



# Community Program Guide

Winter 2025



# Bowers School Farm

1219 E. Square Lake Rd.  
Bloomfield Hills, MI  
248.341.6475  
schoolfarm.org



# Johnson Nature Center

3325 Franklin Rd.  
Bloomfield Twp., MI  
248.341.6485  
johnsonnaturecenter.org

# BOWERS SCHOOL FARM

## Family Programs

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WINTER 2025  
DEC | JAN | FEB | MAR



### Winter Birth Celebration

1/12, 2/1, 3/8

12:00-3:00p

Come and see what has been born this winter and meet the new baby animals at the farm!

Say hello to the kids (goats)!

Envy the lambs with their growing wool coats!

Maybe even a calf?

\$12 per person

Pre-Registration Required

All Ages



### Girl Scout Badge-A-Palooza Day (NEW)

2/2 Daisies/Brownies

10:00a-12:00p

& 1:00-3:00p

2/9 Juniors/Cadettes

10:00a-12:00p

Earn your next Girl Scout badge by joining our fun and educational event with hands-on activities and exciting learning opportunities. Whether exploring nature or learning new skills, this event promises an unforgettable experience for all Girl Scouts.

Check website for fee

Pre-Registration Required



# BOWERS SCHOOL FARM

## Youth Programs



WINTER 2025  
DEC | JAN | FEB



### Farm Investigations: Frosty Farm Fun!

January 25 9:30-11:30a

Bundle up and head to the Farm for some Frosty FUN! We will meet the new animal arrivals, explore the winter environment, and design and create a "Fence Post Frosty" in our maker space. Warm up with cocoa and donuts and share a winter-themed story.

\$30 per child

Drop Off Program

Pre-Registration Required

Ages 5-7

### Farm Investigations: Love Your Local Farm

February 8 9:30-11:30a

Come and share the love on the farm! See our new babies and investigate the barns. Create valentines for yourself and some to spread the joy to a local senior center. While you're creating, enjoy a warm cup of cocoa and a farm-fresh donut.

\$30 per child

Drop Off Program

Pre-Registration Required

Ages 5-7



### Farm Investigations: Wooly Workshop

February 22 9:30-11:30a

A scientific exploration of wool and sheep! Students will investigate our sheep and learn about the uses and properties of wool through a variety of crafts and hands-on experiments.

\$30 per child

Drop Off Program

Pre-Registration Required

Ages 5-7

# BOWERS SCHOOL FARM

## Early Childhood



WINTER 2025  
DEC | JAN | FEB | MAR



### You, Me, and the Barns

Tuesdays

12/10, 12/17, 2/11, 3/18      10:00-11:30a

Toddlers can explore the farm with a parent or caregiver and discover the ways agriculture enriches our lives. Children aged 2-3 immerse themselves in the natural world, using their senses to experience firsthand the joys of farm life and participate in educational activities tailored just for them based on monthly themes.

\$20 per adult/child pair

Pre-Registration Required

Ages 2-3 w/an adult



### Pasture Pals

Wednesdays

12/11, 2/12, 3/19      10:00-11:30a

An immersive, hands-on, getting dirty, learning big, and exploring what it takes to help keep the farm buzzing along! It takes many hands to make light work and YOU get to be part of the team! Activities are based on monthly themes.

\$20 per adult/child pair

Pre-Registration Required

Ages 3-5 w/an adult



# BOWERS SCHOOL FARM

## School Groups



WINTER 2025  
DEC | JAN | FEB | MAR



### A Sheep's Story

February: 2/10, 2/11, 2/12, 2/13

March: 3/10, 3/11, 3/12, 3/13,  
9:30-11:30 & 12:30-2:30p

Explore the fascinating world of sheep and wool in this hands-on program! Learn about the unique physical traits of sheep, the history of sheep farming, and how wool has been used throughout time. Discover how wool compares to other fibers and why it's so unique. Students will get creative with a fun, hands-on wool project to experience its versatility firsthand. This program meets K-5 ELA, Science & Social Studies Standards.

**Check website for fee**

**Pre-Registration Required**

**Grades K-2**

**Grades 3-5**

### Spring Farm Discovery Days

**Registration Opens February 1**

**Select Dates: April, May, June**

Join us for an exciting field experience where learning and fun go hand in hand! Students will have the chance to explore a working farm and discover the wonders of agriculture. Through engaging activities and guided tours, they'll learn how vegetables grow, see farm machinery in action, and understand the importance of taking care of our environment.

