

# Become an Ecologist on Public Land

with Roaring Fork Conservancy



**Why are public lands important?**  
**Who decides how our land is used?**  
**What ensures healthy watersheds and animal populations?**

Become an ecologist for a day and conduct ecology and geology surveys. Investigate conservation sites and watershed maps to explore the importance of protected natural areas. Learn how you can impact our environment in positive ways. Available for grades 5 and up.

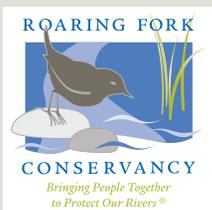
**PROGRAM LOCATION:** This program is offered at North Star Nature Preserve along the banks of the Roaring Fork River near Aspen or Elk Park along the banks of the Crystal River and Coal Creek in Redstone.

**This FREE program is offered by Roaring Fork Conservancy with funding provided by Pitkin County Open Space and Trails.**

## STANDARDS AND OBJECTIVES:

- Characteristics of places, regions, and human interactions
- Best management practices
- Earth systems and processes, erosion and weathering
- Human impacts on the environment

By comparing the geological and ecological components of two different areas, students will understand how erosion and access to healthy water and food are indicators of healthy riparian habitat.



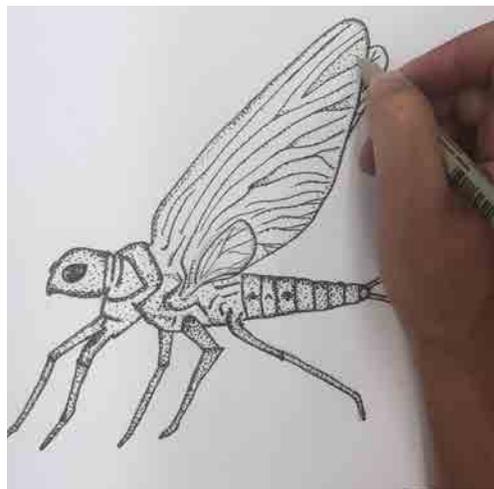
Since 1996, **Roaring Fork Conservancy** has inspired people to explore, value, and protect the Roaring Fork Watershed. We bring people together to protect our rivers and work hard to keep water in local streams, monitor water quality, and preserve riparian habitat. Learn more at [www.roaringfork.org](http://www.roaringfork.org).

**Pitkin County Open Space and Trails**, Pitkin County Open Space and Trails, a department of Pitkin County government, oversees more than 20,000 acres of conserved land, and about 84 miles of trails. One of the goals of this department is to increase educational opportunities for students to learn more about the importance of open space and natural resource stewardship. Learn more at [pitkincounty.com/ost](http://pitkincounty.com/ost)



# Organizing a program with RFC

- Email [info@roaringfork.org](mailto:info@roaringfork.org) to request dates for programming.
- Complete a Program Request form found on our website under School Programs or by email request.
- Select your program from our Education Program Catalog found at [www.roaringfork.org/education-and-outreach/watershed-education/school-programs/](http://www.roaringfork.org/education-and-outreach/watershed-education/school-programs/).
- Send home parent letter and liability waivers.
- Collect medical and liability waivers from parents for field programs.
- 2 days before program, review what students should bring and how to dress, on our website at [www.roaringfork.org/education-and-outreach/watershed-education/school-programs/](http://www.roaringfork.org/education-and-outreach/watershed-education/school-programs/).
- Prior to your arrival, give students access to RFC Intro video and a fun online activity.
- Print student journals (if needed).
- Enjoy an action packed learning experience with your students!

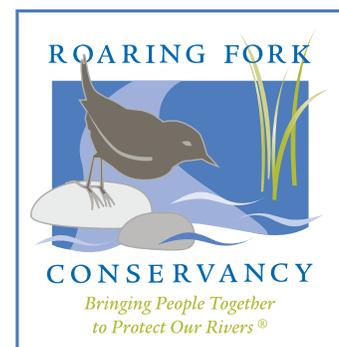


## PRE-TRIP LOGISTICS

A logistics email will be sent to you prior to the field trip that will include waivers, letter home to parents, online extension activities, daily program schedule, and logistics for the students.

## ROLE OF THE TEACHER DURING RFC PROGRAMMING

We want to give your students the best possible experience. Our educators need to be focused on delivering content, creating playful experiences, and safety. Educators do not have in-depth knowledge of specific student needs, so teachers need to be responsible for redirecting behavior.



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