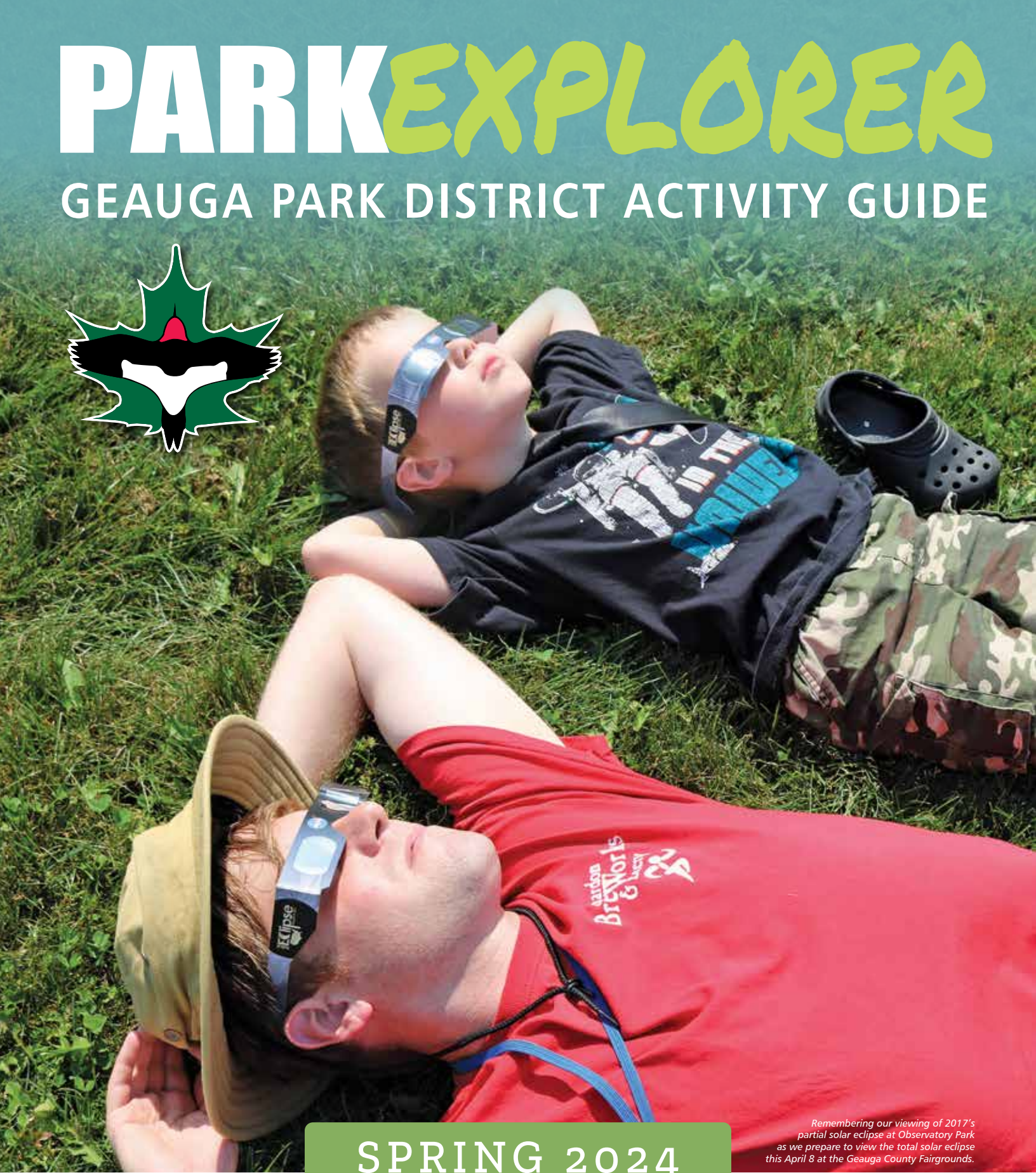


# PARKEXPLORER

## GEAUGA PARK DISTRICT ACTIVITY GUIDE



SPRING 2024

*Remembering our viewing of 2017's partial solar eclipse at Observatory Park as we prepare to view the total solar eclipse this April 8 at the Geauga County Fairgrounds.*

**4** How Nature provides true inspiration for writing

**6** Nominate your favorite trail for the Top 10 Trails Contest

**16** Summer camp schedule released! Register for outdoor fun

**19** Are you ready to experience The Great Geauga Total Solar Eclipse?



# UPCOMING EVENTS *Mark your calendars!*



*All public programs and special events are subject to change or be cancelled. Please check our website for updates before heading out.*



## Walk among the trees...

**at The West Woods Nature Center**

Daily 10 AM to 4 PM through April 21.

*Featuring more than 300 original pieces by 152 regional artists celebrating trees' inspiration to the human spirit!*



View the eclipse with us at the Geauga County Fairgrounds, including 3 minutes 27 seconds of nighttime darkness at 3:15 PM! This FREE event will include activities starting at 11 AM, multiple safe eclipse-viewing opportunities from 2 to 4:30 PM, and various food vendors – make a day of it! Free eclipse glasses while supplies last (then we share). More information can be found on our website.



*Let's "reforest the fairways" at Veterans Legacy Woods!*

**Saturday, April 20** More details on page 8

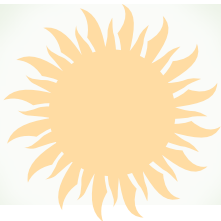
**Earth Day Tree Planting** - Register to plant trees and put up protective fencing with our Natural Resource Management team, learning about trees along the way.

**Earth Day Drive-Through** - Register to swing by the park and pick up a stash of native plants for your yard, as well as information about caring for our Earth. Fee: \$5.

## ROPES & BOATS

**Kayak/canoe borrowing at Headwaters Park and the high ropes course at Claridon Woodlands open for the season on Saturday, May 25.**

For activity details & restrictions, visit our website under News & Updates.



## Solstice Day • Thursday, June 20

*A full day of programs to help everyone enjoy the longest day of the year!*

In honor of the Summer Solstice, find programs highlighted in yellow on page 14 — hiking, horseback, a sunset kayak float and a firefly bike ride in the evening among them — and mark your calendars to get the most out of this sun-centric day.



**Music Concerts at Big Creek Park's Amphitheater at 7 PM**

**The Hickory Rockers 6/8**

**Bent Spring Band 7/13**

**Hot Jazz Seven 8/17**

**Outdoor Movie Nights at Observatory Park (activities begin at 8:30 PM, movies at dark)**

**Raiders of the Lost Ark (PG) 6/15**

**Guardians of the Galaxy (PG-13) 7/6**

**Migration (G, animated) 8/3**

## SPRING PROGRAMS *on pages 7-16*

- Registration is required in advance for limited-enrollment programs on a first come, first served basis. Registration can be completed online or at 440-286-9516.
- Programs may be cancelled in the event of severe weather or a storm warning.
- Programs are generally free of charge; those with fees are noted. Payment of fees must be made at the time of registration with a credit/debit card.
- Registration fees are refundable up to five days prior to the event, or if the Park District cancels the program.
- If you or a member of your family has special needs, please call the Park District regarding available accessibility accommodations.



**Gaugapark District Trekking Series Program**  
Naturalist-led hike recommended to take toward your Trekking Series reward



**Nature's Not To Be Missed**  
Program focused on unique encounters with Nature



**Virtual Program**  
Register and receive a login to participate from home



**Fully Wheelchair/Stroller Accessible**



**Nature Scopes** — Program recommended for our fifth-grade *Nature Scopes* students

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## Park Mission

The mission of Geauga Park District is to preserve, conserve and protect the natural features of Geauga County and to provide outdoor recreational experiences to our residents of every age, every ability and at all times of the year.

## Park Hours

Daily 6 AM – 11 PM

Big Creek Park's Donald W. Meyer Center is open weekdays 10 AM – 4:30 PM

The West Woods Nature Center is open daily 10 AM – 4:30 PM

Observatory Park is open daily till 1 AM from Memorial Day to Labor Day and till 11 PM from Labor Day to Memorial Day; its Robert McCullough Science Center and Oberle Observatory are open the 2nd & 4th Fridays & Saturdays of each month 6 – 11 PM and every other Sunday of each month 1 – 4 PM

The Maple Highlands Trail is open daily dawn till dusk

Burton Wetlands Nature Preserve is open daily 6 AM – 9 PM

[www.geaugaparkdistrict.org](http://www.geaugaparkdistrict.org)  
[info@geaugaparkdistrict.com](mailto:info@geaugaparkdistrict.com)

Phone: 440-286-9516  
Fax: 440-214-3032

## From the Desk of THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



Executive Director  
John Oros

Dear Geauga County Friends & Neighbors,

Welcome to the spring edition of your *Park Explorer*. Have you heard? By now, most of you have heard about a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity coming to Geauga County. On April 8 between the hours of 2 and 4:30 p.m., we will have the opportunity to view the phases of a TOTAL solar eclipse. The path of the eclipse over Geauga County will ensure prime viewing around 3:15 p.m. Geauga Park District is excited to highlight this event in partnership with The Great Geauga County Fair, as the event will take place at the Geauga County Fairgrounds. As we draw closer to April 8, be sure to check out our website and social media platforms for more specific event details.

In other news, we are proud to provide you, our residents, with our second annual report within the pages of this issue. The report highlights our most prominent accomplishments in 2023 and provides a financial snapshot of the year. One thing is for sure: we could not have accomplished all these things without you. Not only do you continue to financially support Geauga Park District, you continue to utilize your parks to experience some of the best opportunities in Nature viewing, programming and recreational services. Thank you! We hope you enjoy reading about our accomplishments – they are your accomplishments, too!

There is always much to do in your parks with spring weather upon us. Get out and hike one of your favorite trails, have a picnic with your family at a lodge or shelter, or attend one of the many great programs or special events provided by our Naturalist Department. Whatever your adventure, we hope you get outside soon to enjoy your Geauga Park District. Enjoy!

## BOARD OF PARK COMMISSIONERS



Howard Bates



Jolene Carnabuci



Ray Guarino



Les LaGatta



Frank Stein

### Park Board Meetings

Dates and times are subject to change. Find the current schedule on our website under About GPD, or call 440-286-9516.



