

Upham Woods Gift Guide



UPHAM
WOODS



Extension
UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MADISON



Our Mission:

Upham Woods Outdoor Learning Center provides educational opportunities to youth, youth leaders and adults through programs focused on the environment and leadership.

Upham Woods Outdoor Learning Center helps youth and adults develop responsible environmental attitudes. People choose Upham Woods because of our high quality programs and our staff's commitment to excellence, enthusiasm, friendliness, and professionalism. Our clients include Madison and Milwaukee area schools, state and county 4-H groups, Boy Scout and Girl Scout troops, church groups, as well as adult conference groups.



Located on the scenic Wisconsin River, among the beautiful sandstone cliffs, rock outcroppings and lush green forests of the upper Dells, Upham Woods Outdoor Learning Center is just 1.5 miles north of Wisconsin Dells. Upham Woods is owned and operated by the University of Wisconsin-Extension and is a year-round facility. Upham Woods manages and provides exclusive access to Blackhawk Island, a state designated natural area that is home to unique flora and fauna, as well as rich Native American lore. Interpretive hikes on Blackhawk Island are one of the most requested programs. Our professional staff are knowledgeable and strive to provide the best environmental and outdoor educational programs possible.



78 persons.

Upham Woods is best explored through multi-day programs. The typical overnight experiences are two to four days in length. Multi-day stays increase the programming opportunities, and allows the group to better bond and build long lasting ties. Most groups end each evening with a memorable campfire. Groups have the choice to stay in rustic cabins that promote bonding or our more hotel-like dormitory. The six cabins can house up to a total of 134 individuals, while the dormitory can accommodate

Our popular programs are also available to visiting groups who do not wish to stay overnight. Groups may choose any of our programs that meet their curriculum and timing needs. Food service is also available to visiting day groups.

Environmental education programs provide the backbone of the Upham Woods experience. Groups can choose from a wide variety of programming options and activities. All of our environmental and outdoor education lessons are presented through experiential, hands-on

activities and are led by professional naturalists.

An example of the programs offered at Upham Woods include:

- Blackhawk Island Hikes
- Orienteering Courses
- River Critter Exploration utilizing stereoscopes
- Raptor Programs featuring our Red-tailed Hawk
- Low Ropes Course and Group Initiatives
- Living History with a French Voyageur or an 1850's Wisconsin Lumberjack
- Campfires
- Live Amphibian and Reptile Programs
- Canoeing
- Archery
- Outdoor Survival



In 1941, the Upham sisters (Elizabeth and Caroline) created a lasting legacy by donating the land that is now Upham Woods to the University of Wisconsin. Through this generous donation, they were able to ensure that youth and adults learn and grow through outdoor experiences, just as they had throughout their childhood. The sisters laid the philosophical groundwork for Upham Woods with their stipulations of the land's use. They wrote: *"These lands are to be used as an outdoor laboratory and camp for youth ... in the advancement of conservation, of agriculture and rural culture."*



After the land was transferred to UW-Extension and the Wisconsin 4-H Youth Development Program, 4-H clubs throughout Wisconsin built on the legacy by raising funds for structures and programming you see today at Upham Woods. From the dimes that Ranger Mac, the first Upham Director, challenged 4-H members to bring with them to camp (which eventually allowed Upham Woods to purchase additional adjacent acreage), to the cabins which

were funded by individual families and county 4-H organizations, generous contributions became a cornerstone for making the original dream of the Upham sisters a reality.

Now, 75 years later, Upham Woods is still dependent on that same type of generosity to keep its programming and facilities available for today's youth and adults. Just as those who came before, you can ensure your legacy through a donation to Upham Woods. Throughout these pages you'll find a remarkable variety of programmatic, building and facility needs, and you'll be introduced to the people and programs of Upham Woods.

Join us in providing for Upham Woods's future.

Animals of Upham Woods

Youth and adults learn about native reptiles, amphibians, and birds through a variety of programs such as Radical Raptors and Scales, Scutes, & Skins. Upham Woods is home to two raptors: Beauty, a red-tailed hawk, and Stella, a barred owl. We also have numerous reptiles and amphibians housed in our Nature Center—everything from turtles and frogs to snakes and salamanders. Youth learn about the reptiles and amphibians through hands-on environmental education.



It takes significant funding to feed our animals throughout the year. If you adopt the animals for a year we will recognize your support for the animals by displaying your name over their enclosure.

Your donation can...

- \$520 Adopt all the reptiles and amphibians for one year
- \$1,300 Adopt the raptors for an entire year.

