Great Parks

Fall & Winter PROGRAM GUIDE

September 2026-March 2027

Life is Better at Your Great Parks

Embrace the changing seasons with Great Parks' seasonal programs and events! As leaves blaze with color, birds begin their migration and branches find themselves covered in snow, discover ways to unplug, explore and connect with nature through unique experiences for all ages.

Guided by community input, Great Parks' programming focuses on three key areas that elevate outdoor experiences: **Adventure** to challenge, excite and build confidence; **Enrichment** to inspire learning and creativity; and **Wellness** to promote physical and mental well-being.

SEPTEMBER

Animal Tales

Date: Sept. 1, Oct. 6, Nov. 3, Dec. 1, Jan. 5, Feb. 2 & March 2
Time: 10-11 a.m. **Cost:** Free
Ages: 2-5 **Location:** Woodland Mound
Nature has many stories to tell. Every first Tuesday of the month, little explorers are invited to enjoy a nature-themed story and activity.

Footballs & Arrows

Date: Sept. 1 **Time:** 6:30-8 p.m.
Cost: $10 **Ages:** 8+
Location: Nature Center at The Summit
Football season is here! Practice your toss with football-themed games and test your precision on the archery range to determine if your aim is better with a ball or bow. Bring a chair and your favorite jersey to get into the spirit! All gear is provided. **(R)**

(R) = Register at GreatParks.org

Wild Wednesdays

Date: Wednesdays, Sept. 2-23
Time: 3:30-5 p.m. **Cost:** Free
Ages: 6-12 (recommended)
Location: Miami Whitewater Forest
From turtles and milk snakes to fuzzy friends and crawling critters, meet some amazing ambassador animals up close. Watch as they're fed, see how they're cared for and discover how they live in the wild.

6-Hole Instructional Golf League

Date: Wednesdays, Sept. 2-23; Tuesdays, Sept. 29-Oct. 20; Thursdays, Oct. 1-22
Time: Varies **Cost:** $125* **Ages:** 18+
Location: Sharon Woods Golf Course
Enjoy four weeks of fun playing six holes as a scramble! Guided by a certified PGA professional, this league provides a great opportunity to get comfortable on the course with an unintimidating, laid-back atmosphere. **(R)**
**Registration fee covers one four-week session.*

Hike & Seek Bingo

Date: Sept. 3
Time: 10:30-11:30 a.m. & 1:30-2:30 p.m.
Cost: Free **Ages:** All ages
Location: Winton Woods Farm & Equestrian Center
Join a family-friendly bingo adventure outdoors! Start by filling in your bingo squares to discover what you'll seek. From mossy logs and birds in flight to something red, take on this challenge to learn what you can find on the Farm. **(R)**

Gather in the Garden: U-Pick

Date: Thursdays, Sept. 3-24
Time: 4:30-6 p.m.
Cost: $10 per family* **Ages:** All ages
Location: Winton Woods Farm & Equestrian Center
Gather and share in summer's bounty by picking your own flowers, veggies and herbs. Enjoy seasonal sips during your *thyme* in the garden and take home recipes to relish. Each family picks a limited amount of produce and a small bouquet. Produce and flower availability vary weekly. **(R)**
**Maximum five participants per family.*

EXPLORE OUR ENTIRE CALENDAR OF PROGRAMS AND EVENTS AT GREATPARKS.ORG

Paddleboarding on the Lake

Date: Sept. 3 **Time:** 6-7 p.m. **Cost:** $20
Ages: 18+ **Location:** Sharon Woods
Float on a paddleboard around Sharon Lake's shores, enjoy the peaceful views and chat about critters living below the surface. Perfect for beginners and seasoned paddlers alike, this relaxed adventure is sure to calm a busy mind. Participants must fit properly into the provided life jackets and not exceed the 220-lb. weight limit. All gear is provided.**(R)**

Tree Climbing

Date: Sept. 3 & Oct. 9 **Time:** Varies
Cost: $40 **Ages:** 8+
Location: Multiple locations
Ready for a high-altitude adventure? Take your love for nature to new heights! Whether seeking a bird's-eye sunset view (September) or some spooky evening fun (October), use harnesses and climbing gear to reach the treetops in these safe but adrenaline-filled experiences. Closed-toe shoes and weather-appropriate clothing are required. All gear is provided. **(R)**

Homeschool Science

Date: Sept. 4, 9 & 21, Oct. 2, 14 & 19, Nov. 6, 11 & 16, Dec. 9 & 21, Jan. 13 & 18, Feb. 5, 10 & 15, March 5 & 10
Time: 10 a.m.-noon **Cost:** $9 **Ages:** 6-12*
Location: Multiple locations
Uncover your wild side through hands-on interactive learning and scientific fun! Explore new nature topics each month, from aquatic lifeforms to sweet sap and more. **(R)**
**Children must be accompanied by an adult.*

Storytime on the Farm

Date: Fridays, Sept. 4-March 26*
Time: 10:30-11:15 a.m. **Cost:** Free **Ages:** 2-5
Location: Winton Woods Farm & Equestrian Center
Kids enjoy fun tales followed by themed activities! Depending on the book of the week, activities may include a craft, sensory play or a game.
**There is no session on Christmas Day (Dec. 25) or New Year's Day (Jan. 1).*

Super Sprouts Garden Club

Date: Fridays, Sept. 4-Oct. 30
Time: 10:30-11 a.m. **Cost:** $7* **Ages:** 2-6
Location: Glenwood Gardens
A fun garden club that's just right for your little sprout! Each weekly meeting is short, sweet and packed full of discovery and play.
**Fee waived for Highfield Discovery Garden passholders.*

Fall Gardening

Date: Sept. 4 **Time:** 6-7 p.m.
Cost: Free **Ages:** 14+
Location: Farbach-Werner Nature Preserve
As flowers' life cycles end, gardening season may seem finished, but fall is still an important time to get your hands dirty. Learn how gardening through winter can support wildlife, plus discover the planning and planting required to ensure a great garden next spring.

Micro-hike: It's a Small World!

Date: Sept. 4 **Time:** 6-7:30 p.m.
Cost: Free **Ages:** All ages
Location: Woodland Mound
Tiny insects, seeds and plants are everywhere! Hike through the forest and field to discover miniature treasures. Bring your findings back to the nature center to observe them under a microscope.

National Hummingbird Day

Date: Sept. 5 **Time:** 9-10:30 a.m.
Cost: Free **Ages:** All ages
Location: Woodland Mound
The ruby-throated hummingbird is migrating south for cool seasons. As it stops by the nature center for some food along its journey, learn about this incredible bird's fascinating life in the wild.

Seed Saving

Date: Sept. 5 **Time:** 10-11 a.m.
Cost: Free **Ages:** 12+
Location: Winton Woods Farm & Equestrian Center
Your future garden is in the palm of your hand! Explore the how's, why's and benefits of saving your own seeds. Help harvest seeds from the Farm's garden and take some home to plant in the spring. **(R)**

Family Fairy Garden Tea Party

Date: Sept. 5 **Time:** 10:30 a.m.-noon
Cost: $15 per child* **Ages:** 2-12
Location: Winton Woods Farm & Equestrian Center
Spread your wings and bring the family along for a magical morning in the garden! Sample herbal tea and fresh honey, play kid-friendly lawn games, complete a scavenger hunt and make a fairy-inspired craft. **(R)**
**Registration includes up to two adult caregivers.*

Storytime in the Garden

Date: Sept. 5, Oct. 3, Nov. 7, Dec. 5, Jan. 2, Feb. 13 & March 6 **Time:** 11-11:30 a.m.
Cost: $7* **Ages:** 2-7
Location: Glenwood Gardens
Enjoy whimsical tales while surrounded by nature during this monthly story time! Hear the featured tale in the garden, then enjoy a craft or activity that brings the book to life.
**Fee waived for Highfield Discovery Garden passholders.*

Field Notes

Date: Sept. 5 & 26, Oct. 17
Time: 1-3 p.m. **Cost:** Free **Ages:** 12+
Location: Miami Whitewater Forest
In each session, dig into the life and work of a Cincinnati botanist (Sept. 5 & Oct. 17) or artist (Sept. 26) through hands-on discovery. Across the full series, participants complete field surveys, collect plant samples, learn specimen preservation techniques, mix and paint with natural watercolors and more! **(R)**

Mock Research Survey Series

Date: Sept. 5 & 26 **Time:** 1-3 p.m.
Cost: Free **Ages:** 10+
Location: Multiple locations
Become a researcher while assisting in two citizen science projects! Explore the biodiversity of fish in our native waterways (Sept. 5) and discover the birds, moths and skippers living in our prairies (Sept. 26). Download the iNaturalist app before attending to make the most of this hands-on experience! Closed-toe shoes that can get wet are required. Insect repellent is recommended. **(R)**

Outdoor Art Party

Date: Sept. 5 **Time:** 3-4:30 p.m.
Cost: Free **Ages:** 12+
Location: Nature Center at The Summit
Get inspired by nature and make some art outdoors! While creating masterpieces, participants can use the provided tables and chairs or bring their own blankets and comfy seating. All art materials are provided. **(R)**

Ohio River Watch

Date: Sept. 6 & Oct. 11 **Time:** 9-11 a.m.
Cost: Free **Ages:** 15+
Location: Woodland Mound
Bring a chair and watch wildlife from the scenic Ohio River overlook. Learn about the river's history and inhabitants while searching for eagles, beavers, herons, ducks, otters and more. This program meets at the boat ramp located off Route 52.

E-Waste Collection

Date: Sept. 5, Oct. 3 & Nov. 7 **Time:** 9 a.m.-noon
Cost: Free* **Ages:** All ages **Location:** Multiple Locations
Help protect the environment and declutter your life at the same time! Great Parks and Cohen Recycling team up to give Hamilton County residents a sustainable and convenient way to dispose of electronic waste like old laptops, TVs, cell phones, appliances and more. By responsibly diverting this waste, you prevent the release of toxic chemicals into watersheds and wildlife habitats. A full list of accepted items is available on Cohen Recycling's website.
**Devices with a cathode ray tube (ex: box and flat screen TVs) require a $10 fee.*
Presenting Sponsor: Ohio Environmental Protection Agency, Recycle Ohio Grant Program

(R) = Register at GreatParks.org

Wild Wellness

Date: Sundays, Sept. 6-27
Time: 3-4:30 p.m.**Cost:** Free **Ages:** 16+
Location: Nature Center at The Summit
Unplug and take a break from the bustle of everyday life with an immersive forest adventure! Each week, unwind and reset with a mindful practice you can add to your routine, including meditation, breathwork, yoga, journaling, nature art and slow, observant walking. **(R)**

Growing in the Garden

Date: Sept. 7 & Oct. 5
Time: 10:30-11:30 a.m. **Cost:** Free **Ages:** 2-6
Location: Winton Woods Farm & Equestrian Center
Discover what's happening in the Farm's garden while reading a story. Help the garden thrive by planting seeds, watering crops and picking fresh veggies. Let's grow!