**Check website for fee**

**Pre-Registration Required**

**All Ages**



# BOWERS SCHOOL FARM

## Equine Programs



WINTER 2025  
DEC | JAN | FEB | MAR



**Equine EXPLORERS**  
A winter SERIES  
for the horse enthusiast

AN EXCELLENT BALANCE OF SCIENCE-BASED CLASSROOM WORK WITH HANDS ON KNOWLEDGE.

EXPLORE A VARIETY OF EQUINE TOPICS

- DEC 3rd • CARE MANAGEMENT
- DEC 17th • NUTRITION
- JAN 7th • ANATOMY
- JAN 21st • BREEDS, COLORS, & MARKINGS
- FEB 4th • TACK & EQUIPMENT
- FEB 25th • FIRST AID
- MAR 4th • THE WORLD OF SHOWING
- MAR 18th • CAREERS

stay connected all winter long

Join us this winter for furthering your equine education and experiences. Lou takes students into the classroom for some equine education necessary for the thriving equestrian, along with hands on experiences.

These courses are designed for all ages, whether you just love horses, you are a new horse owner, beginning lessons or an equine enthusiast looking to expand your knowledge this course is for you. Stay connected all winter long with our Bowers Riding School students and local equestrian enthusiasts with this fun, interactive classroom course. An excellent balance of science based classroom work and hands on horse activities.

AGES 10-15

SPRING BREAK  
**HORSE Camp**

BOWERS SCHOOL FARM

Join Us for a Spring Break full of Fun and Adventure!

MARCH 24-25 ENGLISH RIDING CAMP  
MARCH 26-28 WESTERN RIDING CAMP

SIGN UP FOR 1 SESSION OR EXPLORE THE WHOLE WEEK!

A week packed full of:

- HORSE BACK RIDING
- HANDS ON HORSE ACTIVITIES
- ARTS & CRAFTS

For more info: [www.schoolfarm.org](http://www.schoolfarm.org) | +1248-341-6476  
Camp Coordinator Louise Kavanaugh | [lkavanaugh@bloomfield.org](mailto:lkavanaugh@bloomfield.org)  
Bowers School Farm, 1219 East Square Lake Rd

This introductory horse camp includes hands-on activities with the horses while learning the basics of horse behavior, anatomy, and care. It will foster strong relationships between campers and horses, and give campers the skills needed to create these relationships in the future. After this camp, participants will have a general understanding of how we care for and bond with horses. Riding will occur daily, weather permitting. No prior riding experience required. The camp is divided into two parts Monday & Tuesday with a focus on English riding styles and activities. Wednesday -Friday the focus shifts to Western horse activities.

# BOWERS SCHOOL FARM

## Events



Friends of Bowers Farm will again host its annual Winter Park, featuring a winter tubing experience that comes alive after dark with a spectacle of lights! Embrace the season with some classic outdoor winter fun! After some thrills on the hill, guests will also have the opportunity to get cozy and roast s'mores around our bonfires, play on the straw tower in our winter playscape, visit select farm animals, shop at our satellite store for local farm products, and enjoy some great comfort food and signature hot cocoas from our scratch farm kitchen.

January 4-February 23, 2025

Ticket sales start in December.

### Girl Scout Badge-A-Palooza Day (NEW)

2/2 Daisies/Brownies	10:00a- 12:00p & 1:00-3:00p
2/9 Juniors/Cadettes	10:00a-12:00p

Earn your next Girl Scout badge by joining our fun and educational event with hands-on activities and exciting learning opportunities. Whether exploring nature or learning new skills, this event promises an unforgettable experience for all Girl Scouts.

Check website for fee  
 Pre-Registration Required





# JOHNSON NATURE CENTER

## Adult & Family Programs



WINTER 2025  
DEC | JAN | FEB



### Craft Series: Snow Slime

December 28

1:00-3:00p

Enjoy the fun of winter with this easy-to-make snow slime! With a fluffy, cool texture that resembles fresh snow, this slime is perfect for sensory play and creative crafting. Just add a few simple ingredients, and you'll have a unique, squishy material that stretches and sparkles. Ideal for indoor winter fun or any time you want a touch of snowy magic!

