



ELKTON COMMUNITY EDUCATION CENTER INC.

The Butterfly Pavilion ☀ Fort Umpqua ☀ Native Plant Park

OPPORTUNITIES FOR EDUCATORS

INTRODUCTION

The Elkton Community Education Center is a low-cost, high-impact field trip site for students of all ages.

Our popular **Butterfly Pavilion** offers an opportunity to learn about the life cycle of Monarch and Painted Lady butterflies. Students will learn about butterfly biology, habitat requirements, and human and natural disturbances. Step back in time to our replica of historic **Fort Umpqua**. Students will deepen their understanding of Oregon's transition from being primarily tribal lands to the Oregon Territory to statehood. Take a stroll through our **Native Plant Park** observing and identifying native plant communities of the seven climate zones of Oregon. Students will learn about the importance of planting native for healthy ecosystems.

ECEC staff & volunteers provide a guided tour for your group, and there is plenty of space at our 30-acre site for you to customize your visit to fit your lesson plan. From our butterfly gardens to our Native Plant Park, there are many opportunities to bring classroom biology and botany lessons to life.

ECEC is conveniently located halfway between I-5 and the coast on Highway 38, a scenic byway. Tours are available from mid-May to September, Wednesday – Friday, and must be scheduled in advance.



AMENITIES

- ☀ On-site bus parking
- ☀ Multiple picnic areas
- ☀ Trained tour guides
- ☀ Covered amphitheater & classroom available
- ☀ Wi-Fi

COST

\$25 for a group visit for up to 25 people. Includes a tour of the pavilion, fort, and native plant park. Additional \$1 per person over 25
Affordable site rentals if larger spaces are needed

TO SCHEDULE A TOUR

Contact: Morgan Fay
541-584-2692 ☀ info@elktonbutterflies.com

HISTORIC FORT UMPQUA

Fort Umpqua fills an important role in students' understanding of our region's history. The story of the fort teaches students about the political struggle for land in the Pacific Northwest and weaves together stories of settlers, trappers, and tribal members. Fort Umpqua was a Hudson's Bay Company fur-trading outpost and represented the southernmost British claim to the Oregon Territory in the mid-1800s. French-Canadians, English, Scots, and Hawaiians worked in various capacities at the fort. It supplied provisions to settlers and miners passing through the area and evolved into an agricultural center, introducing the first livestock and fruit trees to the Umpqua region. The original fort was one mile upriver from ECEC and was destroyed by fire and flood in the late 1800s. ECEC's replica was hand-hewn by local volunteers and dedicated in 2009 as part of the Oregon 150 Celebration. The stockade complex includes a blacksmith shop, small garden, granary building, and barracks with educational displays.

THE BUTTERFLY PAVILION

ECEC has 13 years of experience raising butterflies and teaching people about Monarchs and Painted Ladies. Our 20' by 50' flight room allows students to witness the full life cycle in a naturalized setting while learning about the host plants and other features that make up a supportive habitat. In our nearby Research Room, students can examine butterflies under a microscope and learn about butterfly biology and anatomy. We have extensive outdoor butterfly gardens for discovery education where students will learn more about pollination and butterfly habitat requirements. Since 2017 we have installed large milkweed demonstration gardens on-site, providing an opportunity in the summer months for Monarch Butterflies to lay eggs and for us to identify and gather Monarch eggs and caterpillars for protective rearing in the ECEC flight room.

NATIVE PLANT PARK

ECEC'S 4.5 acres of Native Plant Park are organized into seven climate zones, representing the different environmental regions of Oregon. Approximately 80% of the native plants around the state will grow successfully in the Umpqua Valley, making this an ideal area to learn about Oregon's natural habitats. Walking paths provide much-needed room for energetic student groups to move around and unusual works of art are hidden among the trees, waiting to be discovered. Students will learn about the seven major Oregon climate zones, identify the major native plant communities, and the importance of planting native for ecosystem health. You can use our park as a demonstration site for your lessons or with your family year-round.