Fish Fillet Demonstration

Date: Sept. 7 **Time:** 12:30-2:30 p.m.
Cost: Free* **Ages:** 7+
Location: Lake Isabella
Learn how different types of fish are filleted with an up-close view! Drop in at select times (12:30, 1, 1:30 & 2 p.m.) to watch a demonstration in action, or catch your own fish from the lake and bring it to the fillet station to see how it's cut, cleaned and cooked. **(R)**
**Anglers must purchase a Lake Isabella fishing ticket from the boathouse.*

Creature Chronicles for Kids

Date: Sept. 10, Oct. 8, Nov. 12, Dec. 10, Jan. 14, Feb. 11 & March 11 **Time:** 10-11 a.m.
Cost: Free **Ages:** 2-5
Location: Miami Whitewater Forest
Calling all young explorers! Wiggle and giggle with animal friends, learn about different critters through story time and play with new pals. Toddlers and their caregivers are invited to join the adventure.

S'mores & Archery

Date: Sept. 10 & 24, Oct. 10 & Nov. 19
Time: Varies **Cost:** $15 **Ages:** 8+
Location: Miami Whitewater Forest
Grab a bow and get ready to roast! During an evening of target practice followed by s'mores, learn to maintain a safe shooting form, test your aim and wind down around the campfire. All gear is provided. **(R)**

Youth Archery Club

Date: Thursdays, Sept. 10-Oct. 8
Time: 4:30-5:45 p.m.
Cost: $95 (full series) **Ages:** 10-16
Location: Winton Woods
Get ready for five weeks of outdoor fun and archery skill-building! Led by certified instructors, young adults learn the 11 Steps to Archery Success, develop consistent shooting form and make new friends, all in a safe and supportive environment. Registration for the full series is required. **(R)**

Fat Bear Festival

Date: Sept. 11 **Time:** 4-5:30 p.m.
Cost: Free **Ages:** All ages
Location: Miami Whitewater Forest
Prepare for winter like a bear! Discover the ins and outs of hibernation, make crafts and compete in games to see who can become the fattest hibernation-ready bear.

Sunset Paddle

Date: Sept. 11 **Time:** 6:30-8 p.m. **Cost:** $20
Ages: 18+ **Location:** Sharon Woods
Tag along for the year's final sunset cruise around Sharon Lake. Choose your vessel, kayak or paddleboard, and enjoy a mellow float for all skill levels as sunlight dips behind the trees. Participants must fit properly into the provided life jackets and not exceed the 275-lb. kayak or 220-lb. paddleboard weight limit. All gear is provided, but paddlers are encouraged to bring snacks and non-alcoholic drinks. **(R)**

Birding 101

Date: Sept. 12 & 19, Oct. 7, 17 & 31, Nov. 14
Time: 8:30-10 a.m. **Cost:** Free **Ages:** 14+
Location: Multiple locations
Hike with an interpreter to explore the incredible diversity of warblers, ducks, sparrows and other migratory birds as they pass through Great Parks on their journey south. Birders of all experience levels are welcome. **(R)**

Signs of Fall

Date: Sept. 12 **Time:** 9-10 a.m. **Cost:** Free
Ages: All ages **Location:** Sharon Woods
Soak in the remaining summer heat while learning how animals and plants prepare for autumn. For this two-mile hike along the Gorge and Fitness Trails, binoculars, sturdy shoes and weather-appropriate clothing are recommended.

Fishing for Beginners

Date: Sept. 12, Oct. 10 & March 6
Time: 1-3 p.m.**Cost:** $10 online, $13 walk-in
Ages: All ages **Location:** Lake Isabella
Whether new to the sport or ready to improve skills, participants learn the basics of fishing, including safety, casting, baiting hooks and identifying fish. Great Parks supplies a limited number of fishing rods on a first-come, first-served basis.

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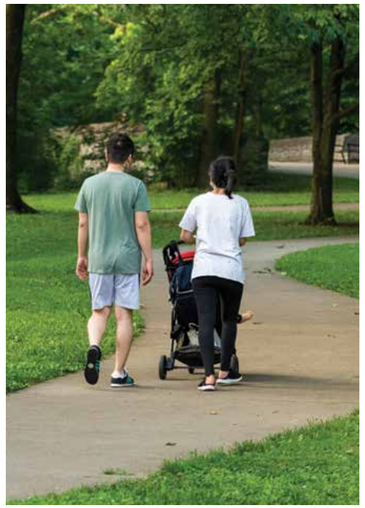
Late Summer Stroll

Date: Sept. 12 **Time:** 3-4 p.m.
Cost: Free **Ages:** All ages
Location: Woodland Mound
Walk the Seasongood and Shared-Use Trails with a nature interpreter to witness changing flora and fauna as summer turns to fall.



Bird Walk

Date: Sept. 13, Oct. 4 & Jan. 31 **Time:** Varies
Cost: Free **Ages:** All ages
Location: Multiple locations
As migratory birds move with the seasons, search for the species stopping through our area with hikes along paved and unpaved trails. For the best view, bring your own binoculars or borrow a pair from Great Parks while supplies last.

Natural Yarn Dyeing

Date: Sept. 13
Time: 10 a.m.-noon & 2-4 p.m.
Cost: $30 **Ages:** 18+
Location: Winton Woods Farm & Equestrian Center
Join Tasha Thomas, local fiber artist and owner of Tasha's Tangled Creations, to add color to yarn spun from the Farm's woolly animals. Participate in a natural dye demonstration, learn to transform plants into natural dyes and take home your own hand-dyed yarn. **(R)**

(R) = Register at GreatParks.org

One Trail, 12 Times

Date: Sept. 13, Oct. 4. Nov. 15, Dec. 13, Jan. 10 & Feb. 20 **Time:** 10-11:30 a.m.
Cost: Free **Ages:** All ages
Location: Sharon Woods
Gather once a month and watch the newly improved Sharon Lake flourish with time! From shifting seasons to animals returning to shore, experience the lake's transformation by walking a consistent path and capturing photos to see what's changed with each visit. Strollers are recommended for little explorers. Please note that restrooms are unavailable near the program area.

Pawpaw & Prairie Hike

Date: Sept. 13 **Time:** 1-2 p.m.
Cost: Free **Ages:** All ages
Location: Withrow Nature Preserve
Hunt for Ohio's native tropical fruit and chat about pawpaws with a nature interpreter. Discover what's blooming in the prairie along the way!

Bullseyes with Grandma & Grandpa

Date: Sept. 13 **Time:** 1:30-3 p.m.
Cost: $10* **Ages:** 8+
Location: Nature Center at The Summit
Spend time with loved ones on the archery range in celebration of National Grandparents Day! Does youth help with accuracy or does wisdom make a straighter shot? Find out and test your skills with support from a certified instructor. All gear is provided. **(R)**
**Fee waived for grandparents.*

EXPLORE OUR ENTIRE CALENDAR OF PROGRAMS AND EVENTS AT GREATPARKS.ORG

Sit Spotting

Date: Sept. 13 **Time:** 3-4 p.m. **Cost:** Free
Ages: 16+ **Location:** Glenwood Gardens
Build an intentional connection to nature by taking time to sit and journal along the Garden Loop Trail. Starting at the Legacy Garden, enjoy a slow, meandering walk with pauses to observe nature, share your thoughts and reflect. Paper and pencils are provided. **(R)**

Beginning Golf I

Date: Mondays, Sept. 14-Oct. 12
Time: 5:30-6:30 p.m.
Cost: $155 (full series) **Ages:** 18+
Location: Sharon Woods Golf Course
These beginner-friendly lessons are a great way to learn the wonderful game of golf! Over five consecutive weeks, classes cover the fundamentals, rules and etiquette of the game. Get familiar with the five shots encountered on the course: wood shots, iron shots, chipping, pitching and putting. **(R)**

Nature Book Club

Date: Sept. 16, Oct. 21 & Nov. 18, Dec. 16, Jan. 20 & Feb. 17 **Time:** 10-11 a.m.
Cost: Free **Ages:** 18+
Location: Sharon Woods
Every third Wednesday, turn a new page on outdoor appreciation and nature inspiration! Meet fellow book enthusiasts to discuss stories that shape your understanding of the natural world. Come along for company and conversation even if you haven't finished the monthly book.

Wildflower Walk

Date: Sept. 16 & Oct. 21 **Time:** 10-11 a.m.
Cost: Free **Ages:** All ages
Location: Shaker Trace Nursery
See what's blooming at the newly renovated seed nursery! Discover the beauty of our region's wildflowers by exploring the field to see them firsthand. Learn about identifying different species, their roles in the ecological system and how they're cultivated. **(R)**

Outdoor Kids Academy

Date: Sept. 16, Oct. 21, Nov. 18, Jan. 20, Feb. 17 & March 17
Time: 10:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.
Cost: $9 **Ages:** 5-12*
Location: Glenwood Gardens
Journey outdoors to answer nature's big questions in this discovery-based series, perfect for homeschoolers and young explorers! Whether crafting natural dyes, having fun with fossils, building wilderness skills or learning about creepy crawlers, kids discover environmental science through hands-on activities. Weather -appropriate clothing is required. **(R)**
**Children must be accompanied by an adult.*

Growing Snacks

Date: Sept. 17 **Time:** 10 a.m.-noon **Cost:** $2
Ages: 2-7 **Location:** Glenwood Gardens
The fresh veggies grown this summer are ready to become tasty treats. See what thrived during the growing season as you prepare a garden produce snack (while supplies last). Snack prep takes 5 to 15 minutes.

Wee Wonder About...

Date: Sept. 17, Oct. 15, Nov. 19, Dec. 17, Jan. 21, Feb. 18 & March 18 **Time:** 10-11 a.m.
Cost: Free **Ages:** 2-5
Location: Sharon Woods
As they learn about trees, bats, bald eagles and more, little learners develop motor, cognitive and sensory skills while exploring activity stations designed just for them.

