



EXPLORING NATURE PROGRAMS

VAN BUREN STATE PARK WEEK OF JULY 6- JULY 12, 2009

Wednesday 7/8

No programs
Scheduled today.



THURSDAY 7/9

Survival Hike
6:00 pm

Meet at permit booth.
How long can you go without water or food? What plants are edible or poisonous? Come along on a 45 minute survival hike and find the answers to these questions and more!

Batty for Bats!
9:30pm

At picnic shelter
Come along with Ranger Ben on a 45 minute hike through the park to search for bats. We will be learning about them and dispelling some myths along the way. Meet at the picnic shelter.

FRIDAY 7/10

Dune Hike
10 am
At beach

Come with ranger Ben up the dunes to discover and see some amazing things, and to learn about how these wonders were made. Plus, you can't beat the view! Hike will last about 45 minutes

Noticing Nature
1:00 pm

On path to beach
From 1 pm to 3 pm I will be setting up a nature display on the main path to the beach. I will have animal pelts, insects, spiders, posters, and many more interesting things. Come on down and check it out!

SATURDAY 7/11

Scavenger Hunt
6:00 pm

At Camp Host's site
Bring the whole family down to enjoy a 45 minute scavenger hunt that will take you all around the campground. You can work individually or in teams of two. Winner(s) get a goody bag.

Night hike
9:30 pm

At permit booth
Do you ever wonder what it would be like to be a nocturnal animal? Well if you want to find out then come along on this exciting night hike through the forests of Van Buren! Meet by the flagpole next to the permit booth. Bring Bug spray.

SUNDAY 7/12

Michigan Mammals!
11 am

At picnic shelter
Michigan is home to some of the most fascinating mammals in North America. Come down to the picnic shelter at 11 to learn all about mammals, see animal pelts, and even play a few games.

For more information, contact: Van Buren State Park at (269) 637-2788

All Children 10 and under **MUST** be accompanied by an adult.

Motor Vehicle Permit required for entry to park

Great Lakes, Great Times, Great Outdoors



EXPLORING NATURE PROGRAMS

**VAN BUREN STATE PARK
WEEK OF JULY 12- JULY 19, 2009**

Wednesday 7/15

**Michigan's Forest's
11:00 am**

At permit booth

The forests of Michigan are filled with fascinating diversity including over 2500 species of plants and trees. Come along on this 45 minute hike to discover the forest's beauty for yourself.

**Compass of Course!
2:00 pm**

At Camp office

Stuck in the desert with no bearings...no problem. Ranger Ben will take you through a 45 minute orienteering course that will teach you how to properly use a compass. Meet at camp office.

THURSDAY 7/16

**Castle Rocks
6:00 pm**

Meet at permit booth

Come down to the permit booth to explore the ruins of Palmer castle, which was deconstructed and shipped over lake Michigan over 50 years ago! Bring bug spray.

Nocturnal Hike

9:30 pm

At permit booth

Do you ever wonder what it would be like to be a nocturnal animal? Well if you want to find out then come along on this exciting night hike through the forests of Van Buren! Meet by the flagpole next to the permit booth. Bring Bug spray.

FRIDAY 7/17

**Dune Hike
10:00 am**

At beach

Come with ranger Ben up the dunes to discover and see some amazing things, and to learn about how these wonders were made.

Plus, you can't beat the view! Hike will last about 45 minutes

Noticing Nature

1:00 pm

On path to beach

From 1 pm to 3 pm I will be setting up a nature display on the main path to the beach. I will have animal pelts, insects, spiders, posters, and many more interesting things. Come on down and check it out!

SATURDAY 7/18

**Spiders of Michigan!
6:00pm**

At picnic shelter

Come down to the shelter to learn all about the spiders you can find in Michigan. I will have plenty of specimens to show you, and we will go on a hunt of our own as well!

Astronomy in the Park!

9:45 pm

At picnic shelter

Come down to the parking lot right next to the picnic shelter to learn all about the night sky, and to learn how to use a star chart. You will also learn a few constellations, and the stories behind them.

SUNDAY 7/19

**Magnificent Monarch
11:00 am**

At picnic shelter

Van Buren State park offers one of Michigan's most prized attractions, the Lake Michigan sand dunes. Come with along to scale the dunes, learn about them, and see what plant and wildlife they have to offer. Meet at the picnic shelter.



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