

OAKLAND COUNTY PARKS

SUMMER 2017

Nature Education Programs



RED OAKS COUNTY PARK

30300 Hales Street
Madison Heights, MI 48071
248-585-0100
Pre-registration with payment required.
Call 248-858-0916 weekdays or
Red Oaks Nature Center on Saturdays.

Butterfly Parade

Saturday, July 15, 1-3:30 p.m.

Join us for a butterfly-filled afternoon complete with games, seedball crafting, T-shirt decorating, and refreshments. Create butterfly wings, experience live butterflies in a butterfly tent and show off your new wings in a butterfly parade on our paved walking trails. Pre-registration guarantees a T-shirt. This free event is sponsored by KIND and ITC.

Grandparent/Grandchild Day Camp

Saturday, July 22, 11 a.m.-2 p.m.

Spend some time in nature with your nana, papa or special adult mentor and let your creativity loose. Explore the beauty of our natural world on a color-hunt hike, decorate a flower pot, design and paint a rock animal, create a picture frame with materials gathered during the hike and more. Bring a sack lunch; dessert, beverage and supplies provided. \$8/person.

Nature Sprouts

Saturday, July 29, 10:30 a.m.-12:15 p.m.

Foster your child's love of nature at this program designed for children 3-6 years old, accompanied by an adult. Indoor and outdoor hands-on nature discovery will include a hike, craft, story, snack and more. This summer session will focus on Water Wonders. Other arrangements should be made for siblings. \$4/person.



Let's Be Scientists Mini-class

Saturday, Aug. 5, 10:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m.

Calling all Junior Scientists-in-Training. Head to the nature center for a day of experiments, learning and fun. Make soda geysers, do an experiment with Skittles, make a concoction to take home and more. This is a kids-only event, so leave parents at the door. All supplies and snack are included. Suitable for kids ages 5 and older. A signed release form is required with registration. \$12/child.



DISCOVER WHERE YOU LIVE -

Explore all of nature's gifts, treasures and health benefits at your Oakland County Parks!

Enchanted Forest Friends

Thursday, Aug. 10, 10:30 a.m.-noon

Don your wings or pointed hats and join us for a program exploring those elusive forest friends: Fairies and Gnomes. Discover these "wee folks" to learn the difference between the two, and explore what makes them magical. Enjoy a treat and a story, then head outside to spot any evidence of their mischief. \$5/person.

Summer Astro Evening

Saturday, Aug. 12, 9-11 p.m.

Become a star at locating summer constellations inside StarLab, a portable planetarium. Gaze at deep sky wonders through telescopes provided by the Oakland Astronomy Club (weather permitting). A star-studded craft and snack are included. Suitable for school-aged children and adults. \$4/person. ATTENTION SCOUT LEADERS: This program fulfills some astronomy merit requirements.



Insect Safari

Saturday, Aug. 19, 2-4 p.m.

Summer is the perfect time to investigate the creeping, crawling and fluttering world of insects. Expand your knowledge of these colorful creatures through hands-on and interactive experiences including sweep net exploration. A 'bee-licious' snack will be provided in celebration of National Honey Bee Day. Come dressed for the weather. Suitable for ages 5 and older. \$5/person.

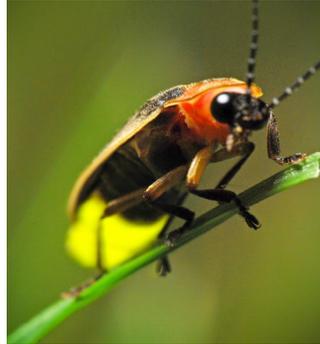


INDEPENDENCE OAKS COUNTY PARK

9501 Sashabaw Road
Clarkston, MI 48348
248-625-6473
Pre-registration with payment required. Call
248-858-0916 weekdays or Wint Nature Center
on Saturdays.

