

Activities for the 2017 Solar Eclipse Weekend

All activities listed are included in the package prices

Open Activities

Open Paddling

Paddling on the beautiful 1,200 acre Little Grassy Lake will be available in provided canoes or kayaks. For those with less experience, staff will be on our beaches 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. each day to give you instruction and assistance if needed.

Open Rock Wall Climbing

Our portable rock wall will be available for use anytime from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Grab a helmet and harness, and scale one of three routes. Experienced staff will keep you “on belay”.

Zip-line

Get harnessed in and experience our 40-foot zip line located in Camp 2 from 1 p.m. to 6 p.m. each day.

Arts and Crafts

Let your imagination run wild each day from 9 a.m. to noon when our craft table will be stocked with beads, paper, fabric, yarn and all sorts of other things. Staff will help you make God’s eyes, dreamcatchers and construct pinhole viewers.

Night Sky Viewing

Each night, 7 p.m. to 11 p.m., we will bring out the telescope and look at the stars and planets as well as share a few stories written in the constellations. Feel free to bring out your own equipment for this nightly star party.

Campfire

Songs, stories and s’mores will all be shared at our nightly campfires. A chance to relax and unwind each night under the stars from 7 p.m. to 11 p.m.

Swimming

Activities with Sign-up Required

* Sign-up is first come first serve at breakfast time each day.

Team Building

Our Team Building and Development staff provide innovative team building and leadership development programs by using our Association for Challenge Course Technology (ACCT) inspected/approved team building course. Courses are designed specifically for your group.

Rock Climbing Off-site

Our Rock Climbing provides a thrilling experience to people of all ages. Climb to new heights at any of Southern Illinois' beautiful sandstone bluffs. Our well trained staff will

guide you around any of these locations for an awesome day of top-rope climbing. We have different skill levels of cliffs to scale based on your experience level.

Pamper Pole

Our pamper pole is a 30 foot tall telephone pole with a big red ball dangling 8 feet away from the top of the pole. Participants will be harnessed up and put on belay before they begin their ascent to the top of the pole, in hopes to stand on the very top and jump out and hit the ball. The pamper pole is one of the most intimidating elements in our adventure education toolkit. Getting its name from the brand of diapers that some participants may have wished they had worn, the pamper pole pushes people outside of their comfort zones.

Wine Tour (Over 21 only)

Details on the wine tour are coming soon!

Dipnetting

Learn how to catch aquatic macroinvertebrates and other critters, identify them and find out why they are crucial to determining water quality. A fun, hands-on learning experience for the whole family. Nets will be provided, please wear closed-toed shoes that can get wet.

Tree I.D. Hike

Brush up on southern Illinois tree species and learn how to identify them, their uses and their importance in the Shawnee. Hike will be lead by an SIU student majoring in forestry.

Edible Plants Hike

A walk that could someday save your life. Learn about local edibles and how to find and identify them, as well as poisonous imposters.

Rocky Ledges Interpretive Hike

Rocky Ledges is the crown jewel of Touch of Nature trail system. Along the trail we will stop and talk about birds, geology, ecology and Touch's history. The hike ends at Rocky Ledges just in time to see the total solar eclipse with a perfect view.

Presentations

"From Peenemunde to the Moon" Presented by: Jim Shedlowsky

"The Way We Found the Universe" Presented by: Jim Shedlowsky

"Histories and Mysteries of the Eclipse" Presented by: Susan Fowler

Presentation by Tom Hagen on atmospheric monitoring with a very low frequency radio setup he will be using to monitor the eclipse.