

**HANCOCK PARK DISTRICT MAY 2024 PROGRAMS –TO REGISTER YOU MAY GO TO [WWW.HANCOCKPARKS.COM](http://WWW.HANCOCKPARKS.COM) OR VISIT US AT 1424 E MAIN CROSS M-F 8:00AM - 4:30PM. FOR QUESTIONS CALL 419-425-7275.**

1 Wednesday

Nature Games of Old

Children will have an opportunity to play games in the Nature Play Area, such as Duck, Duck, Goose and Ring Around the Rosie. They can jump from log to log like a frog.

Oakwoods Nature Preserve

Nature Play Area

10 AM

Ages 3 and under with an adult.

Free; registration is not required.

Chris Allen [callen@hancockparks.com](mailto:callen@hancockparks.com)

2 Thursday

Spring Migration Hike for Active Adults

With spring migration underway, parks will be filled with the sound of colorful birds. On this hike, we will search for migratory birds, such as Indigo Bunting, Baltimore Oriole, Rose-breasted Grosbeak, and a variety of warblers, vireos, and thrushes. As we search for these birds, we will discuss bird migration and work on bird identification skills. Binoculars will be provided or bring your own.

Oakwoods Nature Preserve

Discovery Center

9-11 AM

Ages 50 and up.

Free; registration is not required.

Tim Kleman [tkleman@hancockparks.com](mailto:tkleman@hancockparks.com)

3 Friday

A Campfire Cookout

Take the night off and let us do the cooking. The meal will consist of ground beef, potatoes, carrots, and onions cooked over the campfire followed by a dump cake made with canned apples and yellow cake baked in a cast iron Dutch oven. Lemonade and water will be provided. While the food cooks, we will talk about nocturnal mammals. Bring a chair for sitting around the campfire.

Riverbend Recreation Area

Campground

6:30 PM

Ages 18 and up.

Register with \$5 per person by 4 PM on Thursday, May 2.

Minimum: 2/Maximum: 10

Michelle Rumschlag [mrumschlag@hancockparks.com](mailto:mrumschlag@hancockparks.com)

4 Saturday

26th Annual Fish Festival

Young anglers can try their luck as the Hancock Park District hosts its 26th 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 along the 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 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 for 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 the Lakefront Activity Center.

Tim Kleman [tkleman@hancockparks.com](mailto:tkleman@hancockparks.com)

4 Saturday

Archery Instruction for Active Adults

During this program, you will learn the fundamentals of archery from a certified archery instructor. Afterward, you will be eligible to attend open archery shoots for more fun and practice. This is an opportunity for you to get outside and enjoy a new and exciting sport.

Oakwoods Nature Preserve

Dold Lake

10 AM

Ages 50 and up.

Register with \$10 per person by 1 PM Friday May 3.

Maximum: 10

Chris Allen [callen@hancockparks.com](mailto:callen@hancockparks.com)

5 Sunday

Baby Animals: Open House

This is the time of year when baby animals are born. Do you know what to do if you find a baby animal in the wild? Join us at the Richard S. "Doc" Phillips Discovery Center to find out. There will be books, pictures, and a few farm babies (ducks and chicks) to look at and learn about.

Oakwoods Nature Preserve

Discovery Center

1-4 PM

All ages are welcome.

Free; registration is not required.

Chris Allen [callen@hancockparks.com](mailto:callen@hancockparks.com)

7 Tuesday

Mammals for Homeschoolers

This program will focus on the characteristics that make an animal a mammal. Homeschoolers will have an opportunity to look at bones and furs from different mammals, make a craft to illustrate what mammals are, and explore the park in search of mammals, such as squirrels, rabbits, and deer.

Oakwoods Nature Preserve

Discovery Center

1-3 PM

Ages 5-14

Free; but register by 4 PM on Monday, May 6.

Minimum: 6/Maximum: 30

Tim Kleman [tkleman@hancockparks.com](mailto:tkleman@hancockparks.com)

7 Tuesday

Little Hands Nature Club: Bright Colors in Nature v

Animals use bright colors to warn others that danger is nearby or that one should take caution. Visit stations for the color's red, yellow, and orange to partake in activities including Lady bug Memory Game, Poison Dart Frog Leap, and A Caterpillar's Mother Match-up. Adult companions must remain with children during this program.

Riverbend Recreation Area

The Meadows Activity Area

Shelter 7

1 PM

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

Free; registration is not required.