Outpost Equipment



In the summer months, many 4-H groups participate in our popular outpost program. During these adventure-based trips groups of youth and their volunteer adult leader's camp in rustic settings while paddling down the Wisconsin River or exploring Devil's Lake or Mirror Lake State Parks. Youth camp and cook together as a team as well as support one another throughout the many adventure activities. As you can imagine, the outpost equipment is used regularly throughout the summer by hundreds of youth and requires replacement on a regular basis.

Your donation can...

- \$350 Purchase one Eureka Timberline Outfitter four person tent.
- \$30 Purchase one mess kit, one pudgy pie maker or one first aid kit.

Technology

In the last 75 years, technology has made some tremendous advances! Upham Woods strives to continue improving our programs through a variety of methods, including the increasing incorporation of wise use of technology. Its use in our environmental education classes improves learning outcomes for many of the students. One of the most exciting educational tools is our DOTS (Digital Observation Technology Skills) kits, which is an outdoor environmental education lesson that uses modern mobile technology tools to connect today's students to the



outdoors in new and innovative ways. This inquiry-based lesson navigates the basics of the scientific method, and focuses on the importance of good scientific communication and sharing discoveries with others. Students work in groups to test simple hypotheses from the environmental and ecological differences across the local landscape using data and observations collected in the field. Participants use the technology tools found in the DOTS kits to make observations, take measurements, explore the micro and macro details of their environment, and learn how to embrace their inner scientists. They collect digital artifacts to test their hypothesis including both quantitative and qualitative data. In addition, 'Media Specialists' are responsible for collecting photo and video evidence of each groups 'scientific story' that can then be used to present the results of the study to share with others.

Your donation can...

\$500	Purchase a new sound system for presentations or circle dances. One needed.
\$800	Purchase a portable wireless microscope and tablet for display. Three needed.
\$7500	Purchase all equipment for a new DOTS (Digital Observation Technology Skills) kit.

Outdoor Education

With its natural beauty and plentiful resources, Upham Woods is an obvious location for youth to enjoy and explore the outdoors. In outdoor education, staff place an emphasis on the relationships of people and natural resources. Through fun, hands-on outdoor pursuits, youth learn the importance of being responsible stewards of our natural world. Upham Woods provides a variety of activities for youth including fishing, archery, canoeing, low ropes course, cross country skiing, hiking, swimming and snowshoeing. Equipment is continually used by thousands of youth each year and is in constant need of repair and replacement.

Your donation can...



Archery

\$10	Replace the tips of 10 arrows. 50 needed each year.
\$20	Replace one target face. 50 needed each year.
\$140	Replace one Ethafoam 36in self-healing target. One new target needed each year.

Winter Equipment

\$20	Replace one pair of cross country skis and bindings. 10 needed each year.
\$60	Replace one pair of Alpina Blazer 3-pin cross country ski boots. 10 pairs needed each year.
\$75	Replace one pair of Redfeather youth snowshoes. 20 pair needed.

Canoeing

\$20	Purchase a new canoe paddle. Five needed each year.
\$1050	Purchase one Mad River Journey 167 canoe. Two needed.
\$40	Purchase a youth PFD. Ten needed each year.

\$40 Purchase an adult PFD. Five needed each year.

Kayaking

\$60 Purchase one Sea Passage kayak paddle.

Swimming

\$100 Replace 250 feet of Kwik Tech swim area boundary rope. One new swim rope needed.

Low Ropes Course (Peanut Butter Mountain)

\$30 Purchase equipment for one new ground group initiative. Two needed each year.

\$500 Fund the course annual safety inspection.

Environmental Education



The Upham sisters donated the Center's land to the University of Wisconsin-Extension so that it could be used as an "outdoor laboratory." From the very beginning, youth and adults have convened at Upham Woods to learn about the environment. At Upham Woods, participants have the chance to gain new knowledge about nature and have hands on experience interacting with the ecosystems they learn about.

Environmental education is the backbone of what we do at the Center.

We strive to continuously improve our programs and equipment to increase the enjoyment and learning level of our guests.

Your donation can...

\$10 Replace one orienteering compass. Five needed each year.

\$50 Replace one pair of water collection boots. Five needed each year.

\$75 Purchase a new dip net for aquatic invertebrate sampling. Three needed.

\$200 Create one self-directed interpretive hiking backpack (backpack, guide books, three pairs of binoculars, four compasses, laminated trail maps, small first aid kit, flashlight, whistle). Five needed.