## FEATURING PARK FRIENDS

# Pausing to Explore

*By Sarah Marcus-Donnelly*

Living in this world can be both unbearably heartbreaking and wildly joyful. Lately, it seems like the joy has been buried down a bit deeper, and it has felt more difficult than usual to take a break from endless responsibilities, from what I've told myself I "should" be doing. The last few months have reignited my desire for simplicity: fewer things and more time. So, even on the coldest, wettest, most gloomy days, I feel fortunate to live in a community that protects natural spaces. I put all my warmest, driest gear on myself and my five-year-old because "there's no such thing as bad weather, just bad clothes" (a phrase I sometimes regret having taught him) and head out into our parks to feel the biting wind and freezing rain. A reprieve from the news. A pause on being constantly available, and an opportunity to be fully present in the moment.

Our parks provide inspiring landscapes: trees, marshes, rivers and waterfalls, secret creeks, choruses of bird and frog songs, snow drifts on heavy boughs, and if we are lucky, the occasional coyote. My father, son and I are three generations

discovering new rocks, mosses and trails. We don't have to spend hours and hours in a park for it to be magical. There is magic in introducing a small child to a bridge, in the last few breaths of the orange glow of sunset on your face, in recognizing the shrill, prehistoric call of a nearby Pileated Woodpecker that transports us to a more curious, compassionate, genuine version of ourselves. We can give ourselves the gift of breathing in, deeply, the smell of a decomposing forest, a time-frozen winter wetland, or the disquietudes of an early spring meadow.

Each spring, Geauga Park District holds its annual Nature Writing Contest, which calls on us, in any natural space, to notice how it feels to stand in the miraculous, the callous, the perpetual beginning of it all. As an educator, I've witnessed that everyone has something valuable and beautiful to say about our most sacred resource. Maybe you've never written anything at all, and you think you couldn't possibly submit to a contest with no experience – but you can.

sarahmarcusdonnelly  
The Rookery - Geauga Park District



sarahmarcusdonnelly  
West Wood Nature Center



sarahmarcusdonnelly  
Veterans Legacy Woods Park







# & Record

That's what makes art so exciting: new people, voices and perspectives. Maybe you take five minutes to go outside right now? What does it sound like? Smell like? Taste like? What do you hear? What do you feel in your hands and in your heart? Nature, like us, revives, renews and preserves. Isn't it amazing to stand in the knowledge that we are all connected in this way, despite everything that feels so isolating around us?

Whether you are five or 105, I hope you support our vibrant community of people who value creativity from seasoned and emerging voices alike. Submit your work to this contest (details on page 6) and, if you place, come with family and friends to the culminating celebratory reading event. The ache of this world can be so heavy, and I have found it so lovely to lay it down for a moment. 🍁

## ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Sarah Marcus-Donnelly is the author of *They Were Bears* (2017, Sundress Publications), *Nothing Good Ever Happens After Midnight* (2016, GTK Press), and the chapbooks *BACKCOUNTRY* (2013) and *Every Bird, To You* (2013). Her other work can be found at *NPR's Prosody*, *The Huffington Post* and *Cosmopolitan.com*. She holds an MFA in poetry from George Mason University. You can follow her adventures in the park on Instagram @sarahmarcusdonnelly and find some of her writing at sarahannmarcus.com.



# What are the Top 10 best trails in Geauga Park District? *We want to hear from you!*



*Is it the Blue Trail at Veterans Legacy Woods?*  
Photo by Tome Elesh Jr.

Pro Tip: Love a trail  
but don't know what it's called? Visit  
the park's page on our website and click  
Trail Maps to get its proper name.



*Is it the Duane Ferris Trail  
at Eldon Russell Park?*  
Photo by Brad Sauder



*Is it the Interurban Trail  
at The Rookery?*  
Photo by Bernice Betty

## *Let Nature Inspire Your Writing* Enter Geauga Park District's 29th Annual Nature Writing Contest

**\$100** for 1st Place Adults  
and Adolescents  
**\$50** for 1st Place Children



Thanks to the  
Foundation for  
Gauga Parks  
for sponsoring these  
great prizes!



- **POETRY & PROSE**
- **3 AGE CATEGORIES**
- **GET PUBLISHED!**

Monday, April 22, is Earth Day — and  
the deadline for writers of all ages to  
submit Nature-inspired poetry, prose or  
both to this annual contest.

Get your application online at  
<http://bit.ly/gpdnwc2024> or at The West  
Woods Nature Center, Big Creek Park's Meyer Center, or  
your favorite Geauga library. In addition to cash prizes,  
winners are published in our Nature Writer's Chapbook and  
online, and get invited to a special winners coffeehouse  
celebration at Claridon Woodlands. Good luck!





## Let This Be Your Reminder...

If you plan to attend a program without registration, please remember to mark your calendars or set an alarm, as reminder emails cannot be sent for those programs.

Registration is always required of programs with fees or limited attendance, but fewer programs now require registration in advance. We hope you like the change, and to see you more often in the parks going forward!

# APRIL

Registration begins at 10 AM on March 20 for Geauga residents and March 27 for others. Sign up online or by calling 440-286-9516.

Adventure/Discovery Arts Astronomy Kids Seniors

## 1 Snipe Hunt & Hike

Monday, April 1, 8–9:30 AM  
Frohning Meadows

Ever been fooled into a snipe hunt? Never been to see a real snipe? Let's turn this practical joke into the real deal. Witness the aerial courtship displays of Wilson's Snipe for a memorable rite of spring.

## 6 24th Annual Butterfly ID & Monitoring Workshop

Saturday, April 6, 9:30 AM–4:30 PM  
The West Woods, Nature Center

Hey, butterfly enthusiasts! Geauga Park District is partnering with the Ohio Lepidopterists, ODNR and Ohio Biological Survey to present an annual butterfly ID workshop. **Registration required** through Ohio Lepidopterists. Find the paper registration form and more information at <https://bit.ly/gpd-2024butterfly>. Lunch and snacks are included with registration. Please register by March 30 to ensure a lunch. 🚗

## 6 Bald Eagle Hike

Saturday, April 6, 1–3:30 PM  
Headwaters Park, Rt 608 Main Parking Lot  
Learn amazing facts about Bald Eagles and hike 2.5 miles to view an active nest and eagle activity. Held rain or shine. Partly off trail. Wear sturdy footwear and dress for weather. Bring binoculars.

## 6 Skydance: Flight of the Woodcock!

Saturday, April 6, 7:30–9 PM  
Burton Wetlands Nature Preserve

A behind-the-bushes look at the courtship antics of one unique bird, the American Woodcock, highlighted by its amazing "sky dance" with "wing song" and careening descent. Partially off trail. Wear footwear for wet or muddy conditions. Bring binoculars. 🚗

## 7 Bald Eagle Van Trip

Sunday, April 7, 9 AM–2:30 PM  
The West Woods

Learn amazing facts about Bald Eagles as we drive to various eagle nests and eagle hot spots around Geauga County. We'll depart from The West Woods and be in and out of the van, so be prepared for the unpredictable spring weather. Bring binoculars. Spotting scope provided or bring your own. Pack lunch and water. **Registration required.**

## 7 Hound Hike

Sunday, April 7, 9:30–10:30 AM  
The West Woods, Turkey Ridge

Dogs and their humans, join us for a 2-mile medium-level hike to Ansel's Cave! Cold Nose Companions Dog Training will also share helpful tips and tricks to practice during the hike. Bring dog towels, water, a water bowl, poop scoop and bags for dog clean-up. One dog per handler, who must be able to fully control dog, kept on 8 ft max leash at all times. Dogs must be non-aggressive to people and other dogs.

## 7 Ansel's Cave Hike: History Written in Rock

Sunday, April 7, 1–3 PM  
The West Woods, Turkey Ridge

Hike 2 miles over hilly terrain to Ansel's Cave to discover its history written in rock – a rare opportunity to go into this restricted area! Dress for the weather and wear sturdy foot gear for a stream crossing.

## 7 Warbler Warm-up

Sunday, April 7, 2–4 PM  
The West Woods, Nature Center

Noted local birders Matt Valencic and Kelly Stanek present techniques for ID'ing spring warblers using color patterns, habitat, behaviors and song. For novice to intermediate birders. Special attention will be paid this year to common warbler species. Program hand-outs will be emailed upon request. A collaboration with the Audubon Society of Greater Cleveland. 🚗



## 8 The Great Geauga Total Solar Eclipse

Monday, April 8, 11 AM–4:30 PM  
Gauga County Fairgrounds

Experience the TOTAL SOLAR ECLIPSE at Geauga County Fairgrounds – not seen in Ohio since 1806! A variety of activities begin at 11 AM, the pre-eclipse starts at 2 PM, and the total eclipse will be at 3:15 for 3 minutes 27 seconds! Multiple safe viewing options will be onsite, plus food vendors. Plan to make a day of it! Free eclipse glasses while supplies last, then we share.

## 12 Horseback Trail Ride

Friday, April 12, 10 AM–12:30 PM  
The West Woods, Horse Trailer Parking

Bring your own horse and join a naturalist on a leisurely trail ride of 6 to 8 miles on the Pioneer Bridle, Music Street and Affelder trails. Enjoy spring wildflowers and Nature lore from the saddle. Trailer your own horse and bring a shovel to clean up in the parking lot. Helmets recommended. Anticipate hills, gravel, bridge and stream crossings. **Registration required.**

## 12 April Evening Adventure

Friday, April 12, 7:30–9 PM  
Eldon Russell Park

A woodcock air show accompanied by a chorus full of Spring Peeper piping, Barred Owl bantering, beaver tail-slapping and Great Blue Heron flapping culminate in a memorable spring evening hike for families. **Registration required.** 🚗

## 13 Nature Explorers: "Smammals" (Ages 6-11 w/adult)

Saturday, April 13, 1:30–3:30 PM  
Veterans Legacy Woods, The Club  
Learn amazing facts about the mice, voles, shrews and moles (small mammals) of our area. Indoors and outdoors, so dress for the weather. **Registration required** for all attending.

## 13 Nature Trek Fitness Hike

Saturday, April 13, 1:30–3 PM  
Holbrook Hollows

Let's move it, people! Burn off those calories on this fitness hike, learning some cool Nature facts along the way. Must be able to hike at least 3.5 miles on hilly trails. Held rain or shine, so dress accordingly and bring water.