Michelle Rumschlag

[mrumschlag@hancockparks.com](mailto:mrumschlag@hancockparks.com)

7 Tuesday

Spear Throwing

The atlatl is one of the oldest hunting tools in the world. It was used by prehistoric hunters for thousands of years, and in some cultures, it is still being used today. The atlatl will be thrown like a spear at archery targets. We will discuss the history of this ancient hunting tool, how it was created, and how to throw it and use it safely.

Oakwoods Nature Preserve

Dold Lake  
6:30 PM  
Ages 14-17.  
Free; but register by 1 PM on Tuesday, May 7.  
Maximum: 10  
Tim Kleman tkleman@hancockparks.com

9 Thursday  
Fish Painting  
During this program, children and adults will work together to paint a fish. Tempera paint will be used for the color and pieces of celery will be used as a stamp to create scales on a fish template. A fun fish story will be read to teach children about fish. While the paint dries, you will have an opportunity to explore the Discovery Center or take a short hike on a nature trail.  
Oakwoods Nature Preserve  
Discovery Center  
10 AM  
Ages 3 and under with an adult.  
Free; registration is not required.  
Tim Kleman tkleman@hancockparks.com

10 Friday  
Archery Instruction for Mom and Me  
Since Mother's Day will be on Sunday, an archery lesson for you and mom would be a fun way to start celebrating. During this program, you will learn the fundamentals of archery from a certified archery instructor. Afterward, you will be eligible to attend open archery shoots for more fun and practice. This is an opportunity for you to get outside and enjoy a new and exciting sport.  
Oakwoods Nature Preserve  
Dold Lake  
6 PM  
Ages 9 and up.  
Register with \$20 per group of two by 1 PM Friday May 10.  
Maximum: 5  
Chris Allen callen@hancockparks.com

11 Saturday  
Spring Migration Hike  
With spring migration underway, parks will be filled with the sound of colorful birds. On this hike, we will search for migratory birds, such as Scarlet Tanager, Orchard Oriole, Red-headed Woodpecker, and a variety of warblers, vireos, and thrushes. As we search for these birds, we will discuss bird migration and work on bird identification skills. Binoculars will be provided or bring your own.  
Riverbend Recreation Area  
Oxbow Bend Activity Area  
Parking Lot  
9-11 AM  
Ages 16 and up.  
Free; registration is not required.  
Tim Kleman tkleman@hancockparks.com

11 Saturday  
Imagination Dinosaurs  
Dinosaurs come in all shapes and sizes. Some are short, some are tall, some are big, and some are small. But what if there were new dinosaurs? Join us for Imagination Dinosaurs. You will learn about a wide variety of dinosaurs, such as tyrannosaurus rex, velociraptor, iguanodon, and many more. Afterward, you will have an opportunity to use your creativity to draw new, imaginary dinosaurs. Drawing and coloring supplies will be provided.  
Oakwoods Nature Preserve  
Discovery Center  
1 PM  
Ages 6-9 with an adult.  
Free; registration is not required.

Maclain Teeple mteeple@hancockparks.com

13 Monday

Wee Ones: Get Movin'

We will get bodies moving as your little one participates in a variety of action-packed stations. Activities include a Crocodile Baby Crawl and Carry, Predator Fake Out, and Hopscotch Animal Tracks. Bring a towel or blanket to lay on when doing animal poses.

Oakwoods Nature Preserve

Discovery Center Porch

10 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

13 Monday

Spear Throwing

The atlatl is one of the oldest hunting tools in the world. It was used by prehistoric hunters for thousands of years, and in some cultures, it is still being used today. The atlatl will be thrown like a spear at archery targets. We will discuss the history of this ancient hunting tool, how it was created, and how to throw it and use it safely.

Oakwoods Nature Preserve

Dold Lake

6:30 PM

Ages 12-14.

Free, but register by 1 PM on Monday, May 13.

Maximum: 10

Tim Kleman tkleman@hancockparks.com

15 Wednesday

Garlic Mustard Pull

Our parks are under attack by many invasive plants, such as garlic mustard. Help us remove garlic mustard so that native plants can grow. We will discuss garlic mustard and other invasive plants and why they are harmful to the environment. As we remove invasive plants, trash will be collected and then disposed of properly. Bring gardening gloves or work gloves.

Blue Rock Nature Preserve

Edgar Avenue Parking Lot

10 AM

Ages 50 and up.

