



# YELLOWSTONE FOREVER

## YELLOWSTONE MASTER NATURALIST

### Itinerary & Details

FIELD SEMINAR - SUMMER 2021

**INSTRUCTOR(S):** This program hosts several different instructors, including Yellowstone Forever Lead Field Educator, Amanda Evans, who will be throughout the entire program. Other instructors include local area experts and researchers who will teach on a variety of different topics.

**ACTIVITY LEVEL:** This course is an activity **level 2** and students enrolled in this course are expected to be active participants. Be prepared to hike up to 3 miles per day, comfortably, with elevation gains up to 600 feet. Some off-trail hiking possible.\*

*\*All field activities will be conducted as a group. If you cannot meet the activity level expectations during your program, you may be restricted from participation in daily outings. We will not alter program itineraries or activities to accommodate participants who cannot meet the expectations of the stated activity level.*

**LOCATION:** Course begins at the Yellowstone Forever classrooms located in Gardiner, MT.

**PROGRAM DATES & TIMES:** The program begins at 7:00 p.m. on Sunday, October 3, 2021, and ends on Friday, October 8, 2021, at 4:00 p.m.

**LODGING CHECK-IN & CHECK-OUT:** There is limited lodging available through Yellowstone Forever at our Yellowstone Overlook Field Campus (shared lodging). If interested in YOFC lodging please reach out to us directly at 406-848-2400. There is also several lodging facilities in Gardiner, MT. You can find more information about Gardiner based lodging here: [Gardiner, MT - Lodging](#)

**MEALS:** You will need to bring your own food; lunch should be able to travel in the field with you.

For general information about the facilities, preparing for classes, what to expect, cancellation policies, and more, please see the [Gardiner Field Seminars - Summer General Information](#) document.

## FROM THE INSTRUCTOR(S)

Welcome to an intense and rewarding course with Yellowstone Forever. The *Yellowstone Master Naturalist* course teaches skills for those interested in increasing natural history knowledge and promoting awareness, understanding, and stewardship of Yellowstone's natural environment. The Yellowstone Master Naturalist Program is designed for adults who want to stoke their curiosity, deepen their knowledge of the natural world, and give back to their communities in new ways. Participants gain skills to interpret Yellowstone's flora, fauna, and landscape. This course focuses on the depth of Yellowstone content knowledge with some methodology of instruction.

**To learn these skills, students in this course will earn credentials as a certified Montana Master Naturalist through the Montana Natural History Center and receive a Yellowstone Master Naturalist certificate through Yellowstone Forever.**

The focus of this week-long course will be developing skills to read the Yellowstone landscape. We'll highlight and discuss themes related to natural history, cultural history, trophic cascades, ecology, controversial topics, pedagogy, and habitat to frame our course. Through this multi-day, intensive course, participants will develop the ability to understand the Yellowstone landscape. There will be classroom instruction, field-based learning, and demonstrations. You can expect to be in the field and/or classroom eight to ten hours a day and have evening assignments or activities. Your objective is to learn as much as you can in a week and demonstrate your skills as a Yellowstone naturalist. Expect to challenge yourself and think on your feet.

We look forward to you joining us this summer in Yellowstone!

- *Yellowstone Forever Educator Staff*

## PROGRAM ITINERARY

The itinerary is designed to take advantage of the best opportunities in the park, but may be adjusted to adapt to weather conditions, wildlife activity, holidays, and road construction. *The details and timing of the agenda are subject to change.*

*Exact details of the course will be sent to participants a least 30 days before course start date – this includes topics, activities, and instructors. Expect to learn from a variety of different local experts on a variety of topics.*

### Day 1

**6:00 p.m.** Dinner  
**7:00 p.m.** Introduction to the program and plan for the week

### Days 2 – 6

**5:30 a.m.** Breakfast  
**6:15 a.m.** Depart for field  
**11:00 a.m.** Lunch in the field  
**4:30 p.m.** Return to the ranch  
**6:00 p.m.** Dinner  
**7:00 p.m.** Evening program

### Day 7

**7:00 a.m.** Breakfast  
**9:00 a.m.** Check out of the ranch.

## PROGRAM EQUIPMENT

For a full list of recommended equipment for all courses see the [Lamar Buffalo Ranch - Summer General Information](#) document.

**There are no specific items required for this class.**

## RECOMMENDED READING

No prior reading is required, but participants might enjoy the following publications, that complement the program. Most publications are available at Yellowstone Forever's online store at [shop.yellowstone.org](http://shop.yellowstone.org) Yellowstone Forever supporters receive a 15% discount and proceeds directly support the park.

### Websites:

- [Yellowstone National Park's website](#)

### Books:

- Alden, P. et al. 1998. *National Audubon Society Field Guide to the Rocky Mountain States*. Alfred A. Knopf; New York, NY.
- Craighead, K. 1999. *Large Mammals of the Yellowstone Ecosystem*. Yellowstone Association: Yellowstone National Park, WY.
- Koch, E. D. and C. R. Peterson. 1995. *Amphibians and Reptiles of Yellowstone and Grand Teton National Parks*. University of Utah Press: Salt Lake City, UT.
- McEneaney, T. 1988. *Birds of Yellowstone*. Roberts Rinehart: Boulder, CO.
- Streubel, D. P. 1989. *Small Mammals of the Yellowstone Ecosystem*. Roberts Rinehart: Boulder, CO.

## WHOM TO CONTACT

**For any questions, concerns, or additional information please contact the following:**

- Program itinerary, health forms, payment, and activity questions please contact Yellowstone Forever at [institute@yellowstone.org](mailto:institute@yellowstone.org) or 406-848-2400
- Road updates, park conditions, and general park information please contact Yellowstone National Park Service at <https://www.nps.gov/yell/contacts.htm>
- If running late for a program, please contact 406-848-2400