Firefly Frenzy

Saturday, June 24, 8:30-10:30 p.m.
Meet in Twin Chimneys parking lot
What do humans and fireflies have in
common? They both blink. Join us for
glow-in-the-dark fun and learn about
fireflies. Look for these glowing creatures
during a night hike, and play glow games
including putt-putt golf. Help create a
painted masterpiece to be displayed in
the nature centers. Bring a dark-colored
T-shirt for printing. This is a free event;
park entry fee applies.



In Cold Blood...

Saturday, July 1, 1:30-3 p.m.
This chilling phrase in no way describes our native reptiles, except to say they do not have internal heat. Reptiles, such as turtles and snakes, are some of the most fascinating creatures in Michigan. Reptiles are NOT slimy -- dispel common reptile myths and meet the nature center's reptilian residents, as well as a few exotics. Learn what makes these animals special and enjoy a snack with a reptile friend. \$5/person.

Wizarding Star Party

Saturday, July 8, 1-3:30 p.m.
Attention Wizards and Witches - join in an afternoon of magical fun. Take a trip across the night sky in StarLab to find out which famous witches or wizards are named after stars. You will also choose a wand, make a potion, enjoy a snack and more. Wear your wizard costume or show off your house colors. **We solemnly swear we'll be up to no good.** \$8/person.

Jewels on the Wing

Saturday, July 22, 1:30-3:30 p.m.
Hummingbirds and butterflies are nature's flying jewels. These warm weather beauties are attracted to flowers in gardens, as well as certain feeders. Learn about these winged wonders and the feeders and flowers which attract them. Observe the nature center's feeders and take a stroll through the Rubach Sensory Garden. Take home a complimentary plant and tips to start your own butterfly/hummingbird garden. \$5/person.



Behind the Scenes Mini-camp

Tuesday and Wednesday, Aug. 15 & 16, 1-4 p.m.
Ever wonder what naturalists do behind the scenes? Go off trail, peek into a nest box, help feed the nature center's captive animals and more. This mini-camp is a must for any naturalist-in-training. Crafts and snacks will be provided each day. Dress for the weather; hiking shoes are a must. A signed release form is required with registration. \$10/child/day. \$17/child if attending both days. Suitable for ages 8-12 years old.

NatureFit: Kayak/Try It!

*Saturday, Aug. 19, 9:30-10:45 a.m.
or 11:30 a.m.-12:45 p.m.*
Meet at the Independence Oaks Boathouse.
If you have ever wanted to try kayaking, this beginners program is for you. Learn kayaking basics and enjoy a naturalist-guided tour exploring the highlights of beautiful Crooked Lake. Suitable for ages 11 through adult. Space is limited-register early. \$8/person includes kayak rental, water and snack. **NOTE: Up to one hour will be spent on the water.**

Monarch Mysteries

Saturday, Sept. 9, 1:30-3:30 p.m.
The monarch butterfly is widely recognized by many, but it is not like any other butterfly. During this active day in the field, we will review some of the things that make the monarch special in the world of butterflies then set out to help researchers learn more about the monarch by capturing, tagging and releasing individuals as they make their way to Mexico. Dress for time in the field and bring a good insect net if you have one. \$4/person.



SCOUT BADGE DAYS

Both nature centers offer Scout Badge Days -- interactive sessions designed specifically for Girl and Cub Scouts of all ages and ranks. Scouts complete all requirements to earn their badge (badges are not supplied by the nature center).

Each session includes hands-on activities and snack. Sessions are held on Saturdays from 10 a.m.-noon or 2-4 p.m. (unless otherwise noted). Cost is \$7/scout; \$3/adult. Space is limited and pre-registration is required. Park entry fee is waived if registered by end of business day prior to event. For a full schedule, visit OaklandCountyParks.com.

UPCOMING DATES

Watch the web at OaklandCountyParks.com in late August 2017 for a full listing of badge days offered at both the Wint and Red Oaks Nature Centers. Badge sessions will take place on select Saturdays from October 2017 through May 2018.

Naturalists can bring interactive nature talks to your classroom, library, senior center, day camp and preschool. Call the nature centers for details.



Growing the
Green Minds
of Tomorrow



OaklandCountyParks.com