## 14 Coffee with the Birds

Sunday, April 14,  
9–10 AM & 10:30–11:30 AM,  
The West Woods Nature Center

Register for a time slot to join Naturalist Renell for some close-up bird viewing and identification of spring birds at the feeders while enjoying a hot beverage. Please choose just one session. **Registration required.** 🚗

Adventure/Discovery Arts Astronomy Kids Seniors

## 14 Nature Journaling: Natural Patterns

Sunday, April 14, 1:30–4 PM  
Holbrook Hollows, Lodge

Fee: \$20 Geauga resident, \$24 out-of-county  
Attend this monthly series to learn basic journaling techniques and record your Nature observations. Our inspiration this month will be natural patterns. Partially outdoors. Taking photos is optional. First-time participants must pay \$20 for Geauga residents or \$24 for out-of-county residents to purchase a new journal, pen and other supplies. Those who attended the series before, but not within the calendar year, must pay \$10 for Geauga residents or \$12 for out-of-county residents to cover additional instruction and supplies. Those who already registered within the calendar year are free. **Registration required** by phone only. ♿

## 14 Marsh Mammal Viewing

Sunday, April 14, 7:30–9 PM  
The Rookery

Beavers, muskrats, otters and mink all swim in our local wetlands. Learn a bit about these amazing creatures before setting up an evening stake-out to see what species might appear.

## 16 Inclusive Experience: Amazing Amphibians

Tuesday, April 16, 10:30–11:30 AM  
The West Woods, Nature Center

A special program for people in the developmental disability community! Join a naturalist to meet some amphibian friends, followed by a walk along the trail to see and hear more. **Registration required** for all participants. ♿

## 18 Elderberries: Spring Wildflowers

Thursday, April 18, 9 AM–Noon  
The Rookery, Great Blue Heron Lodge

Seniors, explore spring wildflowers through a sit-down presentation, then head out on the trail with a naturalist to see what we can find! Breakfast provided, sponsored by Ohman Family Living at Holly. A collaboration with the Geauga Department on Aging and University Hospitals Geauga Medical Center. **Registration required.**

## 18 Birding for Beginners

Thursday, April 18, 9–11 AM  
Welton's Gorge

Curious or new to birding? Learn the basics of bird identification on this slow-paced bird walk. Experienced leader will assist participants with observation and identification. Binoculars available to borrow.

## 20 Earth Day Tree Planting

Saturday, April 20, 9 AM–Noon or 1–4 PM, Veterans Legacy Woods

Join our Natural Resource Management team to learn about and help plant trees and put up protective fencing in celebration of Earth Day! If possible, please bring your own shovel and gloves. **Registration required.**



## 20 Earth Day Drive-Through

Saturday, April 20, 1 PM, 1:15 PM, 1:30 PM, 1:45 PM, 2 PM, 2:15 PM, 2:30 PM & 2:45 PM  
Veterans Legacy Woods Fee: \$5

Choose a time to receive native plants and information about caring for our Earth from wildlife and conservation experts. **Registration required** for your vehicle, not the number of people inside. Come during your 15-minute session only.

## 20 Campfire Cooking: Dutch Ovens

Saturday, April 20, 8–10 AM  
Holbrook Hollows

Fee: \$4 Geauga residents, \$6 out-of-county  
Learn a new skill and get inspired for your next camping adventure! Together we'll create a hearty biscuit and gravy breakfast over a campfire in Dutch ovens. Participants under 18 must be accompanied by an adult. **Registration required.** ♿

## 20 Backcountry Hike: Ravines, Rocks & Ledges

Saturday, April 20, 1–4 PM, The Rookery

Take an off-trail adventure into rock ledges, streams and ravines of the protected preserve portion of this park. Must be capable of several miles of rugged off-trail terrain. Dress for the weather with boots or shoes with good traction that can get wet and muddy. **Registration required.**

## 20 Nassau Astronomy Night with CVAS

Saturday, April 20, 7–11 PM  
Observatory Park, Nassau Astronomical Station

Stop in to discover this awesome facility and join members of the Chagrin Valley Astronomical Society taking in the wonders of the night sky using our restored telescope! Cancelled if cloudy; check our website or social media for notice.

## 21 Explore a New Place Spring Hike Van Trip

Sunday, April 21, 12:30–3:30 PM  
The West Woods

Jump in our van to explore a recently acquired park property. We'll make a list of what kinds of spring things call the area home; birds, wildflowers, amphibians and aquatic invertebrates are all possibilities. Must be able to walk at least 3 miles over varied terrain with steep ravines. No restrooms at this site. **Registration required.**

## 21 Spring Celebration!

Sunday, April 21, 1–3:30 PM  
The West Woods, Nature Center

Celebrate spring with fun activities like an eye-spy scavenger hunt, a Nature craft, and a reptile and amphibian presentation at 1:30 PM and 3 PM featuring live animals! Indoors and outdoors, so dress for the weather. Adults attend with children. Activities will be geared for ages 3+.

## 21 Sunset Nature Stroll

Sunday, April 21, 8–9:30 PM  
Orchard Hills Park

Celebrate spring with a beautiful stroll through the park at sunset. We'll keep our eyes and ears open for wildlife as some are settling down for the night while others are just getting up.

## 23 Early Morning Hike

Tuesday, April 23, 8–9 AM  
Russell Uplands Preserve

Join a naturalist for an early-morning up-paced hike on hilly terrain.

## 23 Full Moon Hike: The Spring Peepers Moon

Tuesday, April 23, 8:30–9:30 PM  
Observatory Park

Join a naturalist for a 1.5-mile loop hike over level terrain at a gentle pace to learn about Spring Peepers, Wood Frogs and nature's other nighttime noisemakers. Then, weather permitting, observe the rising full moon using park telescopes. ♿

## 24 After-Work Walk

Wednesday, April 24, 6–7 PM  
Big Creek Park, Deep Woods

Join a naturalist to take a 1.5-mile medium-level hike. We'll look and listen for Nature along the way!

## 25 Maple Town Tune Traders

Thursday, April 25, 7–9 PM  
The West Woods, Nature Center

Singers and musicians take turns presenting tunes as others join in. All musical genres, instruments and musicianship levels welcome. Come to play, sing, or simply enjoy as an audience member. ♿




## 26 Birding for Early Birds

Friday, April 26, 8–10 AM,  
Holbrook Hollows

Spot a variety of birds as they return to prime breeding habitat during spring migration. Experienced leaders will assist participants with observation and identification. Dress for the weather and bring binoculars.

## 26 Native Solitary Bees: Beneficial Pollinators

Friday, April 26, 7–8 PM  
The West Woods, Nature Center

Solitary insects like mason and leafcutter bees are gentle, native pollinators beneficial for farms, gardens and parks. Join Dr. Ken Keckler of Buckeye Veterinary Service for tips on how to attract and increase the abundance of these beneficial native bees, and enter a raffle to take home a bee house donated by Nature's Way Bird Products. 

## 27 Scout Day: Webelos Walkabout Adventure

Saturday, April 27, 9–11:30 AM  
Big Creek Park, Meyer Center  
Complete requirements 1-5 of the Walkabout Core Adventure! Start indoors for a brief opening program, then go outside for a 3-mile hike. Dress for the weather. **Registration required** for scouts only, but adult leaders must attend.

## 27 Horseback Trail Ride

Saturday, April 27, 10 AM–12:30 PM  
The West Woods, Horse Trailer Parking  
Bring your own horse and join a naturalist on a leisurely trail ride of 6 to 8 miles on the Pioneer Bridle, Music Street and Affelder trails. Enjoy spring wildflowers and Nature lore from the saddle. Trailer your own horse and bring a shovel to clean up in the parking lot. Helmets recommended. Anticipate hills, gravel, bridge and stream crossings. **Registration required.**

## 27 Scout Day: Daisy Trail Adventure Badge

Saturday, April 27, 1–2:15 PM  
Big Creek Park, Meyer Center  
Work on the Trail Adventure Badge and learn to plan and prepare for a Nature hike! Indoors followed by a hike, so dress for the weather. **Registration required** for scouts only, but adult leaders must attend. This is not a drop-off program, and badges are not provided. **Registration required.**


## 28 Important Bird Area Walk

Sunday, April 28, 8–10 AM  
Orchard Hills Park, Parking Lot

Join Blackbrook Audubon Society on our Important Bird Area (IBA) walks on the fourth Sunday of each month. Good for beginners and experienced birders. Learn bird identification tips firsthand. Bring binoculars and dress for the weather. For more info, visit [www.blackbrookaudubon.org](http://www.blackbrookaudubon.org).


## 28 Lesser Celandine, An Undesirable Beauty

Sunday, April 28, 1–2 PM  
Orchard Hills Park, Lodge

Lesser celandine is an invasive, aggressive menace to wildflowers, gardens and lawns. Learn how to get rid of it to benefit your local wildlife, and help spread the word among neighbors. Emily Rauschert, associate professor of plant ecology at Cleveland State University, will share recent research, including some local projects. **Registration required.**  (Separate registration required for the hike.)

## 28 The Sky Tonight Planetarium Show

Sunday, April 28, 2–2:45 PM & 3–3:45 PM, Observatory Park,  
Robert McCullough Science Center

Join us for a planetarium presentation about what to watch for in the night sky this week. 

## RECURRING PROGRAMS

### 6 10 Timbertots: Wonderful Worms!

(Ages 3-5 w/adult)  
Saturday, April 6, 10–11 AM & 1–2 PM  
Big Creek Park, Meyer Center  
Wednesday, April 10, 10–11 AM & 1–2 PM  
Sunnybrook Preserve, Sunnybrook Lodge  
Slimy, wiggly and right underneath our feet... worms are fun to explore! Outdoors, so dress for the weather. **Registration required** for all attending.



### 9 23 Gauga Walkers

Tuesdays, 1–2:30 PM  
April 9, Headwaters Park, Route 322  
April 23, The Rookery  
Hike for active seniors of 2 miles. Rolling terrain. Naturalist-led. Look for wildflowers. Call Gauga Senior Center for full schedule: 440-279-2167.

### 11 30 Waterfowl Watch

Thursday, April 11, 8–10 AM  
Tuesday, April 30, 8–10 AM  
Headwaters Park, Boathouse  
Enjoy an opportunity to view migrating waterfowl on the tranquil waters of this beautiful lake. Bring binoculars.




 Fully Accessible  Nature Scopes

## 28 Wildflowers & Invasives Backcountry Hike


Sunday, April 28, 2–4:30 PM  
Orchard Hills Park

Take an off-trail hike into rugged, wet woodland ravines to enjoy native spring wildflowers and view the invasive, aggressive lesser celandine that threatens to choke out the native flowers. Must be physically capable of several miles of on and off-trail hiking in wet terrain. Dress for the weather and wear sturdy boots. Bring a walking stick. **Registration required.** (Separate registration required for the talk)


## 5 6 26 27 Night Sky Viewing

Friday, April 5, 7–11 PM  
Saturday, April 6, 7–11 PM  
Friday, April 26, 8–11 PM  
Saturday, April 27, 8–11 PM  
Observatory Park, Robert McCullough Science Center  
If skies are clear, observe the night sky through the Oberle telescope and other telescopes spaced out around the plaza. Planetarium presentation if cloudy. 

