's going on around you, and more. This session will test your skills in a scavenger hunt in search of animal signs, learn how to identify poison ivy and other plants and/or animals to stay away from. Welcome to the wild, it's a pretty nice place to be!

ON THE FLY — AUGUST 10-14

What do insects, birds, and bats all have in common? If you guessed that they have wings and can fly, you're right! This session focuses on the hows and whys of flight and the animals that use this wonderful adaptation of survival.

EXPLORERS

Entering 3rd - 6th Grade

9 a.m. - 3 p.m. | \$350 per child per week

NO BACKBONE REQUIRED — JUNE 22-26

Ahhh, backbones, who needs 'em? We do, but invertebrates don't! We'll learn about the strange characteristics and amazing adaptations of these spineless creatures, such as how they move, how they avoid predators, where they live, and more.

AUDUBON ADVENTURERS — JUNE 29-JULY 2*

Audubon Adventures is an environmental education curriculum product created by the National Audubon Society for grades 3 - 5 that presents standards-based science content about birds, wildlife, and their habitats. We'll be incorporating the interactive lessons, games, and activities into our explorations throughout the week. Get ready for an Adventure with Audubon! *There is no camp on Friday, July 3rd. Cost of this camp session is \$280.

WILDLIFE IN FOCUS — JULY 6-10

They say a picture is worth a thousand words. During this week of camp, we will spend time exploring the nooks and crannies of the Audubon sanctuary documenting some of our favorite discoveries through the camera lens, or by drawing them on paper. Students should bring a digital camera or sketch pad to camp each day, if you have one.

ICKY-OLOGY — JULY 13-17

Icky-ology is the study of gross, disgusting things. Well, not really, but we'll be exploring plenty of things that make us say, "ick!" during this fun week of camp. Are snakes really slimy? Do bats really get stuck in people's hair? What exactly is bee barf? Find out the answers to these questions and so much more!

To register, go online to
audubon.org/sharon/camps



2025 Campers. Photos: SAC Staff

WONDERS OF WATER — JULY 20-24

There's more water around us than just what we see in ponds and streams. In this camp week, we'll learn about other places where we can find water, as well as how different animals find and use water, too. We'll do water experiments and also play water games on the front lawn.

NO PLACE LIKE HOME— JULY 27-31

There's no place like home! There's no place like home! By now, you know what a habitat is, so during this week we'll look more into why plants and animals live in their particular habitats, and the adaptations they possess in order to survive there. It will be Wicked fun!

HOO'S HUNTING WHO?— AUGUST 3-7

Dive into the world of predators and prey as we learn about food chains, teeth, and beaks. Be on the lookout for various animals throughout the sanctuary. Are they a predator, prey, or both? Let's examine owl pellets and look for clues in various habitats around the center to see if we can discover "hoo's been hunting who!"

BIRD'S THE WORD— AUGUST 10-14

This session will dive deep into the world of birds and bird conservation, from feathers and flight to eggs and nest building to migration and hardships. Learn how to identify common birds found around the Audubon Center and how to use binoculars out in the field. If you like birds, you don't want to miss this week!