

HANCOCK PARK DISTRICT MARCH 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

Maple Tree Tapping

The warmer air of spring causes the sap in maple trees to flow. Join us as we tap sugar maple trees for our upcoming maple sugarin' week. We will talk about the process and tools needed to tap trees in historical and modern times and then tap a few trees with spiles to start our sap collection process. Participants will have the chance to tap a tree by using a tool called a bit and brace. While we are in the woods, we will talk about the other trees that can be tapped for their sap.

Litzenberg Memorial Woods

McKinnis House

10 AM

All ages are welcome.

Free; registration is not required.

Tim Kleman tkleman@hancockparks.com

1 Saturday

Grandparent and Me: Story of Maple Syrup

The Story of Maple Syrup will be shared at the McKinnis House while guests enjoy a cup of tea. Grandkids can step back in time with a shared memory of the olden days by their grandparents. There will be maple cookies to sample while sitting in front of the cozy fire.

Litzenberg Memorial Woods

McKinnis House

1:30 PM

Grandparents with children ages 4 and up.

Register with \$5 per person by 1 PM on Friday, February 28.

Minimum: 4 /Maximum: 16

Chris Allen callen@hancockparks.com

6 Thursday

Ernest Thompson Seton and The Wolf that Changed America

Seton was a naturalist, artist, and author but he was also known in his younger years as a wolf bounty hunter. During his time, wolves were seen as evil killing machines, but Seton's interaction with one wolf in New Mexico helped to change that viewpoint of wolves and helped spark an environmental movement. Learn about Seton's interaction with this wolf by watching a documentary called *The Wolf that Changed America*. Afterward, we will discuss the life and work of Ernest Thompson Seton, the wolves that once lived in Ohio, and Ohio's other canines. Light refreshments will be provided.

Oakwoods Nature Preserve

Discovery Center

6:30 PM

Ages 16 and up.

Free; but register by 1 PM on Thursday, March 6.

Maximum: 20

Tim Kleman

tkleman@hancockparks.com

8 Saturday

Maple Sugarin' Public Day

Spring is almost here and the temperatures are starting to fluctuate. This means that conditions are right for collecting maple tree sap. Step back in time to see the process the pioneers and Native Americans used to collect sap and boil it down to produce sweet maple syrup. Other stops of interest include sap science and touring the McKinnis House. In the Activity Barn you can make a beaded key chain that will help you remember the story of how we get maple syrup. Stay there for a hot drink and check out maple goodies being sold by Fruth's Sugarhouse.

Litzenberg Memorial Woods

9 AM-12 PM

All ages are welcome.

Free; registration is not required.

Tim Kleman tkleman@hancockparks.com

9 Sunday

Nature Books: Open House

A collection of nature books for all ages to read will be on display. Some examples are *Who Dunit on the Forest Floor*, *Lost in the Woods*, *It Fell from the Sky* and *A Rock is Lively*. Many stories from the children's author Jan Brett will also be on hand.

Oakwoods Nature Preserve

Discovery Center

1-4 PM

All ages are welcome.

Free; registration is not required.

Chris Allen callen@hancockparks.com

10 Monday

Squirrel Hike

Let's go into the woods and search for squirrels. As we hike, we will look for different types of tree squirrels and ground squirrels, observe squirrel behavior, look for squirrel homes, and touch squirrel furs.

Riverbend Recreation Area

Big Oaks Parking Lot by Shelter 3

10 AM

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

Free; registration is not required.

Tim Kleman tkleman@hancockparks.com

11 Tuesday

Lunar Eclipse: Planetarium

On the night of March 13-14, we are going to experience a total lunar eclipse here in Ohio. In our indoor planetarium program, we will talk about lunar eclipses, why they happen, how a total lunar eclipse differs from a total solar eclipse, and how to observe this astronomical event and other objects in the night sky. Participants are required to sit on the floor. Ask about accommodations.

Oakwoods Nature Preserve

Discovery Center

6 PM

All ages are welcome.

Free; but register by 1 PM on Tuesday, March 11.

Maximum: 25

Tim Kleman tkleman@hancockparks.com

14 Friday

Rubber Stamp Art

Create art using a wide range of nature-related rubber stamps, such as animals, tracks, bugs, dinosaurs, and leaves along with the use of ink pads, crayons, color pencils, and your imagination. After creating your work of art, take time to tour the Discovery Center and look at live animals and animal mounts.