## 14 21 28 Annual Spring Bird Walk Series

Sundays, 7:30–9:30 AM  
April 14, Burton Wetlands Nature Preserve  
April 21, Frohring Meadows  
April 28, The Rookery  
See a variety of birds as they return to prime breeding habitat during spring migration. Experienced leaders will assist participants with observation and identification. Dress for the weather; bring binoculars. Also May 5, 12 & 19 at different locations. 

## 19 20 Weave a Bin Basket

Friday, April 19, Noon–5 PM -or-  
Saturday, April 20, Noon–5 PM  
Holbrook Hollows  
Fee: \$20 Gauga residents, \$24 out-of-county  
Learn the basic art of basket weaving while making your own bin basket. Basket will measure approximately 10" x 7" x 7"H. Great for beginners. **Registration required.** 

## 27 30 Wildflower Wander

Saturday, April 27, 10:30 AM–12:30 PM  
Swine Creek Reservation, Lodge  
Tuesday, April 30, 10:30 AM–12:30 PM  
Headwaters Park, Rt. 322 Parking Lot  
Take a hike with a naturalist to enjoy an array of early spring wildflowers and learn about their natural history and folklore. Swine Creek's Valley Trail is a rugged hike and has rocky and steep terrain and tree roots in places, with a creek crossing or two as well. Wear sturdy shoes/boots. Headwaters is 2-3 miles. Bring a hiking stick.

Adventure/Discovery Arts Astronomy Kids Seniors

## 2 Birding for Beginners at Headland Dunes

Thursday, May 2, 8–10 AM  
Headland Dunes State Nature Preserve, Mentor

Beginning birders, join us at one of the best birdwatching spots in Northeast Ohio to witness the spring spectacle of bird migration along the shores of Lake Erie. Rain or shine, so dress for the weather and wear appropriate footwear for sandy trails and beach. Bring binoculars. **Registration required.**

## 2 Homeschool Days: Peering into a Pond

(Ages 5-7 & 8-12)  
Thursday, May 2, 1:30–3 PM  
Swine Creek Reservation, Lodge

Learn about the pond as a habitat and explore with nets in hand to find the amazing critters that call it home. Outdoors, so dress for the weather. **Registration required** for all attending including parents and siblings.

## 3 Nature Night Lecture Series: Reptiles

Friday, May 3, 7–8:30 PM  
The West Woods, Nature Center

Did you know that Geauga County is home to a species of lizard, or that nearly 20 species of snakes and turtles also can be found here? Take a more in-depth look at these species while learning about some myths and facts about our local reptiles. ♿

## 4 Let's Go Birding!

Saturday, May 4, 8–10 AM  
Walter C. Best Wildlife Preserve

Warblers, orioles, vireos and more – the bird migration in May is not to be missed! Grab your binoculars and meet us for a morning of birding in the parks. ♿

## 4 Ohio Native Fish Coalition Stream Sampling Event

Saturday, May 4, 9 AM–Noon & 1–4 PM  
Holden Arboretum, Kirtland

Join the Ohio Chapter of the Native Fish Coalition (NFC) and Geauga Park District for this neat stream sampling event. Together we'll learn lots about the native fish in our beautiful state and how to identify them, and experience various stream-sampling techniques. Dress to get wet, and bring waders and rubber gloves if you have them, as they will be required for the electrofishing session; other equipment will be provided to those who register. Bring drinking water. Participants are invited to bring lunch to enjoy onsite between the sessions. Directions to the site will be provided to those who register. **Registration required.**

## 4 Tea & Wildflowers

Saturday, May 4, 9:30–11:30 AM  
Headwaters Park, Crystal Lake Picnic Area

Fee: \$5 Geauga residents, \$7 out-of-county  
Celebrate spring with a fun and informative talk on wildflowers while you enjoy a variety of teas and pastries. Then head out on a trail for a short hike to look at the wildflowers in bloom. Rain or shine. **Registration required.**



## 4 Astrotots XL: Moon Mania

(Ages 6-11 w/adult)  
Saturday, May 4, 9:30–10:45 AM, 1–2:15 PM, Observatory Park, Robert McCullough Science Center  
Explore a handful of quirky moon myths. Participate in a totally looney, stand-up science simulation of moon phases, compete in a Moon Madness game, and follow the tracks of the 12 astronauts who walked on the moon. **Registration required** for ages 6-11 only. ♿

## 5 Hound Hike

Sunday, May 5, 9:30–10:30 AM  
Headwaters Park, Crystal Lake Picnic Shelter

Dogs and their humans, take an easy hike along the Buckeye Trail. Companions Dog Training will also share helpful tips and tricks to practice during the hike. Bring dog towels, water, a water bowl, poop scoop and bags for dog clean-up. One dog per handler, who must be able to fully control dog, kept on 8 ft max leash at all times. Dogs must be non-aggressive to people and other dogs.

## 5 Welton's Gorge Spring Trail Hike

Sunday, May 5, 1–3:30 PM  
Welton's Gorge

Hike with a naturalist along park trails to discover the sights and sounds of spring. Must be able to hike at least 2 miles over rolling hills. Rain or shine, so dress for the weather. This trail hike will not go down into the gorge, but rather we'll enjoy views of the gorge from above while on the trail.

## 5 Family Campfire Safety

Sunday, May 5, 2–3:30 PM  
Chickagami Park

Campfire safety is important for everyone in the family. We'll discover how to properly build, maintain and extinguish fires. Then we'll watch a few fire building demos and roast a marshmallow or two. **Registration required.** ♿

## 8 Magee Marsh Birding Van Trip

Wednesday, May 8, 6 AM–6 PM  
The West Woods

Fee: \$10 Geauga residents, \$15 out-of-county  
Take a group outing to one of the best birdwatching spots in the country to witness the spring spectacle of bird migration along the shores of Lake Erie! Board our van at The West Woods. Naturalists will be on hand to assist with bird identification, and we'll also likely visit a couple other hotspots depending on birding conditions. Bring binoculars, water and sack lunch. **Registration required.**



## 9 Beginning Birders Magee Marsh Van Trip

Thursday, May 9, 6 AM–6 PM  
The West Woods

Fee: \$10 Geauga residents, \$15 out-of-county  
Beginning birders, take a van trip to one of the best birdwatching spots in the country to witness the spring spectacle of bird migration along the shores of Lake Erie! Board our van at The West Woods. Naturalists will be on hand to assist with bird identification. Intended for beginner and novice birders. Bring binoculars, water and sack lunch. **Registration required.**

## 9 Art Workshop: Paint a Barn Quilt Square

Thursday, May 9, 6:30–9 PM  
Claridon Woodlands, Judge Lester Taylor Lodge

Fee: \$42 Geauga residents, \$45 out-of-county  
Join artist Jennifer Lipster to paint a 12" wooden barn quilt square in the "Woven Star" pattern. Wine and cheese served. Fee includes all materials, instruction and refreshments. Ages 21+. Dress for mess with an old shirt/smock. **Registration required.** ♿

## 10 Birding for Beginners

Friday, May 10, 9–11 AM  
Veterans Legacy Woods

Curious or new to birding? Learn the basics of bird identification on this slow-paced bird walk. Experienced leader will assist participants with observation and identification. Binoculars available to borrow.



## 11 Scout Day: Brownie Eco Friend Badge

Saturday, May 11, 9–11:30 AM  
The West Woods, Nature Center

Learn more about outdoor spaces and how to treat them with kindness as you complete all requirements for your Eco Friend badge. Badges not supplied. Outdoor hike included, so dress for the weather. **Registration required** for scouts only, but adult leaders must attend.

## 11 Winging It & Wine Birdwalk

Saturday, May 11, 10 AM–12:30 PM  
Laleure Winery, Parkman Twp.

Explore the bird diversity on the Laleure Winery property in the Grand River watershed. With a variety of pristine habitats, it's beneficial to migratory birds. Begin with a bird walk and end at the winery's tasting room. Bring lunch; wine and soft drinks will be available for purchase. Sturdy hiking shoes and pants recommended. More information will be provided to registrants. **Registration required.**

## 11 Holbrook Heron Hike

Saturday, May 11, 1–4:30 PM  
Holbrook Hollows

Take a hike of 6–7 miles out and back to the Chagrin River site of a nesting colony of Great Blue Herons, enjoying spring birds, wildflowers and Nature lore along the trail en route to the river floodplain. Bring water and snacks. **Registration required.**



## 11 Scout Day: My Tiger Jungle

Saturday, May 11, 1–2:30 PM  
The West Woods, Nature Center

Explore Nature in your own jungle! Indoors and outdoors, so dress for the weather. **Registration required** for scouts only, but adult leaders must attend.

## 12 Buckeye Trail Highlights Hike

Sunday, May 12, 9–11:30 AM  
Claridon Woodlands

The Buckeye Trail winds nearly 1,444 miles around Ohio. Visit one of the 8 Geauga Park District parks that can access the Blue Blazes. Participants should have the ability to hike around 6 miles on paved surfaces from Claridon Woodlands to Headwaters' north end. Rain or shine, so dress accordingly and bring water.

## 12 Birding for Beginners

Sunday, May 12, 10 AM–Noon  
The Rookery, Great Blue Heron Lodge

Curious or new to birding? Learn the basics of bird identification on this slow-paced bird walk. Experienced leader will assist participants with observation and identification. Binoculars available to borrow. 🦋

## 16 Elderberries: Interurban History Talk

Thursday, May 16, Noon–2 PM  
Bass Lake Preserve, Bass Lake Lodge

Seniors, join us for a history program about the Maple Leaf Route of the interurban that ran through Geauga County in the early 20th century presented by local historian, Interurban expert and author Dan Rager. Lunch provided by Maplevue Country Villa. A collaboration with the Geauga Department on Aging and University Hospitals Geauga Medical Center. **Registration required.** 🦋



## 17 Toddler Time: Sensing the Spring

(Ages 1–2 w/adult)  
Friday, May 17, 10–11 AM & 11:30 AM–12:30 PM, Beartown Lakes Reservation, North Point

Enjoy experiencing Nature with your little one as we see, smell and touch springtime in the park. Strollers and carriers welcome. **Registration required** for all attending including adults and siblings. 🦋

## 18 World Migratory Bird Day Bird Sit

Saturday, May 18, 6:30–11:30 AM  
Troy Wetlands, Observation Deck

Celebrate World Migratory Bird Day with a bird sit anytime during program hours for as little or long as you'd like. With a naturalist, we'll record all the birds we see or hear at our newest park in the time period. Bring a chair and relax with binoculars, a camera, and whatever you need to be comfortable. Dress for the weather. Cancelled in the event of heavy rain or storms.

