

Boy Scouts at the Hatchery

Many of the educational programs offered at the **Cold Spring Harbor Fish Hatchery & Aquarium** are great for Boy Scouts already working on a merit badge. During these programs, scouts can learn about fishes, reptiles, amphibians and aquatic invertebrates — all native to New York State.

Reptiles & Amphibians

With the largest living collection of native reptiles and amphibians in New York State, the Hatchery is uniquely prepared to educate scouts on these fascinating creatures. Learn where these animals live, what they consume, how they protect themselves, and why many species are endangered. Scouts will be able to get up close and personal with a variety of amazing creatures.

*\$60 for up to 12 people, \$5 per additional person
1-hour program*

Aquaculture

Hatcheries are vital to the management of our aquatic resources. Scouts are introduced to the inner workings of the fish hatchery, how we keep fish disease free, how we use natural artesian well water to minimize consumption, and how fish are collected and delivered safely to their new homes. Scouts will be able to tour the trout ponds and have an opportunity to feed the hungry trout.

*\$60 for up to 12 people, \$5 per additional person
1-hour program*

Hatchery & Aquarium Tour

Through live animal encounters and feeding the hungry trout, scouts will learn about the aquatic animals that live in their communities.

*\$60 for up to 12 people, \$5 per additional person
1-hour program*

Freshwater Ecology

Explore and compare the inhabitants and characteristics of two freshwater ponds. After observing specimens from our Spring Pond, students will hike a nature trail and use dip nets, seines and buckets to actively investigate the animals and plants that live and interact in another aquatic site. Be prepared to get wet and muddy! Old shoes and clothes are necessary.

*\$100 for up to 12 people, \$8 per additional person
2-hour program*

Pond Life

Observing specimens collected from our Spring Pond, scouts study the concepts of predator-prey and producer-consumer relationships, as well as the interdependence of all living organisms in the food web. Samples from the pond will be examined upon collection and under our microscope in the classroom.

*\$75 for up to 12 people, \$6 per additional person
1-hour program*

Group Rate

A group rate is available for scouting groups that wish to visit us, but do not want a guided program. For groups with a minimum of 15 people.

\$1 discount off general admission

**Groups of less than 15 people will pay general admission prices. Must be scheduled in advance.*

To Schedule Your Program

Contact Krissy at fisheducator@cshfha.org or (516) 692-6768. Programs can be scheduled 7 days a week. Earliest start time is 10am. All programs must be completed by 5pm.



Which program do you recommend?

Are you working on a merit badge? Visit the Fish Hatchery to gain the knowledge needed to fulfill your merit badge requirements. The below list is a guideline to how some of our educational programs can help you achieve your merit badge. Working on a specific requirement not listed below? Contact the Hatchery to setup a custom program for your troop.

I am working on the **Fish and Wildlife Management** merit badge...

Participate in the **Aquaculture** program to learn about the inner workings of the Hatchery and why hatcheries are vital to the management of the native fish populations. Watch the wildlife around the Hatchery and let our exhibit animals teach you about local aquatic animals during the **Hatchery & Aquarium Tour** and **Reptiles & Amphibians** programs. During the **Freshwater Ecology** program we are sure to find wildlife as we hike through the preserve to Franklin's Pond, where we will use nets to collect aquatic animals.

I am working on the **Reptile and Amphibian Study** merit badge...

What better way to learn about these animals than to visit the largest living collection of reptiles and amphibians in New York State? The **Reptiles & Amphibians** tour will give you an opportunity to have a close encounter with many of the aquatic turtles, snakes, frogs and salamanders that live in New York. Want to learn about freshwater fish also? Let one of our educators guide you on a **Hatchery & Aquarium Tour**.

I am working on the **Nature** merit badge...

Learn about the fishes, reptiles and amphibians that live in New York State during a **Hatchery & Aquarium Tour** or **Reptiles & Amphibians** program. See birds and small mammals around the Hatchery. Collect the aquatic insects eaten by fish and other animals during a **Pond Life** or **Freshwater Ecology** program. The **Freshwater Ecology** program will also take you on a nature hike to Franklin's Pond where we will use nets to collect macroinvertebrates and hopefully some fish and amphibians.

I am working on the **Insect Study** merit badge...

Search through samples of pond water or hike to a nearby pond to get an up close look at various species of aquatic insects during our **Pond Life** and **Freshwater Ecology** programs.

Take a Hike!

Coordinate your visit with a hike through the neighboring St. John's Pond Preserve. Or head over to the Cold Spring Harbor State Park to hike on the northern trailhead of the Nassau Suffolk Greenbelt Trail, located approximately ½ mile from the Hatchery.

