



Bellemeade Outdoor Learning Campus is an eight-acre green space in the Oak Grove neighborhood of Richmond. Bellemeade offers a safe space for children and their families to engage with nature. We are supported by a corps of faithful volunteers and work with multiple non-profit partners in pursuit of our mission to bring outdoor education to our children.

## We will serve over 4800 students in 2023!

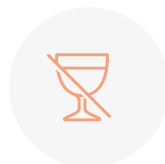


Follow us for more insight

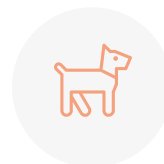
 [Friends of Bellemeade Park](#)



Hours  
7am - 10pm



No  
Alcohol



All dogs  
must be  
leashed



No  
motorized  
vehicles

## SATURDAY LITERACY AND OUTDOOR CLUB



Operating for the past 10 years, this program is offered over 20 Saturdays a year in partnership with Collegiate Upper School. Average attendance of 40 students (ages 4-15) and 30 high school volunteers.

Additional volunteers and indoor learning center would allow us to extend our season further into summer and winter.

## A DAY IN THE PARK



In partnership with Blue Sky Fund & RPS, serving over 2,300 fourth graders from these elementary schools: Oak Grove-Bellemeade, Miles Jones, Swansboro, Chimborazo, Blackwell, Westover, Ginter Park, Woodville, Marsh, Bellevue, and Fairfield.

<https://blueskyfund.org/what-we-do/elementary-school>

## ECOLOGY FIELD TRIP



In partnership with JRA & Chesterfield Schools, serving over 700 students for four days in the park from these schools: Beulah, Falling Creek, Salem and Crenshaw.

<https://thejamesriver.org/richmond-region-education/>

Other organizations actively engaged in the park include home school groups, preschool nature club, Featherfin Family Services nature programming, and elder care groups.

## SUMMER GARDENING



Program meets 3 mornings a week with approximately 20 children in partnership with Richmond Parks and Recreation. and the Virginia Cooperative. Volunteers are welcome!

## EDUCATION FEATURES AND PARK ACTIVITIES



In partnership with Richmond Children's Museum; currently 10 moms and their preschool children meet weekly to gather and play.



## OUR VOLUNTEERS

Our volunteers have put in over 6,000 work hours! We provide opportunities for all ages. And yes, we can support large volunteer events! Past participants include Capital One, Martin Agency and Fort Lee.

Bob Argabright has dedicated the last ten years to renovating the park and serving as a steady presence to the children and their families who come to play and learn at Bellemeade. He devotes at least 24 hours per week coordinating outdoor learning activities, maintaining the park's features and overseeing volunteer events, including monthly "create and conserve" volunteer days which take place on the first Saturday of each month.

**For volunteer opportunities visit:**  
[www.handsonrva.org](http://www.handsonrva.org)



## DOLLARS and CENTS

Over \$500,000 has been invested in the park and its features. While no expenses are currently incurred for park management, average expenses to maintain and enhance the park are currently approximately \$30,000.



## FUTURE ENHANCEMENTS

No Mow Park - in accordance with the principles of Bee City, we will add native plantings wherever possible.

<https://beecityusa.org/bee-city-usa-commitments/>

Building In The Works: We have initial funding for an environmental learning center that will provide shelter and allow us to extend our programming offerings and calendar.

We will work with our programming partners to determine how best to enhance the park to advance environmental learning and meaningful connections to nature.



Visit our website at  
[www.bellemeadeparkrva.com](http://www.bellemeadeparkrva.com)



Friends of Bellemeade Park



[friendsofbellemeadepark@gmail.com](mailto:friendsofbellemeadepark@gmail.com)