



# Programs & Events Fall 2024

## Gerald E. Eddy Discovery Center

### Hours of Operation

Saturdays and Sundays  
10 a.m. – 4 p.m.  
Until November 14<sup>th</sup>

### Eddy Discovery Center

Waterloo Recreation Area  
17030 Bush Road  
Chelsea, MI 48118

**All programs take place at the Eddy Discovery Center unless otherwise noted. The Recreation Passport is required for entry.**

### Become a Jr. Ranger

September 7, 2024, 2 p.m.

Complete a nature program and begin your journey to becoming a Waterloo Junior Ranger!

### Fall Flora of Waterloo State Recreation Area

September 8, 2024, 2 p.m. – 4:30 p.m.

Join naturalist Robert Ayotte for an investigation of fall flora in the vicinity of the Eddy Discovery Center. We'll look at asters, goldenrods, sunflowers, spotted coralroot orchids, and discuss what is blooming or fruiting at this time of year. Be prepared for 2.5 miles of easy walking along the trails. Bring a loupe (hand lens) or borrow one from the Eddy Discovery Center. Cost: \$2/person or \$5/family. The program is limited to 16 people. Please register in advance at 734-475-3170.

### Ambassador Animal Introductions

September 14<sup>th</sup>, 2024, Noon

Meet the furry and scaly friends that call Waterloo home!

### Michigan Bat Discovery Table

September 15, 2024, 10 a.m. – 4 p.m.

Explore the Discovery Center and focus on the amazing mammals that bats are! Spend time at the discovery table examining bat specimens and creating a bat craft.

### Bats Don't Suck...

September 21, 2024, 2 p.m.

Don't fall for the old myths again! Learn fun facts about Michigan's bats.

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

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## **Michigan Bat Discovery Table**

September 22 and 28, 2024, 10 a.m. – 4 p.m.

Explore the Discovery Center and focus on the amazing mammals that bats are! Spend time at the discovery table examining bat specimens and creating a bat craft.

## **RAPTOR MIGRATION**

September 29, 2024, 2 p.m. – 3 p.m.

Francie Krawcke of Michigan Avian Experience will bring several raptors including hawks, a turkey vulture, and an eagle, to discuss how and why they migrate. Cost: \$2/person or \$5/family. Please register in advance at 734-475-3170.

## **SELF-GUIDED FALL COLOR AND SANDHILL CRANE TOUR**

October 12 – November 10, 2024, Saturday and Sunday 10 a.m. – 4 p.m.

Large numbers of Sandhill Cranes can be seen in parts of the Waterloo Recreation Area through late November. Beginning October 12, free maps showing the best fall color routes and crane viewing areas around the Waterloo Recreation Area will be available at the Eddy Discovery Center or at [www.wnha.org](http://www.wnha.org).

## **Cider Pressing**

October 5, 2024, Noon

Learn all about the historical practice of apple cider pressing and try your hand at pressing your own batch!

## **Fall Colors Hike**

October 6, 2024, Noon

Explore Waterloo's Oak Woods Trail to take in all the beautiful fall colors!

## **Lantern Lit Hike**

October 12, 2024, 7 p.m. – 8 p.m.

Explore Waterloo's trails at night while following a path of glowing lanterns. Enjoy a bonfire after your hike to warm up! Meet @ the Bog Trail Trailhead.

## **FALL MUSHROOM HUNT**

October 13, 2024, 2 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.

Come search the woods to find and collect fall mushrooms! Afterward, mushroom experts Phil Tedeschi and Kirk Coppennoll will look at your collection and identify those that are edible and those that are poisonous. Bring a basket or paper bag and waxed paper for collecting. Cost: \$2/person or \$5/family. The program is limited to 35 people. Call to reserve a space at 734-475-3170.

## **Lantern Lit Hike**

October 19, 2024, 7 p.m. – 8 p.m.

Explore Waterloo's trails at night while following a path of glowing lanterns. Enjoy a bonfire after your hike to warm up! Meet @ the Bog Trail Trailhead.

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## **PURPLE MARTIN CONSERVATION**

October 20, 2024, 2 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.

What's so appealing about North America's largest swallow? Their populations have declined 24% since 1970. Join Doug Jackson, Michigan Master Naturalist, to learn how humans have been both helping and hurting conservation efforts. He'll discuss how and why you can – and should – help with Purple Martin conservation. Program geared to ages 10 to adult. Cost: \$2/person or \$5/family. The program is limited to 30 people. Call to reserve a space at 734-475-3170.

## **Nocturnal Night at Waterloo**

October 25, 2024, 6 p.m. – 8 p.m.

Spend an evening at Waterloo and explore all the nighttime critters that live here! Bats, owls, flying squirrels and more. Test your luck spotting these creatures on the jack o' lantern-lit trail or while resting near the campfire.

## **Lantern Lit Hike**

October 26, 2024, 7 p.m. – 8 p.m.

Explore Waterloo's trails at night while following a path of glowing lanterns. Enjoy a bonfire after your hike to warm up! Meet @ the Bog Trail Trailhead.

## **WALKING UP A FOOD CHAIN**

October 27, 2024, 2 p.m. – 3 p.m.

Together with a naturalist from the Leslie Science Center, you will construct a live food chain as you meet different, live animals up close. Along the way, you'll discuss how these animals' lives are connected and learn about the delicate balance that allows them to survive both individually and together as they share a habitat. Cost: \$2/person or \$5/family. The program is limited to 50 people. Please register in advance at 734-475-3170.

## **Lantern Lit Hike**

November 2, 2024, 7 p.m. – 8 p.m.

Explore Waterloo's trails at night while following a path of glowing lanterns. Enjoy a bonfire after your hike to warm up! Meet @ the Bog Trail Trailhead.

## **SANDHILL CRANE TOUR**

November 3, 2024, 2 p.m.

Local crane enthusiast Bill Wells will present this program at the Discovery Center with a short discussion of Sandhill Cranes and their fascinating behaviors. We will also view a short documentary on Sandhill Cranes. Afterward, a map of Sandhill Crane viewing areas will be provided for a self-guided driving tour to view cranes in the fields around Waterloo Recreation Area. Visitors can expect to see some of these magnificent birds at close range. Bring binoculars and cameras. Cost: \$2/person or \$5/family. Please register in advance at 734-475-3170.

## **Scientific Illustration**

November 9, 2024, 2 p.m.

Learn all the skills needed to systematically draw the world around you!

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## **SEVEN OUTDOOR SKILLS EVERYONE SHOULD KNOW!**

November 10, 2024, 2 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.

In this hands-on workshop, Meg Gower will teach basic survival skills. Learn how to navigate, make fire without matches, create shelter, signal, and more! Program geared to ages 10 to adult. Cost: \$2/person or \$5/family. The program will be held outdoors at the Eddy Discovery Center. The program is limited to 30 people. Call to reserve a space at 734-475-3170.

## **Nature Book Club**

Meets on various Mondays at 10 a.m. Check the Eddy Discovery Center website for details.

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