

HANCOCK PARK DISTRICT SEPTEMBER 2022 PROGRAMS –TO REGISTER YOU MAY GO TO WWW.HANCOCKPARKS.COM OR VISIT US AT 1424 E MAIN CROSS M-F 8:00AM - 4:30PM. FOR QUESTIONS CALL 419-425-7275.

SEPTEMBER

September

SELF-GUIDED FALL FLOAT TRIPS

Self-guided fall float trips on the Blanchard River Water Trail are available on select Saturdays and Sundays from mid-September to early-November. Float trips begin and end at Zonta Landing at Riverside Park Waterfront. Canoeists and kayakers have the opportunity to enjoy the late summer green and early autumn brilliance along the Blanchard River as they paddle upstream past the Country Club's golf course, Eastpoint Area, and Vogelsong Conservation Area to the State Route 568/Sandusky Street Bridge and back. The trip takes approximately 2 hours.

- When:** Saturdays: September 17, October 8 & 22 and November 5; Sundays: September 18, October 9 & 23 and November 6 starting at 1:00 PM. Trips will be cancelled in the event of flooding, rain, thunder and lightning, and strong wind.
- Where:** Meet at Zonta Landing at Riverside Park Waterfront.
- Who:** Adults and youth age 16 to 17 (youth under the age of 16 are welcome to participate but must be accompanied by an adult age 18 or older).
- Prerequisite:** Participants must have the ability to swim.
- Watercraft:** Watercraft availability includes tandem canoes and solo kayaks. Specify watercraft preference when registering. The weight limit for a solo kayak is 275 pounds.
- Enrollment:** Maximum: 12 (maximum of two participants per canoe).
- Registration:** Register online at www.hancockparks.com by 1 PM on the Friday prior to the trip.
- Fee:** \$10.00 per person with a signed Assumption of Risk/Liability Release/Waiver of all Claims form and/or a Parental Consent form if applicable. Forms will be available at Zonta Landing prior to the trip.
- Supplies:** Wear tennis shoes that can get wet. Dress and plan accordingly for the weather. Wool, fleece, and fast drying clothes are recommended in autumn when air and water temperatures are cold. Alcohol is not permitted. Canoes, kayaks, personal floatation devices, and paddles will be provided.

Teen Homeschoolers in the Park: Outdoor Recreation

The fall session will consist of a series of six classes from September to November. Teens will engage in active outdoor recreation activities, including a hike to explore the new wetlands area, stream stumping in the Portage River, shelter building, kayaking, disc golf and archery. Activities will take place outdoors in nature as often as possible. The goal of the classes is to introduce teens to outdoor recreation activities in a safe and enjoyable environment where they can make friends and have fun. Outdoor recreation will take place at a variety of parks throughout Hancock County. The first class will meet at the Richard S. "Doc" Phillips Discovery Center at Oakwoods Nature Preserve. A schedule with locations for future classes will be provided at the first class on September 13.

Tuesdays

September 13, 27

October 11, 25

November 1, 15

Oakwoods Nature Preserve

Discovery Center

10-11:30 AM or 1:30-3 PM

Ages 13-18.

Register with \$35 per student for the series by 9 AM on Monday, September 26.

Minimum: 5/Maximum: 12 per time slot

Tim Kleman tkleman@ HancockParks.com

Homeschoolers in the Park: Colors of Nature

The fall session will consist of a series of six classes from September to November. Activities will take place outdoors in nature as often as possible, at which time students will, utilize problem solving skills and independent thinking. This fall the 5–8-year-old

homeschoolers will be learning about colors of nature. Each class will focus on different colors, the animals, plants and other natural items that are those colors and hiking to find them within our parks. The first class will meet at the Richard S. "Doc" Phillips Discovery Center at Oakwoods Nature Preserve. A schedule with locations for future classes will be provided at the first class on September 15.

Thursdays

September 15, 29

October 13, 27

November 3, 17

Oakwoods Nature Preserve

Discovery Center

Ages 5-8

10-11:30 AM

Register with \$35 per student for the series by 9 AM on Monday, September 26.

