



# FIVE RIVERS

## ALABAMA'S DELTA RESOURCE CENTER



### FIELD TRIPS



Available online at [www.Alabama5Rivers.com](http://www.Alabama5Rivers.com)

Find us on Facebook and subscribe to our newsletter too!

*Field trips are always an exciting opportunity for students to visit new places and learn new things outside of the classroom.*

*5 Rivers is a field trip destination for students of all ages. With an exhibit hall, theater, classrooms, nature trail and boat tours, we specialize in teaching about the vibrant natural resource that is in our backyard, the Mobile-Tensaw Delta.*

*With the nation's second largest Delta as a launching point, other topics are easily covered, such as the importance of wetland habitats and water quality, conservation and land stewardship, and plants and animals of the Delta and beyond.*

*If you'd like to sign up for a field trip, please contact us at 251-625-0814.*

*Thank you,*

*5 Rivers Staff*

**5 Rivers – Alabama's Delta Resource Center  
30945 Five Rivers Blvd.  
Spanish Fort, AL 36527  
Phone: 251-625-0814  
Fax: 251-625-0864**



# Five Rivers Field Trips

[www.alabama5rivers.com](http://www.alabama5rivers.com)



## NUMBER OF STUDENTS

The maximum number of students we can accommodate in a single field trip is 80. This allows for a maximum of 4 groups with 20 students each. As with any classroom, the small class size provides a better learning environment for students and teachers. This class size also corresponds to the capacity of the pontoon boat tour if it is utilized. Larger class size will result in diminished offerings, as some items are suitable only for smaller groups. Please have your students divided into designated groups prior to arrival.

## TEACHERS AND CHAPERONES

A member of 5 Rivers Educational Staff will accompany each group of students. Please have at least one teacher and/or one chaperone per group. This teacher/chaperone will be responsible for the good conduct and behavior of their students, and must stay with the group at all times.

## COST

There is no admission fee with touring the Theater, Exhibit Hall or trails. The only cost is if you are arranging a boat tour, in which prices vary depending on length of tour and number of students. Five Rivers Delta Safaris is a private corporation under a concession agreement with Alabama State Lands Division to provide these tours. All boat scheduling should be done directly with Five Rivers Delta Safaris after a land tour has been booked.

## ARRIVAL TIME AND LENGTH OF TOUR

Plan to arrive no earlier than 9am. Tour length depends on several factors, including the number of students, tour modules chosen, boat tours, and lunch plans. In general, allow at least 15 minutes upon arrival for group arrangement, and at minimum 30 minutes per module. See module specifics for additional course time information.

## LUNCH

There are outdoor picnic tables located in close proximity to the facility. In the event of inclement weather, 5 Rivers will work with the field trip planner in advance to discuss what indoor options are available for that day.

## CYPRESS GIFT SHOP

Prices range from \$1 and higher in the Cypress Gift Shop. Students are welcome to shop in groups of no more than 10 at a time. A chaperone or teacher must be present at all times with the students in the shop. Souvenir gift bags can be prepared for your students for \$5 or more per student with prior notice.

## BUS PARKING

Buses are encouraged to use the circle in front of the Delta Hall to offload students. After students have disembarked, buses may park in the main parking lot in front of the buildings. Please have your students divided into designated groups prior to arrival so that after offloading they are easily organized.

## REGISTERING YOUR STUDENT TOUR

Please call 251-625-0814 for questions, information, and to register your student tour. Please have the following information available if you are registering a tour: school, grade level(s), contact information of teacher in charge including email and phone, number of students, number of teachers/chaperones, and if you'll be taking the regular tour or adding specialized modules. Student tours should be registered at least two weeks in advance.

## FIELD TRIP MODULES/OFFERINGS

A 5 Rivers tour can be flexible in what is offered and time it takes. Work together with our staff to decide in advance what you would like for your students. A “regular” tour generally consists of 2-4 main parts; the theater and exhibit hall, plus either the pontoon boat, nature trail, or a specialized module. A general rule of thumb is to give a minimum of 30 minutes per part, and groups of approximately 20 or less will be rotated through each part throughout the day.

