

Arboretum Tour Topics

Themed tours are listed below. Tours can be arranged depending on group size and visit length. Each tour is customized for specific age/grade. Links to Pennsylvania State Curriculum Standards are listed.

Arboretum Tours for School Groups

Trees and how they grow

What is a tree? Well, the answer isn't as simple as you think? Find out:
What makes a tree a tree, and not a shrub or grass or vegetable plant
How big and how old trees get and how we can tell
What are the parts of a tree that help it grow?
What do trees do while we're not watching?
What "photosynthesis", "transpiration" and "dormancy" mean
What happens when trees get old?

Native and Invasive Plants

What plants would have been here long ago?
What other living things depended on those plants?
How did the Native Americans use these plants?
How did other plants get here?
Why do you think they were brought here?
What happens when "other place" plants come to "this place?"
What happens to other living things when the native plants disappear?

Kinds of Plants

How big is a plant? (from tiny to huge!)
What kinds of plants are here in the Arboretum?
How are they different?
How can we tell a tree from a shrub, a perennial from an annual?
What are herbaceous plants.
What do all the kinds of plants have in common?

PA State Curriculum Standards: Environment & Ecology: 4.4 through 4.7 apply to all school group tours.



Arboretum Tours for Adult Groups

Highlights of the Arboretum

Find out what grows in the Reading Public Museum's Arboretum from season to season. Also learn who cares for the plants, and how decisions are made about the planting. Discover the Arboretum's Champion Trees, native plants and more. Come often to see this dynamic living collection.

Guided tour costs: (Group minimum of 10 people)

School groups: \$5 per student, staff free, non-staff chaperones: \$6 per person

Adult groups: \$7 per person



To arrange a guided tour of the Arboretum at the Reading Public Museum, contact: Anne Corso, Dept. of Education, 610-371-5850 ext. 227 or email: anne.corso@readingpublicmuseum.org.