

# FALL 2020

## Nature Education Programs



**OAKLAND COUNTY PARKS**  
Great Parks for Great People  
OaklandCountyParks.com   



**Must-Know Information for All Programs :** All programs will take place outdoors - under a tent, or on a trail. Bug spray, water bottles, and outdoor dress are recommended. Masks are encouraged for trail programs (Appointment-based Hikes, Fall Beauty Hikes and Bat Walk) and required for programs conducted under the tent. Masks are available onsite if participants do not have their own. Staff will wear masks. Screening questions and touchless temperature checks are required upon arrival. Check-in at the white tent near the nature center. In case of inclement weather programs will be canceled. Please be patient as COVID-19 guidelines and protocols are subject to change by executive order.



### INDEPENDENCE OAKS COUNTY PARK

9501 Sashabaw Road  
Clarkston, MI 48348  
248-625-6473

**Preregistration with payment required.**  
**Call 248-858-0916 weekdays.**  
**No Saturday registration.**

### Mornings with Nature

Friday, Sept. 11, 10:30-11:30 a.m.

September: Turtles

During this family-friendly hour, enjoy a story and learn about one of nature's treasures. The program takes place outside in order to fully experience nature, so be sure to bring a blanket. At the end of the program, participants may choose to make a craft at the nature center tent or take it home to make on your own. Either way, don't miss this wonderful peek into the great outdoors. \$4/child.



### Woodpecker Walk

Saturday, Sept. 12, 10 a.m.-Noon

Find out which of Michigan's eight woodpecker species come knocking in our neck of the woods. Learn about their diets, see examples of woodpecker feeders, and make a woodpecker feeding station for your backyard. Get out on the trail to learn the signs to look and listen for, to search for woodpeckers yourself. \$5/person.

### NatureFit: Kayak

Sunday, Sept. 13, 10-11:30 a.m. OR 2-3:30 p.m.



If you have ever wanted to try kayaking, this beginner-friendly program is for you. Learn kayaking basics and enjoy a naturalist-guided tour to explore the highlights of beautiful Crooked Lake. Suitable for ages 11 through adult. Space is limited – register early! Meet at the Independence Oaks Boathouse. \$8/person - includes boat rental fee.

### Trail Hikes by Appointment – Wint Nature Center

Fridays and Saturdays: Sept. 18-19, Oct. 16-17

Call to set up a FREE personal, naturalist-guided nature hike. Participants will learn about seasonal plants and animals while getting some exercise and enjoying the great outdoors. Up to three family groups will be admitted per time slot to accommodate social distancing. Park entry fee applies. Time slots are available on a first-come, first-served basis:

Friday, Sept. 18: 10 and 11 a.m., 2 p.m.

Saturday, Sept. 19: 10 and 11 a.m., 2 p.m.

Friday, Oct. 16: 10 and 11 a.m., 2 p.m.

Saturday, Oct. 17: 10 and 11 a.m., 2 p.m.

### Bug-eating Plants from Lower Michigan

Sunday, Sept. 20, 2-4 p.m.

Learn about the different carnivorous plants found around the world, including some from our very own state. Opt to create a spaghetti jar terrarium on-site or at home for your very own sundew cutting. \$10/crafter, \$5 non-crafter.



### Under the Stars

Friday, Oct. 16, 7-9 p.m. Meets at Moraine Knoll



BYO blanket and snacks to enjoy as you are guided through the constellations in the night sky. Weather permitting, the Oakland Astronomy Club will be on hand to provide a closer look at some features in the night sky. (If it's cloudy, a naturalist will tell the legends behind constellations from different cultures instead.) S'mores kits will be provided at a cozy socially-distanced campfire. \$6/participant

### Pumpkin-ology

Saturday, Oct. 24, 1-2:30 p.m.

Prepare for National Pumpkin Day (Oct. 26) by carving your own pumpkin while learning about pumpkin life cycles, hearing a pumpkin story, and enjoying a pumpkin carving demonstration. Take home a tasty pumpkin recipe to turn your masterpiece into a treat. \$3/ participant and \$7/pumpkin.





## RED OAKS COUNTY PARK

30300 Hales Street  
Madison Heights, MI 48071  
248-585-0100

Preregistration with payment required.  
Call 248-858-0916 weekdays.  
No Saturday registration.

### Morning Munchkins

Friday, Sept. 11, Oct. 2, Nov 6, 10:30-11:30 a.m.  
September: *Goodbye Summer, Hello Autumn*  
October: *River Otter at Autumn Lane*  
November: *How Groundhog's Garden Grew*

Bring your munchkin to the nature center for a favorite story and a related hands-on, nature-based discovery activity. Just for preschoolers, events in this series take place the first Friday of each month. \$4/child.



