

SPRING 2023

Nature Education Programs



OaklandCountyParks.com   

Must-know information for all programs: Programs may take place outdoors or have an outdoor component. Dress for the weather. Outdoor footwear and attire are recommended. In case of inclement weather, programs may be canceled or rescheduled. Please do not attend a program if you are ill. Refunds will be issued for illness or inclement weather.

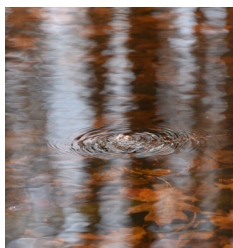


INDEPENDENCE OAKS COUNTY PARK

9501 Sashabaw Road
Clarkston, MI 48348
248-625-6473

Pre-registration with payment required.
Call 248-858-0100 weekdays.
Call nature center for weekend registration.

TED Walks: Vernal Pools



Saturday, March 25, 7:30-9:30 p.m.

Join us on a night hike to listen to frogs, look for salamanders and other animals that depend on vernal pools. We will meet in the Wint Nature Center parking lot and check out some nearby vernal pools. It is hard to find things in the dark, so please bring a flashlight. Be sure to wear waterproof shoes and dress appropriately for the weather. **\$5/person.**

Puddle Jumpers



Fridays: April 14; May 12; June 9: 10:30-11:30 a.m.

Topics - April: Amphibians May: Beavers, June: Pollinators

Children ages 3-6 can have some nature fun while nurturing their love for the great outdoors. A naturalist will share an engaging story, nature talk and a related activity with participating children. Each child will make a craft to take home. This series meets the 2nd Friday of each month. **\$4/child.**

A Walk in the Woods



Fridays: April 14; May 12; June 9, 10 a.m. or 2 p.m.

Call to set up a FREE personal, naturalist-guided nature hike. Participants will learn about seasonal topics while getting some exercise and enjoying the beautiful scenery. Up to three family groups will be admitted per time slot to accommodate social distancing. No pets. Time slots are available on a first-come, first-served basis.

Color Hunt

Saturday, May 13, 10:30 a.m.-12 p.m.

This nature scavenger hunt is for the little explorers out there Recommended for ages 3-6. We will be looking at the colors of nature and "matching" our color chips to things we find on our outdoor adventure. We will also enjoy some books and songs about colors together! **\$3/person.**



Michigan "Shell-ebrities"

Saturday, May 20, 10:30 a.m.-12 p.m.

Did you know that turtles can breathe through their rear ends? Join us to learn more about how they survive in our state, the challenges they are facing, and what we can do to help one of Michigan's most threatened animal groups. Make your own turtle friend craft to take home. You may even meet a couple of these "living dinosaurs" while you're here. **\$7/person.** An ASL interpreter will be available at this program.



Strawberry Moon Astronomy Night

Saturday, June 3, 8:30-10 p.m.

Join us for an astronomical evening in StarLab, our inflatable indoor planetarium, and learn about the constellations visible in the spring night sky. Then venture outdoors to experience the light and lore of the Full Strawberry Moon. Ages 5 to adult. **\$7/person.**



PROGRAM REGISTRATION

Preregistration with payment is required for all nature center programs. Park entry fee waived if registered by end of business day prior to event. No walk-ins are allowed at this time. There is no refund for advance payment unless program is cancelled.

Register and pay: Visa, Mastercard, Discover and American Express are accepted. Call 248-858-0916 to register during regular business hours or call the nature centers during open hours.

Programs take place rain or shine. Dress for the weather as programs may be held outdoors. Programs will be cancelled if weather is inclement.



RED OAKS COUNTY PARK

30300 Hales Street
Madison Heights, MI 48071
248-585-0100

Pre-registration with payment required.
Call 248-858-0100 weekdays.
Call nature center for weekend registration.



Attention Teachers and Parents:

The Nature Education team offers virtual take-and-learn field trips for classrooms this winter, via Zoom. Programs are designed to meet Michigan Science Standards. Check the website or call the nature centers for more info.

Morning Munchkins

Friday: April 7; May 5; June 2: 10:30-11:30 a.m.

Topics - April: A Log's Life, **May:** Finding Wild, **June:** Señorita Mariposa

Join us for an exciting series just for preschoolers. Bring your munchkin to the nature center for a favorite story and a related hands-on, nature-based discovery activity. Events in this series take place the first Friday of each month. Appropriate for ages 3-6. **\$4/child.**



Eggcellent Spring

Saturday, April 8, 10:30 a.m.-12 p.m.

Springtime is budding with life, and many animals lay eggs at this time of year. Come learn about and visit with some of the egg-laying creatures in Southeast Michigan. Bring your own hard-boiled eggs to dye using naturally derived pigments. **\$4/person.**

A Walk in the Woods

Fridays: April 21; May 19; June 16, 10 a.m. or 2 p.m.

Call to set up a FREE personal, naturalist-guided nature hike. Participants will learn about seasonal topics while getting some exercise and enjoying the beautiful scenery. Up to three family groups will be admitted per time slot to accommodate social distancing. No pets. Time slots are available on a first-come, first-served basis.

National Frog Jumping Day

Saturday, May 13, 10:30 a.m.-12 p.m.

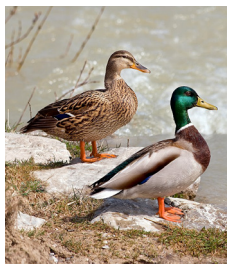
Did you know there is a national holiday to celebrate how far frogs can jump? While our nature center may not be as famous as Mark Twain or the Calaveras County Fair, we can throw an un-frog-ettable party! Hop on over to learn about amphibians, meet some critters that call Red Oaks home, and test your jumping skills against the world-record-holding frog. All ages welcome. **\$5/person.**



Fill the Bill

Saturday, May 20, 10:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.

See what's on the menu at our "Bird Beak Buffet" and learn how beak adaptations influence a bird's diet. Try different beaks to see which one fits your dinner plans best! Top it off by playing a game and creating your own beak to take home. **\$7/person.**

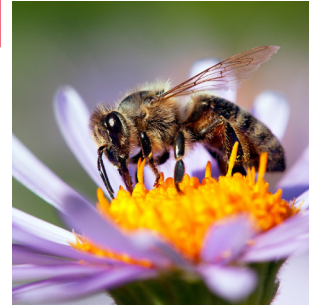


What a Bee-utiful Day

Saturday, June 17, 3-4:30 p.m.

Bees are crucial for human survival. Don't bee-lieve us? Get ready for National Pollinator Week by learning more about the important insects that are responsible for most of our food and the economy! After learning about these essential pollinators, you'll make an eco-friendly bee hotel to take home. Ages 5 and up.

\$7/person. An ASL interpreter will be available at this program.



Polish a Petoskey

Sunday, June 25, 1-3 p.m.

It's almost the 60th anniversary of our state stone, the Petoskey! Learn about the life and legend of this unique local coral. We supply the stones, you supply the elbow grease. **\$7/person.**



Calling all Homeschoolers! 🏠

The Wint and Red Oaks nature centers offer monthly homeschool programs adapted for children ages 6-9 and ages 10-13. Sessions are held 10:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. and are designed as drop-off programs for youth. All students are welcome, whether from a traditional homeschool, pod or virtual learning setting.

A release form must be completed with registration. Programs may be held outdoors, so dress for the weather. **Cost: \$10/session.** **Preregistration is required.** Visit OaklandCountyParks.com for the current schedule.

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