\$15 per person

Pre-Registration Required

Ages 3+



### Sunday Strolls

12/1, 1/5, 2/2

3:00-4:30p

Whether you saunter or stroll, join us on the trails. Coffee & warm drinks are available at 3:00p.

Donations appreciated

No Pre-Registration Necessary

All Ages

### Fireside Crafts: Low Stakes Craft Night

12/12, 1/9 & 2/13

5:30-7:00p

Beat the winter blues and join us for a short hike and an hour of stress-free, social crafting. Bring your collage supplies, crochet work-in-progress, or your favorite coloring book and cozy up to the fire to get those creative juices flowing!

\$8 per person

Pre-Registration is required

Ages 16+

**Fireside Crafts:  
A Low-Stakes Craft Night**

December 12, 2024 5:30-7pm  
January 9, 2025 5:30-7pm  
February 13, 2025 5:30-7pm

Johnson Nature Center  
Bloomfield Hills, MI



# JOHNSON NATURE CENTER

## Adult & Family Programs



WINTER 2025  
DEC | JAN | FEB



### New Year's Day Hike

January 1

1:00-3:00p

Start the year off right with a refreshing New Year's Day hike, where you can connect with nature and set positive intentions for the year ahead.

\$14 per person

Pre-Registration Required

All Ages



### Craft Series: Snowy Owl Pinecones

January 25

1:00-3:00p

Come select your own pinecones and create an adorable snowy owl. This would make a great gift or winter decoration.

\$5 per person

Pre-Registration Required

Ages 4-9 (adult must be present)

# JOHNSON NATURE CENTER

## Adult & Family Programs

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WINTER 2025  
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### Night Hike: Owl Prowl

February 1

6:00-7:00p

Armed with a sense of adventure, we'll venture into the mysterious realm of the wise owls. Discover the magic of the night as we navigate through shadowy trails, guided by the soft rustle of leaves and the occasional "who-cooks-for-you" serenade from our feathered friends. It promises to be a hootin' good time!

\$8 per person

**Pre-Registration Required**

Ages 7+



### Antler Shed Hike

February 2

1:30-2:30p

Join us as we comb the forest floor in search of nature's ultimate prize—deer antler sheds! Late winter and early spring are prime time, as bucks shed their racks, leaving beautiful, naturally shed antlers hidden among the leaves and brush. Along the way, we'll learn about deer behavior, track signs, and habitats. Bring your sharp eyes and a sense of adventure—every antler tells a story of the forest's hidden life!

\$8 per person

**Pre-Registration Required**

Ages 5+

### Great Backyard Bird Count Guided Hike

February 15

12:00-1:00p

We'll explore local habitats to observe and identify winter birds while contributing to community science. Perfect for bird enthusiasts of all levels, this program combines nature exploration with meaningful data collection for global bird conservation efforts.

\$8 per person

**Pre-Registration Required**

Ages 5+

### Winter Survival Day (NEW)

February 17

9:00a-4:00p

Curious how animals survive winter's chill? Join us for a day of outdoor fun as we build shelters, start fires without matches, and search for signs of life in the snow. Dress warmly and bring your curiosity—adventure awaits!

**Pre-Registration Required**

Ages 7-13 (must have camp forms on file, as this is a drop-off program)

# JOHNSON NATURE CENTER

## Adult & Family Programs



WINTER 2025  
DEC | JAN | FEB



### Snowshoe Rental Adventures

Adult and youth snowshoes are available to rent, weather permitting, with at least 5" of snow on the ground. This allows participants to fully enjoy winter trails and explore the outdoors in a fun, active way. Be sure to check the snow conditions before planning your visit!

**\$5 per person**

**No Pre-Registration Necessary**

**Ages 5+**

### Craft Series: DIY Sundial

**February 22**

**1:00-3:00p**

Embark on a captivating journey through time as we build our very own sundial! By harnessing the sun's light, the sundial casts a shadow that follows a fascinating, predictable dance each day. This ancient instrument not only serves as a beautiful piece of art but also offers a unique way to understand the passage of time and the shifting seasons.

