

**HANCOCK PARK DISTRICT OCTOBER 2023 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.**

**SELF-GUIDED FALL FLOAT TRIPS V**

Self-guided fall float trips on the Blanchard River Water Trail are available on select Saturdays and Sundays from mid-October to early November. Float trips begin and end at Zonta Landing at Riverside Park Waterfront. Canoeists and kayakers can enjoy early autumn along the Blanchard River as they paddle upstream past the Country Club's golf course, Eastpoint Area, and Vogelsong Conservation Area to the State Route 568/Sandusky Street Bridge and back. The trip takes approximately 2 hours.

**When:** Saturdays: October 14, 21 & 28 and November 4; Sundays: October 15, 22 & 29 and November 5 starting at 1:00 PM. Trips will be cancelled in the event of flooding, rain, thunder and lightning, and strong wind.

**Where:** Meet at Zonta Landing at Riverside Park Waterfront.

**Who:** Adults and youth who are 16 or 17 years old (youth under the age of 16 are welcome to participate but must be accompanied by an adult age 18 or older).

**Prerequisite:** Participants must have the ability to swim.

**Watercraft:** Watercraft availability includes tandem canoes and solo kayaks. Specify watercraft preference when registering. The weight limit for a solo kayak is 275 pounds.

**Enrollment:** Maximum: 12 (maximum of two participants per canoe).

**Registration:** Register online at [www.hancockparks.com](http://www.hancockparks.com) by 1 PM on the Friday prior to the trip.

**Fee:** \$10.00 per person with a signed Assumption of Risk/Liability Release/Waiver of all Claims form and/or a Parental Consent form if applicable. Forms will be available at Zonta Landing prior to the trip.

**Supplies:** Wear tennis shoes that can get wet. Dress and plan accordingly for the weather. Wool, fleece, and fast drying clothes are recommended in autumn when air and water temperatures are cold. Alcohol is not permitted. Canoes, kayaks, personal floatation devices, and paddles will be provided.

**2 Monday**

**Fall Hike**

Take a guided hike through the forest at Riverbend Recreation Area. Leaves will have changed to their brilliant fall colors and animals will be getting ready for winter.

Riverbend Recreation Area

Big Oaks Activity Area

Shelter 3

10 AM & 1 PM

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

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

**3 Tuesday**

**Archery Instruction - Adults**

Come out for an archery class 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

6-7 PM

Ages 18 and up.

Register with \$10 per person by 1 PM on Tuesday, October 3.

Maximum: 10

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

**3 Tuesday**

**Paper Airplanes**

Come and have fun building paper airplanes. As we build our airplanes, learn about how flying works and the differences between flight and gliding. After we have created a few different paper airplanes we will have a friendly competition to see who can build the best paper airplane. We will test to see how far our airplanes glide, how accurate they are, and how much they can carry.

Oakwoods Nature Preserve

Discovery Center

6-7 PM

Ages 10-13.

Free; registration is not required.

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

5 Thursday

Marbles

On this Throwback Thursday come and learn how to play the game of marbles, which became a popular game here in the United States during the 1800s. Learn about the history of marbles, the different types of marbles, and how to play. Then try your hand playing a game of marbles with friends using clay or glass marbles.

Oakwoods Nature Preserve

Discovery Center

6-7 PM

Ages 6-10 with an adult.

Free; registration is not required.

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

7 Saturday

Life in a Shell

There are many kinds of animals that have a protective covering that we call a shell. We will talk about various bugs, mollusks, and reptiles that utilize shells in the animal kingdom. Children can participate in Life in a Shell activities where they will get to experience what it would be like to wear various kinds of shells.

Oakwoods Nature Preserve

Discovery Center

10-11 AM

Ages 5-9.

Free; registration is not required.

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

9 Monday

Fall Astronomy

Come view and learn about the wonders of the night sky on this autumn night. Through a telescope we will view the planets Jupiter and Saturn, and other objects in the sky. Then we will point out constellations and talk about the stories that go along with them. At the end of our viewing, you will receive a star map for the month to help you explore the night sky at home. If the sky is not clear enough for viewing, we will go on a short night hike instead.

Riverbend Recreation Area

Meadows Activity Area

Shelter 7

9-11 PM

Families with children ages 8 and up.

Free; registration is not required.

