



# Programs & Events Spring 2025

## Gerald E. Eddy Discovery Center

### Hours of Operation

Building closed until late summer  
2025. Trails Open.

### Eddy Discovery Center

Waterloo Recreation Area  
17030 Bush Road  
Chelsea, MI 48118

**All programs are outside, and pit toilets are available. A Recreation Passport is required for entry.**

**Wonders of Waterloo Guided Hikes: Every First Friday and Third Saturday each month from 8 – 9 a.m. Meet at the lower parking lot of the Discovery Center.**

**Mindfulness Guided Hikes: Every Second and Fourth Sunday of each month from 2 – 3 p.m. Meet at the lower parking lot of the Discovery Center.**

### Hook, Line, Sinker

April 12, Noon – 1 p.m.

Gone fishin' is what you should all say! Come learn the skill of fishing and try catching your first fish or personal best fish! Meet at the Crooked Lake Boat Launch dock. Fishing license is required for ages 17+.

### Arrows Away

April 12, 2 -3 p.m.

Learn the skill of archery and try your hand at getting the perfect bullseye! Ages 9+. Meet at the Portage Lake Day Use Area archery range. Follow the signs!

### Hook, Line, Sinker

April 13, 12 – 1 p.m.

Gone fishin' is what you should all say! Come learn the skill of fishing and try catching your first fish or personal best fish! Meet at the Crooked Lake Boat Launch dock. Fishing license is required for ages 17+.

### Mindfulness Hike

April 13, 2 – 3 p.m.

Join the Park Interpreter and explore Waterloo's trails while learning how to examine things closely and slow your mind. Meet at the lower parking lot of the Discovery Center.

**[Michigan.gov/Waterloo](https://Michigan.gov/Waterloo) | 734-475-3170**

All programs are free unless otherwise noted; however, a Recreation Passport is required for entry to the park.



## **Wonders of Waterloo Guided Hike**

April 19, 8 – 9 a.m.

Join Park Interpreter, Doug, on an hour-long hike, exploring the wildlife and ecosystems surrounding the Discovery Center. Meet at the lower parking lot of the Discovery Center.

## **Bog Exploration Guided Hike**

April 19, 2 – 3 p.m.

Spring is awakening in Waterloo. Join the park interpreter on a guided hike through the bog trail and stop along the way to investigate the sights and sounds of Spring. Meet at the lower parking lot of the Discovery Center.

## **Vernal Pool Dipping**

April 19, 3-4 p.m.

Spring is the time vernal pools awaken. Frogs, salamanders and micro-organisms oh my! Join the park interpreter in catching and identifying some spring pond wildlife. It is best to wear shoes that can get wet or are waterproof! Meet at the Lower Parking lot of the Discovery Center.

## **Hook, Line, Sinker**

April 26, Noon – 1 p.m.

Gone fishin' is what you should all say! Come learn the skill of fishing and try catching your first fish or personal best fish! Meet at the Crooked Lake Boat Launch dock. A fishing license is required for ages 17+.

## **Arrows Away**

April 26, 2 -3 p.m.

Learn the skill of archery and try your hand at getting the perfect bullseye! Ages 9+. Meet at the Portage Lake Day Use Area archery range. Follow the signs!

## **Hook, Line, Sinker**

April 27, Noon – 1 p.m.

Gone fishin' is what you should all say! Come learn the skill of fishing and try catching your first fish or personal best fish! Meet at the Crooked Lake Boat Launch dock. Fishing license is required for ages 17+.

## **Mindfulness Hike**

April 27, 2 – 3 p.m.

Join the Park Interpreter and explore Waterloo's trails while learning how to examine things closely and slow your mind. Meet at the lower parking lot of the Discovery Center.

## **EDIBLE AND MEDICINAL PLANT WALK:**

April 27, 2 – 3 p.m. Plant walks are excellent learning opportunities for those with beginning to intermediate foraging skills and for anyone wishing to increase their knowledge of the local flora. Our discussion will include information about identification, methods of harvest, preparation and use. We will explore the area and see what edible and medicinal spring plants we can find. **Cost: \$2/person or \$5/family. Eddy Discovery Center,**

**17030 Bush Rd. in the Waterloo Recreation Area near Chelsea. The program is limited to 20 participants. The building is closed, so the program will be entirely outdoors. Please register for this program by emailing [waterloonha@gmail.com](mailto:waterloonha@gmail.com) with your name, phone number and the number of people attending.**

### **Mindfulness Hike W/ Chelsea District Library and Wellspring Writing Collective**

April 30, 6:30 – 7:30 p.m.

Welcome to Waterloo and You! Join Park Interpreter Zach O'Dell on a 1.5-mile guided hike through 5 unique ecosystems to better understand the requirements of survival. By connecting to each habitat, participants will be able to ground their memories in the tangible world by revisiting numerous tree species. Meet at the Lower Parking Lot of the Discovery Center.

### **Wonders of Waterloo Guided Hike**

May 2, 8 – 9 a.m.

Join Park Interpreter Doug on an hour-long hike, exploring the wildlife and ecosystems surrounding the Discovery Center. Meet at the lower parking lot of the Discovery Center.

### **Hook, Line, Sinker**

May 3, Noon – 1 p.m.

Gone fishin' is what you should all say! Come learn the skill of fishing and try catching your first fish or personal best fish! Meet at the Crooked Lake Boat Launch dock. Fishing license is required for ages 17+.

