



Club de Exploradores

Newsletter

Issue No.3 / July, 2022



Explorers learn how to wade safely to the other side of the river to flip rocks and investigate cool bugs.

Los Exploradores started their day at the Davidson River Outfitters, one of our amazing community sponsors, where they met the guides and got suited up in waders. We loaded up and headed out to Sycamore Flats for a fun session on basic wading, river safety, and investigating our streams for the aquatic life that helps sustain our trout population. Our guides took us to the middle of the stream where we learned about nymphs, mayflies, stoneflies, and more. Los Exploradores used nets to catch bugs floating downstream and containers for further investigation. We learned that certain species, like stoneflies, are an indicator of water quality since they can't survive in a polluted environment, making the Davidson River an ideal place for bugs and trout to thrive.

-FLY FISHING AND RIVER INVESTIGATION Third Adventure

When we got out of the water, it was time to practice casting. Los Exploradores learned about reach and roll casts and once everybody had a turn to try it on land it was time to head to the private waters to give it a real shot.

Fly fishing was an amazing, relaxing, and humbling experience. Most of the Exploradores got trout to bite but the trout ended up escaping and only one Explorer caught a rainbow; it was a very exciting time. Clay got the biggest trout he's ever seen and the fish broke his line and escaped too!

What a day. It sure was beautiful and the guides were very helpful, knowledgeable, and friendly.

There was a professional camera crew there too which made the day even more interesting!

After our fishing adventure, we had lunch and headed to the Ranger Station for a short hike where we learned about hemlock trees, had reflection and journal time, played a fun game, and got our new adventure shoes. It was awesome to hear the Explorers talk about how much they're loving this program and how they can't wait for more!



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Left: The group of Exploradores that got more fish to bite with only one rainbow trout that got released shortly after.

Bottom right: Dulce learns and practices her reach cast before heading to the water.



Visit Davidson River Outfitters in Pisgah Forest for all of your fishing adventure needs!



Our Next Adventure - Fire making, outdoor cooking, and tubing Saturday, July 30th

We're doing all things fire! From learning how to build them safely and responsibly to using it for cooking. Come prepared to make your own lunch and learn a lot about Leave No Trace principle #4 "Minimize Campfire Impact" and to have a wonderful time tubing with our friends at Headwaters Outfitters. **Drop off and Pick up will be at the Sav Mor grocery store parking lot** (8:45am and 4:00pm). Bring a water bottle, a change of clothes appropriate for swimming, hat, sunscreen, and any sun protection you might need/want.

Remaining Adventures of the Season:

- August 27: Mountain Biking with The Hub and Trail Work with SORBA
 - September 24-25: Overnight Camping Trip
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LNT Principle:

#3 Leave What You Find:

- Preserve the past: examine, photograph, but do not touch cultural or historic structures and artifacts.
- Leave rocks, plants and other natural objects as you find them.
- Avoid introducing or transporting non-native species.
- Do not build structures, furniture, or dig trenches.

About Hemlocks...

Until recently, hemlock trees were some of the largest and most common trees in the N.C. mountains. These long-lived, towering trees once gave western N.C. its familiar, forested look. Unfortunately, an invasive insect threatens the continued existence of hemlocks in the eastern U.S. The hemlock woolly adelgid is an aphid-like insect that is native to Asia. It was first detected in the eastern U.S. in the early 1950s in Virginia and has since spread throughout the range of hemlock. It has already caused the death of millions of hemlocks, only leaving domineering dead hemlocks, or 'gray ghosts', across the mountainous terrain.



See you on our next adventure!

