

HANCOCK PARK DISTRICT MAY 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 Monday

Tadpole Tamers

Come and study tadpoles as we use nets to catch these baby amphibians in Goose Lake. We will place our tadpoles in plastic bins to get a close look at them and figure out what exactly is a tadpole. When we are finished, we will safely return the tadpoles to the lake so that they can grow up to become frogs.

Aeraland Recreation Area

Shelter

10 AM

Ages 6-10.

Free; registration is not required.

Tim Kleman tkleman@hancockparks.com

1 Monday

Little Hands Nature Club: Mother Goose in Nature

Celebrate Mother Goose Day as we look at some of the nursery rhymes that highlight animals and nature. Make a craft of the spider who frightened little Miss Muffet, race the mouse that ran up the clock, help the cow jump over the moon, and see what real wool feels like at the Baa, Baa Black Sheep stop.

Oakwoods Nature Preserve

Discovery Center porch

2-3 PM

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

Free; registration is not required.

Michelle Rumschlag mrumschlag@hancockparks.com

3 Wednesday

Pliriding

Pliriding stands for Picking Up Litter While Birding. On our special bird hike, we will look for migrating songbirds like orioles, tanagers, and warblers while picking up trash in the park. Not only will we be enjoying the peak of spring migration, but also improving habitat for birds and other wildlife. Binoculars and trash bags will be provided.

Oakwoods Nature Preserve

Discovery Center

6:30 PM

Ages 18 and up.

Free; registration is not required.

Tim Kleman tkleman@hancockparks.com

4 Thursday

Insect Investigations for Homeschoolers

Explore how different kinds of insect mouthparts help them eat their food. Use sweep nets and go on an insect hunt to discover the great variety of insects that live in Ohio.

Riverbend Recreation Area

Meadows Activity Area

Shelter 7

9:30-11:30 AM

Ages 5-14.

Free; but register by 1 PM on Wednesday, May 3.

Min: 6/Max: 60

Michelle Rumschlag mrumschlag@hancockparks.com

4 Thursday

“Grumpy” the Great Blue Heron Hunt

Bring the children out for a fun adventure in the park as they look for the Great Blue Heron. We will start in the Nature Play Area with the reading of a story titled “Grumpy the Great Blue Heron” by Anita Turnage. Following the story, we will look for the clues that are posted along the trail to where the Great Blue Heron might be found.

Oakwoods Nature Preserve

Nature Play Area

1 PM

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

Free; registration is not required.

Chris Allen callen@hancockparks.com

6 Saturday

25th Annual Fish Festival

Young anglers can try their luck as the Hancock Park District hosts its 25th Annual Fish Festival. Trout stocking will take place prior to the event courtesy of the Ohio Department of Natural Resources, Fisheries Division. Fishing will be allowed by bank only. Children must do the fishing, but limited adult assistance is permitted. All state fishing rules and regulations must be followed. Anglers are asked to take home the first five trout they catch. No catch and release is permitted. Live bait will be for sale on site. The Fish Festival will be held rain or shine, except in the event of extreme weather conditions. Throughout the morning, registered participant names will be drawn for random prize drawings. Winners must be present to win. Sponsors of this year's Fish Festival are ODNR Division of Wildlife, WFIN/WKXA/106.3 The Fox, and Centennial Screen Printing and Engraving.

Riverbend Recreation Area

Lakefront Activity Center

8-11 AM

Ages 4-15 with an adult.

Free with registration starting at 7:30 AM at Lakefront Activity Center.

Tim Kleman tkleman@hancockparks.com

6 Saturday

Cooking with Rhubarb

Sarah Fishel will be sharing recipes and demonstrating how the pioneers would have used the rhubarb that is growing in the McKinnis garden. The guests will get to enjoy tea and rhubarb cake that was baked in the 1847 wood stove after the demonstration. Perhaps you can share your favorite recipe as well while enjoying the cozy fire. Each guest will receive a rhubarb recipe booklet to take with them.

Litzenberg Memorial Woods

McKinnis House

1:30-3 PM

Ages 18 and up.

Register with \$5 per person by 1 PM on Friday, May, 5.

