



# ROPER MOUNTAIN SCIENCE CENTER

Roper Mountain is an educational facility of Greenville County Schools, South Carolina. This 60 acre complex is dedicated to providing educational opportunities that excite and motivate students and teachers through immersive hands-on learning labs. The Mountain's educators also travel to schools for outreach programs in science, as well. Educational programs for the family are offered through Friday night Starry Nights planetarium shows, Afternoon Explorations and special events throughout the year. Visit RoperMountain.org for information about all of our services, or email your scheduling questions to our Education Office: abuckmaster@greenville.k12.sc.us (elementary) or liphilli@greenville.k12.sc.us (middle).

# **Standards-Based Learning Labs**

Learning labs held at both the center and in schools are designed to support the South Carolina Curriculum Standards in science and social studies.

## **How To Schedule On-Site Field Trips**

- Teachers must submit a request form by the priority deadline of August 22, 2025. We will accept registrations after priority deadline expires, however they will be scheduled last.
- Please fill out forms for each teacher and class (ex. 6 Classes = 3 Forms).
- All teachers on a grade-level should submit requests together if they want to be scheduled together (if possible). Include Special Education classes if needed.
- We use fillable PDF registration. Registration forms can be submitted electronically or scanned and emailed to our Scheduling Office at abuckmaster@greenville.k12.sc.us for elementary and liphilli@greenville.k12.sc.us for middle school.
- Admission for learning labs is free for Greenville County Public, Private, and Home School students and teachers (except for special engagement learning labs, outreach and virtual field trips). For students outside Greenville County and for charter schools, see the fees page (Page 4).
- Lunches are available during your visit. Our GCS FANS (Food and Nutrition Services) Connections Café provides school meals at no charge for students. Adults meals may be purchased. GCS teachers may use their My School Bucks account for café purchases. For all other purchases, cash is required. An ATM is available onsite for your convenience. Lunch for adults is included in the fee for schools outside Greenville County. Click here for the menu and pricing.

For questions about your meal, contact Amanda Perez at aperez@greenville.k12.sc.us or 864.355.0806.

- For elementary schools, rank the lesson you would like to attend. Providing alternates will allow us more opportunity to find a date that will work for you.
- For middle schools, choose the programs you would like to attend.
- 4th, 6th and 7th grade classes may request a second visit to Roper Mountain.
   Please submit a separate form for a second visit request. All other grades may schedule one on-site visit per year, but grades 1-5 encouraged to schedule as many "Live from Roper" virtual lessons as they would like.





A 402 Roper Mountain Road Greenville, SC 29615

**P** 864.355.8900

### RoperMountain.org



# **PLANNING YOUR VISIT**

### **Confirming Your Visit**

When your scheduling form is received, you will receive an acknowledgement email. When our scheduler has a programming date to offer, you will receive another email with the details. **Please note:** if your preferred time to visit is spring semester, you will not receive an offered date for several months after your acknowledgement. We will be working on filling fall dates before we move into the spring.

When your offer is sent, please respond to that email as quickly as possible to confirm your date, or request an alternate. If you are sharing a bus with other teachers, please be sure to communicate and make sure the date works for everyone.

After we have entered your confirmed date into our system, you will receive a FIELD TRIP CONFIRMATION letter with detailed dates, times and learning labs scheduled. You will also receive a lunch menu and a map of our facilities. Please be sure the number of students in your group is accurate, or contact your scheduler if you need to make any changes.

Planning and previsit information, inclement weather policy and a map of Roper Mountain Science Center may be accessed at RoperMountain.org.

### **Schedule Your Bus**

After obtaining permission for the field trip, it is important that you schedule a bus as soon as possible. RMSC does NOT schedule buses.

### **Reminder Notice**

Prior to your visit, you will receive emails from Roper Mountain staff: one to confirm your final attendance numbers and a second with instructions for submitting your lunch orders. Please be sure to respond to these emails as quickly as possible.

