

Oxon Hill Farm

U.S. Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Parks – East
Oxon Cove Park



Are you interested in incubating chicken eggs?

WHO: School groups and families are welcome to participate in this program. Ranger Stephanie Marrone is the contact person for the project at Oxon Cove Park.

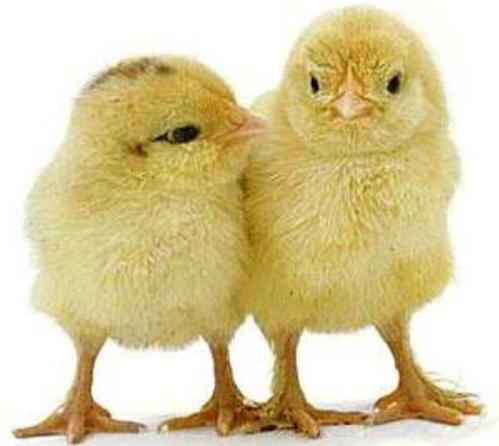
WHAT: One dozen fertilized chicken eggs can be obtained from Oxon Hill Farm for the study of biology, embryology, farm life, or nutrition. Oxon Hill Farm owns 3 incubators which can be borrowed, if needed. There is no cost for the program. The incubators must be returned on time, clean, and in working order.

WHEN: The program will begin on February 1, 2015 and end on May 31, 2015. The incubators are signed out for about 4 weeks. Chicken eggs take 21 days to hatch.

WHERE: Meet Ranger Stephanie at the Visitor Barn to pick up the eggs and the incubator (if needed).

HOW: Call 301-839-1176 for more information, or to make a reservation.

IMPORTANT DETAILS: The eggs will need turning several times per day. For 21 days, they will need daily attention in an indoor place that is near an electrical outlet, and away from drafts. It is rare for all twelve eggs to hatch into twelve, fluffy yellow chicks. Likely, some of the chicks will not survive, which is difficult for some small children (and even some adults!) to witness. Oxon Hill Farm does not accept back the baby chicks, but Stephanie will share the names of people who will possibly take them. Typically, they will not take them until the chicks are about a month old. In the meantime, the chicks must be kept warm and clean, and they must have a constant supply of food and water. A section of a basement is ideal.



Oxon Hill Farm, a site within National Capital Parks-East is located at 6411 Oxon Hill Road, Oxon Hill, Maryland, 20745. For more information, call 301.839.1176 or visit www.nps.gov/oxhi.