Gardening for Wildlife

Date: Sept. 17 & 25 **Time:** 6-7 p.m.*
Cost: Free **Ages:** 18+
Location: Shaker Trace Nursery
During these in-depth classes about the importance of biodiversity, explore ways to invite wildlife into your garden. Discover why protecting vital species matters and learn which plants can help them flourish! **(R)**
**Sept. 25 session includes a tour and extends to 7:30 p.m.*

Paddle Into the Sunset

Date: Sept. 18 **Time:** 6:15-7:45 p.m.
Cost: $20 **Ages:** 8+
Location: Miami Whitewater Forest
As summer winds down, grab a paddle and float into fall. Learn kayaking basics before setting out to explore the lake's scenic waters. Participants must fit properly into the provided life jackets and not exceed the 250-lb. weight limit. All gear is provided. **(R)**

Paddleboard Meditation

Date: Sept. 19 **Time:** 9-10:30 a.m.
Cost: $20 **Ages:** 13+
Location: Campbell Lakes
Surround yourself with natural tranquility in this guided mindfulness session on the water. Through gentle movements, deep breathing techniques and relaxed thoughts, bask in the peaceful environment while gliding across the lake on a stand-up paddleboard. Participants must fit properly into the provided life jackets and not exceed the 240-lb. weight limit. All gear is provided. **(R)**

Women in the Outdoors Series

Date: Sept. 19, Oct. 24, Nov. 7 & 21
Time: Varies **Cost:** Varies **Ages:** 18+
Location: Multiple locations
Develop outdoor skills, make new friends and gain confidence in a welcoming, women-only environment. Facilitated by certified female instructors, this series offers activities on the trails, archery range and more. **(R)**
Presenting Sponsor: Johnson Investment Counsel

Hike the Gorge Trail

Date: Sept. 19 **Time:** 10-11 a.m. **Cost:** Free
Ages: All ages **Location:** Sharon Woods
Take a beautiful hike along the Gorge Trail and marvel at its unique natural features, from rock layers and rare habitats to fossil-filled shale and waterfalls. Please note that restrooms are unavailable near the trail.

Out in the Outdoors

Date: Sept. 19, Oct. 17, Nov. 14 & Dec. 12
Time: Varies **Cost:** Free **Ages:** 18+
Location: Multiple locations
Form friendships and connect with nature in this monthly series designed for LGBTQIA+ adults and allies. Each month, this group visits one of Great Parks' stunning destinations to explore a new topic, embracing the beauty of the natural world while building community with others who share a passion for the outdoors.
Supporting Sponsor: Roads Rivers and Trails

Eco-Arts

Date: Sept. 19, Dec. 19 & March 27
Time: 2-4 p.m. **Cost:** $15 **Ages:** 18+
Location: Glenwood Gardens
Art and nature combine in this hands-on series encouraging creative expression! Play with color and explore natural dyes through flower pounding (September), experiment with one of history's oldest photography methods (December) and learn how to make personalized cards and journals from scrap paper (March).**(R)**

Harvest Paddle
Date: Sept. 20 **Time:** 1-3 p.m. **Cost:** $20
Ages: 12+* **Location:** Sharon Woods
Leaves will soon fall, but there's still time to paddle! Soak in the last scenes of summer during a guided adventure around the lake. Whether they prefer a kayak or paddleboard, participants are supported by certified instructors to ensure a relaxing and safe experience. Paddlers must fit properly into the provided life jackets and not exceed the 275-lb. kayak or 220-lb. paddleboard weight limit. **(R)**
**Children must be accompanied by a registered adult.*

Work-Hike Balance
Date: Sept. 21, Oct. 26, Nov. 23 & March 8
Time: 5-6 p.m. **Cost:** Free **Ages:** 18+
Location: Multiple locations
Clock out and head out to various Great Parks destinations in this series of guided hikes that make Mondays something to look forward to!

Hobbiton Tea Party
Date: Sept. 22 **Time:** 6-7:30 p.m. **Cost:** $10
Ages: 18+ **Location:** Winton Woods Farm & Equestrian Center
Dress in your hobbit best for this evening garden party in honor of Bilbo's birthday, featuring snacks, tea and other spoils from the Farm's garden. Search for hidden mushrooms while enjoying outdoor time with friends old and new!

Werk Road Walk
Date: Sept. 24 **Time:** 6:30-7:30 p.m.
Cost: Free **Ages:** All ages
Location: Werk Road Property
Join the Westwood community and a nature interpreter for a walk through this gorgeous urban greenspace. Explore this soon-to-be renovated park and discover the land's past, present and future.

Sunset Over the Lake
Date: Sept. 25 **Time:** 6-8 p.m. **Cost:** Free
Ages: All ages **Location:** Sharon Woods
Experience the beauty of Sharon Lake during fall. Hike the loop around the lake while learning about the trees and wildlife that call it home.

Morning Coffee with the Birds
Date: Sept. 26 & Nov. 28 **Time:** 9-10 a.m.
Cost: Free **Ages:** All ages
Location: Woodland Mound
Start your morning with some peace and quiet at Seasongood Nature Center. Wake up with the birds and watch them fly by while sipping freshly brewed coffee (provided).

Fairy House Workshop
Date: Sept. 26 **Time:** 10-11:30 a.m.
Cost: Free **Ages:** 6+*
Location: Shaker Trace Nursery
Add some enchantment, creativity and nature to your day! Dream up fun ways to explore the local landscape and make a magical fairy house from natural and repurposed materials. **(R)**
**Children must be accompanied by an adult.*

Off-Trail Explorations
Date: Sept. 26 & March 20
Time: 10 a.m.-1 p.m. **Cost:** Free **Ages:** 18+
Location: Multiple locations
Eager to cover new ground and reveal sights unseen? Challenge yourself with a rigorous, two-mile hike across uneven terrain, discovering hidden wonders in some of Great Parks' most secluded areas. Sturdy shoes and weather-appropriate clothing are required. **(R)**

Hops & Hyzers
Date: Sept. 26 **Time:** 11 a.m.-4 p.m.
Cost: $35* **Ages:** All ages
Location: Woodland Mound
Great Parks' disc golf tournament with Craft Brews Partner, HighGrain Brewing, returns for a day of friendly competition and outdoor fun!
Open to all ages and perfect for beginner to intermediate players, the tournament features 18 scenic holes with modern tee boxes, signage and baskets. Sip refreshing HighGrain beer (21+) and enjoy the fresh air with additional games and contests available to families, children and spectators throughout the day. **(R)**
**Registration includes play, drink ticket, raffle ticket and swag bag. Tee times are limited to five players each.*
Presenting Sponsor: HighGrain Brewing Co.

Creepy Crawler Hunt
Date: Sept. 26 **Time:** 7-9 p.m. **Cost:** Free
Ages: 8+ **Location:** Woodland Mound
Hunt for insects, reptiles and other creatures that creep and crawl. Adults are invited to join the fun and watch their kids experience scaley, slimy, thousand-legged critters! Pets are prohibited on this hike.

Fairy Tale Festival
Date: Sept. 26 **Time:** 9 a.m.-3 p.m.* **Cost:** $12
Ages: All ages **Location:** Glenwood Gardens
Highfield Discovery Garden has been transformed into an enchanting world of your favorite fantastical tales! Meet beloved characters, enjoy live performances and test your skills climbing the castle tower and at Merida's archery range. **(R)**
**Timed tickets are required for entry.*
Supporting Sponsors: Cincinnati MINI & Metro

Bird Migration & Blooms
Date: Sept. 27 **Time:** 9:30-11:30 a.m.
Cost: Free **Ages:** All ages
Location: Little Miami Scenic Corridor
Hike along paved and unpaved trails to witness birds and blooms in the prairie. This morning walk through Avoca and Kroger Hills encompasses diverse habitats that house common and rare species! Closed-toe shoes are required and binoculars are recommended.

Crazy Creeking
Date: Sept. 27 **Time:** 1-2 p.m. **Cost:** Free
Ages: All ages **Location:** Sharon Woods
Hike down the creek while searching for fossils, macroinvertebrates and other amazing creatures living at Great Parks' oldest destination. Closed-toe shoes are required.

Great Parks' Great Escape
Date: Sept. 27 **Time:** 1, 3:30 & 6 p.m.
Cost: $75 per group* **Ages:** 8+
Location: Shawnee Lookout
Grab your crew, gear up and break out! In this escape room-style adventure, follow clues, solve puzzles and test your knowledge to track down a long-lost recipe from the 1800s Ohio frontier. **(R)**
**Maximum 10 participants per group.*

Creative Blooms Workshop
Date: Sept. 27, Oct. 15, Nov. 7, Dec. 12, Jan. 16 & Feb. 6
Time: Varies **Cost:** $10 **Ages:** 12+*
Location: Winton Woods Farm & Equestrian Center
Creativity blooms in these flower-focused workshops on the farm! Whether using flowers to make natural paints, dried-flower wall hangings, pressed flower cards, holiday decorations, upcycled glass candle votives or hand-crafted paper, let your artistic side flourish as you create crafts to take home. **(R)**
**Oct. 15 session is for ages 14+. Children must be accompanied by an adult.*

OCTOBER

International Coffee Day: Native "Coffee" Tasting
Date: Oct. 1 **Time:** 4:30-6 p.m.
Cost: Free **Ages:** 16+
Location: Woodland Mound
Coffee, one of the world's most popular beverages, is brewed with a variety of methods. Several techniques have been used on locally available plants to simulate a warm cup of coffee, with mixed success! Try some coffee alternatives and coffee-adjacent drinks at this celebratory tasting.

Butterflies & Brews
Date: Oct. 2 **Time:** 6-9 p.m.
Cost: $30* **Ages:** 21+
Location: Farbach-Werner Nature Preserve
Celebrate fall in the park after dark at this adults-only program. Warm up by the fire with live music from Liz Kelly, enjoy light bites featuring pumpkin and other fall flavors and sip on craft beer from HighGrain Brewing. Try your hand at monarch tagging, plant native seeds and make a walnut-dyed project to take home. **(R)**
**Registration includes one drink ticket. Designated drivers attend for $25.*

Migration Along the Mill
Date: Oct. 2 **Time:** 6-7 p.m.
Cost: Free **Ages:** All ages
Location: Nature Center at The Summit
Search for songbirds and raptors moving through the area as they journey south for winter. Bring your own binoculars or borrow a pair from Great Parks for the best view! Birders of all experience levels are welcome.