### **Bog Exploration Guided Hike**

May 3, 2 – 3 p.m.

Spring is awakening in Waterloo. Join the park interpreter on a guided hike through the bog trail and stop along the way to investigate the sights and sounds of Spring. Meet at the Lower Parking lot of the Discovery Center.

### **Vernal Pool Dipping**

May 3, 3-4 p.m.

Spring is the time vernal pools awaken. Frogs, salamanders and micro-organisms oh my! Join the park interpreter in catching and identifying some spring pond wildlife. It is best to wear shoes that can get wet or are waterproof! Meet at the Lower Parking lot of the Discovery Center.

### **Hook, Line, Sinker**

May 4, Noon– 1 p.m.

Gone fishin' is what you should all say! Come learn the skill of fishing and try catching your first fish or personal best fish! Meet at the Crooked Lake Boat Launch dock. Fishing license is required for ages 17+.

### **A WINNER OF A HIKE**

May 4, 2:00 – 3:30 p.m. Explore part of the Winn Loop trail with Master Naturalist Doug Jackson as he guides you through its rolling, wooded twisty turns spotting wildflowers and migratory birds as he shares the mystery of, and up-close

encounters with, Michigan's only wild population of the recently rediscovered chestnut oaks. Meet at the lower parking lot of the Eddy Discovery Center at 2 p.m. we will then caravan to the Winn Loop parking lot to begin our leisurely 1-hour hike. **Cost: \$2/person or \$5/family. Eddy Discovery Center, 17030 Bush Rd. in the Waterloo Recreation Area near Chelsea. The program is limited to 20 participants. The building is closed, so the program will be entirely outdoors. Please register for this program by emailing [waterloonha@gmail.com](mailto:waterloonha@gmail.com) with your name, phone number and number of people attending.**

### **Arrows Away**

May 4, 2 -3 p.m.

Learn the skill of archery and try your hand at getting the perfect bullseye! Ages 9+. Meet at the Portage Lake Day Use Area archery range. Follow the signs!

### **Hook, Line, Sinker**

May 10, Noon – 1 p.m.

Gone fishin' is what you should all say! Come learn the skill of fishing and try catching your first fish or personal best fish! Meet at the Crooked Lake Boat Launch dock. Fishing license is required for ages 17+.

### **Arrows Away**

May 10, 2 -3 p.m.

Learn the skill of archery and try your hand at getting the perfect bullseye! Ages 9+. Meet at the Portage Lake Day Use Area archery range. Follow the signs!

### **Hook, Line, Sinker**

May 11, Noon – 1 p.m.

Gone fishin' is what you should all say! Come learn the skill of fishing and try catching your first fish or personal best fish! Meet at the Crooked Lake Boat Launch dock. A fishing license is required for ages 17+.

### **Mindfulness Hike**

May 11, 2 – 3 p.m.

Join the Park Interpreter and explore Waterloo's trails while learning how to examine things closely and slow your mind. Meet at the lower parking lot of the Discovery Center.

### **Mindfulness Hike W/ Chelsea District Library and Wellspring Writing Collective**

May 14, 6:30 – 7:30 p.m.

Art Exposure in the Wild. Join Park Interpreter Zach O'Dell on a creative experience that will introduce participants to historical and contemporary art forms, challenging participants to see the natural world through a different lens. Meet at the lower parking lot of the Discovery Center.

### **Wonders of Waterloo Guided Hike**

May 17, 8 – 9 a.m.

Join Park Interpreter Doug on an hour-long hike, exploring the wildlife and ecosystems surrounding the Discovery Center. Meet at the lower parking lot of the Discovery Center.

## Hook, Line, Sinker

May 17, Noon – 1 p.m.

Gone fishin' is what you should all say! Come learn the skill of fishing and try catching your first fish or personal best fish! Meet at the Crooked Lake Boat Launch dock. Fishing license is required for ages 17+.

## Bog Exploration Guided Hike

May 17, 2 – 3 p.m.

Spring is awakening in Waterloo. Join the park interpreter on a guided hike through the bog trail and stop along the way to investigate the sights and sounds of Spring. Meet at the Lower Parking lot of the Discovery Center.

## Vernal Pool Dipping

May 17, 3-4 p.m.

Spring is the time vernal pools awaken. Frogs, salamanders and micro-organisms oh my! Join the park interpreter in catching and identifying some spring pond wildlife. It is best to wear shoes that can get wet or are waterproof! Meet at the Lower Parking lot of the Discovery Center.

## BIRDS AND FLORA OF WATERLOO

May 25, 2:00 – 3:30 p.m. This 2-mile round-trip hike will take you through a variety of habitats and glacial formations down the Waterloo-Pinckney Trail to an active purple martin colony on Spring Lake. Master Naturalist Doug Jackson will guide you to his private martin colony while you learn of the dazzling spring flora and colorful migratory birds that can be seen along the hike. Binoculars are highly recommended. **Cost: \$2/person or \$5/family. Eddy Discovery Center, 17030 Bush Rd. in the Waterloo Recreation Area near Chelsea. Program limited to 20 participants. The building is closed so program will be entirely outdoors. Please register for this program by emailing [waterloonha@gmail.com](mailto:waterloonha@gmail.com) with your name, phone number and number of people attending.**