



*Host your special event at the*  
**Cayuga Nature Center**



CAYUGA NATURE CENTER



# About the Cayuga Nature Center

Cayuga Nature Center provides a rustic, natural setting to host weddings, family reunions, birthdays, anniversary celebrations, corporate retreats, and much more. Our historic 1930's Lodge, and 120 acres of woods, trails, gorges and waterfalls, offers the perfect setting for a beautiful and memorable celebration.

Cayuga Nature Center was originally built in 1939 as the Cayuga Preventorium to promote the health and welfare of the children of Tompkins County. Today the Nature Center continues to cultivate an awareness and appreciation for the natural world. Your rental helps support the Nature Center's environmental education and animal programs.

Perched high on the hill looking over Cayuga Lake, and conveniently located just five miles north of Ithaca, sits the historic WPA-era Lodge. Inside, our exhibits and live animals foster appreciation for evolution and the ecology of the Cayuga basin. Our TreeTops six-story tree house offers a close-up view of the forest canopy, and miles of trails beckon.

A wide range of environmental educational programs are offered throughout the year. In addition, our educators present animal programs both on- and off-site. During the summer months, the nature center is full of excited campers attending our annual Summer Camp program. The Cayuga Nature Center is open year-round.



# Event Spaces

## Great Room

*80 seated  
115 standing*

Our spacious Great Room is the perfect place for any large seated reception. The room has beautiful original wood paneling throughout. The Great Room provides access to the Sun Porch—an ideal location to set up a reception buffet. The back doors to the Great Room lead guests outside to our tented Courtyard.



## Climate Change Room

*40 Seated/Standing*

Located on the second floor, our Climate Change Room is excellent for small meetings and retreats. The room has ample space for a presentation setup. A projector, screen, and wireless internet connection can be provided.

## Additions

### **Preschool Room**

The Young Learner Room, filled with books, toys, and educational games for children, can be opened during facility rentals.

### **Campfires and Fireplaces**

Fires can be built by nature center staff only and are subject to a staffing fee. Firewood is not provided and must be transported in accordance with NYS Firewood Policy.

### **Electrical Generator**

Electric can be run outdoors for tent lights in the Courtyard and Back Lawn. Depending on your additional outdoor power needs, use of a generator may be necessary.





## Courtyard

*65 Seated  
100 Standing*

With direct access to our facilities indoors, our tented Courtyard is a lovely outdoor dining and entertainment spot.

## Pavilion

*50-70 Seated/Standing*

Our Pavilion is a perfect space for outdoor parties. It has ample electricity, and lights for evening use. The Pavilion is located near our six-story tree house and our live animal enclosures.



## Back Lawn

*200 Seated/Standing*

Open or covered by your own canopy, our spacious lawns can be the perfect natural backdrop to your special event.

- Kitchen facilities are available on the first floor.
- There is an ADA lift located in the Lobby/Sun Porch for individuals with mobility disabilities.
- Use of Nature Center's tables and chairs is included in all facility rentals (our folding chairs are not permitted outdoors).
- Rentals include reasonable extra time before and after event for setup/breakdown.
- Discounts are available for non-profit organizations.
- Syracuse China dishes and wine glasses are available for rent during any facility rental. There are 100 place settings on hand, quantities are subject to change.

# Specialty Packages

## Weddings

### **Wedding Package includes:**

- Five hours of Lodge rental including use of the Great Room, Sun Porch, Courtyard, and adjacent rooms.
- Kitchen use for prep and refrigeration.
- Access to the entire grounds and trails.
- Access two hours before for setup and preparation, and one hour afterwards for clean up and packing up.
- Use of Nature Center's tables and chairs.
- Staff member on duty for your entire wedding.

### **Wedding Rehearsal Option**

Rehearsals of the ceremony and sit-down rehearsal dinners can be held at the Nature Center on the evening before the event.

