

Ongoing Winter Programs:

FREE Weekend Discovery Exhibits at Trailside Nature Center in Burnet Woods

Saturdays 11:00 am – 5:00 pm

Sundays 1:00 pm – 5:00 pm

Stop by anytime during our weekend open hours to visit our weekly interactive exhibits! A different nature-related topic is featured each weekend, with lots to see and hands-on activities to explore. A park naturalist will be on hand to guide you through the exhibit and answer all questions. Children under 12 years old must be accompanied by an adult.

Exhibits are at Trailside Nature Center, Burnet Woods, 3400 Brookline Drive. (513) 751-3679.

January 2, 3

Staying Warm

January 16, 17

Tracks, Scat, & Signs

February 6, 7

Astronomy

February 20, 21

Maple Syrup

Wolff Planetarium Shows in Burnet Woods

Join us at Trailside Nature Center for an introduction to the constellations and some of the legends connected to them. Programs are open to adults and children ages 5 and older accompanied by an adult. Fee: \$3 per person. Reservations required. Seating is limited. Call 751-3679 to register.

Winter Skies

Sat., Jan. 2

1:00 - 2:00 p.m.

Winter Constellations

Fri., Jan. 15

7:00 - 8:00 p.m.

Winter Constellations

Sat., Feb. 6

1:00 - 2:00 p.m.

All About Orion

Fri., Feb. 19

7:00 - 8:00 p.m.

Native American Skies

January

Stanbery Forest Hike

Sat., Jan. 2, 3:00 - 4:30 p.m. – Stanbery Park

Think the woods are empty in mid-winter? Think again! Join us for a hike through the wintery woods as we search for signs of just how active nature is despite the cold. Dress for the weather. Meet in the parking lot. For more info, call 751-3679.

Tall Tales that Tall Trees Tell

Fri., Jan. 8, 7:30 - 8:30 p.m. – Avon Woods Nature Preserve

Join the monthly meeting of the Cincinnati Wildflower Society to hear the presentation "Tall Tales that Tall Trees Tell: The Case of the Missing Inferno!" by Dr. Ryan McEwan, a professor at University of Dayton. Refreshments provided. For more info, go to www.cincywildflower.org.

Owl Prowl

Fri., Jan. 15, 6:30 - 8:00 p.m. – Avon Woods Nature Preserve

Families are invited to have a hootin' good time learning about our nocturnal neighbors. Indoors you will get close to some live species; outdoors will include a night hike and hands-on activities. Refreshments provided. Dress for the weather. For reservations, call 321-6070 ext. 16.

Shake off the Winter Blues Hike

Sun., Jan. 24, 10:00 - 11:30 a.m. – Ault Park

Get your blood pumping and your body moving as we hit the trail and hike the hills of Ault Park. We'll stop along the way to admire the winter scenery and look for wildlife in the quiet woods. Make sure to dress for the cold. Meet in the parking lot. Call 231-8678 for information.

Winter Woodland Walk

Sun., Jan. 24, 1:00 - 3:00 p.m. – Parker's Woods

This walk will be as leisurely as the weather permits, with brief stops to note whatever aspect of nature strikes the fancy of the participants. Meet at the entrance to Parkers Woods at Haight and Bruce Avenues. For more info, go to www.northsidegreenspace.org.

Wild Puppets! Family Night

Fri., Jan. 29, 7:00 - 8:30 p.m. – LaBoiteaux Nature Preserve

Enjoy several short puppet plays featuring the wild animals of LaBoiteaux Woods. Try some puppeteering yourself and make a puppet to take home. Register by Jan. 25th. For more info, call 542-2909. Fee: \$3 per person or \$8 per family.

Saturday Night Hike

Sat., Jan. 30, 7:00 - 8:30 p.m. – Caldwell Nature Preserve

Afraid of the dark? Dispel the fears and rumors as we enjoy a hike in the woods at night. We will call for owls, try light deprivation activities, and have a “sparky party”! Sturdy footwear is a must. Dress for the weather. Meet at the Nature Center. Call 761-4313 for more information and reservations.

February

Winter Bird Feeders

Sat., Feb. 6, 9:30 - 11:00 a.m.

Trailside Nature Center, Burnet Woods

From the warmth of the Trailside Nature Center’s Craft Room and Bird Viewing Area, you can customize an attractive winter feast for your feathered friends. With a variety of ingredients to choose from, your feeder is sure to be a hit. For reservations or more information, call 751-3679.

Vermicomposting Workshop

Sun., Feb. 7, 2:00 - 4:00 p.m. – California Nature Preserve

An indoor worm bin can be a fascinating way to recycle your kitchen waste into rich compost. Thanks to the Solid Waste Mgt. Dist., Hamilton County residents can start vermicomposting for a fraction of the usual cost. You get everything needed, including instruction, bin with worms and a helpful book for a \$20 fee. Prepay by Feb. 1. Email Pat.agnew@cincinnati-oh.gov for details.

Paleo-Insect Herbivory during Global Warming Events

Fri., Feb. 12, 7:30 - 8:30 p.m. – Avon Woods Nature Preserve

Join the monthly meeting of the Cincinnati Wildflower Society to hear a presentation by Dr. Ellen Currano, a professor at Miami University. Refreshments provided. For more info, go to www.cincywildflower.org.

