

Winter Programs at the Eddy Discovery Center



*Eddy Discovery Center, 17030 Bush Rd., Chelsea, MI 48118. (34)475-3170. www.michigan.gov/eddycenter
Vehicles should have an \$11 Recreation Passport within the Recreation Area.*

LANTERN LIT SKI AND SNOWSHOE: 7:00-9:00 p.m. Saturdays, January 14, 21, 28, February 4, 11, 18. Embrace your Pure Michigan Winter with a healthy, lantern lit, activity. One half mile loop lit for skiers, unless snow levels prevent skiing, and one half mile loop lit for walking and snowshoeing. There will also be a fire ring for warm up, in between laps. A few pairs of snowshoes available to borrow. Cost: Free.

CREATURE FEATURE: 2:00 – 3:00 p.m. Sunday, January 22. Get acquainted with an exciting variety of live exotic animals brought by wild-life educator Dan Briere of The Little Creatures Co. In this engaging, hands-on program you will find out about the lives and characteristics of these fascinating animals. Cost: \$2/person or \$5/family. Advance registration requested at (734) 475-3170.

WINTER ORIENTEERING: 2:00 – 4:00 p.m. Sunday, January 29. Challenge yourself to an afternoon adventure in the forest. Winter is a great time of year for learning how to find your way in the woods. Suitable for all ages and skill levels. Compasses will be provided or bring your own. This program has limited space, so you MUST register in advance at 734-475-3170. Cost: \$2/person or \$5/family. Limited to 35 participants.

SKINS, SCAT AND SKULLS: 2:00 – 3:00 p.m. Sunday, February 5. In this hand-on program, naturalist and educator Dave Szczygiel will bring his large collection of Michigan animal skins and skulls, as well as other animal specimens. Learn how various creatures use their specialized body parts for survival and how you can recognize animal signs in the wild. Following the program there will be an optional outdoor walk to look for evidence of animals living around the Discovery Center. Cost: \$2/person or \$5/family. Advance registration requested at (734) 475-3170.

BATS OF THE WORLD: 2:00 – 3:00 p.m. Sunday, February 12. Step into the world of bats with this exciting presentation from the Organization for Bat Conservation. See bats up close from North America, South America and Africa – some with nearly a 3-foot wingspan! Find out how they fly in the dark, what they eat, where they live and how we can protect their habitats. Cost: \$2/person or \$5/family. Advance registration requested at (734) 475-3170.

MAKE AN ICE FISHING JIG STICK: 11:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. Saturday, February 18. Make an ice fishing jig stick, in honor of DNR Free Fishing Weekend, to get out on the “hard water” with no fishing license necessary, Saturday and Sunday, February 18 and 19, 2017. Cost: Free.

MICHIGAN’S BEARS: 2:00 – 3:00 p.m. Sunday, February 26. Black bears are primarily creatures of Michigan’s north woods. We’ll discuss the biology, habits and distribution of one of Michigan’s largest mammals and we’ll talk about how to live in harmony with these sometimes pesky creatures! We’ll also learn about how the DNR maintains a healthy black bear population. Program aimed at adult audience. Cost: \$2/person or \$5/family. Advance registration requested at (734) 475-3170.

BEE HOTELS AND BEE-FRIENDLY FLOWERS: 2:00 – 3:00 p.m. Sunday, March 5 – With many of our honeybees in trouble, it is more important than ever to encourage our native bees as pollinators. Julia Brokaw of MSU will talk about these fascinating insects and demonstrate how you can attract them to your yard with nest boxes and bee-friendly gardening. Instructions for building your own bee “hotel” will be provided. Ages 12 and up will enjoy this program. Cost: \$2/person or \$5/family. Advance registration requested at (734) 475-3170.

OLD-TIME MAPLE SUGAR FESTIVAL: 10:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. Saturday, March 11. It’s time for that traditional rite of spring – tapping maple trees. Enjoy a pancake breakfast at the Chelsea Alehouse, and then come on over to the Discovery Center to learn how maple syrup is made. Guided walks will show various methods of collecting sap and how it is boiled down to make syrup. Watch a film about the process and see antique equipment for making syrup on display from the Waterloo Farm Museum. Maple products will be available for purchase. Contact the Center at (734) 475-3170 for more information. Free.

WILDLIFE FROM NEAR AND FAR: 2:00 – 3:00 p.m. Sunday, March 19. Enjoy an afternoon with a variety of live animals brought by Randy Baker of Naturalist Endeavors. As you view these animals up close, learn fascinating details about their lives in the wild and the importance of maintaining healthy habitats for them. Cost: \$2/person or \$5/family. Advance registration requested at (734) 475-3170.