Minimum: 4/ Maximum: 16

Michelle Rumschlag mrumschlag@hancockparks.com

Homeschoolers in the Park: Rock Hounds

The fall session will consist of a series of six classes from September to November. Activities will take place outdoors in nature as often as possible, at which time students will utilize problem solving skills and independent thinking. Nine- to twelve-year-old homeschoolers will become rock hounds and learn about the geology of earth, including the study of rocks, minerals, and geodes. Hands-on learning, including a kayak trip on the Blanchard River, will help students understand the science. The first class will meet at the Richard S. "Doc" Phillips Discovery Center at Oakwoods Nature Preserve. A schedule with locations for future classes will be provided at the first class on September 15.

Thursdays

September 15, 29

October 13, 27

November 3, 17

Oakwoods Nature Preserve

Discovery Center

1:30-3 PM

Ages 9-12.

Register with \$35 per student for the series by 9 AM on Monday, September 26.

Minimum: 4/Maximum: 16

Chris Allen callen@hancockparks.com

1 Thursday

Insect Exploration

In this program, we will explore the south side of Litzenberg Memorial Woods in search of insects. But first, we will meet at the shelter to discuss entomology, how to use the nets and other collecting equipment, and safety tips while exploring. Finding, capturing, and studying insects will help us learn about them and their habitat. Since collecting will occur in the prairie environment, participants should wear long pants and long sleeve shirts. This nature study activity is ideal for parents and children to spend quality time together in the park.

Litzenberg Memorial Woods

Shelter

10-11 AM

Ages 6-10 with an adult.

Free; but register by 1 PM on Wednesday, August 31. Adults do not need to register.

Minimum: 6/Maximum: 12

Tim Kleman tkleman@hancockparks.com

1 Thursday

Sand Fun for Toddlers

It's time for your kids to kick off their shoes and play in the sand. Children can enjoy the feel of cool sand on their toes in our sand volleyball court. We'll have buckets, shovels, and sand-forming molds on hand to play with. We will be located near the age 5 and under playground for children to play on.

Riverbend Recreation Area

Oxbow Bend Area

Volleyball Sand Pit

10-11 AM

Ages 3 and under with **an** adult; other aged siblings are welcome to attend.

Free; registration is not required.

Michelle Rumschlag mrumschlag@hancockparks.com

2 Friday

Raptor Migration

Many of our birds of prey are starting to make their yearly trip south in September. During this presentation, you will learn what raptors are what species of hawks, eagles, falcons, and other raptors are found in Ohio, and about their unique features and how they differ from other birds. We will also discuss the concept of migration, how raptors migrate, and where they are going and why. The subject of raptor migration in the interesting and educational confines of the Richard S. "Doc" Phillips Discovery Center will surely make for an enjoyable time at Oakwoods Nature Preserve.

Oakwoods Nature Preserve

Discovery Center

7-9 PM

Ages 18 and up.

Free; but register by 1 PM on Friday, September 2.

Maximum: 20

Tim Kleman tkleman@hancockparks.com

3 Saturday

First Quarter Moon Hike

The first quarter moon will give us enough light to traverse the trails as we listen for Barred, Great Horned and Eastern Screech owls. These three owl species are the ones most commonly found in Hancock County. Do you enjoy visiting the parks during the day? Here's a chance to see, hear and smell what the park is like in the dark. Nocturnal insects such as crickets and katydids should be singing; a last push to find a mate before the weather turns cold.

Litzenberg Memorial Woods

Gatehouse

8:30 PM

All ages are welcome.

Free; registration is not required.

Michelle Rumschlag mrumschlag@hancockparks.com

6 Tuesday

Family Fishing

Get out in the parks and go fishing as a family. Learn about the basics of fishing as we try to catch some fish that live in Giertz Lake. All skill levels are welcome. A fishing pole will be provided or bring your own. We will have corn and hotdogs available for bait or bring your own lucky lure! All participants who are 16 years of age or older will need a valid Ohio Fishing License.

Riverbend Recreation Area

Big Oaks Activity Area

Lakefront Activity Center

6:30-7:30 PM

Families with children ages 5 and up.