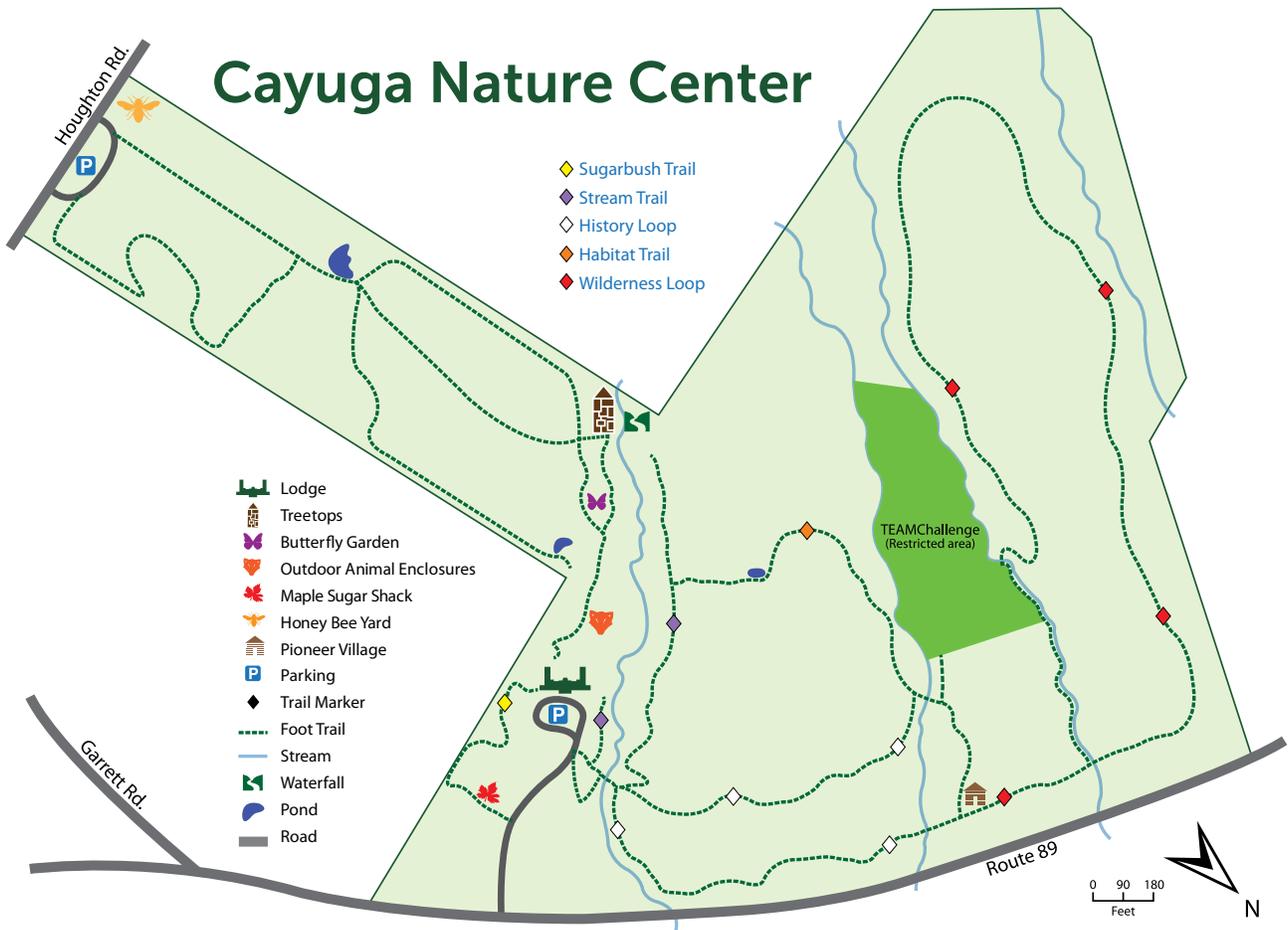
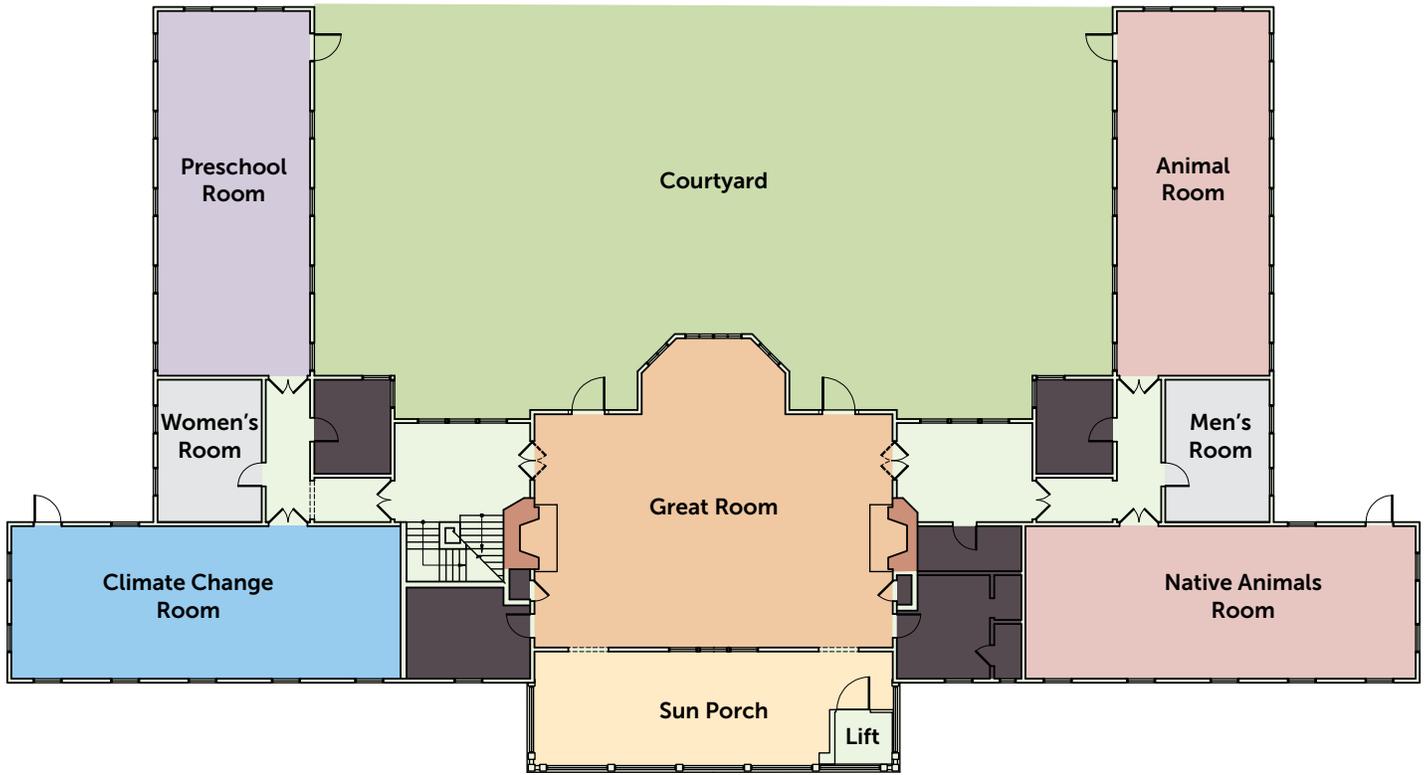