Maximum: 12

Chris Allen callen@hancockparks.com

8 Monday

Discovery Stories: Animal Teeth v *CEP*

You can tell what an animal eats by looking at its teeth. Is it a plant eater, a meat eater, or both? Let's look inside the mouths of animals and see what jobs certain teeth do. Skulls of mammals, reptiles, and amphibians will be on display for children to look at. After the story, children can make an animal mouth with mini-marshmallow for teeth.

Oakwoods Nature Preserve

Discovery Center

10 AM

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

Free; registration is not required.

Michelle Rumschlag

mrumschlag@hancockparks.com

12 Friday

Evening Bird Hike

The spring songbird migration is in full force. Evening is an excellent time to watch these birds as they finish resting and feeding, and before they continue their journey north. During the hike, we will search for orioles, vireos, flycatchers, tanagers, warblers, and other songbirds. Binoculars will be provided or bring your own.

Oakwoods Nature Preserve

Discovery Center

6:30 PM

Ages 16 and up.

Free; registration is not required.

Tim Kleman tkleman@hancockparks.com

13 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.

Riverbend Recreation Area

Big Oaks Activity Area

Shelter 3

9 AM

Ages 16 and up.

Free; registration is not required.

Tim Kleman tkleman@hancockparks.com

13 Saturday

Archery Instruction

Come out for an archery class led by a certified archery instructor. All necessary equipment and targets will be provided. You'll 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.

Oakwoods Nature Preserve

Dold Lake

9:30-10:30 AM for ages 9-12.

10:30-11:30 AM for ages 13-17.

Register with \$10 per person by 1 PM on Friday, May 12.

Maximum: 10

Michelle Rumschlag mrumschlag@hancockparks.com

13 Saturday

Exploration Station: Riverbend Recreation Area, Conservations Areas, and Rock Display

Stop by the Exploration Station at Riverbend Recreation Area to get your questions answered about birds, frogs, deer, or other animals that interest you. Look at fossils, the window rock, the hydroponic rock, and several other gems that will be on display. There is a lot to do in Riverbend Recreation Area. You will be pointed in the right direction. There are trails to hike and shelters to visit. There is Deer Meadow where deer like to feed. Dogs can run and play off leash at the K-9 Field of Dreams Dog Park. Giertz Lake is a popular place for fishing. Information will be available about nearby conservations areas, including Bright Conservation Area, Lehman Conservation Area, Lawrence Conservation Area, and Vogelsong Conservation Area, and Indian Green-Worden Family Conservation Area located near the south side of Litzenberg Memorial Woods.

Riverbend Recreation Area

Oxbow Bend Activity Area

Shelter 5

2 PM

Families.

Free; registration is not required.

Chris Allen callen@hancockparks.com

15 Monday

Wee Ones: The Lorax and Me V GEP

He is the Lorax and speaks for the trees, and would like to say a few words if you please. Come along with the Once-ler as we read Dr. Suess' *The Lorax* on an interactive storybook trail. Feel like you are a part of the story as we do small activities that correspond to the pages of the book. After we complete our story along the trail, each child will receive a Lorax coloring page to take home.

Blue Rock Nature Preserve

Edgar Ave Parking Lot

10 AM

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

Free; registration is not required.

Tim Kleman tkleman@hancockparks.com

17 Wednesday

Soda Can Speedboat

Create your own speedboat from recycled materials. First, learn about the parts and physics of a boat that allow it to float and move in the water. Second, create your own boat by using a soda can, cardboard, spoons, a rubber band, and hot glue. And third, see if your boat will float in the kiddie pools on the Discovery Center lawn.

Oakwoods Nature Preserve

Discovery Center

6:30 PM

Ages 10-14.

Free; but register by 1:30 PM on Tuesday, May 16.

Maximum: 20

Tim Kleman tkleman@hancockparks.com

20 Saturday

Odonata Hike

We will be hiking around Goose Lake looking for the Twelve-spotted Skimmer and the Widow Skimmer. Our hike will lead us to the Upland Trail to see if we can find the Emerald Damselfly. How can you tell the difference between dragonflies and damselflies? Take a hike to find out and learn all about these insects.

Aerland Recreation Area

Shelter

2 PM

Families.

Free; registration is not required.

Chris Allen callen@hancockparks.com

21 Sunday

Glue Making: Open House

Glues and adhesives that are made from natural products like tree sap and animal parts have been around for thousands of years. Today on the farm we will create glue from rawhide. Learn about the history of glues, see how glue is made from rawhide, and what the glue will be used for.

