



Programs & Events Spring 2023

Eddy Discovery Center at Waterloo

Spring Hours of Operation: Saturday: 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.; Sunday: noon to 5 p.m.

Gerald Eddy Discovery Center, 17030 Bush Rd., Chelsea, MI 48118

Night of the Amphibians

Saturday, Apr. 1, 8 to 9:30 p.m.

Join naturalist Carol Strahler this evening for a lively presentation featuring frogs, salamanders, and quivering masses of eggs from local ponds. Find out how you can recognize frogs by their calls. The program will be followed by a walk to a nearby pond to see and hear frogs singing in the night. Bring a flashlight and dress for the weather. Cost: \$2/person or \$5/family. Please register in advance at 734-475-3170.

Geocache Egg Hunt. *New Egg Locations!*

Saturday, Apr. 8, 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. and 1 to 2:30 p.m.

Learn how satellites communicate with GPS receivers, find out how to use a handheld GPS unit and discover hidden caches of candy filled eggs in the Discovery Center woods. All ages.

Arrows Away

Saturday, Apr. 15, 2 to 4 p.m.

Learn the traditional outdoor skill of archery through fun, safe instruction. All equipment provided. Age 8 and up. Cost: Free.

Strange Creatures of the Spring Pond

Sunday, Apr. 16, 2 to 3 p.m.

Come and meet many of the fascinating and little-known creatures that live in our spring ponds – from delicate fairy shrimp to ferocious diving beetles. No boots required, as we will be viewing these in our special “pour-a-ponds” outside on the deck. Wildlife educator Megan Lotz will provide magnifying glasses and help you identify these tiny animals. Cost: \$2/person or \$5/family. Please register in advance at 734-475-3170.

Tree Science Tools for Arbor Day

Saturday, Apr. 22, 1 to 2:30 p.m.

Learn to use scientific tools like a diameter tape, increment borer and GPS unit. Help determine the health of Waterloo’s forests. For ages 8-12. Cost: Free.

Michigan.gov/EddyCenter | 734-475-3170

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



Fight Back Against Invasive Species at Waterloo and Your Own Backyard

Sunday, Apr. 23 12 noon to 1 p.m.

Join Kelsey Dietz from the Michigan DNR's Stewardship Unit for a talk on identifying and removing invasive plants. Kelsey will cover invasive shrubs such as buckthorn, autumn olive, and honeysuckle as well as herbaceous invasive plants like garlic mustard. She will also invite you to be part of the stewardship unit's volunteer steward program and share with you how you can help eradicate invasive species from high quality ecosystems at Waterloo Recreation Area. Cost: Free.

Why Peas Need Bees

Sunday, Apr. 23, 2 to 3 p.m.

Join Becky Green, Beekeeper and Certified Pollinator Champion to learn about pollinators. Becky will explain how pollination works, and why it is so important to all of us. She will introduce you to our pollinators and discuss what challenges they are facing. You will take home ideas of what you can do to help pollinators, including instructions on how to build a bee hotel for wild bees in your neighborhood. Becky will also have some of her local honey available for sale. Cost: \$2/person or \$5/family. Please register in advance at 734-475-3170.

Arrows Away

Saturday, Apr. 29, 2 to 4 p.m.

Learn the traditional outdoor skill of archery through fun, safe instruction. All equipment provided. Age 8 and up. Cost: Free.

Nature's Nightlife

Sunday, Apr. 30, 2 to 3 p.m.

Find out what happens after the sun goes down in this exciting exploration into the world of nocturnal animals. Leslie Science Center will bring live animals, such as bats, owls, and arachnids, to show you why these creatures choose to work in the dark and how they are adapted for life at night. Cost: \$2/person or \$5/family. Limited to 50 participants. Please register in advance at 734-475-3170.

Introduction to Spring Wildflowers

Saturday, May 6, 2 to 4 p.m.

Here is your opportunity to learn about the wildflowers popping up in our local forests right now. After a short program indoors where you will find out why these plants produce flowers in the spring, Robert Ayotte will lead a walk along the Discovery Center trails to see what is budding and blooming. Hand lenses will be useful. Cost: \$2/person or \$5/family. Limited to 20 participants. Please register in advance at 734-475-3170.

Spring Flora of Waterloo

Sunday, May 7, 2 to 4 p.m.

Forest ecologist Robert Ayotte will lead wildflower enthusiasts on a hike to view the spring blooms found on herbs and trees along the Discovery Center trails. Previous knowledge of flowering plants will be useful. Bring your loupe! Cost: \$2/person or \$5/family. Limited to 20 participants. Please register in advance at 734-475-3170.

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Arrows Away

Saturday, May 13, 2 to 4 p.m.

Learn the traditional outdoor skill of archery through fun, safe instruction. All equipment provided. Age 8 and up. Cost: Free.

Arrows Away

Saturday, May 20, 2 to 4 p.m.

Learn the traditional outdoor skill of archery through fun, safe instruction. All equipment provided. Age 8 and up. Cost: Free.

A World of Animals

Sunday, May 21, 2 to 3 p.m.

Join us for an entertaining, hands-on program presented by Brendan Finerty from Jackson's Wild World Zoo. You will get a close-up look at a wide variety of live animals from around the globe – from the hottest desert to the deepest jungles to the highest mountains. Cost: \$2/person or \$5/family. Please register in advance at 734-475-3170.

Hike to the Bog

Saturday, May 27, 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Hike with a guide along the Bog Trail through different forest and wetland habitats formed on Waterloo's pitted outwash glacial topography. Along the way we will take time to look for salamanders, crayfish, snakes, and other wetland dwellers. We will learn about the specially adapted plants that live in these varied environments. 1.5 miles round trip on rugged terrain. Cost: Free.

Edible Plants Foraging Walk

Sunday, Jun. 4, 2 to 4 p.m.

Find out what Mother Nature has to offer as we join Rachel Mifsud from Will Forage for Food to look for edible, medicinal, and otherwise useful plants and mushrooms along the Discovery Center trails. The walk will be leisurely but be prepared to go off the trail as we search for plants. Cost: \$2/person or \$5/family. Call to reserve a space at 734-475-3170.

Cuellar's Critters

Sunday, Jun. 11, 2 to 3 p.m.

Join us for an educational and entertaining program with live animals from around the world brought to you by Joby Cuellar. Learn about the lifestyles, habitats and traits that make these animals unique as you view them up close and personal. Cost: \$2/person or \$5/family. Register in advance at 734-475-3170.