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

10 Tuesday

Globe at Night: Pegasus & Cygnus

Globe at Night is an international citizen-science campaign to raise public awareness of the impact of light pollution. This will be done by measuring the sky brightness of this month's constellations: Pegasus and Cygnus. Participants will learn the size and location of these constellations and some mythology about them. We will then turn to the night sky to find them and record our observations.

Oakwoods Nature Preserve

Discovery Center Porch

8 PM

All ages are welcome.

Free; registration is not required.

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

12 Thursday

Nut Hike

Now that autumn is here the leaves are not the only thing falling from the trees, so are the tree nuts. Come along as we hike the trails learning about and searching for different types of tree nuts and the animals that eat them. After the hike come inside the Discovery Center to explore and to warm up.

Oakwoods Nature Preserve

Discovery Center Porch

3 PM

Ages 3-5 with an adult.

Free; registration is not required.

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

13 Friday

Creepy Critters

With Halloween approaching, the idea of ghouls and monsters are on people's minds. In the animal kingdom, there are many ghoulish and creepy looking animals. This program will explore some of the creepy critters you might find in Hancock County, such as the star-nosed mole and the Virginia opossum, and we will also look at examples of creepy animals from around the world.

Riverbend Recreation Area

Big Oaks Activity Area

Shelter 3

6 PM

Families with children ages 10 and up.

Free; registration is not required.

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

14 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

9-11 AM

Ages 16 and up.

Free; registration is not required.

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

16 Monday

Wee Ones: Fall Colors

Come and have fun in the park with the colors of fall. We will begin out in the Nature Play Area to read a story about a little yellow leaf. Then we will explore the area looking for different colors of fallen leaves. After we collect some interesting leaves, we will head over to the Discovery Center porch to create a craft. The Discovery Center will be open after the program.

Oakwoods Discovery Center

Nature Play Area

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](mailto:tkleman@hancockparks.com)

17 Tuesday

Mother Nature Story Time: Triceratopposite v

Mother Nature will be sharing a story about the little dinosaur "Triceratopposite" in the Nature Play Area. If Mommy said the food was "Yummy" then Triceratopposite would say it was "yucky." When told to "stop" he would "go." This is a fun interactive story that kids will enjoy. We will play the opposite game and explore the Nature Play Area. The story may be moved indoors if there is inclement weather.

Oakwoods Nature Preserve

Nature Play Area

10 AM

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

Free; registration is not required.

Chris Allen callen@hancockparks.com

18 Wednesday

October Bird Watching

As the seasons change throughout the year, so do the various kinds of birds In Hancock County. Join us for a morning of bird watching and sightseeing as we make our way through Riverbend Recreation Area. We will be visiting hot spots for birds and enjoying the peaceful morning air. Binoculars and field guides will be provided or bring your own.

Riverbend Recreation Area

Big Oaks Activity Area

Shelter 3

8 AM

Ages 50 and up.

Free; but register by 1 PM on Tuesday, October 17.

Maximum: 15

Maclain Teeple mteeple@hancockparks.com

19 Thursday

Archery Instruction – Youth

Come out for an archery class 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 PM

Ages 9-12.

Register with \$10 per person by 1 PM on Thursday, October 19.

Maximum: 10

Tim Kleman tkleman@hancockparks.com

21 Saturday

Planetarium: International Observe the Moon Night

Tonight, the world is coming together to view and celebrate our moon. We will first start inside the Discovery Center to learn about our moon, NASA missions to the moon, and point out other nighttime objects in our portable planetarium. Then, if the sky is clear, we will head outside to the lawn to view the moon and other objects by using a telescope. Participants are required to sit on the floor. Ask about accommodations.

Oakwoods Nature Preserve

Discovery Center

8-9:30 PM

All ages are welcome.

Free, but register by 1 PM on Friday, October 20.

Maximum: 25

Tim Kleman tkleman@hancockparks.com

22 Sunday

Reptiles and Amphibians: Open House

With Halloween approaching, the thoughts of scaly and slimy creatures are on people's minds. But fear not, the creatures we will be looking at are not monsters, they are reptiles and amphibians. Join us and learn all about the various reptiles and amphibians of Hancock County and Ohio. View a variety of informational displays, live reptiles, and animal mounts housed at the Discovery Center. Kids can play with puppets, complete a coloring page, and participate in a turtle themed activity.