Haunting History
Date: Oct. 2 **Time:** 6:30, 7 & 7:30 p.m.
Cost: $12 **Ages:** 18+
Location: Shaker Trace Nursery
Tread lightly into Cincinnati's hidden history with curious characters from the 1800s. Discover dark, macabre and wild stories that aren't in our history books! Be prepared to walk unpaved paths for approximately one mile. **(R)**

Pumpkin Patch
Date: Saturdays, Oct. 3-31
Time: 10 a.m.-3 p.m.
Cost: $4 per pumpkin* **Ages:** All ages
Location: Winton Woods Farm & Equestrian Center
Pick a perfect pumpkin from the Farm's patch! After making your choice, stick around for fall festivities, including pumpkin decorating, face painting, seasonal crafts and games.
**Limit one per person while supplies last.*
Presenting Sponsor: Cincinnati MINI

Barking Up the Right Tree
Date: Oct. 3 **Time:** 1-2 p.m. **Cost:** Free
Ages: All ages **Location:** Sharon Woods
As leaves begin to fall, the trees remain. Learn to identify native trees by their bark, buds and seeds.

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Find Your Aim: Archery Open Range

Date: Oct. 4 & March 21 **Time:** Varies
Cost: $10 **Ages:** 8+
Location: Nature Center at The Summit
Ready to become an archer? This open range experience is perfect for beginners seeking the basics and those looking to refine skills. Practice with recurve and compound bows alongside a certified instructor in this casual, fun session! All gear is provided. **(R)**

Tree Identification for Beginners

Date: Oct. 4 **Time:** 3-4 p.m.
Cost: Free **Ages:** 10+
Location: Nature Center at The Summit
Discover the basics of tree identification in an interactive, beginner-friendly program. Learn common tree species and how to identify their key traits, such as leaf shape, bark, twigs and fruit. Explore the cultural significance and traditional uses of our region's trees.

Bike Rodeo

Date: Oct. 7 **Time:** 5-7 p.m.
Cost: Free **Ages:** 4-12
Location: Miami Whitewater Forest
Join the Great Parks Rangers for a wheelie fun evening all about bike safety! Kids bring their own bikes and their families along for fun activities, education stations, contests and an obstacle course. Free helmets are available while supplies last.
Supporting Sponsor: Roehr Insurance Agency

Vampires in the Garden

Date: Oct. 8
Time: 6:30-8 p.m.
Cost: Free **Ages:** All ages
Location: Winton Woods Farm & Equestrian Center
Explore the spooky side of science while uncovering the truth about real-life bloodsuckers like ticks and mosquitoes. Discover how to keep these "vampires" at bay, including how bats can provide natural, eco-friendly pest control. Dig into fang-tastic fall activities and plant garlic, the ultimate vampire repellent, to grow at home!

Sustainable Craft Saturdays

Date: Oct. 10, Dec 12 & Feb. 13
Time: 10 a.m.-noon
Cost: $10 **Ages:** 13+
Location: Sharon Woods
Turn long-forgotten materials into something new! Learn how to create a unique embroidery piece (October), use materials found on the trail to make stained glass (December) and transform recycled paper into newly usable sheets (February). **(R)**

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Whimsical Garden Weekend: Thomas the Train & the Runaway Pumpkins

Date: Oct. 10 & 11 **Time:** Varies **Cost:** $7*
Ages: 2-7 **Location:** Glenwood Gardens
Celebrate all things train and pumpkin related with an immersive adventure through Highfield Discovery Garden! Enjoy story time, watch a silly puking pumpkin, create your own train craft, visit the interactive train village and more.
**Fee waived for Highfield Discovery Garden passholders.*

Leaf Printing

Date: Oct. 11 **Time:** 3-4 p.m.
Cost: Free **Ages:** 10+
Location: Nature Center at The Summit
Capture the essence of fall by transferring unique leaf textures and details onto fabric or paper. All materials are provided, but participants are welcome to bring their own colorful leaves and fabrics. **(R)**

Mushroom Log Workshop

Date: Oct. 15 **Time:** 6-7:30 p.m. **Cost:** $15
Ages: 18+ **Location:** Shaker Trace Nursery
Have you ever wondered how mushrooms grow? This beginner-friendly workshop demonstrates how to cultivate some favorite fungi that benefit nature and the human body. Participants learn each step of the cultivation process and take home a mushroom log. **(R)**

A Wilderness Skills Series

Date: Oct. 15, 22 & 29 **Time:** 6-8 p.m.
Cost: $75 (full series) **Ages:** 18+
Location: Lake Isabella
Step into the wild with this hands-on series, designed to help participants build confidence, self-reliance and skills for the great outdoors. Learn what it takes to thrive (not just survive!) off the land through topics like resource identification, knife skills, fire building, and tool crafting. Each program builds upon the last, blending traditional learning with outdoor adventure in an experience for all skill levels. All gear is provided. **(R)**

Wildflower Seed Collection Workshop

Date: Oct. 17 **Time:** 10 a.m.-noon **Cost:** $10
Ages: 18+ **Location:** Shaker Trace Nursery
Whether a native plant enthusiast or new to gardening, seed collection is a fun, hands-on way to get into wildflowers! Starting from the basics, including how to collect, store and process seeds, participants grow their knowledge and take home seed samples. **(R)**

The Art of Field Guiding

Date: Oct. 18, Nov. 22, March 21 & April 18
Time: 10-11:15 a.m. **Cost:** Free **Ages:** 10+
Location: Multiple locations
Physical field guides can be gateways into nature, revealing details that help spark curiosity. Learn the art of field guiding by observing fungi, birds, wildflowers and trees in this leisurely hiking series. **(R)**

Colors of Nature

Date: Oct. 18 **Time:** 1-2 p.m. **Cost:** Free
Ages: All ages **Location:** Sharon Woods
Using natural materials, create artwork inspired by nature's beauty. Whether you want to incorporate brilliant fall colors, the textures of different sticks or nuts of all shapes and sizes, craft a masterpiece using the world around you.

Creepy Creatures

Date: Oct. 18 **Time:** 2-3 p.m.
Cost: Free **Ages:** All ages
Location: Woodland Mound
Bats, owls and spiders, oh my! Enjoy live animal encounters with the season's creepiest creatures.

Hardly Haunted Trick-or-Treat Bike & Hike

Date: Oct. 18 **Time:** 2-4 p.m. **Cost:** Free
Ages: All ages **Location:** Fernbank Park
This fun-filled trail adventure is perfect for families who love Halloween, but not the scares! Dress in costume (optional but encouraged) and make your way down the 1.5-mile Shared-Use Trail with candy stops and lighthearted surprises along the way. Cruise on your own bike or enjoy the festivities on foot. Helmets are required for bikers.

Trunk or Treat

Date: Oct. 20 **Time:** 5-6:30 p.m.*
Cost: Free **Ages:** All ages
Location: Sharon Woods
Put on your favorite costume and get ready for a spooktacular time with Great Parks and Sharonville Parks & Recreation! Perfect for kids of all ages, this fun-filled evening offers a safe and exciting way to collect candy, dress up and enjoy the festive spirit of the season! **(R)**
**Timed tickets are required for entry. Registration is hosted by Sharonville Parks & Recreation.*
Presenting Sponsors: Fifty West Brewing Company & General Electric Credit Union
Supporting Sponsors: BrightPath Early Learning and Child Care & Roehr Insurance Agency

Outdoor Archery

Date: Oct. 24 & Nov. 21 **Time:** 1-3 p.m.
Cost: $18 **Ages:** 10+
Location: Winton Woods
Aiming for a new way to enjoy the outdoors? Try a little target practice! With support from certified instructors, enjoy seasonal challenges for new and experienced archers alike. All gear is provided. **(R)**

Halloween Family Hike

Date: Oct. 24 **Time:** 5-6 p.m. **Cost:** Free
Ages: 6-9 **Location:** Sharon Woods
Wear your favorite hiking-appropriate costume for a trail adventure. You might find trinkets and treasures along the way!

Nature at Night Pumpkin Hike

Date: Oct. 24 **Time:** 6:30-8:30 p.m.*
Cost: $7 entry, $6 per pumpkin
Ages: All ages
Location: Farbach-Werner Nature Preserve
Discover the wonders of nature at night as jack-o'-lanterns illuminate your path! Bring flashlights for a self-guided hike, then cozy up by the fire and soak in autumn air under the stars. Take home a carved pumpkin at the 8 p.m. pumpkin drawing (drawing determines the pumpkin selection order). **(R)**
**Participants select their entry time (6:30, 6:45 or 7 p.m.) with registration.*
Presenting Sponsor: Cincinnati MINI

Sheep to Sweater

Date: Oct. 25 **Time:** Noon-3 p.m.
Cost: Free **Ages:** All ages
Location: Winton Woods Farm & Equestrian Center
How does sheep wool become a sweater? Through demonstrations and hands-on activities, learn the steps needed to take wool from raw material to yarn to a finished product.

Fall Tree Hike

Date: Oct. 25 **Time:** 1-2 p.m.
Cost: Free **Ages:** All ages
Location: Woodland Mound
Join a nature interpreter to explore fall leaves on a hike through the woods. Learn about the different kinds of trees producing colorful displays.

Woolly Worm Racing

Date: Oct. 25 **Time:** 1-2 p.m.
Cost: Free **Ages:** All ages
Location: Miami Whitewater Forest
You may know and love the fuzzy, woolly worms seen throughout Ohio, but have you ever thought about how fast they can move? Their red and black racing stripes are on, so get ready to see which one wins! Bring your own woolly worm or root for your favorite from Great Parks.

Freaky Fungi

Date: Oct. 25 **Time:** 3-4:30 p.m. **Cost:** Free **Ages:** All ages **Location:** Sharon Woods
Fungi of all shapes and sizes are visible during fall. From Dead Man's Fingers to jack-o'-lanterns, seek out spooky mushrooms on this guided hike... if you dare!