Oakwoods Nature Preserve

Discovery Center

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

15 Saturday

Cooking with Honey

Ah, the sweet taste of honey. When baking, honey can be used instead of white sugar. We will enjoy tea sweetened with the bee's sweet nectar and honey cookies that participants will make and bake in the old wood cook stove.

Litzenberg Memorial Woods

McKinnis House

1-2:30 PM

Ages 10 and up.

Register with \$5 per person by 1 PM on Friday, March 14.

Minimum: 3/Maximum: 12

Chris Allen callen@hancockparks.com

21 Friday

Live Animal Feeding

The Hancock Park District uses live animals for educational programs. You are invited to visit the Discovery Center, see the animals, and watch them eat. We will talk about what animals eat and how that differs among herbivores, carnivores, omnivores, and decomposers.

Oakwoods Nature Preserve

Discovery Center

10 AM

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

Free; registration is not required.

Tim Kleman tkleman@hancockparks.com

23 Sunday

Pajama Party and Movie

Wear your favorite PJ's, get together with family and friends, watch *The Fox and the Hound*, and enjoy popcorn on a Sunday afternoon. After the movie, there will be a scavenger hunt, either inside the Richard S. "Doc" Phillips Discovery Center or outside in the woodland.

Oakwoods Nature Preserve

Discovery Center

2 PM

Ages 3 and up with an adult.

Register with \$2 person by 1 PM on Friday, March 21.

Minimum: 4/Maximum: 25

Chris Allen callen@hancockparks.com

24 Monday

Discovery Stories: Forest Animals

Forests are full of life, including many different animals. The story titled, *Bear Helps the Forest (Maybe You Help, Too)* will be read. It is a picture book that highlights the life of a baby bear and other animals, such as squirrels, white-tailed deer, and Virginia opossums. After the story, we will hike the trails in search of forest animals, such as red squirrels, American Robins, and western chorus frogs.

Oakwoods Nature Preserve

Discovery Center

10 AM

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

Free; registration is not required.

Maclain Teeple mteeple@hancockparks.com

26 Wednesday

Little Hands Nature Club: Nifty Nesters

It is that time of year when many animals build their nests and await the arrival of their babies. Learn about nests through play, such as what's in my egg memory game and if I had a bird beak. You can try and build a nest using beak-like tools. Afterward, we will enter the Nature Play Area and make a large nest like Bald Eagles do. This program will take place outside, so please dress accordingly. Adult companions must remain with children for this program.

Oakwoods Nature Preserve

Discovery Center Porch

1 PM

Ages 3-6, with an adult; other aged siblings are welcome to attend.

Free; registration is not required.

Michelle Rumschlag

mrumschlag@hancockparks.com

27 ThursdaY

The Songs of Frogs and Toads

In spring, our wetlands are filled with the songs of frogs and toads. Learn why frogs and toads are calling this time of year and how to identify the frogs and toads that are calling. Afterward, we will take a night hike in search of songs, sounds, and calls.

Oakwoods Nature Preserve

Discovery Center

6:30 PM

Ages 16 and up.

Free; registration is not required.

Tim Kleman tkleman@hancockparks.com

29 Saturday

Snipe Hunt

Join us on a snipe hunt. We will search for a bird called Wilson's Snipe that shows up in the wetlands this time of year. We will talk about the Wilson's Snipe, listen to the sounds it makes, and then hike the wetlands with binoculars and a spotting scope in search of birds and other animals. Please wear shoes that can get wet and muddy.

Oakwoods Nature Preserve

Discovery Center

1 PM

All ages are welcome.

Free; registration is not required.

Tim Kleman tkleman@hancockparks.com

30 Sunday

Fun with Marbles

Marbles have been around for thousands of years. They come in different sizes, colors, and materials. Learn how to play marbles, build a marble run and race marbles, paint a picture by rolling marbles in tempura paint, and create marbles out of clay.

Oakwoods Nature Preserve

Discovery Center

1 PM

Ages 6-10 with an adult; other aged siblings are welcome to attend.

Free; registration is not required.

Tim Kleman tkleman@hancockparks.com

31 Monday

Wee Ones: How's the Weather in Spring?

During the spring season, we can encounter many different types of weather including rain, snow, and wind. Children will learn about these types of weather through a story and activities including "Ducks on the Pond" and "Wiggly worms". A tissue paper puddle will also be made.

Oakwoods Nature Preserve

Discovery Center

10 AM

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

Free; registration is not required.

Michelle Rumschlag mrumtschlag@hancockparks.com