

2 Wednesday

The Truth About Pigeons

Pigeons are one of the most important animals in human history, though they are often called “rats with wings,” and are regularly misunderstood. Learn about their amazing features, how people have used them throughout history, and the interesting species of pigeons found in Ohio and the world. Participants will create a pigeon craft and meet a live pigeon called a Laughing Dove.

Oakwoods Nature Preserve

Discovery Center

10 AM

All ages are welcome.

Free; registration is not required.

Tim Kleman

tkleman@hancockparks.com

3 Thursday

Plein Air Gatherings

The Plein Air Gatherings are an opportunity for artists to get together and paint or draw outdoors or “en plein air.” Artists who use any medium conducive to working outdoors are welcome. These gatherings are a way to meet and work with other plein air artists, and they provide a nice format for those who are new to this concept or are hesitant to go alone. Bring supplies and equipment and dress for ground and weather conditions. If it rains, the session will be cancelled.

Liberty Landing

2-4 PM

Ages 16 and up.

Free; registration is not required.

Tim Kleman

tkleman@hancockparks.com

5 Saturday

Insect Hike

Late summer is a wonderful time to observe insects. Hike the trails and look for species that live in the park, including Monarch Butterflies, Cicadas, and Stag Beetles.

Riverbend Recreation Area

Big Oaks Activity Area

Parking Lot by Shelter 3

10 AM

All ages are welcome.

Free; registration is not required.

Maclain Teeple

mteeple@hancockparks.com

9 Wednesday

Spiders for Homeschoolers

Explore the amazing world of spiders. Discover what makes them unique, learn about the types of spiders in Ohio, and look for spiders on the trail. This is a drop-off program.

Riverbend Recreation Area

Big Oaks Activity Area

Mariann Dana Younger Memorial Pavilion

1-2:30 PM

Ages 5-14.

Free; but register by 4 PM on Tuesday, September 8.

Minimum: 6/Maximum: 20

Maclain Teeple

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10 Thursday

Plein Air Gatherings

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Litzenberg Memorial Woods

South Side Parking Lot

2-4 PM

Ages 16 and up.

Free; registration is not required.

Tim Kleman

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10 Thursday

Archery Instruction – Adults

Aim, shoot, and score! Learn safety measures and the basics of archery from a certified archery instructor while shooting arrows at targets with a compound bow. Archery equipment will be provided.

Oakwoods Nature Preserve

Dold Lake

6 PM

Ages 16 and up.

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

Maximum: 10

Maclain Teeple

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11 Friday

Hide and Seek: Where is Bear?

Bear is hiding somewhere in the Nature Play Area. After the story, *Where is Bear?*, a game of hide and seek will be played. Count to 10, and then the hunt will begin.

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

11 Friday

Don't Eat Me! I'm Poisonous

Animals that are bright colors can serve as a caution to others. Visit various stations that focus on animals with warning colors, including those that are poisonous and venomous, decide if it is camouflage or a warning color, and complete a butterfly craft made from coffee filters and markers.

Oakwoods Nature Preserve

Discovery Center

6-7:30 PM

All ages are welcome.

Free; registration is not required.

Maclain Teeple

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12 Saturday

Native Plant Sale

One of the best ways to help wildlife at home is to landscape with native plants. Native Pathways Nursery will be selling native plants on the Discovery Center Porch while supplies last. Visit the inside the Discovery Center to learn about native landscaping and native plants and wildlife.

Oakwoods Nature Preserve

Discovery Center

9 AM-12 PM

All ages are welcome.

Free; registration is not required.

Tim Kleman

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12 Saturday

The Fall Sky

J.T. Senghas from the Millstream Astronomy Club will present a program titled *The Fall Sky*. After the program, view the night sky. The Millstream Astronomy Club will have telescopes available (club members can show you how to use them) or bring your own.

Riverbend Recreation Area

Big Oaks Activity Area

Shelter 3

8 PM

All ages are welcome.

Free; registration is not required.

Michelle Rumschlag

mrumschlag@hancockparks.com

13 Sunday

Quill and Ink: Open House

Learn about the art of writing letters in the 1800s. In the house, Robert McKinnis will be creating ink out of black walnut and other natural pigments found around the farm. In the sitting room, Sarah Fishel will be writing and drawing with a feather quill and ink and sealing letters with wax. In the workshop, Nelson Poe will be demonstrating the process of making writing quills from bird feathers.

Litzenberg Memorial Woods

McKinnis House

1-4 PM

All ages are welcome.

Free; registration is not required.

Tim Kleman

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14 Monday

Wee Ones: Animal Noises

Animals make noise to let other animals know their location, how they are feeling, and if they are looking for friends. Find out all the noises that are keeping Owl awake as he tries to sleep. Children can try to make various animal sounds, including those from foxes, frogs, and goats.