**\$15 per person**

**Pre-Registration Required**

**Ages 5+**



### Fire & Ice Pop-Ups

The "Fire and Ice" outdoor program pop-ups offer participants a unique experience exploring the contrasts of heat and cold in nature. Activities could include creating fire art, snow experiments, or learning survival skills to harness the elements. These engaging programs blend fun and education, encouraging participants to connect with the natural world in creative and adventurous ways. Check on our website for program dates and times.

**\$5-8 per person**

**Pre-Registration Required**

**Age varies**

# JOHNSON NATURE CENTER

## Early Childhood



WINTER 2025  
DEC | JAN | FEB



### TreeSchool

Registration will open in Winter 2025 for the 2025-26 School Year

Every child deserves a “happy place” to gain independence, make friends, develop unique skills and interests, and learn to contribute to a community. TreeSchool, our drop-off preschool program, provides children with such a place. With 40 acres of forest, pond, and prairie to explore, children develop lifelong skills through meaningful play and project-based learning experiences.

Join the [Early Childhood email list for enrollment announcements!](#)



### You, Me, and the Trees

Fridays (check website for dates)

10:00-11:30a

Parents and caregivers are invited to explore the outdoors with their toddlers and observe the many ways nature can help us learn. Children 2-3 years old will have the opportunity to embrace the wonders of nature through their senses and engage in unique learning experiences.

\$12 / child

[Pre-Registration Required](#)

Ages 2-3



# JOHNSON NATURE CENTER

## Events

THE JOHNSON NATURE CENTER PRESENTS

# MAPLE SUGARING

*Saps Happy Event*




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**SAVE THE DATES**

**MARCH 2, 8 & 15, 2025**

VISIT [WWW.JOHNSONNATURECENTER.ORG](http://WWW.JOHNSONNATURECENTER.ORG) TO LEARN MORE




JOHNSON  
NATURE CENTER  
BLOOMFIELD HILLS SCHOOLS



Save the Date!

# Whimsical Woodlands

Sunday, April 27, 2025



# SUMMER CAMP

Bowers School Farm & Johnson Nature Center

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## Save the Date!



Check our website for detailed information coming soon!

**Member Registration:**  
February 3rd

**Non-Member Registration:**  
February 5th



# DIVERSE LEARNERS ' DAYS

WINTER | SPRING | SUMMER | FALL



This specialized program is designed for children with special needs to provide a more accessible experience for the child and their family who might be hesitant to visit due to a child's complex learning needs or challenges (i.e. sensory needs/responses, language, emotional or social concerns, cognitive learning challenges, physical needs, etc.). During this collaborative program, the guide will work directly with the children (4:1 ratio) to provide specialized instruction and accommodation with animals, gardens, and farm/nature activities.





# SCOUTS & SMALL GROUPS

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WINTER | SPRING | SUMMER | FALL



Explore various focused topics, from bugs to plants, through hands-on, inquiry-based learning experiences.

We've designed these programs to meet scout badge requirements and can adapt to meet your group's needs.



# CONNECT & GIVE

Join us as we seek to give everyone the opportunity to enjoy nature.

Johnson Nature Center is working toward its strategic plan initiative to support accessibility by adding:

- Trackchair
- ADA trail



## BECOME A FRIEND

THE FRIENDS' GROUPS OF BOWERS SCHOOL FARM AND JOHNSON NATURE CENTER SUPPORT OUR MISSION THROUGH VOLUNTEERISM AND FUNDRAISING EFFORTS. JOIN TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE TODAY!

## BECOME A VOLUNTEER

OUR VOLUNTEERS SUPPORT OUR CONSERVATION EFFORTS, EVENTS, EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS, ANIMAL CARE, AND MORE. CONTRIBUTE AND MAKE AN IMPACT THROUGH SERVICE TO STUDENTS AND THE COMMUNITY.



**CHILDREN'S  
Discovery  
Garden**

**BOWERS SCHOOL FARM**

Bloomfield Hills Schools has started planning the required infrastructure with the necessary professionals to complete the project in alignment with funding from the bond 2020. We have been informed that installation would begin in 2025 with completion in 2026.

We are continuing to fundraise to support the many interactive features of the Garden along with creating an endowment to ensure continued prosperity thereof.

Your past and continued support is greatly appreciated.



SIGN UP FOR OUR NEWSLETTERS & LEARN MORE!  
SCHOOLFARM.ORG & JOHNSONNATURECENTER.ORG

