

## Tips to Remember

- \* Please remind children and adults to dress appropriately for the weather:  
sturdy shoes or boots—no sandals (unless sport sandals)  
raincoats— no umbrellas please  
jackets or sweatshirts—it can be cooler at Fernwood than at school  
mittens, hats, scarves in winter.

We will be going outside at least for a short while as long as the weather is not dangerous.

- \* In case of bad weather, it is up to the teacher to cancel the fieldtrip. All programs will be modified to an indoor situation should weather prevent the students from going outside. *If a fieldtrip is cancelled, there is very little chance of rescheduling* (our calendar is filled for the year once booking opens in August). While Fernwood staff do not answer the phones until after 10:00 am (our public hour of opening), we do have Voice Mail that is checked throughout the morning. Please leave a message (#220 or #221) and a naturalist will get back to you as soon as possible. Please remember that Fernwood is always closed on Mondays.

- \* Program fees and your student/adult/tagalongs headcount should be given to the Reception staff in the Visitors Center. Please have those numbers prepared before you arrive.

- \* Name tags are helpful—if they are stick-on ones, please have children wear them on the outside of their coats.

- \* If you are having a picnic lunch on the grounds, please bring your lunches off the bus with you. Picnicking is allowed on the lawns. **Please bring garbage bags for cleanup—you are responsible for your own trash removal.** Remember that Fernwood is a public facility and supervise your students closely to prevent damage to the grounds and disturbance to other visitors.

- \* We strongly recommend you **bring at least one adult per ten students**, more if possible. Adult chaperones are valuable assistants to keeping children safe and in their groups. Please remind adults that they are here as *assistants* —they should not answer questions intended for the students, cause distractions, or talk loudly at the back of the group. It is very important that teachers and chaperones help facilitate programs and maintain group control.

- \* Please review the Fernwood rules listed on the back of this sheet with your students before their visit. Some of these rules are the same as the ones at school and are required to maintain a safe and positive experience for children at Fernwood. Finally, come prepared to learn and have fun!!!

## **Fernwood Rules**

Fernwood's naturalist staff and Volunteer Educators will be providing programs for visiting students. These rules will be reviewed and enforced during a school group visit to Fernwood to maintain a safe and a positive learning environment for everyone.

- \* Stay on the trails and out of the garden beds. This keeps students from getting lost, crushing plants, or getting into poison ivy.
- \* Walk while on the trails – to keep you safe as you go up and down hills and steps.
- \* Do not pick anything. Plants die when picked and no one else gets to enjoy them. Touching gently is OK if students ask first.
- \* Stay with your group and behind your leader. Students should be able to see the leader's back at all times.
- \* Be good listeners - eyes on leader, ears open, feet and mouth quiet. That way students can learn all the neat things we have to share with them.
- \* Raise your hand if you have a question or something to say - then everyone gets a chance to talk.
- \* General school rules apply at Fernwood: take turns, no pushing/shoving/hitting, don't litter, listen to your adult.

