

SUMMER 2022

Nature Education Programs

OAKLAND COUNTY PARKS
Great Parks for Great People
OaklandCountyParks.com



Must-know information for all programs: Programs may take place outdoors or have an outdoor component. Dress for the weather. Outdoor attire, bug spray and sunscreen are recommended. In case of inclement weather, programs may be cancelled or rescheduled. Please be patient as COVID-19 guidelines and protocols are subject to change. At this time, masks are no longer required but are available onsite if you would like one. For current COVID-19 practices, please contact the nature centers directly.



INDEPENDENCE OAKS COUNTY PARK

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

Pre-registration with payment required.
Call 248-858-0916 weekdays.
No weekend registration.

Back in the Day...

Friday, June 24, 6:30-7:30 p.m.

Hearken back to the past of nature education with this very special program! Join our naturalists and a special "guest presenter" for a slide presentation (with real slides!) from the presenter's archives and related activities. \$2.50/person.



Trail Hikes by Appointment

Fridays & Saturdays: July 8 & 9; Aug. 12 & 13; Sept. 9 & 10

Time slots available: 10 a.m. and 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 great outdoors. Up to five family groups will be admitted per time slot. No pets. Time slots are available on a first-come, first-served basis.

Puddle Jumper Series

Fridays: July 8, Aug. 12, Sept. 9
10:30-11:30 a.m.

Topics: July: *Bubble Fun*, Aug.: *Wetlands*,
Sept.: *Apples and Cider*

Children ages 3-6 can have some nature fun as they increase their love for the great outdoors. A naturalist will engage children with a story, nature talk and a related activity. Each child will receive a craft kit to take and make at home. This series meets the second Friday of each month. **\$4/child.**



Mini Nature Bottles - Summer Edition

Saturday, July 9, 10:30 a.m.-Noon

Seek and find mini bottles hidden in nature, then gather and fill them with seasonal bits of nature* and some sparkle just for fun* to make a meaningful memento celebrating summer. **\$6/person.**

Dino Discovery

Saturday, July 16, 2-3:30 p.m.

Learn about giant long-necked dinosaurs and dinosaurs as big as your dog and more. Discover the prehistoric time period and hike through the glacial remnants in the park. Find out what a dinosaur is and what fossils have been discovered in Michigan. Dress for the weather and for a hike in the park. **\$5/person.**



Garden Delights

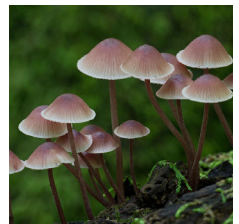
Saturday, July 30, 10:30 a.m.-11:30 a.m.

Join us in the garden to harvest and create your own specialty tea mix using edible flowers and leaves from the garden. Learn about the medicinal qualities of common garden plants, and perhaps some plants from the surrounding landscape as well. Everyone will leave with their own select herbal tea mix to take home. Ages 8 and up. **\$3/person.**

Mushroom Hike

Saturday, Aug. 6, 1-2:30 p.m.

Have you ever been on a walk, seen a little toadstool and wanted to know more? Want to learn more about the little fairy mushrooms that pop up all over your lawn? Come on a hike through the woods and learn about one of the most important organisms in the food web. Ages 8 and up. **\$5/person.**



Grandparents Day Camp - Let's Get Buggy!



Saturday, Sept. 10, 1:30-3:30 p.m.

Grandparents, grab your grandkids and head to the nature center. We are getting buggy for insects! Join a naturalist for an afternoon of nature, fun and BUGS. We will be learning all about what makes an insect an insect, different types of insects and how insects help make the world a better place. Plan on a short hike and a make and take craft. All ages welcome. **\$7/person.**

Pre-registration 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. No refund for advance payment unless program is cancelled. Call 248-858-0916 to register during business hours.



RED OAKS COUNTY PARK

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

Pre-registration with payment required.
Call 248-858-0916 weekdays.
No weekend registration.

Celebrate the Solstice

Saturday, June 25, 1-2:30 p.m.

Astronomers look at the sun through special solar telescopes. Join our park naturalists and the Oakland Astronomy Club to share this view safely. Find out more about the closest star to Earth in this family-friendly program. **\$5/person.**



Morning Munchkins

Fridays: July 1, Aug. 5, Sept. 2; 10:30-11:30 a.m.

Topics: July: Vulture View
Aug.: I'd Really Like to Eat a Child
Sept.: Leafman

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. Unless noted, events in this series take place the first Friday of each month. Suitable for ages 3-6. **\$4/child.**



Amped for Amphibians

Sunday, July 10, 1-2 p.m.