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Highfield Halloween Party

Date: Oct. 27 & 28 **Time:** 10 a.m.-noon
Cost: $7* **Ages:** 2-7
Location: Glenwood Gardens
Visit Highfield Discovery Garden for spooktacular fun! This family-friendly Halloween party is full of crafts, cute story times, pumpkin-themed science activities and meet-and-greets with some not-so-creepy crawlers. Get into the spirit by wearing your favorite costume!
**Fee waived for Highfield Discovery Garden passholders.*

Spooky Shoot

Date: Oct. 27 **Time:** 5:30-7 p.m.
Cost: $10 **Ages:** 8+
Location: Nature Center at The Summit
Enjoy a spooky evening on the archery range! Aim for Halloween-themed targets and build archery confidence while wearing your favorite costume and jamming out to seasonal tunes.
All gear is provided. **(R)**

Woodland Mystery: A Costumed Caper

Date: Oct. 30 **Time:** 5:30-7 p.m. **Cost:** Free **Ages:** 10+ **Location:** Woodland Mound
A mystery is afoot at Seasongood Nature Center! Participants are encouraged to dress in costume as they follow clues to solve an escape room-style puzzle.

NOVEMBER

Natural Dyeing

Date: Nov. 1 **Time:** 1-2 p.m. **Cost:** $10
Ages: All ages **Location:** Sharon Woods
Learn about which plants in the park can be used to make natural dyes, then try your hand at dyeing bandanas. **(R)**

Fireside Feast

Date: Nov. 1 & Jan. 17 **Time:** 4-5:30 p.m.
Cost: $10 **Ages:** 12+
Location: Winton Woods Farm & Equestrian Center
Settle around the fire for food and company at this cozy outdoor cooking session! From cobblers to frittatas, learn to prepare delicious farm-fresh food over an open flame using seasonal ingredients. Test your creativity in a supportive environment for experienced cooks and those hungry for new skills. **(R)**

Explore Your Environmental Foodprint

Date: Nov. 1 **Time:** 3-4 p.m.
Cost: Free **Ages:** 10+
Location: Nature Center at The Summit
Thanksgiving is approaching! With feasts on the brain, it's a great time to explore how our diets impact the land, water, climate and wildlife around us. Discover the effects of industrial agriculture, learn how regenerative farming restores ecosystems and find simple ways to make a positive difference.

Super Sprouts Garden Club: Cool Season Edition

Date: Nov. 6, Dec. 4, Jan. 8, Feb. 5 & March 5 **Time:** 11-11:30 a.m. **Cost:** $3.50*
Ages: 2-6 **Location:** Glenwood Gardens
While learning about cool-weather gardening, meeting animal friends or making winter-themed crafts, your little sprout explores the garden and gets inspired by nature.
**Fee waived for Highfield Discovery Garden passholders.*

Tracks & Scat

Date: Nov. 7 **Time:** 10 a.m.-noon
Cost: Free **Ages:** All ages
Location: Sharon Woods
Along this off-trail hike, learn how animals' movements can be tracked by their tracks, scat, calls and markings. Weather-appropriate clothing is required.

Finding Fungi

Date: Nov. 7 **Time:** 2-3 p.m.
Cost: Free **Ages:** All ages
Location: Little Miami Scenic Corridor
Join a nature interpreter for a woodland hike to see which fungi are producing mushrooms.

Animals Alive

Date: Nov. 8, Dec. 6 & Feb. 28
Time: 11 a.m.-noon
Cost: Free **Ages:** All ages
Location: Woodland Mound
Visit the nature center to meet and learn about local wildlife through up-close animal encounters!

1800s Harvest Jamboree

Date: Nov. **7 & 8 Time:** 1-5 p.m. **Cost:** Free entry* **Ages:** All ages **Location:** Shawnee Lookout
Every autumn in the 1800s, Ohioans reaped what they sowed: crops! Step back in time to celebrate fall food and fellowship at this historic 19th-century jubilee. Taste traditionally prepared dishes at the pioneer picnic, join in frontier festivities, toss tomahawks and enjoy family-friendly games.
**Some activities may require a small fee.*
Presenting Sponsor: Vistra Miami Fort Power Plant

Garden Workshop

Date: Nov. 8 & Dec. 6 **Time:** 2-3:30 p.m.
Cost: $10 **Ages:** 18+
Location: Farbach-Werner Nature Preserve
Create cozy winter spaces for local species! Make a bug hotel and learn how your garden can become a haven for pollinators (November) or keep your feathered friends nourished by building a suet feeder to take home (December). **(R)**

Camp Root Ball

Date: Nov. 13 **Time:** 6-9:30 p.m.
Cost: $175 **Ages:** 18+
Location: Sharonville Convention Center
Be a force for nature at Camp Root Ball, a completely reimagined evening where our mission—to protect nature and inspire communities to explore, learn and care for the outdoors—comes to life. Enjoy substantial dinner-by-the-bite, Fifty West Brewing Company craft beers, a silent auction and live music as you explore, connect and experience Great Parks through interactive, story-driven stations.
Presenting Sponsors: Anne & Mike Frederick, Melissa & James Wilz, Cincinnati MINI, Cincinnati Business Courier
Supporting Sponsors: Cincinnati Museum Center, The Kleingers Group, Bill & Caren Laverty, Lithko Contracting

Coffee & Critters

Date: Nov. 14, Dec. 12, Jan. 9 & Feb. 13
Time: 9-10:30 a.m. **Cost:** Free **Ages:** 16+
Location: Miami Whitewater Forest
Enjoy a morning cup of coffee and a native animal presentation, then grab your toasty-warm mug and trek outside to search for signs of the featured creature! **(R)**

Neighborhood Nature Fest

Date: Nov. 14 **Time:** Noon-4 p.m.
Cost: Free **Ages:** All ages
Location: Nature Center at The Summit
Join Great Parks for an afternoon of community and discovery in the heart of Roselawn! Meet amazing animals living in the neighborhood and explore a variety of local exhibitors. Taste native plants, enjoy nature-themed activities and play family-friendly games at this celebration of urban wildlife!

Guided Painting Class
Date: Nov. 14 & Feb. 27 **Time:** 2-4 p.m.
Cost: $15 **Ages:** 12+
Location: Winton Woods Farm & Equestrian Center
Guided by a nature interpreter, follow a step-by-step process to create a nature-themed acrylic painting while marveling at the great outdoors. It's a wonderful way to relax and spend time with friends and family, plus gain new artwork for your home! All materials are provided. **(R)**

Food Preservation: Preserving Persimmons
Date: Nov. 15 **Time:** 1-3 p.m.
Cost: $10 **Ages:** 14+
Location: Winton Woods Farm & Equestrian Center
Store one of autumn's favorite flavors to savor later. Discover how to safely preserve persimmons in jar, process persimmon pulp and make persimmon preserves to take home. **(R)**

How To Be Outsiders
Date: Nov. 17, Dec. 11, Jan. 12 & March 20
Time: Varies **Cost:** Free **Ages:** 14+
Location: Multiple locations
From adventuring with pet pals and hiking ethically to staying warm in winter and becoming a steward of the land, this robust series teaches how to maximize time outside while remaining conscious of your surroundings. The difference begins with you! **(R)**

Fireside Skills
Date: Nov. 20 & Jan. 15 **Time:** 7-8:30 p.m.
Cost: Free **Ages:** 12+
Location: Multiple locations
Bring a chair and gather 'round the fire to chat about wilderness skills with a nature interpreter. Try your hand at fire starting, watch the flame spark and see how natural materials can become everyday tools. **(R)**

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Fall Crafts
Date: Nov. 21 **Time:** 11 a.m.-1 p.m.
Cost: Free **Ages:** All ages
Location: Woodland Mound
Stop by Seasongood Nature Center to make seasonal crafts and keepsakes with natural materials and other supplies.

How Animals Prepare for Winter
Date: Nov. 21 **Time:** 1-2 p.m. **Cost:** Free
Ages: All ages **Location:** Sharon Woods
In the wilderness, survival is tough enough without frigid temperatures and wintery precipitation! Meet some local animal species up close and explore their strategies for surviving until spring.

Body Scrubs
Date: Nov. 21 **Time:** 3-4 p.m. **Cost:** $15
Ages: 18+ **Location:** Glenwood Gardens
Learn how locally grown herbs and other natural supplies can become yummy scents. Make earth-friendly body scrubs to pamper yourself or gift to someone special. **(R)**

Backyard Bird Feeding
Date: Nov. 22 **Time:** 10 a.m.-noon
Cost: Free **Ages:** All ages
Location: Woodland Mound
Learn from a nature interpreter how to feed and observe the birds in your backyard. Discover which species live in the region, how to attract them and what they eat, then relax while watching local species fly by the nature center's feeders.

Turkey Time
Date: Nov. 22 **Time:** 11 a.m.-1 p.m.
Cost: Free **Ages:** 4-8
Location: Sharon Woods
Celebrate the holiday season by learning fun facts about the unofficial Thanksgiving mascot while making a variety of fall and turkey-themed crafts.

Turkey Shoot!
Date: Nov. 22 **Time:** Noon-2 p.m.
Cost: $10 **Ages:** 8+
Location: Nature Center at The Summit
Hunt your own Thanksgiving "feast" by taking aim at foam turkeys! Kids and adults enjoy festive fun with support from a certified instructor before the Nature Center's archery range closes for the season. All gear is provided. **(R)**

Ugly Sweater Hike
Date: Nov. 22 & Dec. 6 **Time:** Noon-1 p.m.
Cost: Free **Ages:** 8+
Location: Miami Whitewater Forest
Don't let the cold stop you from enjoying time outside. Bundle up in your favorite ugly sweater and hit the trails to learn about native wildlife and their functional winter wear. **(R)**

Urban Hike Along the Mill Creek
Date: Nov. 22 **Time:** 2-3 p.m.
Cost: Free **Ages:** All ages
Location: Nature Center at The Summit
Adventure after-hours with a hike along the creek, guided by a nature interpreter. Learn about the wildlife inhabiting urban areas.

Night Hike on the Farm
Date: Nov. 24 **Time:** 7-8 p.m.
Cost: Free **Ages:** All ages
Location: Winton Woods Farm & Equestrian Center
Hike through the woods searching for nocturnal life under the ambient full moon. Weather-appropriate clothing is required.