## Birthday Parties

### **Birthday Party package includes:**

- 3 hour rental (Sun Porch or Great Room).
- Up to 1 hour animal program with choice of three animals.
- Access to Nature Center grounds for exploration, including our 6-story TreeTops tree house.
- Party for up to 15 children (including the birthday child) and 10 adults.
- \$8 each additional guest with a maximum of 20 children.
- Includes complementary 1 year family membership for non-members.

# Property Layout



# Special Programs



## Animal Programs

Cayuga Nature Center has over 40 animal ambassadors in their Live Animal Collection. These animals are not releasible into the wild and now call the nature center home. Our live animal programs offer guests the opportunity to get up close and personal with some of the nature center's residents. Programs can be customized to fit your interests and range from 30 minutes to 1 hour.

## Team Building Workshops

Looking to improve your employees' team work skills and enhance your corporate retreat? TEAM Challenge programs develop cooperative problem-solving skills and accelerate communication skills. We provide group initiatives and challenges on our ropes course that encourage participants to work together, support each other, and try new leadership roles. Programs can be tailored to fit your groups specific needs and goals. Come take the challenge!



*For more information or to set up a tour, please contact our Visitor Services Manager at (607) 273-6260 x221, or email us at [rentals@cayuganaturecenter.org](mailto:rentals@cayuganaturecenter.org)*



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