Spend an afternoon with Oakland County's amphibians! Meet some of our resident indicator species, then take a hike through our woods to look for some amphibious friends. All ages welcome. **\$4/person.**

Trail Hikes by Appointment

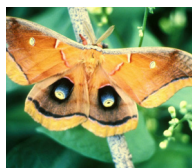
Fridays & Saturdays: July 15 & 16; Aug. 19 & 20; Sept. 16 & 17
Time slots available: 10 a.m. and 2 p.m.

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

Jurassic Nature Center

Saturday, July 23, 2-3:30 p.m.

Dive into the past as we explore the world of dinosaurs. We will become paleontologists as we discover, unearth and rebuild a fossil skeleton, and examine fossils and replicas to help us learn about the age of the dinosaurs. Come create a very special prehistoric craft and enjoy meeting a living relative of dinosaurs. **\$5/person.**



Moth Ball

Friday, July 29, 9-10:30 p.m.

It's National Moth Week and the nocturnal lepidopterans of Friendship Woods cordially invite you to attend their summer Moth Ball. Spend an evening with us under our outdoor tent to get better acquainted with our winged "guests of honor." This event is appropriate for ages 8 and up; formal dress not required. **\$5/person.**



Attention Field Explorers!

Our Nature Education team is offering a six-week Field Biology 101 course this summer. Check our website or call either nature center for details or to reserve your spot today!



Attention Scout Leaders:

Our Nature Education team is currently offering field trips targeting scout badge requirements. Please call either nature center for details or to book your group's badgework field trip today!



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.

Explore "Some Bugs"

Saturday, Aug. 27, 10:30-11:45 a.m.

Building, making, hunting, taking, bugs are oh so fascinating! Join us for an afternoon of bugs as we explore insects from Michigan and beyond using the backdrop of our storybook trail *Some Bugs* by Angela DiTerlizzi. Plan on a short, naturalist-led hike while reading the book, stopping to view some real bugs along the way. Decorate a magnifying glass necklace, then go on a sweep-netting adventure to see what bugs we can discover right here in Friendship Woods. Dress for the weather as this program takes place outdoors. **\$4/person.**



Grandparents Day Camp - Apples Antics

Sunday, September 11, 1:30-3:30 p.m.

Fall brings shorter days, crisp nights and ripening apples! Bring the grandkids to learn apple facts, lore and history, while turning apples into cider using the nature center's apple press. Bring the "apple of your eye" and enjoy a lovely fall afternoon while making an apple-themed craft. All ages welcome. **\$7/person.**



PROGRAM REGISTRATION

Pre-registration 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 weekday business hours. No Saturday registration.

Programs take place rain or shine. Dress for the weather as programs will be held outdoors. Programs will be canceled for inclement weather.



Virtual Take-and-Make Craft Programs

Pre-register for programs by calling **248-858-0916** during business hours and select a location to pick up program kits. Limited supply available; first-come, first-served. Unless otherwise noted, participants will receive instructions on tuning in to a live Zoom demonstration to craft along with a naturalist. A recorded demonstration will also be available for those unable to make the meeting time.

Please note the pickup start date for each program.

Kits do not include basic art supplies like crayons, scissors, or glue. If additional supplies are needed, they will be listed in the program kit. After the course, show off your projects by sending pictures to NatureEducation@oakgov.com to have them posted on social media.

EcoFriends: Slides & Photos

Kits available for pick-up July 5-22

Live Zoom instruction Friday, July 22, 6-7 p.m.

Discover sustainable ways to repurpose old film, slides and photographs into new decorations. Make a candle holder, pendant, pocket notebook and more. Suitable for ages 8 to adult. **20 kits available. \$6/kit.**



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Kit pickup times and locations:



Red Oaks Nature Center

30300 Hales St., Madison Heights, MI 48071
Hours: Tuesday-Saturday, 10 a.m.-5 p.m.
Sunday, Noon-5 p.m.



Lewis E. Wint Nature Center

9501 Sashabaw Rd., Clarkston, MI 48348
Hours: Tuesday-Saturday 10 a.m.-5 p.m.
Sunday 1-5 p.m.

EcoFriends: Dog (& Cat) Days of Summer

Kits available for pick-up Aug. 5-19

Live Zoom instruction Friday, Aug. 19, 6-7 p.m.

Discover sustainable ways to create pet toys using different types of repurposed materials. Materials to make a small animal playhouse, fleece toy and more! Suitable for ages 8 to adult. **20 kits available. \$6/kit.**



Soapstone Carving Kit

Kits available for pick-up Sept. 2-17

Recorded instruction provided with kits

Have you ever seen something carved out of stone? Have you ever wanted to give it a try yourself? Learn how to carve soapstone and get a kit to create your own project. Soapstone carving is a very cool hobby and tradition! Suitable for ages 8 to adult. **20 kits available. \$20/kit.**

