

HANCOCK PARK DISTRICT APRIL 2023 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.

1 Saturday

Photography Hike

If you have a passion for photography or if you want to learn, come along on a hike with fellow photographers to capture the beauty of our parks through the lens of the camera. We will hike the trails taking photos of scenery, wildlife, plants, and anything else that would make an interesting subject. All skill levels and camera types are welcome.

Litzenberg Memorial Woods

Gatehouse

9 AM

Ages 16 and up.

Free; registration is not required.

Tim Kleman tkleman@hancockparks.com

1 Saturday

Drilling in the Past

Celebrate National Woodworking Month by visiting the McKinnis Family Workshop. Learn about different tools used for drilling holes on the farm and about the types of projects that would require a hole. Then try your hand at drilling holes into a piece of wood by using a pair of tools called a bit and brace. Afterwards, come inside the workshop to view other woodworking tools.

Litzenberg Memorial Woods

Workshop

2 PM

Families with children ages 6 and up.

Free; registration is not required.

Tim Kleman tkleman@hancockparks.com

3 Monday

Discovery Stories: The Easter Egg

It is almost Easter and each year the bunny who decorated the winning egg got to help the Easter Rabbit hide the eggs on Easter morning. We will read the story titled "The Easter Egg" by Jan Brett. This is a fun and colorful story about all the different ways you might decorate an egg. There will be an egg hunt outside in the Nature Play Area.

Oakwoods Nature Preserve

Nature Play Area

10 AM

Ages 4-5 with an adult; other aged siblings are welcome to attend.

Free; registration is not required.

Chris Allen callen@hancockparks.com

4 Tuesday

Bird Nests

You may have noticed that many birds start to build their nests this time of year. Learn about bird nests and why birds build them.

We will read a story, view the Hancock Park District's collection of bird nests and bird eggs, and create a bird nest out of a paper bag.

Oakwoods Nature Preserve

Discovery Center

6 PM

Ages 6-10.

Free; registration is not required.

Tim Kleman tkleman@hancockparks.com

6 Thursday

Frogs Under the Full Moon

The songs of frogs can be heard in the park at night. We will take a night hike under the full moon in search of frogs and toads. Learn about the frogs and toads that live in Ohio, and why they sing. Listen to their songs. Oakwoods Nature Preserve

Discovery Center

8:30 PM

All ages are welcome.

Free; registration is not required.
Tim Kleman tkleman@hancockparks.com

10 Monday

From Tadpole to Frog

This month is National Frog Month. To celebrate frogs, learn about their life cycle and the changes they make, which we call metamorphosis. We will read a story, talk about each stage of life, make a frog life cycle spinner craft, and go on a short hike to see if we can find frogs, tadpoles, or eggs.

Oakwoods Nature Preserve

Discovery Center

10 AM

Ages 6-10 with an adult.

Free; registration is not required.

Tim Kleman tkleman@hancockparks.com

10 Monday

Trail Cleanup

Help protect wildlife and improve the park by helping us pick up litter along the trail. As we hike the trail, we will talk about the effects of trash and pollution on the environment and talk about any cool things in nature that we happen to find. Trash bags and gloves will be provided.

Litzenberg Memorial Woods

Gatehouse

3 PM

All ages are welcome.

Free; registration is not required.

Tim Kleman tkleman@hancockparks.com

12 Wednesday

Windy Day

We will be hiking around Goose Lake and the along the Upland Trail to see what we can find on National Big Wind Day. This hike is approximately one mile. It will include grass trails and a few gentle hills. If the wind is blowing, it might disperse seeds from plants, such as dandelion and thistle.

Aeraland Recreation Area

Shelter

6 PM

Families.

Free; registration is not required.

Chris Allen callen@hancockparks.com

12 Wednesday

Planetarium: Lyrid Meteor Shower

Most meteor showers are caused by debris from a passing comet, and with the Lyrid meteor shower, it is the Comet Thatcher. While this comet is currently traveling away from Earth, its debris trail comes every April. Find out more about this meteor shower, the constellation Lyra the Harp and its brightest star Vega, and where the meteors radiate from. Participants are required to sit on the floor. Ask about accommodations.

Oakwoods Nature Preserve

Discovery Center

6:30 PM

All ages are welcome.

Free, but register by 1 PM on Thursday, April 20.

Maximum: 25

Michelle Rumschlag mrumschlag@hancockparks.com

13 Thursday

Little Hands Nature Club: Slimy Seekers

The search is on for slimy things as we hike the trails. Snails and earthworms have slime covering their bodies; we'll see if we can find them as we walk. Western chorus frogs and American Toads should be calling and we'll roll logs looking for salamanders. Adult companions must remain with children for this program.

Blue Rock Nature Preserve

Edgar Avenue parking lot

2-3 PM

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

Free; registration is not required.

Michelle Rumschlag mrumschlag@hancockparks.com

14 Friday

Plants for Homeschoolers

Discover what plants need to survive, explore how the parts of a plant help it survive in its environment, and investigate how seeds travel in different ways. Examine plants on a nature hike, take a closer look at where they live, and see how animals depend on plants to survive.

