

Program Descriptions

SPECIAL PROGRAMS (additional equipment charges apply):

Arena Lessons (1.5 hr) – Arena lessons combine a short lesson on horse grooming and tack with time in the saddle inside one of our riding rings. Depending on the participant’s experience and level of comfort, they may ride alone or have someone lead their horse. This is an ideal experience for first-time riders or anyone considering further lessons. Participants must be at least 8 years of age for arena rides. Limit 8 participants per session. Additional fee: \$10/person

Trail Rides (1.5 hr) –Once riders mount their assigned horses, our riding staff ensures that they can safely maneuver inside our riding ring before setting out on the trail. Trail rides take participants to the top of Cushion Peak for a breath-taking view of the surrounding area. Participants must be at least 10 years of age for trail rides. Limit 8 participants per session. Additional fee: \$10/person

Trap Shooting (3 hrs) – A certified and experienced instructor leads the group through standard firearm safety procedures before introducing the age-old sport of trap shooting where participants use shotguns to shoot clay targets. Whether a beginner or ‘old hand’, participants practice gun safety, personal responsibility and sportsmanship while enjoying their time at the range. Group size limitations apply, call for availability. Additional fee: \$5/person.

High Ropes (1.5 hr OR 3 hrs) – High ropes elements aim to take participants out of their comfort zone and let them face physical and emotional challenges at tree-top level. Some elements require participants to ‘go it alone’ while others are designed to be completed in pairs. Participants wear protective gear and must be at least 12 years of age. Facilitators are trained in belaying and climbing safety equipment. Group size limitations apply, call for availability. Additional fee: \$20/person

Underground Railroad Simulation (evening program only – 1.5 hr) – Participants will develop an appreciation and understanding for the trials and tribulations slaves encountered as they risked their lives for freedom by participating in a simulated night-time journey through the woods and roads of camp. Students take on the roles of escaping slaves led by the adults in their group who become ‘conductors’. They will encounter abolitionists as well as slave hunters during their journey northward. Students should research the experience in the classroom with participation in this simulation as the culmination of their learning. Group size limitations apply, call for availability. Additional fee: \$220.

Additional Activities

Outside vendors can be contracted to provide these programs for an additional fee while your group is onsite at South Mountain YMCA. Our staff will coordinate times, spaces, reservations and payment for you at no additional cost. Please call Audrey for additional information.

Baskets In The Woods – Debra Zvanut, life-long Girl Scout and talented basket-weaver, teaches the art of basket-making to folks of all ages. Everyone walks away with a take-home craft. Age and group size limitations apply. Fees vary, discounts for Girl Scout groups.

Bob the Critter Guy – The Critter Guy brings various reptiles, birds, arachnids and other invertebrates for an exciting and informative presentation. An hour presentation averages \$150.

Critter Caravans – A college educator with over 20 years experience handling reptiles employs a hands-on approach to deliver information about these wondrous creatures, their habitats, habits, and conservation. Formerly known as 'Snakes on Board!' Fee for an hour presentation averages \$225.

Real Live Reptiles – A quality natural history program featuring live snakes, alligators, lizards and turtles that introduces audiences of all ages to the fascinating world of reptiles. James McKeon has experience as a reptile keeper at the Philadelphia Zoological Garden and more than 40 years in the field observing reptiles in their natural habitat. Fee for an hour presentation averages \$500.

Red Creek Wildlife Center Raptor Programs – Bird of Prey programs featuring awe-inspiring live animals and conservation themes. Fees for 1 hour programs start at \$225 + travel.

Search and Rescue Dog Demos – Local handlers and their K9 companions will discuss their important work, how they train for search and rescue missions, and do a small-scale demonstration if possible. No additional cost, availability varies.

Square Dance – A square dance caller provides a fun evening program. Even if they've never square danced before, participants will have a great time with this program. Caller availability varies and prices range from \$150-\$275 a night.

Yoga for Kids, Adults, and Families – A trained yoga instructor teaches basic yoga poses for relaxation, exercise and flexibility.