Backyard Maple

Sat., Feb. 13, 2:00 - 4:00 p.m. – Caldwell Nature Preserve

Discover the tricks of the trade for making maple syrup at home. We will learn what trees to tap and how to cook the sap into syrup. Most of the program is outdoors. A small number of tree-tapping spouts (spiles) can be purchased. Meet at the Nature Center. Call 761-4313 for more information/reservations.

Maple Magic!

Sat., Feb. 20, 2:00 - 3:30 p.m. - California Nature Preserve

Ever wonder how that maple syrup made it to your plate? Join us to find out! We will explore all aspects of maple sugaring. Taste the stages of maple “product,” and learn how to do this yourself. A small number of tree-tapping spouts (spiles) will be for sale. For more information, call 231-8678.

Homeschool Programs:

Weather: Wild or Mild?, Ages 8 to 12

Thurs., Jan. 21, 10:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. – Avon Woods

Become junior meteorologists as you learn how to make predictions about future weather scenarios. Using a weather map and symbols, interpret patterns found in our region. Make a “cloud wheel” to discover the way clouds predict what weather may be approaching. Pack a lunch. Register by Jan. 15. Call 231-8678 to register.

A Taste of the Tropics, Ages 5 to 8

Mon., Feb 8, 10:00 a.m. - noon – Krohn Conservatory

Come in from the cold to a rainforest under glass and learn the differences between our local deciduous forest and a tropical rainforest. Sample some of the unique tastes that we get from these exotic tropical plants. Register by Feb. 4. Call 761-4313 to register.

Art Classes at LaBoiteaux Woods Preserve

Call 542-2909 for registration and information.

Fee: \$40 city residents, \$50 outside city, per class series

Winter Art in the Woods

For ages 6-7 years

8 week session - Mondays, 4 - 5:30 p.m. - Jan. 25, Feb. 1, 8, 22, March 1, 8, 15, 22

Explore 3-D art, combining clay, organic forms, and recycled materials. Outdoor activities will enhance the art experience. Mary Provosty has taught art to all ages in classrooms and informal settings. Register by Jan. 18.

Landscapes for Adults – LaBoiteaux Woods

4 week session – Mondays, 1:00-3:00 p.m. Jan. 25, Feb.1, 8, 22

Using dry and wet media, create winter landscapes. Provides practice exercises to gain comfort and skills with the materials. Beginner or more advanced, each will receive individual guidance. All supplies provided. Teacher Mary Provosty has a Master of Arts in Art Education. Register by Jan. 18.

Still Life for Adults - LaBoiteaux Woods

3 week session - Saturdays, 9:00 a.m. - noon Feb 6, 13, 20

Using both dry and wet media, complete a project weekly. Teacher Mary Provosty provides practice exercises and help focusing on the composition of the nature still life. All are welcome regardless of experience. All supplies provided. Register by Feb. 1.

Scout Programs

Wild Puppets for Scouts

Sat., Jan. 9, 9:30 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. – LaBoiteaux Woods Nature Preserve

Brownie Girl Scouts will use a variety of materials to make three different types of animal puppets, work as a team to construct a puppet theater, and create and perform original puppet plays. A hike in the woods, an active game, and a close-up look at some real animals will round out the day. Girls should bring a bag lunch. Completes the Puppets, Dolls, and Plays Try-It. Badges not provided. Fee: \$15 per scout, prepaid and non-refundable. No charge for adults assisting. Space is limited. Call 542-2909 for reservations.

Plants Try-It

Sat., Jan. 23, 9:30 – 11:30 a.m. - Krohn Conservatory

Brownie Girl Scouts can earn the Plants Try-It at Krohn Conservatory! Take a mini-tour of the conservatory and set up several growing experiments to watch at home. With this hands-on program and their experiment observations, girls will complete the requirements. Badges not provided. Fee: \$6 per scout prepaid and non-refundable. No charge for adults assisting. Space is limited. Call 542-2909 for reservations.

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Moving and Sensing with Science Scout Program

Jan. 29 - 30, 6:00 p.m. Friday – 3:30p.m. Saturday - Caldwell Nature Preserve

Brownie Girl Scouts in 2nd and 3rd grade will discover how air makes different things move, how science is all around us, and the many ways we use our senses. Join in on the fun, as we make such things as rockets and weird glop! Girls will earn 3 Try-its: “Senses”, “Movers”, and “Science in Action”. Badges not provided. Troops must bring their own food. Fee: \$25 per scout & for non-leader adults, non-refundable.

Nature and Wildlife and Zoology Oh My! Scout Overnight

Feb. 26-27, 6:00 p.m. Friday - 3:30 p.m. Saturday - Caldwell Nature Preserve

American Heritage Girls, Tenderfoots and Explorers Scouts will find that learning about nature and animals has never been so much fun! We will become Zoologists and learn how to identify some past and present local wildlife. Together we will explore new ways to appreciate and conserve the natural world around us all. Our full schedule will include nighttime and daytime activities such as hikes, games, experiments, crafts and even a service project. After completion of all the activities, girls will fill all of the requirements (plus some!) to earn the "Nature and Wildlife" badge as well as the "Zoology" Badge. Badges not provided. Troops must bring their own food. Fee: \$25 per scout & for non-leader chaperones, non-refundable. Call 761-4313 for reservations.

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