Oakwoods Nature Preserve

Discovery Center Porch

9:30-11:30 AM

Ages 5-14.

Min: 6/Max: 60

Free; but register by 1 PM on Thursday, April 13.

Michelle Rumschlag mrumschlag@hancockparks.com

16 Sunday

Skulls, Bones, and More: Open House

Animal skulls are very cool as they can tell you what type of animal it is, what they may eat, and their age. Come out and view the Hancock Park District's collection of animal skulls, bones, skeletons, and other interesting animal specimens. Learn about bones, animal anatomy, and compare the similarities between animals.

Oakwoods Nature Preserve

Discovery Center

1-4 PM

All ages are welcome.

Free; registration is not required.

Tim Kleman tkleman@hancockparks.com

19 Wednesday

Spring Wildflower Hike V CEP

As temperatures get warmer, native wildflowers start to bloom. In celebration of Ohio Native Plant Month, join us on a hike in search of spring wildflowers, such as Virginia Spring Beauty, Dutchman Breeches, and Skunk Cabbage.

Litzenberg Memorial Woods

Gatehouse

6:30 PM

Ages 18 and up.

Free; registration is not required.

Tim Kleman

tkleman@hancockparks.com

22 Saturday

Earth Day Ramble

It's time to get out and enjoy a guided hike on Earth Day. While hiking, we will clean up along the trails at Riverbend Recreation Area. We will be rambling along the Loop Trail, which is 1.2 miles and pick up litter as we go to help out Mother Earth. Please bring gloves; trash bags will be provided.

Riverbend Recreation Area

Big Oaks Activity Area

Shelter 3

2 PM

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

23 Sunday

Chicken and Eggs: Open House

Eggs were essential on the farm and were easy to come by as most pioneers raised chickens. Mrs. Boylan will be frying eggs on the cookstove, brewing fresh coffee, and talking with guests about the many ways pioneers cooked with eggs. Stop by the wagon shed to visit with the chickens and see if any of the hens have laid eggs.

Litzenberg Memorial Woods

McKinnis House

1-4 PM

All ages are welcome

Free; registration is not required.

Michelle Rumschlag mrumschlag@hancockparks.com

23 Sunday

Birds of Shakespeare

To celebrate National Shakespeare Day, we will look at the 64 species of birds mentioned in the works of William Shakespeare. Did you know that in the late 19th to early 20th century a group of people tried to bring all the birds mentioned in Shakespeare's works to North America? Learn about the group that came up with this goal, the birds they brought to America, how successful they were at introducing these species, and the consequences it brought.

Oakwoods Nature Preserve

Discovery Center

2 PM

Ages 16 and up.

Free; but register by 1 PM on Friday, April 21.

Maximum: 20

Tim Kleman tkleman@hancockparks.com

24 Monday

Wee Ones: Nature Games

There are a lot of outdoor games to play in the Nature Play Area, such as tic-tac-toe with pinecones and rocks, pinecone toss, tin bucket toss, log walking, and making music with logs. Exercise and enjoy fresh spring air.

Oakwoods Nature Preserve

Nature Play Area

10 AM

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

Free; registration is not required.

Chris Allen callen@hancockparks.com

25 Tuesday

Spring Sensory Path

Children can work on their gross motor skills along a sensory path. Our spring-theme sensory path will be on the Blanchard River Greenway Trail, beginning at the playground. Afterward, take a stroll on the trail or visit the playground. If you can't make it to the program, don't worry, the sensory path will stay until the rain washes the chalk away.

River Landings

Playground

10 AM

Ages 3-5 with an adult.

Free; registration is not required.

Tim Kleman tkleman@hancockparks.com

27 Thursday

Frog Origami

Try the art of paper folding to create your own hopping frog. We will learn about origami, the frog, and toads of Ohio, and create our origami frogs. Each participant will create and decorate three frogs.

Oakwoods Nature Preserve

Discovery Center

6 PM

Ages 6-10 with an adult.

Free; registration is not required.

Tim Kleman tkleman@hancockparks.com

28 Friday

Arbor Day

Happy Arbor Day! Today is a special day to celebrate trees and learn why they are important. We will read a story, discuss tree features, such as tree rings, and look at different trees while hiking in the park.

Oakwoods Nature Preserve

Discovery Center porch

10 AM

Ages 3-5 with an adult.

Free; registration is not required.

Tim Kleman tkleman@hancockparks.com

29 Saturday

"B" Hunt

Bring the kids out for a fun time in the Nature Play Area. They will be asked to look for things in nature that start with the letter "B." It could be a bug, bird, or even berries. There are beetles in the Nature Play Area, such as the stag horn beetle. There are bluebirds, blue jays, and bumblebees. After finding things in nature, kids can try to identify them.

Oakwoods Nature Preserve

Nature Play Area

10 AM

Ages 4-8 with an adult.

Free; registration is not required.

Chris Allen callen@hancockparks.com