



Programs and events

June 30 - July 6, 2025

Van Buren State Park

Michigan.gov/NaturePrograms

Thursday 7/3	Friday 7/4	Saturday 7/5	Sunday 7/6
<p>Sound can Hertz 11 a.m. Sounds are a constant part of life, but did you know that too much sound can be bad for nature? Join us for a discussion about sound pollution, and a fun game of find-your-buddy! <i>Meet along the main beach path near the playground</i></p> <p>Food Web Fun 3 p.m. All the forest critters forgot what to eat! Help make a food web at our discovery table and restore order to Nature. <i>Meet along the main beach path at the table</i></p> <p>Fun Fact: 9 out of 10 forest fires are caused by humans. Your attention to fully putting out a campfire could be what saves a whole forest!</p>	<p>Guided Dune Hike 11 a.m. Hike with us to explore some of our beautiful dunes and learn about how they got here and why they're important! <i>Meet at the lifejacket stand on the main beach path</i></p> <p>Top of the Food Chain 2 p.m. Show up to learn about and touch specimens from some of Michigan's top predators. <i>Meet along the main beach path at the table</i></p> <p>Fabulous Feathers 4 p.m. Think you know all about birds and their pretty feathers? Win prizes and knowledge at this trivia event. <i>Meet at the large beach path tree in front of the middle parking lot</i></p> <p>The Gift of Fire 9 p.m. Learn the essential skill of starting and putting out campfires. <i>Meet at the southern parking lot restroom building</i></p>	<p>Wonders of Nature Round Table 11 a.m. Join us for peaceful reading. Readers can choose from our nature library, and posters are available for all attendees. <i>Meet at Camp Host Site</i></p> <p>Magnetic Magic 2-4 p.m. Learn about the mysterious magnetic sand on our beach and collect some for yourself! <i>Meet at the lifejacket stand on the main beach path</i></p> <p>Sounds of the Forest 6 p.m. Participate in a sensory experience where you fully relax and listen to what nature has to tell us. <i>Meet at the southern parking lot restroom building</i></p> <p>Glowing Stones 9:30 p.m. Come on a night hike to search for glowing beach stones with a UV light. <i>Meet at the lifejacket stand on the main beach path</i></p>	<p>Owl Portraits 10-11:30 a.m. Need to entertain the kids while packing up? Send them over to draw a native owl friend. <i>Meet at Camp Host Site</i></p> <p>Want something to do between programs? Grab a scavenger hunt page from the Campground Host, Lending Library or Campground Office! Completed hunts can be shown to the Campground Host to collect a fun prize!</p>

Michigan.gov/VanBuren 269-637-2788

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






Programs and events

July 7 - 13, 2025

Van Buren State Park

Michigan.gov/NaturePrograms

Thursday 7/10	Friday 7/11	Saturday 7/12	Sunday 7/13
<p>Deer Olympics 11 a.m. Join us to compete in a variety of fun events! We will be learning how we stack up to the athletic deer in our woods. <i>Meet at the sports field, just southwest of the southern parking lot</i></p> <p>Creepy Crawlies 2 p.m. Show up to learn all about some of Michigan's bugs, and how they are essential for our food chains and quality of life! <i>Meet along the main beach path</i></p> <p>Fun Fact: Spiders are master spinners and weavers! Their slender silk is made from thousands of even tinier strands, and for its weight it is several times stronger than steel!</p>	<p>Tree Detectives 11 a.m. Can you sleuth out the identities of these Michigan natives? <i>Meet along the main beach path near the playground</i></p> <p>Aquatic Invaders 4 p.m. Potential habitat destroyers could be around any corner. Show up to learn about alien life in Michigan waters and play a fun game of Invasives Tag! Handouts and prizes for all. <i>Meet at the sports field, just southwest of the southern parking lot</i></p> <p>Crawling Down the Path 9 p.m. Does looking under rocks get you excited? Join us as we go on a short hike to find local bugs and learn about what makes them special. <i>Meet at the Campground Host site</i></p>	<p>Stop the Invaders! Noon Join us for an exciting game that teaches us about how to stop invasive bugs in Michigan! <i>Meet at the sports field, just southwest of the southern parking lot</i></p> <p>Jackson Pollock on a Tree 4 p.m. Relax with us as we take inspiration from native insects to create abstract paintings! <i>Meet at the pavilion near the south parking area</i></p> <p>Radical Rocks 4-6 p.m. Show up to learn about and see the rocks of Van Buren! We will have magnets, rock guides, magnifiers, and other tools to look for cool rocks to take home. <i>Roving along the beach</i></p> <p>Sunset Art 8:30-9:30 p.m. Come meet for a relaxing group art session atop the dunes! We will be taking a gentle path to the top. <i>Meet at the southern parking lot restroom building</i></p>	<p>Bug-Out on Crafts! 10-11:30 a.m. Need to entertain the kids while packing up? Send them over to craft a bug and learn about some different natives. <i>Meet at Camp Host Site</i></p> <p>Want something to do between programs? Grab a scavenger hunt page from the Campground Host, Lending Library or Campground Office! Completed hunts can be shown to the Campground Host to collect a fun prize!</p> <div></div>

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