## 18 Take Me to the Migration Van Trip

Saturday, May 18, 8 AM–4 PM  
The West Woods

May in Ohio means bird migration! We'll point the van in the direction of the best local bird reports, migrant traps, and any rare bird that shows up in our local area. Please bring a sack lunch, binoculars, and warm clothing in case we end up along Lake Erie. Adults only, please. **Registration required.**

🦋 Fully Accessible 🦋 Nature Scopes

## 18 Nassau Astronomy Night with CVAS

Saturday, May 18, 8–11 PM  
Observatory Park, Nassau Astronomical Station

Stop in to discover this awesome facility and join members of the Chagrin Valley Astronomical Society taking in the wonders of the night sky using our restored telescope! Cancelled if cloudy; check our website or social media for notice.

## 19 Nature Journaling: Kayak Experience

Sunday, May 19, 9 AM–Noon & 1–4 PM  
Headwaters Park, Boathouse

Fee: \$20 Geauga residents, \$24 out-of-county  
A monthly series to learn basic journaling techniques and record your Nature observations while kayaking. Kayaking experience required. Taking photos is optional. First-time participants must pay \$20 for Geauga residents or \$24 for out-of-county residents to purchase a new journal, pen and other supplies. Those who attended the series before, but not within the calendar year, must pay \$10 for Geauga residents or \$12 for out-of-county residents to cover additional instruction and supplies. Those who already registered within the calendar year are free. **Registration required** by phone only.

## 19 Accessible Nature Cart Tours

Sunday, May 19, 1–2 PM & 2–3 PM  
The West Woods, Parking Lot

Our cart tours are a great way to help those with limited mobility explore the parks. Riding along in Nature, we'll stop to talk about interesting natural and cultural features we discover. Participants must be able to enter and exit a six-seat golf cart. **Registration required;** please limit to yourself and one guest.

## 22 After-Work Walk

Wednesday, May 22, 6–7 PM  
The Rookery, Great Blue Heron Lodge

Join a naturalist after work for an easy 3-mile hike along the Interurban Trail. We'll look and listen for Nature along the way.

## 23 Maple Town Tune Traders

Thursday, May 23, 7–9 PM  
The West Woods, Nature Center

Singers and musicians take turns presenting tunes as others join in. All musical genres, instruments and musicianship levels welcome. Come to play, sing, or simply enjoy as an audience member.

Adventure/Discovery Arts Astronomy Kids Seniors

## 23 Full Moon Hike: The Whippoorwill Moon

Thursday, May 23, 9–10 PM  
Observatory Park

Take a naturalist-led hike of 1.5-miles over level terrain at a gentle pace to learn about Eastern Whippoorwill, Common Nighthawks and other creatures that are active at night. Then, weather permitting, observe the rising full moon using park telescopes. 🏠

## 25 Lost Lake Kayak Expedition on Upper Cuyahoga River

Saturday, May 25, 9:15 AM–1 PM, Meet in parking lot in front of Burton Library

Experienced kayakers only, take a rugged but rewarding kayak trip to a remote, seldom seen wild marsh accessed from the Upper Cuyahoga River. Ages 16+. Prepare for the possibility of wading and muddy portages. Must be able to get in and out of a kayak without assistance. Bring drinking water and extra clothes in a waterproof bag. All equipment provided. No private boats. **Registration required** beginning May 18 at 10 AM.

## 25 🏠 Authorized Access Hike: Wildlife of the Landfill

Saturday, May 25, 9:30–11:30 AM  
Waste Management's Closed Lake County Landfill

Back by popular demand! Explore the grasslands and wetlands of a restored landfill to see how it is naturally reclaimed by an amazing diversity of animals and plants. **Registration required.**

## 28 Important Bird Area Walk

Sunday, May 26, 8–10 AM  
Orchard Hills Park, Parking Lot

Join Blackbrook Audubon Society on our Important Bird Area (IBA) walks on the fourth Sunday of each month. Good for beginners and experienced birders. Learn bird identification tips firsthand. Bring binoculars and dress for the weather. For more info, visit [www.blackbrookaudubon.org](http://www.blackbrookaudubon.org).

## 26 🏠 Birding for Early Birds

Sunday, May 26, 8–10 AM  
Claridon Woodlands

Spot a variety of birds as they return to prime breeding habitat during spring migration. Experienced leaders will assist participants with observation and identification. Dress for the weather and bring binoculars.

## 26 The Sky Tonight Planetary Show

Sunday, May 26, 2–2:45 PM & 3–3:45 PM, Observatory Park, Robert McCullough Science Center

Join us for a planetary presentation about what to watch for in the night sky this week. 🏠

## RECURRING PROGRAMS

### 3 4 Astrotots: Meet the Moon

(Ages 3-5 w/adult)  
Friday, May 3, 9:30–10:30 AM, 11 AM–Noon, 1–2 PM

Saturday, May 4, 11:30–12:30 PM  
Observatory Park, Robert McCullough Science Center

Children ages 3-5 with an adult, "meet the moon"! Come discover why and how the moon looks and acts like it does, make-n-take-home a mini moon model, and look at close-up images of the moon taken by human moonwalkers in our awesome planetarium. **Registration required** for ages 3-5 only. 🏠

### 5 12 19 🏠 Annual Spring Bird Walk Series

Sundays, 7:30–9:30 AM  
May 5, Eldon Russell Park  
May 12, Big Creek Park, Aspen Grove  
May 19, Swine Creek Reservation, Woods Edge

See a variety of birds as they return to prime breeding habitat during spring migration. Experienced leaders will assist participants with observation and identification. Dress for the weather; bring binoculars. 🏠

### 7 21 Geauga Walkers

Tuesdays, 1–2:30 PM  
May 7, Big Creek Park, Maple Grove  
May 21, Swine Creek Reservation, Lodge Parking Lot

Hike for active seniors of 2 miles. Moderate hilly terrain at Big Creek Park and more challenging with some steep terrain at Swine Creek Reservation. Naturalist-led. Look for wildflowers. Call Geauga Senior Center for full schedule: 440-279-2167.

### 10 11 24 25 Night Sky Viewing

Fridays, May 10 & 24, 8–11 PM  
Saturdays, May 11 & 25, 8–11 PM  
Observatory Park

If skies are clear, observe the night sky through the Oberle telescope and other telescopes spaced out around the plaza. Planetary presentation if cloudy. 🏠

## 10 24 Earthquakes in Ohio

Friday, May 10, 7–8 PM  
Observatory Park, Robert McCullough Science Center 🏠

Friday, May 24, 7–8 PM (Virtual) 🏠

Learn the basics of earthquakes in the Great Lakes region and get the latest science about Northeast Ohio's recent small-to-moderate earthquakes. May 24 is a virtual program, and we will send you the link a few days before the program. **Registration required** for virtual program only.



Photo by Stacey Rauch

## 11 14 Timbertots: Feathered Friends

(Ages 3-5 w/adult)  
Saturday, May 11, 10–11 AM & 1–2 PM  
The West Woods, Nature Center

Tuesday, May 14, 10–11 AM & 1–2 PM  
Frohring Meadows, Katydid Lodge

Join Nora the Explorer to discover the amazing lives of birds! Indoors and outdoors, so dress for the weather. **Registration required** for all attending. 🏠

## 15 16 Odds & Ends Baskets

Wednesday, May 15, 5–9 PM  
Thursday, May 16, 1–5 PM  
Claridon Woodlands, Lodge

Fee: \$20 Geauga residents, \$24 out-of-county

Use your creativity! A basic pattern will be provided, then you will design and weave your basket. Some experience recommended. **Registration required.** 🏠

## 19 30 Horseback Trail Ride

Sunday, May 19, 10 AM–12:30 PM & 1–3:30 PM, Holbrook Hollows

Take a naturalist-led leisurely trail ride, enjoying spring woodlands and the connection to Cleveland Metroparks.

Thursday, May 30, 10 AM–Noon & 1–3 PM, Observatory Park

Join a naturalist to enjoy spring woodlands from a seat in the saddle at a leisurely pace in the company of other riders.

Helmets recommended. Expect varied terrain, stream crossings, bridges, a boardwalk and a short stretch of roadside riding. Trailer your own horse and bring a shovel to clean up after your horse in the parking lot. **Registration required** for one or both rides with a lunch break between.



## 2 Basic Learn to Canoe

(Ages 10+ w/adult)  
Sunday, June 2, 9 AM–Noon  
Burton Wetlands Nature Preserve,  
Lake Kelso

Learn basic canoe-handling techniques for safe canoeing on flat water. No private canoes or unregistered people. Wear close-toed shoes that can get wet or muddy and bring water and a change of clothes. **Registration required** by phone only beginning May 25 at 10 AM.

## 2 Backcountry Hike

Sunday, June 2, 9 AM–Noon  
Orchard Hills Park

Go off trail for some intense exploration! We'll explore areas not typically open to the public with variable terrain, hills and stream crossings. Please pack water and snacks and wear waterproof boots. Participants under 18 must also be accompanied by an adult. **Registration required.**


## 2 Basic Learn to Kayak

(Ages 10+ w/adult)  
Sunday, June 2, 1–4 PM  
Burton Wetlands Nature Preserve,  
Lake Kelso


Learn basic kayak-handling techniques for safe kayaking on flat water. No private kayaks or unregistered people. Wear shoes that can get wet or muddy and bring water and a change of clothes. Ages 10+; under 18 must be accompanied by an adult. **Registration required** beginning May 25 at 10 AM.



## 3 Toddler Time: Sensing the Summer

(Ages 1-2 w/adult)  
Monday, June 3, 10–11 AM & 11:30 AM–12:30 PM, Walter C. Best Wildlife Preserve, Sunset Shelter  
Experience Nature with your little one as we see, smell and touch early summertime in the park. Strollers and carriers welcome! **Registration required** for all attending including adults and siblings. 

## 5 Accessible Nature Cart Tours

Wednesday, June 5, 1–2 PM & 2–3 PM  
The Rookery  
Our cart tours are a great way to help those with limited mobility explore the parks. Riding along in Nature, we'll stop to talk about interesting natural and cultural features we discover. Participants must be able to enter and exit a six-seat golf cart. **Registration required**; please limit to yourself and one guest. Partially wheelchair accessible. 


