



# EXPLORE NATURE!

Spring  
2014

## Explore Nature - March 2014 Public Programs

Full descriptions are on our website: [www.cincinnatiiparks.com](http://www.cincinnatiiparks.com)

### WEEKEND PROGRAMS



#### **Maple in Mt. Airy**

**Sat., March 1 - Breakfast seatings from 9:00 a.m. - noon**

Oak Ridge Lodge in Mt. Airy Forest

Enjoy a hay wagon ride to the Arboretum and interact with costumed sugar makers from the past. Taste maple sap, tea and sugar. Learn how trees produce sugar and discover how people have tapped into this sugar source over the centuries. A free pancake breakfast is provided before your program begins. Program fee: \$8 per person.

The full program with breakfast takes 2.25 hours. Reservations with breakfast are required. Register online at: [www.cincinnatiiparks.com](http://www.cincinnatiiparks.com)

#### **Pancakes in the Woods**

**Sun., March 9, 9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. - California Woods Nature Preserve**

Start the first day of daylight savings time by celebrating the maple season! Enjoy pancakes and sausage grilled by celebrity chefs. Learn about the process and story of maple sugaring. Suggested Donation: \$7 per person. No reservations required. Call 231-8678 or email [gia.giammarinaro@cincinnati-oh.gov](mailto:gia.giammarinaro@cincinnati-oh.gov) for more information.

#### **Ravine to Freedom: A Local Underground Railroad Story**

**Sun., March 16, 10:00 a.m. - noon - LaBoiteaux Woods Nature Preserve**

College Hill was considered the 2nd most important community along the Cincinnati Underground Railroad during the 1840's-1850's. A 1.5 mile hike on ROUGH hill terrain leads us to a ravine used by escaping slaves to avoid the "public, narrow and dusty turnpike" on their way to abolitionist homes in the area. After the hike, view historic documents and maps following the slaves' routes and possible stops. Appropriate for ages 10 - adults. Fee: \$5 per person. Call 542-2909 by March 13 for more information and paid reservations.

#### **The Zodiac**

**Fri., March 21, 7:00 - 8:00 p.m. - Wolff Planetarium at Trailside Nature Center**

The Zodiac... the ancient calendar of the skies that ruled our fates. Are you truly as bull-headed as Taurus, do you have the heart of Leo the Lion, or do you strangely find yourself drawn to water, constantly wondering, is this really the dawning of the Age of Aquarius? Unlock the mysteries of the Zodiac. Programs are open to adults and children ages 5 and older accompanied by an adult. Seating is limited. Fee: \$5 per person. Call 751-3679 for more information and paid reservations.

#### **Me and My Best Friend**

**Sat., March 29, 10:00 a.m. - noon - Ault Park**

Ages 6-9. For the 2nd year, Cincinnati Parks is partnering with local dog trainer, Lisa Desatnik, to present a fun & educational program for children on the safe way to play & care for their puppy or dog, bite prevention, learning to recognize dog behavior & how to approach dogs owned by others. We will have a demonstration dog on site, so please leave your best friend at home! Fee: \$8/child. Parent/caregiver FREE.

To guarantee your spot, call 321-6070, Ext 11 before March 26th.

## WEEKEN PROGRAMS CONTINUED....

### 4th Annual Camp Canine

*Spring Session: Saturdays, April 5 - May 3, 9:30 - 11:00 a.m. – French Park*

*Fall Session: Saturdays, September 6 - 27, 9:30 - 11:00 a.m. – Ault Park*

At last, a camp for you and your best friend! Each Saturday provides 30 minute guided hikes, owner & pet bonding activities, special guests and lots of prizes. Space is limited; one dog per person. Fee: \$35 per camp or \$60 for both. Register online at: [www.cincinnatiiparks.com](http://www.cincinnatiiparks.com). For more information, call 861-3435.

## HOMESCHOOL PROGRAMS

**Adult participation in activities is requested. Programs require a prepaid registration and have a minimum attendance requirement. Fee: \$5 per participant (may include siblings and adults).**

### Outdoor Survival for Ages 8 – 12

*Fri., March 28, 10:00 a.m. - 1:30 p.m. – Avon Woods Nature Preserve*

Learn how to build a shelter from forest materials, start a fire, practice methods to purify water and discover what wild edibles are available to eat in the woods. Call 861-3435 or email [Rachel.rice@cincinnati-oh.gov](mailto:Rachel.rice@cincinnati-oh.gov) by March 27 for more information and paid registrations.

### Cincinnati Skies for Ages 5 – 15

*Wed., April 16, Choose 1 of 2 sessions: 10:00 - 11:00 a.m. / 1:00 - 2:00 p.m. – Trailside Nature Center*

Experience Wolff Planetarium, the oldest planetarium west of the Allegheny Mountains.

Learn the stories behind Orion, the Big and Little Dippers and many other constellations.

Discover how stars form and function, star types, nebulas, novae and more. Receive star charts for nighttime viewing. Fee: \$5 per person. Call 751-3679 for more information and paid reservations.

## SCOUT PROGRAMS – visit our website for the full schedule of programs

### Animal Habitats: Skill Building Badge for Junior Girl Scouts

*Tues., March 25, 4:30 - 6:30 p.m. – Caldwell Nature Preserve*

Earn the requirements of the Animal Habitats Badge. Fee: \$5 per scout/ chaperone (leaders free). Scout leaders should call 761- 4313 by March 21 for more information and paid registrations.

### Scout Day: Rocks Rock!

*Sat., April 5, 10:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. – LaBoiteaux Woods Nature Preserve*

Wolf and Bear Cub Scouts and the Tenderhearts with A.H. Girls are invited to this ROCKing event. Fee: \$5 per scout/chaperone (leaders free).

Call 542-2909 by April 2 for information/reservations.



## EVENTS & SUMMER CAMPS

Beyond our themed camps with special activities, all of our award winning camps for children ages 3 – 14 include trail hikes, arts and crafts, outdoor games, interactions with live animals, and many more fun, hands-on activities! NEW THIS YEAR: Harry Potter Camps, H2 Whoa! Camp, and "BIG" Kid Camp for Adults 50 and up! Online registration at [www.cincinnatiiparks.com](http://www.cincinnatiiparks.com) or call 513-321-6208 ext. 11.

### Interested in learning more about composting?

Now is the time! On March 19th, at 7:00 pm, the City of Cincinnati and Cincinnati Parks' Explore Nature! program will host a guest speaker from the Hamilton County Recycling and Solid Waste District for a free program focusing on the basics of backyard composting. Receive a free kitchen collector, a composting handbook and an "I Love Composting" magnet. Location: Oak Ridge Lodge in Mt Airy Forest. Register online at [hamiltoncountyrecycling.org](http://hamiltoncountyrecycling.org) or call 946-7734.