### NatureFit: Bat Walk

Saturday, Sept. 12, 7:30-8:30 p.m.

Search for night life during an evening stroll through the trails at Red Oaks Nature Center. Listen for bats using the Echometer Touch by Wildlife Acoustics, which translates the echolocation calls into a range that humans can hear. Bring bug spray and your questions about bats, and dress for the outdoors. \$4/person.

### Pottery Workshop – Clay Coil Turtle

Sunday, Sept. 20, 10 a.m.- Noon OR 1-3 p.m.

Where do turtles go in the fall and winter? Chat a bit about the hidden life of turtles and make your own air-dry clay turtle that can live at your house for the winter. Clay turtles will be finished during the program and ready to take home. \$16/potter, \$5/non-potter.



### Trail Hikes by Appointment – Red Oaks Nature Center

Fridays and Saturdays: Sept. 25-26, Oct. 23-24

Call to set up a FREE personal, naturalist-guided nature hike. Participants will learn about seasonal plants and animals while getting some exercise and enjoying the great outdoors. Up to three family groups will be admitted per time slot to accommodate social distancing. Park entry fee applies. Time slots are available on a first-come, first-served basis:

Friday, Sept. 25: 10 and 11 a.m., 2 p.m.  
Saturday, Sept. 26: 10 and 11 a.m., 2 p.m.  
Friday, Oct. 23: 10 and 11 a.m., 2 p.m.  
Saturday, Oct. 24: 10 and 11 a.m., 2 p.m.



### Fun in the Fall

Saturday, Oct. 10, 1-3 p.m.

Experience the magic of nature in the autumn at Red Oaks. Press apples into cider, enjoy a donut, and craft a leaf-print T-shirt. Then hike the trails with a Naturalist to see fall colors and learn how animals prepare for winter. Bring a light-colored T-shirt for printing. \$5/person.

### Skullduggery

Saturday, Oct. 17, 2-4 p.m.

Discover the world of local wildlife and their surroundings. Become a forensic dentist and learn the story that teeth can tell you. Have you ever wondered about how animals think? The skull tells it all. Solve mysteries by using real animal skulls. \$7/participant.



### Pumpkin-ology

Sunday, Oct. 18, 2-3:30 p.m.

Prepare for National Pumpkin Day (Oct. 26) by carving your own pumpkin while learning about pumpkin life cycles, hearing a pumpkin story, and enjoying a pumpkin carving demonstration. Take home a tasty pumpkin recipe to turn your masterpiece into a treat. \$3/ participant and \$7/pumpkin.



Spend an hour taking in the beauty of fall while learning about the science behind changing leaf colors, evergreens and more, with an Oakland County Parks naturalist. Hikes will be approximately one mile; please dress for the weather. The program is free, but park entry fee applies.

**Pre-registration is required: Call 248-858-0916 during normal business hours.** Participants must maintain social distance by family while on the trail, and wear a mask when social distancing is not possible. Presenter will wear a mask. Programs may be canceled due to inclement weather. All programming is subject to change based on executive orders made by Michigan's Governor.

Sept. 27, 10-11 a.m. **Lyon Oaks** - Meet at the main parking lot  
Sept. 27, 2-3 p.m. **Highland Oaks** - Meet at Milford Road parking lot

Oct. 4, 10-11 a.m. **Addison Oaks-East** - Meet at parking lot  
Oct. 4, 2-3 p.m. **Orion Oaks** - Meet at Baldwin Rd. parking lot

Oct. 11, 10-11 a.m. **Red Oaks Nature Center** - meet at the white tent behind the Nature Center

Oct. 11, 2-3 p.m. **Catalpa Oaks** - Meet at the pavilion

Oct. 18, 10-11 a.m. **Rose Oaks** - Meet at Buckhorn Lake Road parking lot  
Oct. 18, 2-3 p.m. **Waterford Oaks** - Meet at Lookout Lodge (follow Waterford Oaks Blvd. past BMX track)



## PROGRAM REGISTRATION

**Preregistration with payment is required for all nature center programs.** Park entry fee waived if registered by end of business day prior to event. No walk-ins are allowed at this time. There is no refund for advance payment unless program is cancelled.

**Register and pay:** Visa, Mastercard, Discover and American Express are accepted. Call 248-858-0916 to register during regular weekday business hours. No Saturday registration.

Programs take place rain or shine. Dress for the weather as programs will be held outdoors. Programs will be canceled for inclement weather.



### Attention Homeschoolers:

Red Oaks and Wint Nature Centers will offer outdoor Homeschool curriculum programs September through December. Check [OaklandCountyParks.com](http://OaklandCountyParks.com) for dates and topics.