



Alaska Center for the Environment

Trailside Discovery



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Palmer Hay Flats – Wasilla Information

Dear Trailside Parent/Guardian,

Thank you for your enrollment in Trailside's environmental education program

Balance must be paid in full seven days prior to week in which child/children is/are attending.

Drop-off / Pick-up: Students and instructors meet at the Palmer Hay Flats trail head or the Carrs parking lot. Programs begin promptly at 9:00 am and end at 4:00 pm. We ask that children not be dropped off earlier than 8:55 am or picked up later than 4:05 pm. We also provide van transportation from the Wasilla Carrs parking lot, *pick up 8:30 am and drop off 4:30 pm*, for a fee of \$5.00 per day. Arriving and departing on time is very important! If you are unable to drop off or pick up your child at these times an additional fee will be charged.

Items Students Need To Bring Each Day: (Please label all clothing with name & phone #)

- Rain Gear: Rain coat, rain pants, and rubber boots come in handy for wet days.
- Day pack: Children will carry their own packs and gear. Please pack them lightly!
- Water bottle: A supply of water is important to replenish fluids lost while traveling.
- Walking shoes: Sturdy shoes are important to comfortable travels. Good tennis shoes are O.K.
- Hats and/gloves: These help protect skin and keep body warm.

Snacks / Sack Lunch: Students will be very active during the day. Families need to provide one nutritious snack, a sack lunch, and a beverage. We suggest a sandwich, fruit juice or water, crackers and cheese, carrots or other vegetable, fruit and other similar fare. If lunches and snacks are comprised primarily of candy, pastries, and soda pop, etc. we are required to contact parents to request more nutritious food for children enrolled in our programs.

Required Forms: *Health form* must be filled out and returned to our office ten days prior to attending. The back of the health form must be signed by parents. A signed statement that all immunizations required for school are up to date and including the actual date of last tetanus shot *Parent Policy Brochure form* must also be reviewed by parents, and signed off on the health history form. Trailside Discovery does not carry Accident Insurance; you must carry your own accident coverage.

What to Expect: After meeting at the Palmer Hay Flats trailhead, groups of two staff to twelve to fourteen children will head in a variety of directions around the Hay Flats. Our group's head into the forest, wander along Cottonwood Creek, Cook Inlet, and have fun! Students move from place to place, watching wildlife and other natural wonders. Our instructors lead activities that directly involve students in learning basic concepts of ecology and the environment in which they live. These features make our programs fulfilling and unique outdoor experiences. We want children to enjoy their summer and to learn through experience. This approach should stir their natural curiosities to learn more about the natural world. We hope you are as excited about the program as we are! We eagerly await your arrival and our exploration into the wilds of Palmer Hay Flats! Please call us if you have any questions.

Thank You,

Thomas Burek, Director