Free; registration is not required.

Tim Kleman tkleman@hancockparks.com

15 Wednesday

Dinosaur and Me Day Hike

Children can take their favorite dinosaur on a hike along the .3-mile Lady Bug Loop Trail. The trail is level. It begins with an asphalt surface that leads to a stone surface. Bring a camera so that photographs can be taken of children and their dinosaurs sitting on a log, standing by a tree, or walking on the trail with the vernal pool in the background. Blue Rock Nature Preserve

Edgar Street

1 PM

Ages 4-6 with an adult; other aged siblings are welcome to attend.

Free; registration is not required.

Chris Allen callen@hancockparks.com

15 Wednesday

Under a Log Hike

Life can be found under a log. Join us as we search for creatures that live under logs. We will discuss the type of animals we are looking for, why they live under logs, and how fallen trees and branches benefit the forest. Afterward, we will hike the trails, find logs, and flip them over, and observe the animals we find there. We will use magnifying glasses and a portable telescope to study the animals, such as salamanders, pill bugs, centipedes, worms, snails, and mites.

Riverbend Recreation Area

Oxbow Bend Activity Area

Parking Lot

6 PM

Ages 6-10, with an adult.

Free; registration is not required.

Tim Kleman [tkleman@hancockparks.com](mailto:tkleman@hancockparks.com)

15 Wednesday

Archery Instruction Workshop for Adults

This archery class 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.

Oakwoods Nature Preserve

Dold Lake

6:30 PM

Ages 18 and up.

Register with \$10 per person by 1 PM on Wednesday, May 15.

Maximum: 10

Michelle Rumschlag [mrumschlag@hancockparks.com](mailto:mrumschlag@hancockparks.com)

16 Thursday

Archery Instruction for Youth

This archery class 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.

Oakwoods Nature Preserve

Dold Lake

6:30-7:30 PM

Ages 9-13.

Register with \$10 per person by 1 PM on Thursday, May 16.

Maximum: 10

Maclain Teeple [mteeple@hancockparks.com](mailto:mteeple@hancockparks.com)

17 Friday

Night Sky Observations

The night sky holds many discoveries and amazing sights to behold. Join us for an evening of sky gazing and observations as we look at the May night sky. We will meet in the Discovery Center and then venture outside to see constellations and celestial bodies. With weather permitting, we might be able to see constellations, such as Gemini, Ursa Major, and Boötes. Along with constellations, we will see celestial bodies, such as the moon and possibly orbiting satellites with the use of our telescope. If it is cloudy, we will go on a night hike through Oakwoods Nature Preserve.

Oakwoods Nature Preserve

Discovery Center

10 PM

Ages 14-17.

Free; registration is not required.

Maclain Teeple [mteeple@hancockparks.com](mailto:mteeple@hancockparks.com)

18 Saturday

Recycled Container Garden Workshop

We will use recycled containers to make different kinds of gardens, such as an herb garden or even a fairy or gnome garden. We will talk about the type of plants that work well in small containers, and the type of soil and the location that are needed for plants to grow. All materials will be provided, including the containers.

Oakwoods Nature Preserve

Discovery Center Porch

10 AM-12 PM for ages 13-17

1 PM-3 PM for ages 9 -12

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

18 Saturday

The Lady in the Moon

Kathryn Rider from the Millstream Astronomy Club will present a program entitled "The Lady in the Moon". After the program, there will be viewing of the Moon and many other wonders of the night sky. Look through their telescopes or bring your own. Club members can show you how to use them.

Riverbend Recreation Area

Shelter 5

9 PM

All ages welcome.

Free; registration is not required.

Michelle Rumschlag

mrumschlag@hancockparks.com

19 Sunday

Rocks for Kids

Rocks can be igneous, metamorphic, sedimentary, and possibly a fossil. If it were a fossil, it would contain something that was once alive. There will be rocks of all kinds and books about rocks to look at. Kids will have an opportunity to screen for rocks in the sand pit and find one to take home.

Oakwoods Nature Preserve

Discovery Center

1-3 PM

Families with children ages 5 and up.

Free; registration is not required.

Chris Allen callen@hancockparks.com

20 Monday

Discovery Stories: Beaks

Birds have cool beaks that are used in a variety of ways. A fun story will be read to teach children about some of the ways in which birds use their beaks. Bird skulls will be on display to show examples of beaks. We will discuss other animals that have beaks and how they use them. Children will have an opportunity to create a bird craft and complete a coloring page.