Free; but register by 1 PM on Tuesday, September 6.

Minimum: 3/Maximum: 20

Tim Kleman tkleman@hancockparks.com

7 Wednesday

Little Hands Nature Club: Jazzy Jumpers

Your little ones will have a chance to be active while they hop, skip, and jump from station to station, and learn about animals that jump, too. Hands-on stations will include fling like a flea, rabbit legs and feet, and toad 2-stepping. Participants can stay after to look in the grassy areas for insect jumpers, like grasshoppers and crickets. Adult companions must remain with children during this program.

Aeraland Recreation Area

Shelter

2-3 PM

Recommended for ages 3-6, with an adult; other ages siblings are welcome to attend.

Free; registration is not required.

Michelle Rumschlag mrumschlag@hancockparks.com

8 Thursday

Late Summer Stroller Walk

Bring your little one and his or her favorite mode of transportation, such as a stroller or wagon, to the park and enjoy a leisurely walk in the late summer sun. We will walk and ride along a section of the multiuse Loop Trail and look in the meadow for grasshoppers, crickets, and butterflies. One of the best ways to instill a love of nature in children is to get them out in it. This a chance to do just that.

2:30-3:30 PM

Riverbend Recreation Area

Meadows Activity Area

Shelter 7

Ages 3 and under with an adult.

Free; registration is not required.

Michelle Rumschlag mrumschlag@hancockparks.com

9 Friday

Kayaking for Active Older Adults

The Blanchard River is peaceful in the morning. See for yourself during a leisurely kayak trip that begins and ends at Zonta Landing. There will be a brief talk about boating safety and how to maneuver the kayak followed by a scenic float trip. Beginner and experienced kayakers are welcome to participate. The kayak launch makes launching and landing much easier than from the beach. Bring a friend or family member and meet other participants who share your interest in nature. Kayaking is part of the Hancock Park District's Leisure Education Initiative that involves a series of outdoor recreation instructional courses that introduce outdoor recreation activities, teach fundamental skills, and encourage participation in outdoor recreation over the course of a lifetime. If you are new to kayaking, then it is never too late to start. If you are an experienced kayaker, then this is another opportunity to engage in outdoor recreation.

Zonta Landing at Riverside Park

9-11 AM

Ages 50 and up.

Register with \$10 by 1 PM on Thursday, September 8.

Maximum: 8

Michelle Rumschlag mrumschlag@hancockparks.com

9 Friday

Archery Instruction Workshop – Youth

This Archery Instruction Workshop will be led by a certified archery instructor. All necessary equipment and targets will be provided. You will have the opportunity to learn the basics of archery along with safety measures, while shooting arrows at several targets with a compound bow. How close to your target can you get? Sign-up and find out. After participating in the workshop, you will be eligible to participate in the Archery Open Shoot that is scheduled at various times throughout the year. The Archery Open Shoot gives you the opportunity to engage in archery and enjoy more practice associated with this enjoyable outdoor recreation activity. The Archery Instruction Workshop is part of the Hancock Park District's Leisure Education Initiative that involves a series of outdoor recreation skills instructional courses that introduce outdoor recreation activities, teach fundamental skills, and encourage participation in outdoor recreation over the course of a lifetime.

Oakwoods Nature Preserve

Dold Lake

5:30-6:30 PM

Ages 9-12

Register with \$10 per person by 1 PM on Friday, September 9.

Maximum: 10

Chris Allen callen@hancockparks.com

9 Friday

Archery Open Shoot

Have you taken one of the Hancock Park District's introductory archery courses? If so, and if you want more archery practice, then here is your chance. A certified archery instructor will supervise the archery practice session. All necessary equipment and targets will be provided.

Oakwoods Nature Preserve

Dold Lake

6:30-7:30 PM

Ages 9 and up.

Register with \$10 per person by 1 PM on Friday, September 9.

Maximum: 10

Chris Allen callen@hancockparks.com

10 Saturday

Alphabet Scavenger Hunt

Bring the little ones to the park and help them search for wood cookies that have alphabet letters on them. Is there something in nature to go with each letter? Kids can learn their letters while connecting to nature in a new way.