Great Parks Survivor
Date: Nov. 27 & Jan. 10 **Time:** Varies
Cost: $25 per team* **Ages:** 8+
Location: Miami Whitewater Forest
Do you have what it takes to become the ultimate wilderness survivor? In this competitive game, test your skills with team-based challenges and earn materials to build a champion-worthy fire.
**Four to six players per team are recommended.*

The Winter Sky... Indoors!
Date: Nov. 27, 28 & 29, Feb. 14 & 15
Time: Noon, 1 & 2 p.m. **Cost:** $5 **Ages:** 6+*
Location: Multiple locations
Crawl inside the inflatable planetarium to view night sky constellations! Participants must be able to crawl approximately 10 feet through a dark space and sit on the floor for a 40-min. presentation. **(R)**
**Children must be accompanied by an adult.*

Urban Nature Journaling: Winter Watercolors
Date: Nov. 28 **Time:** 1-2 p.m.
Cost: Free **Ages:** 12+
Location: Nature Center at The Summit
Explore ways to connect with nature, even when the weather turns harsh, through various journaling layouts and prompts. Practice incorporating watercolors into your process. All materials are provided. **(R)**

Animal Feeding Day
Date: Nov. 28 **Time:** 1-3 p.m.* **Cost:** Free
Ages: All ages **Location:** Sharon Woods
Feast your eyes on ambassador animals as they enjoy a Thanksgiving meal just for them! Animals dine on their favorite treats every 45 minutes (please note that some eat frozen mammals).
**Feeding times: 1, 1:45 & 2:15 p.m.*

Needle Felting
Date: Nov. 29 **Time:** 1-2:30 p.m. **Cost:** $15
Ages: 12+ **Location:** Winton Woods Farm & Equestrian Center
Try needle felting, a beginner-friendly, simple and relaxing fiber craft. Make a felted ornament to take home and meet some of the Farm's woolly animals. All materials are provided. **(R)**

DECEMBER

Holidays on the Farm
Date: Dec. 3-6, 10-13, 17-23 **Time:** 4-8 p.m.*
Cost: $10-$12** **Ages:** All ages
Location: Winton Woods Farm & Equestrian Center
Step into a holiday tradition full of winter wonder! Under the glow of glimmering lights, enjoy festive tractor rides, farm animals, open fires, hot chocolate and time to meet Santa! **(R)**
**Timed tickets are required for entry.*
***Santa visit included in ticket price*
Supporting Sponsor: Cincinnati MINI

Winter Bird Count

Date: Dec. 5 **Time:** 8 a.m.-3:30 p.m.
Cost: Free **Ages:** All ages
Location: All Great Parks*
Great Parks' annual bird count is a fantastic science opportunity for birders and nature enthusiasts alike! Get a little feather-brained observing migratory visitors and year-round residents, then wrap up with a celebration of your efforts at Farbach-Werner Nature Preserve at 4 p.m. **(R)**
**Registration for individual locations opens October 2026.*

Winter Gardening Series

Date: Dec. 5, Jan. 30, Feb. 13 & 27, March 13
Time: 10 a.m.-noon **Cost:** $10 **Ages:** 18+
Location: Shaker Trace Nursery
From soil and compost to native seeds and rain gardens, these workshops are designed for gardeners of all levels to build knowledge, try new things and get their hands dirty while connecting with fellow plant enthusiasts. **(R)**

Recreation & Rejuvenation

Date: Dec. 5 & 12 **Time:** 1-3 p.m.
Cost: Varies **Ages:** 14+
Location: Winton Woods
Unplug and recharge with guided experiences on the trails and archery range. Practice calming breathwork, grounding techniques and reflective pauses in serene environments. Go home feeling centered, refreshed and ready to bring mindfulness into your everyday routine. **(R)**

Logs & Leaves

Date: Dec. 6 **Time:** 1-2 p.m.
Cost: Free **Ages:** 4-12
Location: Withrow Nature Preserve
Winter weather approaches, but wildlife can still be found if you know where to look! Join a nature interpreter for a walk in the woods to see what's hiding under logs and among the leaves.

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Henna Art

Date: Dec. 6 **Time:** 3-4:30 p.m.
Cost: Free **Ages:** 16+
Location: Nature Center at The Summit
Explore the beauty and traditions of henna in this hands-on, creative workshop. Learn about henna's cultural and regional history, then try it with stencils or freehand techniques. **(R)**

New Moon Stargazing Stroll

Date: Dec. 9 **Time:** 5:30-6:30 p.m.
Cost: Free **Ages:** All ages
Location: Woodland Mound
Take a casual stroll over paved paths on a dark night. Stargaze and search for nocturnal wildlife along the way!

Spears & S'mores

Date: Dec. 13, Jan. 10 & Feb. 20
Time: 1-2 p.m. **Cost:** $10 **Ages:** 5+*
Location: Sharon Woods
Experience archery before our time and hunt like people of the past. Try using an atlatl, an ancient spear thrower, while enjoying s'mores around the campfire. Explore the lives and cultures of indigenous people who used atlatls, including the big game they hunted. **(R)**
**Children must be accompanied by an adult.*

Astronomy at The Summit: Geminids Meteor Shower

Date: Dec. 13 **Time:** 8-9 p.m.
Cost: Free **Ages:** All ages
Location: Nature Center at The Summit
As the Geminids meteor shower peaks, look through a telescope to observe up to 120 meteors per hour soaring through the night sky.

Winter Woods Walk

Date: Dec. 19 **Time:** 1-2 p.m. **Cost:** Free
Ages: All ages **Location:** Sharon Woods
Do holiday preparations have you feeling squirrelly? Take a relaxing walk through the woods along unpaved, uneven trails and find out how wildlife copes with winter. Weather-appropriate clothing is required.

Naturally Nice Nature Journaling

Date: Dec. 20 **Time:** 3-4 p.m.
Cost: Free **Ages:** 12+
Location: Nature Center at The Summit
As the year draws to a close, it's time to reflect on all the positive things you've accomplished in 2026. Through nature-based prompts, participants are guided and given space to explore personal growth. Use the provided paper and art supplies or bring your own journal (recommended). **(R)**

Frosty Fire

Date: Dec. 20 **Time:** 5:30-7 p.m.
Cost: Free **Ages:** All ages
Location: Woodland Mound
Enjoy tasty s'mores, hot cocoa and warm company around the fire on this chilly winter evening.

Animals in Winter

Date: Dec. 22 & 29 **Time:** 1-2 p.m.
Cost: Free **Ages:** All ages
Location: Woodland Mound
Discover the traits our region's wildlife use to survive winter. Meet some ambassador animals up close!

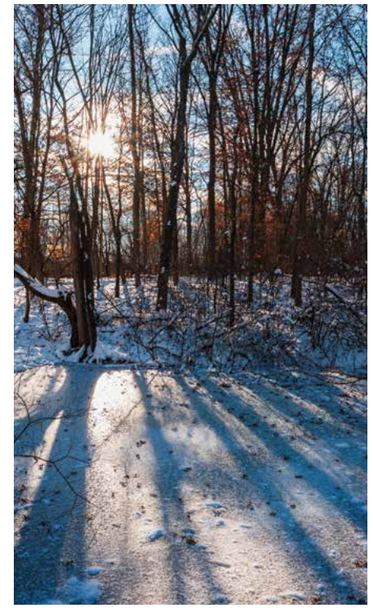
Winter Scavenger Hunt

Date: Dec. 26 **Time:** 11 a.m.-5 p.m.
Cost: Free **Ages:** 4-12
Location: Woodland Mound
Pick up a scavenger hunt from Seasongood Nature Center and head out to explore the park. Return by closing time to receive a prize commemorating your seasonal adventure.

Bow & Arrow Making

Date: Dec. 30 **Time:** Noon-2 p.m.
Cost: $10 **Ages:** 7+*
Location: Nature Center at The Summit
Adventure meets ingenuity! Start indoors to construct a simple bow and arrow and learn how archery tools have evolved over time, then step outside to take aim and test your craftsmanship. **(R)**
**Children must be accompanied by an adult.*

JANUARY



Buds, Branches & Bark

Date: Jan. 3 **Time:** 10-11 a.m. **Cost:** Free
Ages: 10+ **Location:** Woodland Mound
Venture onto the trails with a nature interpreter and learn to identify winter trees by their buds, branches and bark.

Cold Water Immersion

Date: Jan. 3, 23 & 24, Feb. 13, 14, 27 & 28
Time: 10-11:30 a.m. **Cost:** $10 **Ages:** 16+
Location: Campbell Lakes
Plunge into the science, practicality and revitalizing powers of cold exposure with a refreshing dip alongside a certified Cold Water Therapy Coach. Discover how this activity enhances physical recovery, mental resilience and overall wellness. This program runs rain, snow or shine!
Cold water immersion is physically demanding and intended for individuals in good health. Restrictions apply. **(R)**

New Year, New You

Date: Jan. 3 **Time:** 1-2:30 p.m. **Cost:** Free
Ages: All ages **Location:** Sharon Woods
Kick off 2027 with a brisk hike along the Gorge Trail. Afterward, gather indoors to reflect on the previous year and set goals for the new one.

The Magic of Mindfulness

Date: Jan. 3, 17 & 31 **Time:** 3-4 p.m.
Cost: Free **Ages:** 6-12
Location: Nature Center at The Summit
Through playful, nature-inspired activities, children explore their emotions, thoughts and relationships while building social and emotional skills. **(R)**

Fireside Science

Date: Mondays, Jan. 6-27 **Time:** 4-5 p.m.
Cost: Free **Ages:** 7+
Location: Farbach-Werner Nature Preserve
Take shelter from the winter chill and become a scientist! Through hands-on activities and experiments, participants explore topics related to weather, senses, nature-inspired engineering and more.

Herpetology Lecture Series

Date: Fridays, Jan. 8-29 **Time:** 7-8 p.m.
Cost: Free **Ages:** 11+
Location: Sharon Woods
Each week, enjoy thrilling and informative explorations of amphibians and reptiles. Discover the unique behaviors of these remarkable creatures and gain a deeper understanding of their importance in our ecosystem.