Litzenberg Memorial Woods

McKinnis House

1-4 PM

All ages are welcome.

Free; registration is not required.

Tim Kleman tkleman@hancockparks.com

21 Sunday

Spring Moths

As the temperatures get warmer, moths become more active. During the night hike, we will attract early season moths with sugar baits and a light trap. We will have a discussion about moths; what they are, species, and their importance to the natural environment.

Litzenberg Memorial Woods

Gatehouse

9:30 PM

Ages 18 and up.

Free; but register by 1 PM on Friday, May 19.

Maximum: 20

Tim Kleman tkleman@hancockparks.com

24 Wednesday

Scat Night Out

Start the summer with laughter in the park. We will have several different types of scat games to play: Poop Bingo, Don't Step in It, Scat Toss, Chicken Poop Bingo, and a scat hunt in the Nature Play Area. You can win your very own Copalite (Fossil Poop) or other surprise prizes. So come on out to the park and don't step in the scat!

Oakwoods Nature Preserve

Discovery Center Porch

6 PM

All ages are welcome.

Free; registration is not required.

Chris Allen callen@hancockparks.com

25 Thursday

Scythes, Sickles & Exercise

Even though these harvesting tools are not used as often as in the past for cutting crops, they can still be used as an eco-friendly way to cut tall grass and weeds. Learn about the history of scythes and sickles, and how to use and take care of them. Afterward, experience a scythe by trimming the grass in the paddocks.

Litzenberg Memorial Woods

Workshop

10 AM

Ages 18 and up.

Free; but register by 4:30 PM on Wednesday, May 24.

Maximum: 8

Tim Kleman tkleman@hancockparks.com

26 Friday

Marble Art

This is a good opportunity to be creative and try your hand at abstract painting. Instead of a brush, a marble in a box will be used to roll tempera paint around on paper. You can create an interesting effect by using different colors and multiple marbles. Each child will create two paintings. Please wear clothing that can get paint on them.

Oakwoods Nature Preserve

Discovery Center Porch

10 AM

Ages 6-10 with an adult.

Free; but register by 4:30 PM on Thursday, May 25. Adults do not need to register.

Maximum: 12

Tim Kleman tkleman@hancockparks.com

26 Friday

Bats of Litzenberg

Spring marks the return of bats to the park. We will start out in front of the Activity Barn where we will talk about bats and watch them leave the bat boxes. Then we will hike in the park in search of bats and other nocturnal animals. As we hike the trails, we will use bat detection equipment to listen to bats echolocating and determine what species they are.

Litzenberg Memorial Woods

Activity Barn

9 PM

All ages are welcome.

Free; registration is not required.

Tim Kleman tkleman@hancockparks.com

30 Tuesday

Stream Stomping

Explore our local stream life by using nets to find fish, crayfish, water striders, and macroinvertebrates living in Aurand Run. We will talk about life in stream habitats, take a closer look at the things we find, and bring some of our finds back to the tanks at the Discovery Center. Each participant must wear closed-toed shoes and clothing that can get wet.

Oakwoods Nature Preserve

Discovery Center

2-3:30 PM

Ages 10-14.

Free; but register by 4:30 PM on Monday, May 29.

Min: 3/Max: 8

Tim Kleman tkleman@hancockparks.com

31 Wednesday

Woodland Obstacle Course

The woodland area of the Nature Play Area will be filled with challenges to enjoy, such as Walk the Log, Don't Step in It, Hoop Toss and more. Test your skills at building with wood cookies; can you be the first to fit them all on the post before the other person? Challenge yourself to stay on the course and finish with no missed steps.

Oakwoods Nature Preserve

Nature Play Area

1 PM

Ages 9-12.

Free; but register by 1 PM on May 30.

Maximum: 15

Chris Allen callen@hancockparks.com

31 Wednesday

Navigating with the Stars

Before GPS was invented, people relied on the stars for navigation. Learn about the stars and constellations that can help you determine where you are at and the direction you need to travel. Also, learn about what will be in the night sky for the next month and receive a star map for June. 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 Wednesday, May 31.

Maximum: 25

Tim Kleman tkleman@hancockparks.com