Facilities

Upham Woods consists of 310 acres of land (100 on the mainland and 210 on Blackhawk Island) and 17 buildings. In 1951, the first cabins were built on the property. By 1987, the last building, a storage and work building, was completed. In the time since they were erected, repairs and improvements have been made to most of the buildings, but time is starting to take its toll on all of the facilities at Upham Woods. It is critical that Upham Woods can continue to maintain and improve the existing structures. The state of all the buildings directly impacts the youth and adults who participate in programming at the Center.

Your donation can...

- \$200 Build one circle bench “reflection area.”
Two needed.
- \$200 Purchase heavy duty tarp to store trail building tools outside for conservation service project
- \$500 Purchase lumber for a wheelchair accessible boardwalk building service project. 10 more sections needed.
- \$800 Purchase native plants for sustainable landscaping around the Lodge or Nature Center.
- \$900 Sponsor the annual heating safety inspection.
- \$1,000 Build a staircase to the beach area past the low ropes challenge course.
- \$1,500 Build a staircase going down to the caves on Blackhawk Island.
- \$6,000 Build a covered luggage area for incoming and outgoing groups. One needed.
- \$7,000 Purchase a new wheelchair accessible fishing dock.
- \$9,000 Build a covered teaching shelter for rainy days. One more needed.



(Construction prices are approximate because building material prices constantly change. If you are interested in completely funding one of the projects listed below, please contact Upham Woods and we will calculate a current, actual cost.)

Get Kids to Camp



Above all else, we want more kids to come to camp to laugh and learn, and to begin to recognize their role in the environment. With a camp that is approximately 100 acres on the mainland, transportation is not only an issue to and from Upham Woods but also within camp. Providing support that helps the camp be more efficient and effective allows us to spend more time and resources on our campers. Your donation can...

- \$100 Gets one child to experience camp for three days.
- \$500 Transports 50 kids to camp.
- \$2,500 Fills one cabin with campers for three days.
- \$5,000 Brings a busload of kids to camp for a three day experience of a lifetime.
- \$5,000 Allows 100 kids to spend three days on leadership development and camp counselor training.
- \$7,500 Brings a group of 100 kids to camp to focus on science, technology, engineering and math.
- \$10,000 Fills the camp with a group of campers from Operation Military Kids for five days.
- \$10,000 Allows 100 kids to attend Arts Camp, which melds art and environment over a three day period.

Dreams...

Upham Woods has big dreams for the future. The center point for all of the plans is providing a wider range of educational opportunities and improving the comfort and enjoyment of our visitors. We feel that dreaming big is vital for long term continuation and success of Upham Woods. To that end, Upham Woods has an endowment fund that allows us to provide for the long-term needs of the center. We're focused on making Upham Woods a jewel in environmental education.

Welcome and Learning Center



Our current Welcome Center and Administration Building was built in 1957 when the number of staff and annual visitation were a quarter what it is today, and operations were largely summer only. A lot has changed since then. We place more emphasis on energy and resource

conservation, and need a welcome and learning center that models what we teach.

We envision a state-of-the-art welcome and learning center that will serve as a focal point for the camp, one that serves to inspire and educate. This new facility will include handicap-accessible, environmentally-friendly spaces for four-season classroom space, as well as a panoramic view and modern facilities to welcome every visitor to Upham Woods.

Your donation can...

\$2,000,000 Build the state-of-the-art Welcome and Learning Center. Naming rights available.

(Construction prices are approximate because building material prices constantly change. If you are interested in completely funding one of the projects listed below, please contact Upham Woods and we will calculate a current, actual cost.)

Thank You!

Without the support of people, like you, Upham Woods would not reach the 11,000 youth and adults who explore our corner of the natural world every year. Thank you for caring about our kids!



Donation Form

Thank you for your donation!

Your Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____ Email _____

Optional: Donation being made in the name of _____

Donation Amount _____

Please indicate which facility or program need for which the donation is intended. If no item is designated, the donation will be used for our most immediate need.

I would like my donation to be used for the following facility or program need(s):

Donations of \$500 or more will be recognized with an engraved donor brick at our Legacy Fire Circle.

I would like my brick to be engraved with the following (note that you may indicate text of up to three lines and 14 characters per line):

Checks should be made payable to Upham Woods.

All donations are tax deductible to the extent allowed by law.

Please mail this form and donation to:

Upham Woods
N194 County Rd N
Wisconsin Dells, WI 53965

Questions or comments may be directed to Justin Hougham, Executive Director at
Phone 608-254-6461 or justin.hougham@wisc.edu