Oakwoods Nature Preserve

Nature Play Area

10 AM-12 PM

Ages 3-6 with an adult.

Free; registration is not required.

Chris Allen callen@hancockparks.com

10 Saturday

Sawing in the Past

Hand saws have been around for thousands of years. They played a big role in building a homestead and when doing everyday jobs around the farm. In this interpretive program, participants will learn about different types of saws that the McKinnis family owned and how those saws were used. There will be a demonstration on how to safely use a saw. Participants ages 10 and up will have an opportunity to use either a buck saw or a two-man saw to cut their own wood cookie, which can be taken home.

Litzenberg Memorial Woods

McKinnis House

2-4 PM

All ages welcome.

Free; registration is not required.

Tim Kleman tkleman@hancockparks.com

11 Sunday

Bees: Open House

In North America there are approximately 4,000 native bee species occupying ecosystems from forests to deserts to grasslands. As they forage, bees play a vital part in pollination. Learn about the different types of bees in North America, including where they live and their life cycles. Then, most importantly, learn how you can protect these significant creatures.

Oakwoods Nature Preserve

Discovery Center

1-4PM

All ages are welcome.

Free; registration is not required.

Tim Kleman

tkleman@hancockparks.com

12 Monday

Discovery Stories: Daddy Long Legs

Daddy Long Legs or Harvestmen is a common arachnid that lives on plants and trees. Children will learn why it is not a spider and if it really has venom. Children will hear a story, participate in an activity titled *How Many Legs Do I Have?* and make a daddy long leg out of plastic eggs and pipe cleaners.

Oakwoods Nature Preserve

Discovery Center

10 AM & 1 PM

Ages 3-5 with an adult; other aged siblings are welcome to attend.

Free; registration is not required.

Michelle Rumschlag mrumschlag@hancockparks.com

14 Wednesday

Yard Games for Middle Schoolers

Head out to the park after a long day at school to play yard games. Bring a friend and try your hand at Bocce Ball, corn hole, and ladder ball, lawn darts and ring toss. A great way to relieve some stress, spend time with friends and get refreshed while spending the evening in the parks.

Oakwoods Nature Preserve

Discovery Center

6-7 PM

Ages 10-14.

Free; registration is not required.

Michelle Rumschlag mrumschlag@hancockparks.com

16 Friday

Bonkers for Beetles

Beetles are interesting creatures, and they can be found everywhere. They come with hard shells called exoskeletons, and they come in many different colors, which helps them to be camouflaged. There will be beetles on display and a search for beetles in the Nature Play Area where the stage horn beetle was seen during the summer.

Litzenberg Memorial Woods

Activity Barn

6-8 PM

All ages are welcome.

Free; but register by 4 PM on Thursday, September 16.

Minimum: 5/Maximum: 50

Chris Allen callen@hancockparks.com

16 Friday

Neptune at Opposition

Neptune is the furthest planet from the Sun, and on this day the cool, blue planet will be at opposition. Visit the portable planetarium to learn what it means for a planet to be at opposition, fun facts about the eighth planet, and what other objects are in the night sky. Participants are required to sit on the floor. Ask about accommodations.

Oakwoods Nature Preserve

Discovery Center

7 PM

All ages are welcome.

Free; but register by 1 PM on Friday, September 16.

Maximum: 25

Tim Kleman tkleman@hancockparks.com

17 Saturday

Prairie Hike

September is a great time to go hiking on the Prairie Trail at Oakwoods Nature Preserve. The park is peaceful in the evening, and watching the sun set over Shank Lake can be a satisfying experience. The Aurand Run Trail and the Prairie Trail are short in distance, but searching for wildlife (including bats) and appreciating scenic views may take some time. It will be time well spent.

Oakwoods Nature Preserve

Discovery Center porch

6 PM

All ages are welcome.
Free; registration is not required.
Chris Allen callen@hancockparks.com

18 Sunday

Get to know the McKinnis Family

Charles McKinnis, an early settler of Hancock County and resident of the 1847 McKinnis House, came to Hancock County with his father, brothers, and brother-in-law 200 years ago. Learn more about Charles, his wife Mary, their six children, and his parents, Robert "Judge" and Elizabeth "Betsy" McKinnis. Memorabilia from a descendent of Charles will be on display. Indian Green maps with McKinnis family grave locations will also be on hand.