## 8 Lake Kelso Kayak

(Ages 10+ w/adult)  
Saturday, June 8, 10–11:30 AM  
Burton Wetlands Nature Preserve

Paddle the tranquil waters of Lake Kelso, enjoying the wildlife and beautiful surroundings. Basic kayaking skills required; instruction not given. All equipment provided. Rain or shine, except in thunderstorm. No private boats, please. **Registration required** beginning June 1 at 10 AM.

## 8 Nights Out in the Parks: The Hickory Rockers

Saturday, June 8, 7–8:30 PM  
Big Creek Park, Amphitheater


Let's kick off our monthly amphitheater concert series with a night of good-time roots rock music from the Hickory Rockers! Think rockabilly, honky-tonk country, old school rock-n-roll, folk & blues! Held in the Cherry Room if inclement weather. 

## 9 Bald Eagle & Osprey Kayak

(Ages 10+ w/adult)  
Sunday, June 9, 10 AM–Noon & 1–3 PM  
Headwaters Park, Boat Launch

Join us for a float on this beautiful lake as we search for Osprey and Bald Eagles and learn cool facts about these amazing birds of prey. Previous kayaking experience required. Bring a snack, water and sunscreen. Total distance 2-3 miles. **Registration required** beginning June 2 at 10 AM.

## 9 Tin Can Wood Stove

Sunday, June 9, 3–5 PM  
Chickagami Park, Pine Grove Shelter  
Fee: \$10 Geauga residents, \$15 out-of-county  
Join us to make a simple yet efficient little wood stove out of tin cans, a light and portable backup option for camping. Ages 14+; under 18 must be accompanied by an adult. **Registration required.** 

## 10 Bass Lake Kayak

Monday, June 10, 9–11 AM  
Bass Lake Preserve

Spend a morning enjoying the wildlife and beautiful surroundings of Bass Lake. Basic kayaking skills required; instruction not given. Rain or shine, except in thunderstorm. Wear shoes that can get wet or muddy. Bring drinking water. **Registration required** beginning June 3 at 10 AM.

## 15 Stream Hike

Saturday, June 15, 1–2:30 PM  
Sunnybrook Preserve

Salamanders, minnows, crayfish, there is so much life to discover in our streams and, of course, getting in the water helps beat the summer heat! Bring your creek walking shoes, we'll bring the nets, and together we will hike down to the stream. Ages 7+ with adult; no younger children please. Children must be accompanied by an adult. **Registration required.**



## 15 Dragon Hunting at Blue Heron Preserve

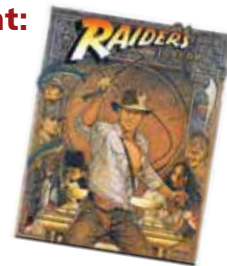
Saturday, June 15, 1–3 PM  
Blue Heron Preserve  
(14757 Ravenna Road, Burton)

Explore the dragonfly/damselfly diversity at Western Reserve Land Conservancy's Blue Heron Preserve. This recently opened park, formerly the Newbury Sand and Gravel surface mine, has been reclaimed and restored to a more natural state. Let's see what dragons and damsels the wetlands and ponds at this site support.

## 15 Movie Night: Raiders of the Lost Ark (PG)

Saturday, June 15,  
8:30–11:30 PM  
Observatory Park

Join us to watch Raiders of the Lost Ark and see Indiana Jones in action! Pre-show activities begin at 8:30 PM; movie shown at dusk, approximately 9:30 PM. Bring your own blankets, lawn chairs and refreshments. Movie shown indoors if inclement weather.



## 15 Nassau Astronomy Night with CVAS

Saturday, June 15, 9–11 PM, Observatory Park, Nassau Astronomical Station

Stop in to discover this awesome facility and join members of the Chagrin Valley Astronomical Society taking in the wonders of the night sky using our restored telescope! Cancelled if cloudy; check our website or social media for notice.

## 16 Welton's Gorge Backcountry Gorge Exploration

Sunday, June 16, 9–11:30 AM  
Welton's Gorge,

Take a strenuous off-trail hike into a rocky woodland ravine with deep rock ledges, cool streams, wildflowers, salamanders and other stream life. Must be capable of hiking unassisted over rugged terrain including slippery rocks, downed trees, steep slopes and stream crossings. Rain or shine, so dress for the weather and wear sturdy shoes with good traction even in wet conditions. Bring a walking stick or one will be provided. Long pants recommended. **Registration required.**

## 16 Searching for Snakes

Sunday, June 16, 10 AM–Noon  
The Rookery

*Snakes! Why did it have to be snakes? Because snakes are amazing creatures that are an important part of the environment! Bring a sense of adventure as we explore likely habitats to find snakes and other reptiles and amphibians. Children must be accompanied by an adult.*



## 16 Nature Journaling: Bees & Wasps

Sunday, June 16, 1–3:30 PM  
Frohning Meadows, Katydid Lodge

*Fee: \$20 Geauga residents, \$24 out-of-county*

*A monthly series to learn basic journaling techniques and record your Nature observations. This month our inspiration will be bees and wasps. Partially outdoors. Taking photos is optional. First-time participants must pay \$20 for Geauga residents or \$24 for out-of-county residents to purchase a new journal, pen and other supplies. Those who attended the series before, but not within the calendar year, must pay \$10 for Geauga residents or \$12 for out-of-county residents to cover additional instruction and supplies. Those who already registered within the calendar year are free. Registration required by phone only.*

## 19 After-Work Walk

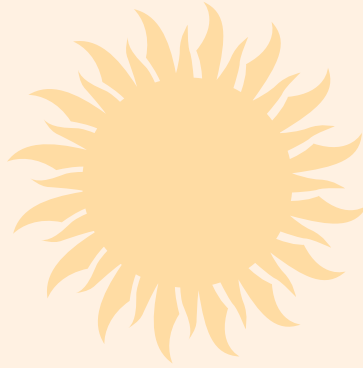
Wednesday, June 19, 6–7 PM  
Beartown Lakes Reservation, North Point  
*Join a naturalist after work for an easy 2-mile hike along the Whitetail Trail. We'll look and listen for Nature along the way.*



## 20 Summer Solstice Day: Early Morning Hike

Thursday, June 20, 8–9:30 AM  
Veterans Legacy Woods

*Start your longest day of the year with an up-paced hike of 2-3 miles on hilly terrain.*



## 20 Summer Solstice Day: Horseback Trail Ride Connecting the Parks

Thursday, June 20, 10 AM–2 PM  
Holbrook Hollows

*Trailer your own horse to Holbrook Hollows for a naturalist-led trail ride from Holbrook Hollows to Cleveland Metropark's South Chagrin Reservation. Bring lunch and water bottle for a mid-ride break. Expect gravel trails, bridges, boardwalk, stream crossings, river crossings, a ride along a road and bicycles. Helmets recommended. Bring a shovel to clean up after your horse in the parking lot. Registration required.*

## 20 Elderberries: Summer Solstice Fun!

Thursday, June 20, Noon–2 PM  
Claridon Woodlands, Lodge

*Seniors, join us at Claridon Woodlands for an afternoon of fun! Choose your own adventure from a selection of activities including the high ropes course, a Nature scavenger hunt, fishing, pond dipping or a hike. Lunch provided by Chardon Healthcare Center. A collaboration with the Geauga Department on Aging and University Hospitals Geauga Medical Center. Registration required.*

## 20 Summer Solstice Day: Solar Crafts

Thursday, June 20, 1:30–3 PM  
Beartown Lakes Reservation, North Point

*Celebrate the summer solstice with a variety of crafts and activities using solar power! We'll work with solar ovens and solar print paper to harness the energy of the sun on this longest day of sunshine. Registration required.*

## 20 Summer Solstice Sunset Float

Thursday, June 20, 7:30–9:30 PM  
Headwaters Park, Boathouse/Boat Launch

*Join us for a float on this beautiful lake with a sunset float. Kayaking experience required. Bring a snack, water and sunscreen. Total distance 2-3 miles.*

*Registration required beginning June 13 at 10 AM.*

## 20 Summer Solstice Day: Firefly Frolic Bike Ride

Thursday, June 20, 8:30–10 PM  
Headwaters Park, Boathouse

*End the longest day with a magical bike ride to discover lightning bug species along The Maple Highlands Trail. Begin at the boathouse with a short introduction on the natural history of these amazing insects. Then we'll jump on our bikes and head out. Bring your own bike (no training wheels) and helmet. Participants must be able to ride a bike at least 3-4 miles round trip. A bike or helmet light is recommended since we'll be riding after dark. We'll also stop along the way where fireflies are displaying and enjoy Nature at night.*

## 21 Full Moon Hike & Night Sky Viewing: The Strawberry Moon

Friday, June 21, 9–11 PM  
Observatory Park

*Join us for this naturalist-led hike of 1.5 miles over level terrain at a gentle pace to learn about spring strawberries and experience Nature at night. Then, weather permitting, observe the rising full moon and the night sky using park telescopes.*

## 22 Practical Knots for Camping

Saturday, June 22, 10 AM–12:30 PM  
Big Creek Park, Campsite A

*Learn some useful knots used around the campsite. We'll practice 6+ knots from bowline to taut-line hitches on basic tarp shelters and more. Registration required.*

## 22 Exploring the Preserve: Backcountry Hike

Saturday, June 22, 10 AM–Noon  
Stafford Preserve, Chesterland

*Take a rugged off-trail hike into a mature woodland to enjoy wildflowers, ravines, streams and the history of the land. Expect potentially wet terrain; must be physically capable of several miles of on and off-trail hiking. Dress for the weather and wear sturdy boots or shoes with good traction that can get wet and muddy. Directions will be sent to participants the week prior. Registration required.*





## 22 Moth Madness

Saturday, June 22, 10:30 PM–12:30 AM  
Troy Wetlands, Observation Deck

Drop in anytime during program hours and bring your curiosity to the wetland observation deck to see what species have been attracted to the lights at our newest park – a great opportunity to capture images of night-flying insects! Flashlights and cameras recommended. Be prepared for mosquitos.

## 23 Important Bird Area Walk

Sunday, June 23, 8–10 AM  
Orchard Hills Park, Parking Lot

Join Blackbrook Audubon Society on our Important Bird Area (IBA) walks on the fourth Sunday of each month. Good for beginners and experienced birders. Learn bird identification tips firsthand. Bring binoculars and dress for the weather. For more info, visit [www.blackbrookaudubon.org](http://www.blackbrookaudubon.org).

## 23 Hound Hike

Sunday, June 23, 9:30–10:30 AM  
Burton Wetlands Nature Preserve

Dogs and their humans, join us for a 1.5-mile easy-level hike. Companions Dog Training will also share helpful tips and tricks to practice during the hike. Bring dog towels, water, a water bowl, poop scoop and bags for dog clean-up. One dog per handler, who must be able to fully control dog, kept on 8 ft max leash at all times. Dogs must be non-aggressive to people and other dogs.