### **Arrival**

Most learning labs begin at 9:30am. Please arrive 15 minutes before the learning lab starting time. Note: Some learning lab times may vary.

### **Picnicking and Lunches**

Lunches are available during your visit. Our GCS FANS (Food and Nutrition Services) Connections Café provides school meals at no charge for students. Adults meals may be purchased. GCS teachers may use their My School Bucks account for café purchases. For all other purchases, cash is required. An ATM is available onsite for your convenience. Lunch for adults is included in the fee for schools outside Greenville County. Click here for the menu and pricing.

For questions about your meal, contact Amanda Perez at aperez@greenville.kl2.sc.us or 864.355.0806.

### Cancellation

For same day cancellations, please contact your scheduler by phone at 864-355-8967 for elementary or 864-355-8925 for middle schools. For future date cancellations, please email Amy Buckmaster (elementary) at <a href="mailto:abuckmaster@greenville.k12.sc.us">abuckmaster@greenville.k12.sc.us</a> or

Lisa Phillips (middle) at liphilli@greenville.k12.sc.us.

We will attempt to reschedule your visit, but it may not be possible.

### Chaperones

We request that teachers bring no more than **two chaperones** per class. No additional students or siblings (including toddlers or babies in wraps or strollers) not in the registered class may accompany chaperones. Chaperones should check in at your school for their credentials. RMSC is not able to check in your chaperones at our location.

### **Pre-visit**

The educational value of your visit will be improved if you prepare your students in advance. We recommend you do the following:

- Explain the purpose of the field trip to students
- Describe the schedule of activities for the day.
- Review appropriate vocabulary.
- Utilize "Live from Roper" lessons as pre/post virtual visits.

Continued on next page.





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# **PLANNING YOUR VISIT**

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### **Class Size**

Learning Labs: minimum of 12, maximum of 27 students, plus 1 teacher and 2 chaperones

### **Special Education/Challenge Classes**

All learning labs are available to all students in the grade levels shown in the guide. To assist our instructors in preparing for your class, please note the grade level at which your students work, as well as any special needs they may require.

### **Home Schools: Guidelines for Scheduling**

Students must be **age and grade appropriate** (no siblings or younger children, including toddlers or babies in wraps or strollers). Individual home schools must request a visit as a class through the **home school association** of which they are members. Home school association classes must have a minimum of 12 students and no more than 27 students per grade level. **We allow 1 teacher and 2 chaperones per class.** The home school association's teacher is responsible for coordinating the field trip and supervision of all students. Requests are subject to the deadline listed in this guide. The center cannot accept requests from individual home school parents, nor can we be responsible for organizing a class made up of home school students. Home schools who are members of associations outside of Greenville County will be charged the learning lab costs. We are unable to provide programming for multi-age groups in our individual learning labs for elementary ages. All classes must meet the minimum standards above. For middle schools, you may combine your students in grades 6, 7 and 8 for Planetarium/Assembly combination programs.

### **Roper Mountain Science Center Learning Lab Costs**

**Greenville County Public Schools — FREE** 

Public, Private, and Home School Associations Learning Labs — Free

### **Greenville County Charter Schools**

Learning Labs — \$15 per student, lunch included
Middle School Assembly Combo — \$12 per student, lunch included

### **Schools Outside of Greenville County**

Learning Labs — \$15 per student, lunch included Middle School Assembly Combo — \$12 per student, lunch included

#### All Teachers & Chaperones — FREE

Schools will be invoiced on the day of their visit. The center reserves the right to ask school classes outside of Greenville County to post a deposit for their scheduled learning labs. Deposits are refundable up to 20 business days before the visit.

We do not accept checks or credit card payments on the day of your trip. Your school will be invoiced AFTER your visit.

We CANNOT accept credit card payments over the telephone.

## **Contact Information**

### **Education Office**

864.355.8967 for elementary or 864.355.8925 for middle school

#### **Address**

402 Roper Mountain Road Greenville, SC 29615



# Roper Mountain



### RoperMountain.org