### “Regular” Tour

1. **Tensaw Theater** – Surround sound, HD, widescreen theater. Our most common recommendation for first-time students is the Discovering Alabama 2008 “Mobile-Tensaw Delta”, lasting approximately 25 minutes. Please see “Tensaw Theater Collection” for additional listings available for show.
2. **Apalachee Exhibit Hall** – 4000 sq ft museum dedicated to history, flora, fauna and culture of the Mobile-Tensaw Delta. This hall is designed to be fluid and changing, stressing concepts of water quality, wetlands, conservation and land stewardship with interactive exhibits, artwork, live animals and taxidermy.
3. **Nature Trails** - 5 Rivers has 81 acres that include walking trails throughout. Trail tours can include different kinds of information, including site history, trees and shrubs of the area, and general forest, wildlife and conservation topics. This is outside, and subject to the elements. Please insure students dress appropriately.
4. **“The Pelican” pontoon boat (charges apply, separate registration)** – “The Pelican” can seat up to 23 individuals, and take groups out for 30 min, 1 or 2 hour tours. Prices vary based on student number and length of tour. Tickets must be arranged in advance and are subject to availability. It is best to first verify the ground tour date is available (251-625-0814) and then verify the water tour is available for that date (251-259-8531).

### Specialized Modules

In addition to the regular tour, you may choose some of our specialized modules. Each has a maximum of 20 students and some have additional restrictions. Specialized modules must be determined in advance to allow for the scheduling of course instructors, and are approximately 30 min each.

5. **Mammals** – Discuss characteristics of mammals, the advantages and drawbacks of being a mammal, and how mammals fit into the greater scheme of things. Explore mammals found in the Mobile-Tensaw Delta, and meet our resident quadruped educational mammal, Loretta the opossum.
6. **Turtles of Alabama** – Alabama can boast of having in residence half of the nation’s turtle species. Discuss and meet some of the Delta’s shelled residents, including our own State Reptile, the Alabama Red-Bellied Turtle. Discuss turtle conservation and what is being done to help some of our endangered turtle species.
7. **Alabama Snakes** – Alabama has a wide variety of snakes, with 6 venomous and 40 non-venomous species living within its borders. Discuss how snakes fit into the ecology of the state, how to tell venomous from nonvenomous, and look at live and taxidermy specimens.
8. **Plants** – Due in part to a high amount of rainfall, Alabama is lucky to be surrounded by a lot of green! Learn the basics about our primary producers and why they are so important. This class can be a mix of inside and outside, weather depending. Please insure students dress appropriately.
9. **Birds** – Our feathered friends are unique in the animal world. Learn about specialized adaptations and how they help a bird survive.

### Have something special you want to teach?

As a component of your field trip to 5 Rivers, we can arrange classroom space at no charge in our Blakeley Hall for you to teach your own module. Screens and projectors are available upon request.

## TENSAW THEATER COLLECTION

### Favorites:

1. Mobile-Tensaw Delta, 2008 (25 min, all ages)
2. Red-cockaded Woodpecker (25 min, Grade 5-12)
3. A Walk in the Woods (25 min, Grades 4-12)
4. Alabama Forests (25 min, Grades 4-12)
5. Alabama's Natural Diversity (25 min, Grades 7-12)
6. Red Hills Salamander (25 min, Grades 4-12)
7. Alabama Wetlands (25 min, Grades 4-12)
8. Alabama Soils (25 min, Grades K-12)
9. Alabama Rivers (25 min, Grades 4-12)

### 5 Rivers Home Videos:

1. White Pelicans (8 min, all ages)

### Discovering Alabama Collection:

We have the entire 65 Discovering Alabama collection. Each of these DVDs is narrated by Dr. Doug Phillips, and tap into a variety of subjects from state parks to endangered species. You can view the collection and synopsis of each episode at [www.discoveringalabama.org](http://www.discoveringalabama.org) under the tab "show listings". Each episode lasts approximately 25 minutes.