Winter Hike Series

Date: Saturdays, Jan. 9-Feb. 6
Time: 10 a.m.-12:30 p.m.
Cost: $10 per hike
Ages: Adults & children 5+
Location: Multiple locations
This annual series of challenging and educational hikes, ranging from four to 5.5 miles, explores the natural history and unique features of five iconic Great Parks destinations. Register for the hiking group that suits you best: the standard hike, a leisurely stroll, a fast-paced challenge, a family experience with nature games (perfect for ages 5-10) and more! All hikes conclude with soup, cookies and camaraderie. **(R)**
Supporting Sponsor: Cincinnati MINI

Backpacking Skills Series

Date: Sundays, Jan. 10-Feb. 7
Time: 10 a.m.-noon **Cost:** $25 **Ages:** 18+
Location: Winton Woods
From trip planning and gear selection to hygiene and nutrition, be prepared for nights in the wilderness with tips from certified backpacking instructors. Participants walk away with new knowledge, professional advice and brand-new personal gear. **(R)**

Solar-Powered Art

Date: Jan. 10 **Time:** 3-4 p.m.
Cost: Free **Ages:** All ages
Location: Nature Center at The Summit
Did you know the sun's power can be harnessed to create art? Use its light to make sun prints and capture outdoor photos through a pinhole camera you build yourself. **(R)**

Winter Crafts

Date: Jan. 17 **Time:** 1-2:30 p.m. **Cost:** Free
Ages: 6-10 **Location:** Sharon Woods
Bring your artistic side to this seasonal session! Make snowflakes and other wintery creations using the provided craft supplies.

Paper Making

Date: Jan. 18 **Time:** 10 a.m.-2 p.m.*
Cost: Free **Ages:** All ages
Location: Sharon Woods
Turn recycled paper from old to new! Learn and practice the steps of sustainable paper making. Leave with the paper you create and the knowledge to try it at home.
**This is a drop-in program. Participants are invited to arrive at any time within the program timeframe.*

Squirrel Appreciation Day

Date: Jan. 21 **Time:** 3:30-5:30 p.m.
Cost: Free **Ages:** All ages
Location: Miami Whitewater Forest
Scurry, scamper and get squirrelly! Meet some of Great Parks' newest ambassador animals and explore the world of squirrels.

Paw Prints in the Powder

Date: Jan. 29 **Time:** 1-2 p.m.
Cost: Free **Ages:** All ages
Location: Francis RecreAcres
What signs of unseen animals can you spot in the snow? Find clues like tracks on the frozen ground to reveal which animals may be living in urban areas.

Newborn Nature

Date: Jan. 27 **Time:** 3-5 p.m. **Cost:** $3.50*
Ages: Caregivers & infants (3-12 months)
Location: Glenwood Gardens
Build early memories of the outdoors with your infant! As you explore Highfield Discovery Garden, enjoy winter-themed crafts, stories and animal visits while connecting with your little one and other families. **(R)**
**Fee waived for Highfield Discovery Garden passholders.*

Groundhog-Wild!

Date: Jan. 30 & 31 **Time:** 11 a.m.-5 p.m.
Cost: Free **Ages:** All ages
Location: Woodland Mound
Celebrate Groundhog Day by learning all about the rodent it's named after! Enjoy themed activities, games and crafts while uncovering fun facts about Ohio's woodchucks and their behavior.

FEBRUARY

Photo Travel Series

Date: Fridays, Feb. 5-March 26
Time: 7:30-8:30 p.m. **Cost:** Free
Ages: All ages **Location:** Sharon Woods
Take a trip around the globe with members of the Cincinnati Photo Club! Each week, view stunning snapshots of famous places, beautiful scenery and natural wonders. Hear the stories behind the images directly from photographers and get inspired for your next adventure.

Owl Pellet Dissection

Date: Feb. 6 **Time:** 10 a.m.-noon **Cost:** $5
Ages: 5+ **Location:** Sharon Woods
Learn all about owls' diets and behaviors in this hands-on owl pellet dissecting experience. **(R)**

DIY Natural Skincare Workshop

Date: Feb. 6 **Time:** 11 a.m.-1 p.m.
Cost: Free **Ages:** 13+
Location: Nature Center at The Summit
Add sustainability to your skincare routine! From scrubs to masks, make custom beauty products with the provided natural materials. **(R)**

Fossil Discovery

Date: Feb. 7 **Time:** 10 a.m.-noon **Cost:** $10
Ages: 5+ **Location:** Sharon Woods
Dig into the world of paleontology while learning about fossils and digging up imitations in this scientific discovery experience. **(R)**

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Chivalry in the Animal Kingdom

Date: Feb. 11 **Time:** 5:30-6:30 p.m.
Cost: Free **Ages:** All ages
Location: Fernbank Park
Whether defending damsels in distress or offering food to share, some critters have earned the right to be knighted in the animal kingdom. Explore how animals display behaviors that humans consider "gentlemanly."

Tie Dyeing with Snow & Ice

Date: Feb. 12 **Time:** 6:30-7:30 p.m.
Cost: Free **Ages:** All ages
Location: Nature Center at The Summit
There are so many fun and unique ways to tie dye, and winter weather provides several tools to experiment with! Use snow and ice to tie-dye a new favorite t-shirt. Shirts are provided on a first-come, first-served basis, or you may bring your own.

Maple in the Moonlight

Date: Feb. 12 **Time:** 7-9 p.m.
Cost: $30* **Ages:** 21+
Location: Farbach-Werner Nature Preserve
Kick off maple season in the park after dark at this adults-only program! Hike the trail, enjoy a beer and warm up by the fire with live music by Monte Lykins. Savor maple tastings and make a maple syrup-inspired project to take home. **(R)**
**Registration includes one drink ticket. Designated drivers attend for $25.*

Backyard Beekeeping

Date: Feb. 13 **Time:** 10-11:30 a.m.
Cost: $10 **Ages:** 12+
Location: Winton Woods Farm & Equestrian Center
Discover the basics of beekeeping and learn how you can incorporate honeybees into your backyard homestead. **(R)**

Valentine's Day Nature Crafts

Date: Feb. 13 **Time:** 1-3 p.m.
Cost: Free **Ages:** 16+
Location: Nature Center at The Summit
Spend a cozy afternoon creating heartfelt, nature-inspired art using pressed leaves, flowers, seeds and more. In this relaxed creative session, celebrate connection and mindfulness while designing handmade keepsakes by yourself, with a friend or alongside a partner. **(R)**

Winter Junior Golf Academy

Date: Saturdays, Feb. 13-March 20
Time: 2-3:30 p.m.
Cost: $160 (full series) **Ages:** 9-14
Location: Little Miami Golf Center
Juniors, don't let your golf game cool off over the winter! This eight-week program provides a great opportunity for off-season practice, guided by certified PGA professionals. Start with four sessions of instruction covering all aspects of the game, followed by four sessions of on-course instruction and play. **(R)**

Soap Making

Date: Feb. 14 **Time:** 1-3 p.m.
Cost: $15 **Ages:** 12+
Location: Winton Woods Farm & Equestrian Center
Have a bubbly time making loofah and felted soap bars using materials from the Farm. Explore the history of soap as you make gifts to pamper yourself or someone special. **(R)**

Special Tea

Date: Feb. 18 & March 18 **Time:** 5:30-7 p.m.
Cost: $5 **Ages:** All ages
Location: Miami Whitewater Forest
Want to learn the drama between squirrels? Can't wait to hear which flowers are pollinating? Grab a mug, sip some tea and chat about the juiciest nature gossip!

Winter Tree Identification

Date: Feb. 20 **Time:** 10 a.m.-noon
Cost: $10 **Ages:** 18+
Location: Shaker Trace Nursery
Journey through the forest learning to identify native trees with a nature interpreter. Explore how trees change as the seasons shift. Protective, weather-appropriate clothing is required. **(R)**

Sensory-Friendly Saturday

Date: Feb. 20
Time: 11 a.m.-noon & 12:30-1:30 p.m.
Cost: Free **Ages:** All ages
Location: Woodland Mound
Meet a few ambassador animals as close as you'd like (11 a.m.) or enjoy winter-themed crafts for all abilities and skill levels (12:30 p.m.) in these small-group sessions with minimal sounds, smells and visual stimuli. **(R)**

Maple Sugar Days

Date: Feb. 20 & 21 **Time:** Noon-4 p.m.
Cost: Free entry* **Ages:** All ages
Location: Farbach-Werner Nature Preserve
It's maple sugar time! Celebrate the trees' spring awakening with a sweet weekend of family fun. Enjoy delicious tastes, crafts, demonstrations and hikes while exploring traditions that have brought communities together for generations.
**Some activities may require a small fee.*

Cupid Shoot

Date: Feb. 20 **Time:** 2-3:30 p.m.
Cost: $25 per couple **Ages:** 16+
Location: Miami Whitewater Forest
Safely shoot your way into a partner's heart, cupid-style! Archery and Valentine's Day games are married in this adorable adventure on the range. Participants learn the basics, take aim and wind down with classic campfire treats. All gear is provided. **(R)**

Hibernation Hike

Date: Feb. 21 **Time:** 11 a.m.-12:30 p.m.
Cost: Free **Ages:** All ages
Location: Sharon Woods
Learn how animals and plants survive through winter while hiking along the Gorge Trail with a nature interpreter.

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DIY Compost Bins

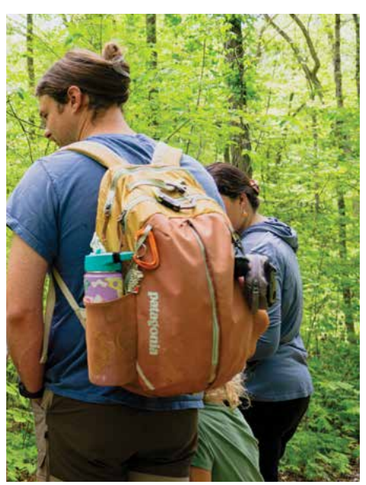
Date: Feb. 21 **Time:** 3-4 p.m.
Cost: Free **Ages:** All ages
Location: Nature Center at The Summit
Composting is an effective method of reducing your carbon footprint and food waste while improving soil health. Create a personal compost bin that's perfect for small spaces. All materials are provided. **(R)**

Raptors in the Park

Date: Feb. 26 **Time:** 4:30-6 p.m.
Cost: Free **Ages:** All ages
Location: Otto Armleder Memorial Park
Walk one to two miles down a paved trail searching for birds of prey, including hawks, vultures, falcons and eagles. For the best view, bring your own binoculars or borrow a pair from Great Parks while supplies last.