Oakwoods Nature Preserve

Discovery Center

1-4 PM

All ages are welcome.

Free; registration is not required.

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

22 Sunday

Wetlands Hike

Fall is a wonderful time to observe wildlife in the wetlands at Bright Conservation Area. The fall leaves will brighten our path as we hike the natural unpaved trail hoping to see frogs, mallard ducks, Halloween pennant (a species of dragonfly), and other animals.

Wear shoes that are appropriate for hiking in the wetland area.

Bright Conservation Area

Circle Drive Parking Area

2 PM

All ages are welcome.

Free; registration is not required.

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

23 Monday

Halloween Shadow Puppet Show: The Story of the Jack-O-Lantern

Ever wonder where the idea of the jack-o-lantern came from? Come to our spooky shadow puppet show to hear the origin story of the jack-o-lantern, the Legend of Stingy Jack. After the show, learn all about the history of the jack-o-lantern. Kids can create their own Halloween shadow puppets to create their own stories on a shadow puppet stage, and a fun jack-o-lantern craft.

Oakwoods Nature Preserve

Discovery Center

10 AM

Families with children 3 and up.

Free; registration is not required.

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

25 Wednesday

Zombie Bugs

Zombies have become popular in mainstream media over the last few decades, but what if they are real? Learn about the infection of cordyceps fungus within ants and how it turns them into "zombies." We will discuss the infection methods of cordyceps, what happens to ants once infected, cordyceps in popular media, and how humans use the cordyceps fungus.

Oakwoods Nature Preserve

Discovery Center

6 PM

Ages 13 and up

Free; registration is not required.

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

26 Thursday

Fall Tree Painting

Come and create your own fall tree on this autumn day. First, we will go on a short hike to gain some inspiration by looking at the trees in the park. When we return, we will start by painting the trunks and branches of our tree using tempera paint. After it dries for a moment, we will take cotton balls to paint on our different colors of leaves.

Oakwoods Nature Preserve

Discovery Center

10 AM

Ages 3-5 with an adult.

Free; registration is not required.

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

27 Friday

1000 Yard Solar System Hike

You might know about the sun and planets that make up our solar system, but do you really know how large our solar system really is? Come along as we hike a scale model of the solar system. Learn about our sun, planets, dwarf planets, and other objects that make up our solar system. If the sky is clear after our hike, stick around to view the planets, Saturn and Jupiter, through a telescope and receive a star map for the month.

Oakwoods Nature Preserve

Discovery Center Porch

7-9 PM

All ages are welcome.

Free; registration is not required.

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

28 Saturday

Vampires in Nature: Open House

With Halloween drawing near, it is very important that you know who the vampires in nature are. There are four real-life vampires: vampire finches, leeches, vampire bats, and candiru catfish. We will be looking at them and insects in nature that we might also think of as vampires, such as the mosquito. There will be some fun games and activities such as vampire teeth toss!

Oakwoods Nature Preserve

Discovery Center

10 AM-4 PM

All ages are welcome.

Free; registration is not required.

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

28 Saturday

Ghost Roast

Bring the family out for a Ghost Roast by the campfire. This will be an evening of fun sharing your favorite ghost story while roasting marshmallows to make s'mores. There will be a ghostly prize for the best story of the evening. Please bring your own bug spray, drinks or a reusable water bottle. The Ghost Roast may be moved indoors if there is inclement weather.

Oakwoods Nature Preserve

Discovery Center Porch

7-9 PM

Families.

Register with \$10 per family by 1 PM Friday, October 27.

Minimum: 2/Maximum: 8

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

29 Sunday

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

1:30 PM

Ages: 9 and up.

Register with \$10 per person by 1 PM on Friday, October 27.

Maximum: 10

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

30 Monday

Praying Mantis

Of all the insects, the praying mantis is one of the most unique. Long praying arms and big bulging eyes makes the praying mantis truly stand out among other bugs. In this program, we will learn all about the different mantids you might find in Hancock County and explore their role in nature. We will also look at pictures of mantid species from other parts of the world.

Riverbend Recreation Area

Meadows Activity Area

Brugeman Lodge

12 PM

Ages 4-5 with an adult.

Free; registration is not required.

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