



# York County Department of Parks and Recreation

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Nixon County Park Nature Center  
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November 22, 2016

Dear Teachers and Administrators,

Our records indicate that you may be planning a field trip to Nixon Park this spring. We wanted to make you aware that for part of the spring we will be working with limited staffing. To continue to provide programming at appropriate student/naturalist ratios we can only provide naturalist staff for one indoor and one outdoor program from May 9 - June 15, 2017 for group sizes larger than 60.

**If your group size is larger than 60 students and you would like to schedule May 9-June 15, please plan for one of the following scenarios.**

- Split your group into 2-3 dates instead of one to have smaller group sizes. When scheduling please have several available dates ready.

OR

- Plan a teacher instructed program led completely by your staff. This could include a scavenger hunt within the nature center (PDF copies available on our website), **and/or** an additional program. Ideas of programs you could lead include a nature art exercise, a reading and journaling activity, a nature hike for recreation, or an outdoor scavenger hunt.

Because every field trip meets slightly different classroom needs we will be happy to discuss ideas and options when you schedule.

If you are able to schedule your trip between February 1 and May 5, we do not expect any staffing concerns and you should plan to schedule as normal. When scheduling, please have several available dates ready.

Thank you for your understanding and patience as we try to make our field trips meet your expectations and suit the needs of your school. We look forward to seeing you and your students this year!

Sincerely,

Francis A. Velazquez

Manger of Education