Spring Training for Backpacking

Date: Saturdays, Feb. 27-March 27
Time: 10 a.m.-noon **Cost:** $15* **Ages:** 18+
Location: Winton Woods
Eager for a backpacking adventure but not sure you're up for the challenge? Trek alongside certified instructors to prepare your body and mind for the backpacking season. Hike the trails with a weighted backpack while building community, strength and endurance. **(R)**
**Sign up for the full series package ($75) and receive a Great Parks beanie!*



Critters in the Creek

Date: Feb. 27 **Time:** 11 a.m.-noon
Cost: Free **Ages:** All ages
Location: Sharon Woods
Discover fossils, macroinvertebrates and creek-dwelling creatures! Closed-toe shoes are required for this exploratory hike through the creek.

Signs of Spring

Date: Feb. 27 **Time:** 11 a.m.-noon
Cost: Free **Ages:** All ages
Location: Sharon Woods
Look for wildlife on a 1.5-mile hike along the Gorge Trail and bask in the last calm moments of winter. Binoculars, sturdy shoes and weather-appropriate clothing are recommended.

Lip Balms & Salves

Date: Feb. 27 **Time:** 3-4 p.m. **Cost:** $15
Ages: 18+ **Location:** Glenwood Gardens
Hydrate dry winter skin with lip balms and salves you make yourself! Use locally grown herbs, beeswax, essential oils and skin-nourishing oils. Discover how these ingredients support healthy, natural skin care.

A Wilderness Skills Series: Overnight Camp

Date: Feb. 27-28 & March 6-7
Time: 5 p.m.-11 a.m. (overnight)
Cost: $100* **Ages:** 18+
Location: Lake Isabella
Step into the wild to build confidence, self-reliance and skills for the great outdoors in this two-weekend camping adventure for all skill levels. Learn what it takes to thrive (not just survive!) off the land through topics like resource identification, knife skills, fire building, and tool crafting. All program materials are provided. Overnight camping is optional; Lake Isabella Campground reservations (paid separately) are required for overnight campers. **(R)**
**Registration includes both weekends (required).*

Upcycled Spring Bee Homes

Date: Feb. 28 **Time:** 3:30-5 p.m. **Cost:** $15
Ages: 18+ **Location:** Glenwood Gardens
Buzzing with spring fever? Explore native pollinators and ways to invite them into your backyard. Transform repurposed materials into a bee hotel fit for a queen and other essential visitors! **(R)**

MARCH

Salamander Fun

Date: March 6 **Time:** Noon-4 p.m.*
Cost: Free **Ages:** All ages
Location: Sharon Woods
Make salamander-themed crafts at the nature center. Halfway through the afternoon (2 p.m.), meet at the Kreis Dam parking lot to embark on a salamander search with a nature interpreter.
**This is a drop-in program. Participants are invited to arrive at any time within the program timeframe for crafts.*

Salamander Walk

Date: March 6 **Time:** 1-2:30 p.m.
Cost: Free **Ages:** All ages
Location: Shawnee Lookout
As slumbering salamanders start to wake, head out to the park's vernal pools to witness the wonders of their migration season.

Searching for Spring

Date: March 7 **Time:** 2-3 p.m.
Cost: Free **Ages:** All ages
Location: Woodland Mound
The weather may still be frightful, but early signs of spring are so delightful! Walk with a nature interpreter looking for buds and flowers, listen to birdsongs and celebrate the changing seasons.

Wetland Duck Walk

Date: March 13 **Time:** 9-11 a.m.
Cost: Free **Ages:** 8+
Location: Miami Whitewater Forest
Quack like ducks and dive into their world! Search for wintering and migratory duck species with a hike around the Shaker Trace Wetlands, perfect for birders of all experience levels. Closed-toe shoes that can get muddy are recommended.

Amphibian Exploration

Date: March 13
Time: 10 a.m.-noon & 7-9 p.m. **Cost:** Free
Ages: 7+ **Location:** Woodland Mound
Hop in and discover various amphibian species during their yearly migration. Venture on and off the trails in muddy areas searching for unique creatures. Long pants, closed-toe shoes and bug spray are recommended. Pets are prohibited at this program. This program cancels if temperatures are below 40°F.

Skunk Cabbage Hike

Date: March 13 **Time:** 1-3 p.m.
Cost: Free **Ages:** All ages
Location: Richardson Forest Preserve
Explore the habitat of one of our region's earliest and most unique wildflowers with an off-trail hike. Find out how skunk cabbage grows through ice, give it a sniff and discover how it's used by humans and wildlife. Be prepared for muddy hillsides and a creek crossing (closed-toe shoes are required). **(R)**

Red Bat Search Party

Date: March 13 **Time:** 2-3:30 p.m.
Cost: Free **Ages:** All ages
Location: Miami Whitewater Forest
Sometimes called the peach bat, the eastern red bat has a habit of hiding in plain sight, camouflaged as a single dangling leaf! Join a nature interpreter to search for these incognito cuties.

Native Plants: Sow Your Seeds

Date: March 14 **Time:** 1-2:30 p.m.
Cost: Free **Ages:** All ages
Location: Sharon Woods
Springtime is perfect for starting or improving a native garden. Explore the basics of native gardening and take home wildflower seeds to sow yourself.

Down by the Vernal Pools

Date: March 14 **Time:** 3-5 p.m. **Cost:** Free
Ages: 6+ **Location:** Glenwood Gardens
Explore vernal pools along the Wetland Loop Trail by using nets to scoop muck and investigate who's living in the water. Wear sturdy shoes that can get muddy and bring a water bottle to stay hydrated during this moderate hike. **(R)**

Urban Homesteading 101

Date: March 14 **Time:** 3-4 p.m.
Cost: Free **Ages:** 10+
Location: Nature Center at The Summit
Want to become more self-sufficient with a small space? Learn practical skills like container gardening, composting, rainwater collection and food preservation to help kickstart a homesteading lifestyle, no matter the size of your home.

Shamrock Shoot

Date: March 16 **Time:** 6-7 p.m.
Cost: $10 **Ages:** 8+
Location: Nature Center at The Summit
Celebrate St. Patrick's Day by aiming for shamrock and leprechaun targets on the archery range. Dress in green, listen to Irish jigs and improve your accuracy with support from a certified instructor.
All gear is provided. **(R)**

Sharon's Spring Wildflowers

Date: March 20, April 3 & 17
Time: 9-10 a.m. **Cost:** Free **Ages:** All ages
Location: Sharon Woods
Learn about and identify Ohio's returning ephemeral wildflowers with gentle, two-mile explorations of Great Parks' oldest destination. Guided by a nature interpreter, participants discover the region's early (March 20), middle (April 3) and late (April 17) bloomers.

Lake Hike

Date: March 21 **Time:** 1-3 p.m. **Cost:** Free
Ages: All ages **Location:** Sharon Woods
Join a nature interpreter to hike three miles around Sharon Lake. Keep your eyes peeled for beavers, herons and other wonderful wildlife as you walk.

Nature Crafting: Clay Imprints

Date: March 21 **Time:** 3-4 p.m.
Cost: Free **Ages:** All ages
Location: Nature Center at The Summit
In this self-guided session, forage for natural items or bring your own plants and flowers to be rolled into clay, creating beautiful impression keepsakes. Take home your artwork, let it dry overnight and consider painting it or gifting it to someone special. **(R)**

Bunny Races

Date: March 26 **Time:** Noon-2 p.m.
Cost: Free **Ages:** 4+*
Location: Sharon Woods
It's time to discover who's the fastest hopper in the park! Whether competing in sack races, three-legged challenges or an egg hunt, kids enjoy an afternoon of springtime fun outdoors. Bring a water bottle to stay hydrated. **(R)**
**Children must be accompanied by an adult.*

Nature at Night PJ Party

Date: March 26 **Time:** 6:30-8:30 p.m.
Cost: $10 **Ages:** 3-8
Location: Glenwood Gardens
Get cozy in your favorite pajamas and discover all the cool things animals do at night. Enjoy playtime, create crafts and take an interactive hike through Highfield Discovery Garden, then wind down with a garden snack and story time. **(R)**

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Fishing Skills Series: Rainbow Trout

Date: March 27 **Time:** 9 a.m.-noon
Cost: $10 online, $13 walk-in **Ages:** 10+*
Location: Lake Isabella
Learn how to expertly reel in rainbow trout during this hands-on session, part of a monthly series highlighting different fish species and tips for catching them. Great Parks provides bait, fishing rods and other necessary gear. **(R)**
**Children must be accompanied by an adult.*

Nature Journaling

Date: March 27 **Time:** 10-11:30 a.m.
Cost: $5 **Ages:** 6+*
Location: Shaker Trace Nursery
Walk with a nature interpreter through the native plant nursery grounds to discover and record the area's diverse features. Children explore at their own pace, allowing time to slow down, activate their senses and tap into the world around them. Journaling kits are provided. **(R)**
**Children must be accompanied by an adult.*

Spring Ephemeral Hike Series

Date: March 27 **Time:** 10-11:30 a.m.
Cost: Free **Ages:** All ages
Location: Miami Whitewater Forest
As snow melts and the sun rises earlier each day, the first signs of spring are blooming: ephemeral wildflowers! In this series, observe how magnificent flowers progress throughout the season.

Green Cleaning

Date: March 27 **Time:** Noon-1 p.m.
Cost: $10 **Ages:** 10+
Location: Sharon Woods
Protect the planet (and your wallet!) by learning DIY alternatives to store-bought cleaning products. Discover recipes for everyday cleaners and take home environmentally friendly supplies. **(R)**

Wildflower Hike

Date: March 27 **Time:** 1-2 p.m.
Cost: Free **Ages:** All ages
Location: Withrow Nature Preserve
Witness wildflowers in bloom on this guided hike along the Trout Lily Trail.

Season of Seasongood Celebration

Date: March 29-April 2
Time: 11 a.m.-6p.m.*
Cost: Free **Ages:** All ages
Location: Woodland Mound
Stop into Seasongood Nature Center to celebrate its seasonal weekday reopening with a scavenger hunt and other self-guided activities.
**This is a drop-in program. Participants are invited to arrive at any time within the program timeframe.*

Growing Spring Wildflowers

Date: March 31 **Time:** 6-7:30 p.m. **Cost:** $10
Ages: 18+ **Location:** Shaker Trace Nursery
Some of our region's most spectacular wildflowers, known as ephemerals, emerge in early spring and last only a few weeks. Learn how to bring the beauty of these delicate species into your backyard! Discover where spring ephemerals are ethically sourced, explore cultivation techniques and find out how patience comes into play when working with these species. **(R)**

(R) = Register at GreatParks.org

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2026-2027 FALL & WINTER PROGRAM GUIDE

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