



## Michigan Nature Association 2019 – 2020 Field Trip Grants

### Frequently Asked Questions

#### 1. Who may apply for the nature field trip grants?

Any accredited public or private K-12 school may apply for the grants. MNA is especially interested in applications from schools in urban neighborhoods with limited means and ability to access natural areas.

#### 2. What can the nature field trip grants be used for?

Grants can cover bus transportation and educational supplies (e.g., water test kits, field guides, binoculars, etc.) related to a field trip to a qualified natural area. Qualified natural areas include MNA nature sanctuaries, community nature centers, state parks and other appropriate locations.

#### 3. How much funding does each grant provide?

\$500 will be awarded per selected organization. Checks will be made out to a particular school, Recipients will receive \$400 of the \$500 up front; the remaining \$100 will be paid once a final report, trip photos and receipt of expenses are received

#### 4. When are grant applications due and when are awards made?

For the 2019-2020 school year, the next application deadline for Fall 2019 Field Trips is Wednesday, September 11, 2019 (decisions made by September 20) and Friday, February 28, 2020 for Spring 2020 Field Trips (decisions made by March 20).

#### 5. How do I apply?

Visit [www.michigannature.org](http://www.michigannature.org) and click on the Education tab to download a pdf of the application or to submit an online application using a Google Drive Form. Or contact the Michigan Nature Association directly at (866) 223-2231 or email [michigannature@michigannature.org](mailto:michigannature@michigannature.org) to request an application.

#### 6. What is the review process for the grants?

A review committee of representatives from the Michigan Nature Association will select grant recipients based on the strength of their applications.

#### 7. What are the criteria MNA will use to review grant applications?

The committee uses a decision making scoring rubric; a copy can be downloaded from [www.michigannature.org](http://www.michigannature.org) under the Education tab. We seek grants for trips that will connect students to the natural world and science standards at the state, district and school levels. MNA gives strong consideration to awarding grants to schools with limited access to natural areas due to financial, geographic and socioeconomic factors; as well as schools participating in MNA's School to Sanctuary Program. In some cases, grants can be provided for professional development opportunities that enhance a teacher's ability to provide outdoor, experiential environmental education.

#### 8. What type of grant reporting is required?

A 1-2 page report is required and at least three photos from the trip featuring students in the natural area. (Grant recipients must secure parental permission for distribution of photos.) A final report form will be provided to all grant recipients.