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
mrumschlag@hancockparks.com

16 Wednesday

Fishing on the Lake

Try your hand at catching fish in Giertz Lake. Learn about the basics of fishing, fishing gear, fish behavior, and common sport fish species. All skill levels are welcome. A fishing pole will be provided or bring your own. Corn will be available for bait or bring your own lucky lure! All participants aged 16 years or older will need a valid Ohio Fishing License.

Riverbend Recreation Area

Big Oaks Activity Area

Lakefront Activity Center

6:30 PM

All ages are welcome.

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

Minimum: 3/Maximum: 20

Tim Kleman

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17 Thursday

Plein Air Gatherings

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Blanchard River Nature Preserve

2-4 PM

Ages 16 and up.

Free; registration is not required.

Tim Kleman

tkleman@hancockparks.com

17 Thursday

Monarch Migration

Monarch Butterflies make an extraordinary journey each year. Discover how monarchs travel from Mexico to Canada for the summer, and return to Mexico for the winter. Search for caterpillars on common milkweed and look for adult butterflies along the trails before they begin their journey south.

Aeraland Recreation Area

Shelter

6 PM

All ages are welcome.

Free; registration is not required.

Maclain Teeple

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19 Saturday

Fall Migration Bird Hike

Fall migration brings birds through our area as they head south. Look for warblers, vireos, thrushes, sparrows, hawks, and other fall migrants. Binoculars will be provided or bring your own.

Riverbend Recreation Area

Big Oaks Activity Area

Parking Lot by Shelter 3

9 AM

All ages are welcome.

Free; registration is not required.

Tim Kleman

tkleman@hancockparks.com

19 Saturday

Archery Instruction – Youth

Aim, shoot, and score! Learn safety measures and the basics of archery from a certified archery instructor while shooting arrows at targets with a compound bow. Archery equipment will be provided.

Oakwoods Nature Preserve

Dold Lake

10 AM

Ages 9-15.

Register with \$10 per person by 1 PM on Friday, September 18.

Maximum: 10

Chris Allen

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20 Sunday

Way Down Yander in the Pawpaw Patch

It's that time of year when Ohio's state native fruit, the Pawpaw, is ripe and ready to enjoy. Search for fruit in the groves of the Pawpaw trees, learn about the life history of Pawpaw, and look for other plants and animals that live in the nature preserve.

Blanchard River Nature Preserve

1 PM

All ages are welcome.

Free; but register by 1 PM on Friday, September 18.

Maximum: 16

Tim Kleman

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22 Tuesday

Fall Equinox: Open House

The fall equinox marks the first day of autumn. Learn about the fall equinox through hands-on activities: What can be done in 12 hours' time and What animals do to get ready for winter. Play the animal game, Do I hibernate, migrate, or survive? And make golden glitter crafts.

Oakwoods Nature Preserve

Discovery Center

6-8 PM

All ages are welcome.

Free; registration is not required.

Michelle Rumschlag

mrumschlag@hancockparks.com

24 Thursday

Plein Air Gatherings

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Riverbend Recreation Area

The Meadows Activity Area
Brugeman Lodge
2-4 PM
Ages 16 and up.
Free; registration is not required.
Tim Kleman
tkleman@hancockparks.com

27 Sunday
Feline Fun: Open House
Most people are familiar with house cats, but there are other kinds of felines. Identify and learn about the various members of the feline family, including the bobcat, which is native to Ohio. Make a mini cat out of cardboard and toilet paper rolls. All supplies will be provided.
Oakwoods Nature Preserve
Discovery Center
1-4 PM
All ages are welcome.
Free; registration is not required.
Maclain Teeple
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27 Sunday
Woodland Forest Tea
Enjoy tea with a friend in a forest-like setting. Nature-inspired foods to be served include prickly hedgehog spread, turkey tree slices, acorn kisses, forest moss cake, and wild cheese and tomato mushrooms. Make a nature woodland centerpiece to take home.
Litzenberg Memorial Woods
Activity Barn
2 PM
Ages 16 and up.
Register with \$15 per person by 1 PM on Friday, September 25.
Minimum: 6/Maximum: 20
Chris Allen
callen@hancockparks.com

28 Monday
Discovery Stories: No Place Like Space
Space is full of amazing planets, moons, and stars. Discover our solar system through the book *There's No Place Like Space!* Make a model of Saturn with Styrofoam balls, markers, and paper. All supplies will be provided.
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

28 Monday
Archery Open Shoot
The archery range will be open for anyone who has participated in one of the Hancock Park District's archery instructional programs. A certified archery instructor will supervise the archery open shoot. Archery equipment will be provided.

Oakwoods Nature Preserve

Dold Lake

6 PM

Ages 9 and up.

Register with \$10 per person by 1 PM on Monday, September 28.

Maximum: 10

Tim Kleman

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30 Wednesday

Little Hands Nature Club: Yellow Fellows

The color yellow is prominently displayed in the wetlands this time of year. On a guided hike, look for things the color of the sun, including flowers and butterflies.

Oakwoods Nature Preserve

Dold Lake

10 AM

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

Free; registration is not required.

Michelle Rumschlag

mrumschlag@hancockparks.com