Litzenberg Memorial Woods

Activity Barn

1 PM

Ages 8 and up. Children under the age of 12 need to be accompanied by an adult.

Free; but register by 1 PM on Friday, September 16.

Maximum: 40

Michelle Rumschlag mrumtschlag@hancockparks.com

24 Saturday

Globe at Night: Cygnus

Globe at Night is an international citizen-science campaign to raise public awareness of the impact of light pollution. This will be done by measuring the sky brightness of this month's constellation, Cygnus. Participants will learn the size and location of Cygnus and also some mythology about it. We will then turn to the night skies to find it and record our observations.

Litzenberg Memorial Woods

South Parking Lot

8:45-9:45 PM

Ages 8 and up. Children ages 13 and under need to be accompanied by an adult.

Free; but register by 1 PM on Friday, September 23.

Maximum: 20

Michelle Rumschlag mrumtschlag@hancockparks.com

25 Sunday

Birding the Wetlands

September is a great time to look for shorebirds, since they are in the peak of their fall migration. We will visit the new Wetland Restoration Area in search of Yellowlegs, Wilson's Snipes, Marsh Wrens, and other birds that either call the wetlands home or are just stopping by as they migrate south. Birders of all experience levels are welcome to attend. Binoculars will be provided or you can bring your own.

Oakwoods Nature Preserve

Dold Lake

9-11 AM

Ages 10 and up. Children under the age of 15 must be accompanied by an adult.

Free; registration is not required.

Tim Kleman tkleman@hancockparks.com

25 Sunday

What a Pickle: Open House

Since fall is just around the corner, it is time to preserve some of the bounty that the garden has provided the McKinnis family. Demonstrations will show how food was stored and how canning and pickling were done. Pickling will include watermelon, beets, eggs, and more. You are welcome to stop by and lend a hand or just enjoy something fresh from the garden.

Litzenberg Memorial Woods

McKinnis House

1-4 PM

All ages are welcome

Free; registration is not required.

Michelle Rumschlag mrumtschlag@hancockparks.com

25 Sunday

Splendid Spiders Day

Spiders come in all shapes and sizes. They might be over your head or under your feet. The grass spider carries its young on its back. The funnel spider waits inside its tunnel for unsuspecting pray to stop by for dinner. If a spider egg is found, it will be looked at under the viewfinder (that is not something you do every day). The .3-mile Lady Bug Loop Trail will be used to explore the world of spiders.

Blue Rock Nature Preserve

Edgar Avenue Parking Lot.

2-3 PM

All ages are welcome.

Free; registration is not required.

Chris Allen callen@hancockparks.com

26 Monday

Wee Ones: Raccoons

Meet the bandits of the forest, and our friend, the raccoon. When you think about raccoons, you might think about them digging in trash cans. However, most raccoons prefer living in a tree along a body of water. A story about raccoons will be read, a raccoon will be available to see and touch, including its real fur, and time will be spent making a raccoon puppet craft. That sounds like fun.

Oakwoods Nature Preserve

Discovery Center

10 AM & 1 PM

Ages 3 and under with an adult; other aged siblings are welcome to attend.

Free; registration is not required.

Tim Kleman tkleman@hancockparks.com

28 Wednesday

Autumn-themed Painted Floor Cloth Workshop

Jazz up the floor in your kitchen or bathroom by adding a little autumn flair this season with your own floor cloth. We will give you some examples of seasonal items to paint, such as apples, pumpkins, and scarecrows, but you will be in charge of your own design. In this workshop, you will get to make your own 2' x 3' floor cloth. All supplies will be provided.

Litzenberg Memorial Woods

Activity Barn

6-8 PM

Ages 13 and up.

Register with \$15 per person by 9 AM on Wednesday, September 28.

Minimum: 4/Maximum: 24

Michelle Rumschlag mrumschlag@hancockparks.com