### PBS Educational Collection:

For a full description, please see [www.pbs.org](http://www.pbs.org) or Google the title.

1. "Life in Cold Blood": 5 episodes approximately 50 min each. Episode 1 is a reptile/amphibian synopsis, 2 is amphibians, 3 is lizards, 4 is snakes, 5 is turtles. Narrated by David Attenborough. 2008.
2. NATURE: "Reptiles" - 4 episodes approximately 50 min each. 1 on alligators and crocodiles, 2 on turtles and tortoises, 3 on snakes, 4 on lizards. 2003.
3. NATURE: "Frogs: The Thin Green Line" - Discusses the decline of amphibians. 55 min, 2009.
4. NOVA: Bugs! - 3 Episodes, each approximately 55 min each. Episode 1 is on Ants, 2 is on Bees, and 3 is The Unknown World, about microscopic external human parasites. 2000.
5. "Garden Insects" - Bugs from our very own back yard. 2007. 50 min.
6. "The Incredible Journey of the Butterflies" - Monarch butterflies, our state insect, travels 2000 miles. 2009, 55 min.
7. NATURE: "Silence of the Bees" - The decline of bees, winner of Peabody Award. 55 min, 2008.
8. "Lord of the Ants" with Alabama's own world renown naturalist, E.O. Wilson - 2008, 54 minutes.
9. NATURE: "American Eagle". Bald eagle. 55 min.
10. "Crane Song" - Sandhill cranes. 2008, 60 min.
11. NATURE: "Parrots in the Land of Oz" - Australian parrots. 2008, 55 min.
12. "The Life of Birds" 10 different episodes, each 55 min., hosted by David Attenborough.
13. "Earth Report: State of the Planet, 2009". National Geographic, 50 min, 2009.



# FIVE RIVERS

ALABAMA'S DELTA RESOURCE CENTER  
WWW.ALABAMA5RIVERS.COM



- 1 CYPRESS GIFT SHOP
- 2 BARTRAM LANDING
- 3 APALACHEE EXHIBIT HALL
- 4 DELTA HALL
- 5 FIVE RIVERS DELTA SAFARIS
- 6 LITTLE BATEAU CLASSROOM/ TENSAW THEATER
- 7 BLAKELEY HALL CONFERENCE CENTER
- 8 STEWARDSHIP OFFICE





# Five Rivers

Alabama's Delta Resource Center  
30945 Five Rivers Blvd, Spanish Fort, AL 36527  
(251) 625-0814 / Fax (251) 625-0864  
[www.alabama5rivers.com](http://www.alabama5rivers.com)



## 5 Rivers School Field Trips: Please fill out, sign, and fax back.

Date of Scheduled Tour \_\_\_\_\_

School Name \_\_\_\_\_

Teacher's Name \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Information: (cell) \_\_\_\_\_ (office) \_\_\_\_\_  
(email) \_\_\_\_\_

How many students will be visiting? \_\_\_\_\_ What age group? \_\_\_\_\_  
(Please remember we limit the group size to 80 students.)

What time will you be arriving? \_\_\_\_\_ Departing time? \_\_\_\_\_

Will you be bringing lunches to eat at 5 Rivers? \_\_\_\_\_

Will you be taking the "Pelican" pontoon boat? \_\_\_\_\_ If so, what times? \_\_\_\_\_  
Confirmation number (given to you by Delta Safaris) \_\_\_\_\_  
(Reservations must be made ahead of time with Delta Safaris #(251) 259-8531.

Would you like to request any of our Specialized Modules? \_\_\_\_\_ If so, which ones? (limit two) \_\_\_\_\_

Which movie would you prefer us to show to the students? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Is there any particular science, history or social topic that the students are working on that you'd like for us to include in our tour throughout the day?  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Teacher Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_