## 23 Polliwog Paddle Family Canoe

(Ages 5+ w/adult)  
Sunday, June 23, 1–3 PM  
Eldon Russell Park

Families with kids ages 5 and up, take an easy-paced, short-distance float on the wildlife-rich Upper Cuyahoga River. Bring water, sunscreen and a change of clothes in case of capsiz. All children must be accompanied by an adult. **Registration required** by phone only beginning June 16 at 10 AM.

## 23 The Sky Tonight Planetarium Show

Sunday, June 23, 2–2:45 PM & 3–3:45 PM, Observatory Park, Robert McCullough Science Center

Join us for a planetarium presentation about what to watch for in the night sky this week.

## 25 Grandparents in the Park: Summer Fun

Tuesday, June 25, 10–11:30 AM  
Veterans Legacy Woods, Shelter

Grandparents and grandchildren, enjoy a morning of all-ages fun, including a really neat Nature-based play area! Outdoors, so dress for the weather in comfortable shoes; sandals or flip flops not recommended. Snacks provided. **Registration required.**

## 26 Backcountry Adventure for Youth & Teens: Ravines, Rocks & Ledges

(Grade 5-10)  
Wednesday, June 26, 10 AM–3 PM  
The Rookery

Teens, join a naturalist for an off-trail adventure into some of the rock ledges, streams and ravines of the protected preserve portion of this park, discovering amphibians, reptiles and other wildlife in some of the crevices and “caves”! Hikers must be capable of several miles of rugged off-trail terrain. Dress for the weather in boots or shoes with good traction that can get wet and muddy. Bring lunch, snacks and a water bottle. Must have signed waiver. **Registration required.**

## 27 Maple Town Tune Traders

Thursday, June 27, 7–9 PM  
Big Creek Park, Meyer Center

Singers and musicians take turns presenting tunes as others join in. **Please note new location.** All musical genres, instruments and musicianship levels welcome. Come to play, sing, or simply enjoy as an audience member.

## RECURRING PROGRAMS

### 4 18 Geauga Walkers

**Summer Picnic** Tuesday, June 4, Noon–2:30 PM, Sunnybrook Preserve  
Hike for active seniors of 2 miles, followed by our annual picnic. Bring a dish to share.

Tuesday, June 18, 1–2:30 PM  
Beartown Lakes Reservation, North Point  
Hike for active seniors of 2 miles. Rolling terrain. Naturalist-led hikes. Call Geauga Department on Aging for full schedule: 440-279-2167.

### 6 8 Timbertots:

**Animal Babies** (Ages 3-5 w/adult)

Thursday, June 6, 10–11 AM & 1–2 PM  
The Rookery, Great Blue Heron Lodge  
Saturday, June 8, 10–11 AM & 1–2 PM  
Walter C. Best Wildlife Preserve, Sunset Shelter

Join Nora the Explorer on an adventure to discover that this is a time for animal babies! Outdoors, weather permitting, so dress for the weather. **Registration required** for all attending including siblings and adults.



## 29 Family Night Campfire & Fun

Saturday, June 29, 7–8:30 PM  
Chickagami Park, Overlook Shelter

Enjoy an evening of family fun with Nature activities followed by a campfire for s'more fun! Bring lawn chairs for seating. Optional walk included, so wear appropriate footwear. **Registration required.**

## 30 Streamlife Exploration for Families

Sunday, June 30, 1–3 PM  
The West Woods, Affelder House

Families, venture into a forested stream to discover wildlife such as crayfish, salamanders and crane fly larva. Dress for wading in a rocky stream. No sandals, please. **Registration required.**



## 7 21 Post-Eclipse Science

Friday, June 7, 7–8 PM, Observatory Park, Robert McCullough Science Center

Friday, June 21, 7–8 PM (Virtual)  
From radio astronomy to animal sounds, many aspects of April's total solar eclipse seen in Northeast Ohio were studied by researchers and amateurs alike. Get the results from science projects conducted on the big day! June 21 is a virtual program; we will send you a link a few days before the program. **Registration required** for virtual program only.

## 7 8 22 Night Sky Viewing

Friday, June 7, 8–11 PM  
Saturdays, June 8 & 22, 9–11 PM  
Observatory Park

If skies are clear, observe the night sky through the Oberle telescope and other telescopes spaced out around the plaza. Planetarium presentation if cloudy.

## 11 23 Stream Exploration & Monitoring at Big Creek

Tuesday, June 11, 1–4 PM  
Sunday, June 23, 1–4 PM  
Big Creek Park, Woodin Road  
Horse Trail Parking

Hike on- and off-trail, down and up a steep slope, to gain access to Big Creek, then catch and identify a variety of aquatic invertebrates as well as rainbow darters and stream fish, which are indicators of stream water quality. Dress for the weather with sturdy, hiking footwear that can get wet in possible knee-deep water. **Registration required.**



## ARCHERY FOR EVERYONE

All archery programs are held at Chickagami Park's outdoor archery range

### Archery Practice (Ages 9+)

Saturday, June 1, 11:15–11:45 AM,  
12:15–12:45 PM, 1–1:30 PM

These 30-minute sessions are for you to take the next step in improving your aim through practice. Must have previously participated in our Introduction to Archery program to register. Ages 9+; under 18 must be accompanied by an adult. Must be at least 50" tall. Wear close-toed shoes. **Registration required.**

### Introduction to Archery for Kids (Ages 9-16)

Saturday, June 1, 2–3:30 PM

Learn the basics of target archery. Must be at least 50" tall. **Registration required** for child only, but adult must stay.

### Introduction to Archery for Families

Friday, June 7, 10:30 AM–Noon  
Saturday, June 15, 10:30 AM–Noon

Families with children ages 9+, learn the basics of target archery together. Must be at least 50" tall, wear closed-toe shoes and be accompanied by an adult if under 18. Arrive 15 minutes early to walk a quarter mile to the archery range. **Registration required** for all attending.

### Archery Games for Adults

Friday, June 7, 1–2:30 PM  
Saturday, June 15, 3–4:30 PM

Take the next step in improving your aim by playing archery games. Must have participated in one of our Introduction to Archery programs to attend. Arrive 15 minutes early to walk a quarter mile to the archery range. **Registration required.**

### Introduction to Archery for Adults

Friday, June 7, 3–4:30 PM  
Saturday, June 15, 1–2:30 PM

Adults, learn the basics of target archery together. Wear close-toed shoes. Arrive 15 minutes early to walk a quarter mile to the archery range. **Registration required.**

### Archery for Scouts

(Ages 9-11 w/adult)  
Saturday, June 22, 10–11:30 AM

(Ages 12-16 w/adult)  
Saturday, June 22, 1–2:30 PM

Learn the basics of target archery. Must be at least 50" tall. Please arrive at least 15 minutes early to fill out paperwork and ensure the group starts on time. **Registration required** for scouts only, but adult leaders must attend.

## 2024 summer camps

## Have some fun outside this summer!

### Junior Naturalist Day Camp

(Youth entering grades 5-7 — 2 sessions)

Mon–Fri, June 3–7; July 22–26  
9 AM–3 PM daily, Swine Creek Reservation  
Fee: \$150 Geauga residents,  
\$175 out-of-county residents

Explore and learn how to be a naturalist! Junior Naturalist Day Camp is an exciting week of exploring streams, ponds and forests. Search for and learn about insects, fish, amphibians, reptiles, birds and more! Campers will spend their time both on and off trail at this park. Drop off and pick up each day at the lodge.



### Nature Adventure Day Camp

(Youth entering grades 5-7 — 5 sessions)

Mon–Fri, June 10–14; June 24–28;  
July 15–19; July 29–August 2; August 5–9\*

(Teens entering grades 8-10 — 2 sessions)

Mon–Fri, June 17–21; July 8–12

All sessions 9 AM–3 PM daily  
Fee: \$150 Geauga residents,  
\$175 out-of-county residents

Are you ready to explore!? If so, join Geauga Park District for an exciting week of exploring through nature discovery and recreational activities. We will bike, kayak, try archery, explore nature and more! Campers will begin (get dropped off) and end (get picked up) each day at various parks: Claridon Woodlands Monday and Tuesday, Headwaters Park on Wednesday, Observatory Park on Thursday, and Chickagami Park on Friday.

\*Note: August 5–9 has different park location schedule as follows: Claridon Woodlands on Monday, Headwaters Park on Tuesday and Wednesday, Observatory Park on Thursday, and Chickagami Park on Friday.

### Nature Explorer Day Camp

(Youth entering grades 3-4 — 2 sessions)

Mon–Fri, July 8–12; August 12–16  
9 AM–3 PM daily; The West Woods, Affelder House  
Fee: \$150 Geauga residents,  
\$175 out-of-county residents

Ready to explore? Sign up for an exciting week of exploring streams, ponds, and forests to search for and learn about insects, fish, amphibians, reptiles, birds, and more! Campers will spend their day both on and off trail at this park. Drop off and pick up each day at Affelder House.

#### REGISTRATION REQUIRED at 440-286-9516 for all camps.

Waivers and other details will be sent prior to camp. Campers bring lunch, water and a raincoat in a backpack each day. Sunscreen and insect repellent are also recommended; all other equipment is included in the fee and provided. Financial assistance is available; please call for details.





# ADVENTURES in Geocaching



N 41° 21.659  
W -81° 08.564

Check out the new geocache  
at Troy Wetlands in Troy Twp.

Expires July 1, 2025. Find details on our website under Activities.

*This might seem like a rather small park,  
But it has that big nature spark.  
See if you can keep our feet dry while  
you give this new cache a try. The trails  
are not long so there is no way to go  
wrong. This cache can be found gently  
laid on the ground.*

## Have you tried Agents of Discovery yet?

Just download the free app to your mobile device and create an account for a new way to walk the park this spring! Our game will tell you which trails to walk once you're there — and as you approach a challenge, it will become available for you to play. Then answer Nature questions correctly to collect "bees" and earn rewards! Stay tuned to our website under *Geocaching & Location-Based Games* for 2024 game and reward updates.