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

21 Tuesday

Pioneer Plant Medicine

We are fortunate to be able to drive to the local pharmacy to pick up medicine to combat illnesses. But what did the pioneers do? We will discuss the historical use of different natural remedies used by the pioneers to fight illnesses. We will see the various plants used in the mid-1800s and how those remedies progressed to the medicine we use today.

Riverbend Recreation Area

Big Oaks Activity Area

Shelter 3

6 PM

Ages 18 and up.

Free; but register by 1 PM on Tuesday, May 21.

Maximum: 15

Maclain Teeple mteeple@hancockparks.com

23 Thursday

Terrific Turtles

Today is World Turtle Day. It is an annual celebration that focuses on the protection of turtles and their habitat. Join us for our celebration that begins with the reading of a fun story about turtles. We will look at turtle features and interact with our resident eastern box turtle, Qbert. Children will have an opportunity to create a turtle craft using yarn and popsicle sticks.

Oakwoods Nature Preserve

Discovery Center

10 AM

Ages 4-5 with an adult.

Free; registration is not required.

Tim Kleman [tkleman@hancockparks.com](mailto:tkleman@hancockparks.com)

24 Friday

Stream Stomping

We will discuss life in a stream habitat and explore Aurand Run in search of fish, crayfish, water striders, and macroinvertebrates. Nets will be used to capture the animals so that they can be studied. Animals will be relocated to an aquarium inside the Discovery Center for further observation. Wear closed-toed shoes and clothing that can get wet.

Oakwoods Nature Preserve

Discovery Center Porch

6-7:30 PM

Ages 10-12.

Free; but register by 1 PM on Friday, May 24.

Minimum: 3/Maximum: 12

Tim Kleman [tkleman@hancockparks.com](mailto:tkleman@hancockparks.com)

25 Saturday

Cooking with Clover

There are a lot of plants in nature that are commonly used as a nutritious food source, such as white clover and red clover. Join us for Cooking with Clover and enjoy white clover pancakes cooked on an electric griddle. A receipt book will be available to take home. This would be a good workshop for those of you who are doing a 4-H cooking project or working on a scout badge.

Oakwoods Nature Preserve

Discovery Center

10-11:30 AM for ages 8 -10.

1:30-3 PM for ages 11-13.

Register with \$5 per person by 1 PM on Friday, May 24.

Minimum: 3/Maximum 12 for each time slot.

Chris Allen [callen@hancockparks.com](mailto:callen@hancockparks.com)

29 Wednesday

Pond Study

We will discuss life in a pond and the importance of aquatic studies, and explore Goose Pond in search of tadpoles, dragonfly larvae, and other macroinvertebrates. Nets will be used to capture the animals so that they can be studied. Wear closed-toed shoes and clothing that can get wet.

Aeraland Recreation Area

Shelter

6:30 PM

Ages 12-14.

Free; but register by 1 PM on Wednesday, May 29.

Minimum: 3/Maximum: 12

Tim Kleman [tkleman@hancockparks.com](mailto:tkleman@hancockparks.com)

30 Thursday

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

6:30PM

Ages 9 and up.

Register with \$10 per person by 1 PM on Thursday, May 30.

Maximum: 10

Tim Kleman [tkleman@hancockparks.com](mailto:tkleman@hancockparks.com)

31 Friday

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, talk about the importance of stream studies, 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 Porch

10-11:30 AM

Ages 14-17.

Free; but register by 4 PM on Thursday, May 30.

Minimum: 3/Maximum: 12

Tim Kleman [tkleman@hancockparks.com](mailto:tkleman@hancockparks.com)

31 Friday

Spring Kayak Float

Kayakers will have an opportunity to enjoy a leisurely float on the Blanchard River as they paddle from Zonta Landing upstream past the Country Club golf course and Eastpoint Area to Bright Road and back. There is always a chance to observe wildlife, such as Bald Eagles, Mallard Ducks, and Eastern spiny softshell turtles. All skill levels are welcome. Please dress according to the weather.

Riverside Park

Zonta Landing

6 PM

Ages 18 and up.

Register with \$10 per person by 1 PM on Friday, May 31.

Minimum: 2/Maximum: 10

Maclain Teeple [mteeple@hancockparks.com](mailto:mteeple@hancockparks.com)