**Install the Agents app and  
start an account to play!**

Donations to  
Geauga Park District  
November 2023  
through  
January 2024

## Thank You to All of Our Generous Donors

Bill, Cheryl & Sarah Koza	Donation in memory of Ian Roche	\$30.00
Brett Thomas Doudican	Donation in honor of Mike Doudican	\$25.00
C. Camillo	Donation in memory of Ian Roche	\$75.00
Chardon Polka Band	Donation in honor of Sonny Williams	\$500.00
Constance & Richard E. Croasdaile III	Donation in memory of Ian Roche	\$100.00
David & Marie Blossom	Donation in memory of Ian Roche	\$100.00
Debbie Dudley	Donation in memory of Ian Roche	\$100.00
Covia/Best Sand	1,000 Trees	\$2,700.00
Foundation for Geauga Parks	Summer Camp seasonal naturalist	\$5,647.00
Foundation for Geauga Parks	Summer Camp supplies	\$2,847.88
Foundation for Geauga Parks	NatureScopes 2023-24 school year	\$22,127.71
Frank & Marlene Novotny	Donation in memory of Ian Roche	\$100.00
Katie Outcal (paddle community)	Donation in memory of Ian Roche	\$250.00
Geauga Walkers Group	Donation for programs	\$100.00
Joseph M. Musser, Jr.	Donation in memory of Ian Roche	\$100.00
Lori Jo Folger	Unrestricted donation	\$300.00
Mike & Karen Guman	Donation in memory of Ian Roche	\$250.00
Ron Longoria	Donation in memory of Ian Roche	\$20.00
Stratos Wealth Partners	Donation in memory of Ian Roche	\$250.00
Jeff Concepcion		
Susan Jane Hillier	Donation in memory of Stephen A. Detelich	\$150.00
The Cleveland Foundation	Lewis & Ruth Affelder Fund	\$526.75
The Clio Club	Honorarium Damsels & Dragonflies 101 presentation	\$50.00
Town & Country Garden Club	Honorarium Ohio's Owls Program	\$50.00

## Calling All Scouts!

Photos by Emily Gold



Each month during the school year, your parks host programs for the local scouting community. From the Boy Scout Astronomy Merit Badge to the Daisy Outdoor Art Maker Badge, we provide fun, outdoor experiences for each age group, all led by a park naturalist.

One of my favorite programs that we offer is the Junior Geocacher Badge. Involved scouts learn what geocaching is and how to use a GPS unit, then find a cache hidden within the park. We also place a trackable "travel bug" in the cache and see how many miles it can travel. One placed in 2002 has traveled more than 47,000 miles!

I'd love to hear from our Geauga County Scout leaders! Please reach out to me at [kwheaton@geaugaparkdistrict.org](mailto:kwheaton@geaugaparkdistrict.org) if you have ideas for these programs or would like to be included on an email list to be notified of upcoming programs.

To see what's open for registration this season, click *Programs & Events* on our website and filter by program type Scouting. I'm excited to also preview many, many more upcoming scouting programs below. 🍁

### This season:

**April 27:**

**Webelos Walkabout Adventure**

Big Creek Park: Cherry Room, 9–11:30 AM

**Daisy Trail Adventure Badge**

Big Creek Park: Cherry Room, 1–2:15 PM

**May 11:**

**Brownie Eco Friend Badge**

West Woods Nature Center, 9–11:30 AM

**My Tiger Jungle**

The West Woods Nature Center, 1–2:30 PM

**June 22:**

**Archery for Scouts**

Ages 9-11, 10–11:30 AM

Ages 12-16, 1–2:30 PM

*Registration is required for these programs.*

### Looking ahead:

**August:**

**A Bear Goes Fishing Bear Adventure  
Cadette Paddling Badge**

**September:**

**Paws on the Path Wolf Adventure  
Daisy Outdoor Art Maker Badge**

**October:**

**Into the Wild Tiger Adventure  
Brownie Eco Friend Badge**

**November:**

**Finding Your Way Wolf Adventure  
Junior Outdoor Art Explorer Badge**

**December:**

**Earth Rocks Webelos Adventure  
Scout Snowshoe Call List**

**January:**

**Fur, Feather, Ferns Bear Adventure  
Junior Geocacher Badge**

**February:**

**Sky is the Limit Tiger Adventure  
Cadette Night Owl Badge**

**March:**

**Mountain Lion Adventure  
Daisy Eco Learner Badge**

**April:**

**Webelos Walkabout Adventure  
Junior Flowers Badge**

**May:**

**My Tiger Jungle Adventure  
Brownie Bugs Bage**





## Are you ready for April's truly spectacular total solar eclipse?

### Strange Things That May Happen During a Total Solar Eclipse

1. **Temperature** will most likely drop quickly, maybe 5 to 10 degrees.
2. **Winds** may die down quickly and start up again, and may even change direction.
3. **Animals** may become confused. Nighttime critters may suddenly become vocal, while birds stop chirping and other animals begin to bed down for the night or return to roost.
4. **Radio waves** may become scrambled or interrupted.
5. **Shadow bands** (wavy stripes of light and dark) may appear on solid-colored surfaces, similar to what you see at the bottom of a swimming pool.
6. **Stars** will begin to appear in the sky.

Witnessing a total solar eclipse can be breathtaking and maybe even a little magical. During the "moment of totality," when the sun is completely blocked by the moon, observers may experience an odd feeling as both visible and invisible solar emissions (including the light that we see *and* the radiation that we don't) disappear right in the middle of the afternoon!

### KEEP YOUR EYES SAFE!

Looking directly into the sun can cause damage to your eyes and even blindness. The only safe way to do so is through special lenses. Solar filters are used in eclipse glasses and hand-held solar viewers, and it is extremely important that these filters meet a standard known as ISO 12312-2 to ensure safety.



Sunglasses, even very dark ones, or homemade filters are not safe for looking at the sun. Also, never look at the uneclipsed sun through a camera lens, telescope, binoculars or other devices that do not have a special solar filter on them, even if you are wearing eclipse glasses. The intense solar rays coming through these devices can damage the solar filter on your glasses and in turn, your eyes.

Can you find the following words in the word search below?  
Words run across, down, diagonal, forward or backward.

TOTALITY	SHADOW	FAIRGROUNDS	OHIO
APRIL	EARTH	GEAUGA	NIGHTTIME
MOON	GLASSES	ORBIT	SUN
ECLIPSE	SOLAR	ASTRONOMY	CORONA

D S A P R I L K T X N Q H A S B  
F R V K C Z E M O H L S F R U N  
I S H A D O W V E A D L A K N J  
A T O N B P I R S N P O S H E A  
N L I T Y A D O U L S S T A B S  
O R G U M K F O C I Y Z R C L E  
R I E W E A R N B E D M O O N Q  
O S A L I G S H E A B U N D U E  
C H U R R H E Z M R I C O L S M  
A O G I A R S C O T G L M A S I  
S T A K E E S O L H M N Y Z O T  
T F L S H C A N O K Y E J H P T  
I S T O T A L I T Y P L I S F H  
B V X L N F G E A B W O D A M G  
R U N A O O M Y G H T T S L R I  
O M Y R T H A E S P I L C E G N

Word search answers are located on back cover.

### MAKE A PINHOLE PROJECTOR



Poke a small hole in a piece of paper or thin cardboard. With your back to the sun, raise the paper so the sun shines through it, then aim the beam onto another piece of paper. Do you "see" the sun?

This creates a very small view, but is still fun to try!





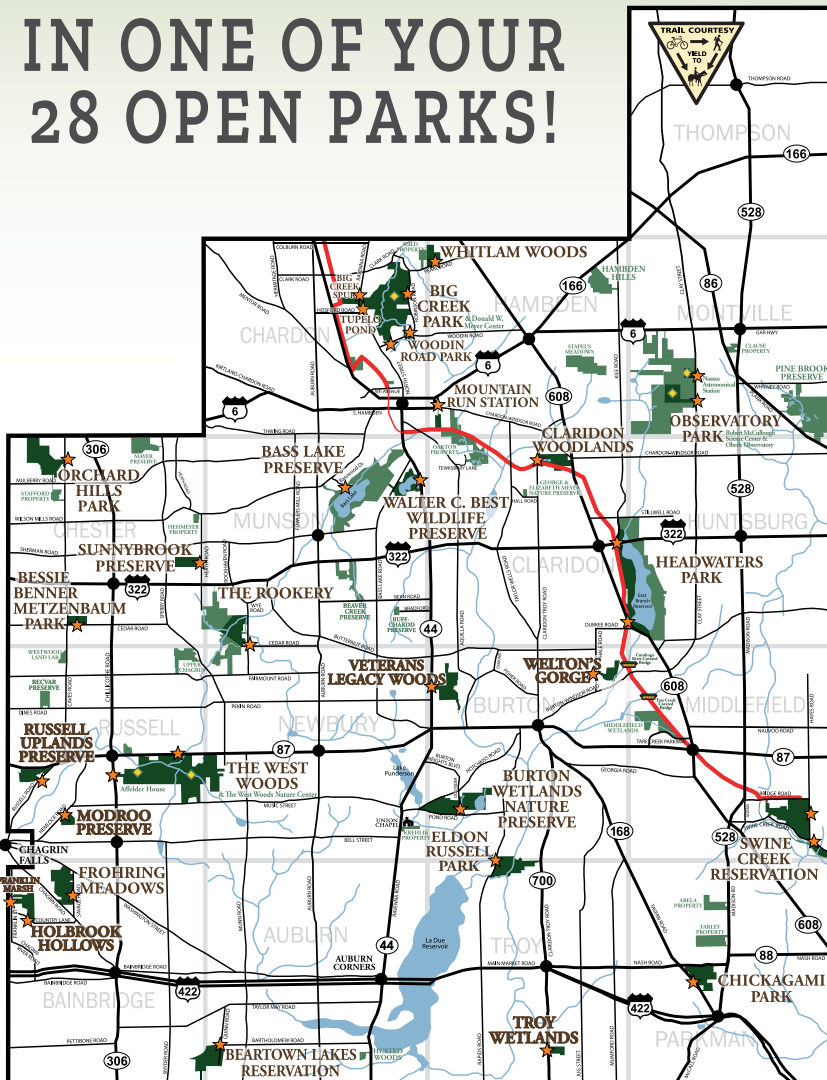
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# FIND YOUR ADVENTURE

## IN ONE OF YOUR 28 OPEN PARKS!



## STEER YOUR WAY

to the Geauga County Fairgrounds for

### THE GREAT GEUGA TOTAL SOLAR ECLIPSE

4-8-2024

**A RARE & SPECTACULAR EVENT**  
...bringing several minutes of night-like darkness to the middle of Monday, April 8!

**FREE**

**Fun Fact:**  
The last total solar eclipse visible in Ohio was in 1806.

**Sorry, No Dogs**

**geaugaparkdistrict.org**



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[www.geaugaparkdistrict.org](http://www.geaugaparkdistrict.org)  
440-286-9516



Highlighted word search answers from page 19.