

# Outdoor Adventure Center newsletter – Winter 2024

## Hours of operation

### School year (Oct. 1 – May 31)

Sunday: Noon-3 p.m.

Monday: Closed

Tuesday : Closed

Wednesday: 10 a.m. – 3 p.m.

Thursday: Closed for general admission; group visits scheduled by appointment only 10 a.m. – 3 p.m.

Friday: 10 a.m. – 3 p.m.

Saturday: 10 a.m. – 5 p.m.

### Summer (June 1 – Aug. 31)

Sunday: Closed

Monday: Closed

Tuesday : Closed

Wednesday: 10 a.m. – 3 p.m.

Thursday: Closed for general admission; group visits scheduled by appointment only

Friday: 10 a.m. – 3 p.m.

Saturday: Noon – 3 p.m.

## Michigan DNR Outdoor Adventure staff

Patricia Abernathy

Mariah Adams

Tawhida Begum

Bettie Clark

Natalie Cypher

Damira Dugger

Patrick Endres

Dmitria Fox

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Loretta Miller

Michelle Serreyn

Missy Sharp

Corene Sneed

Frank Toarmina

Rujeania Vance

Danielle Wilemski

Sheryl Wright

## Admission fees

Adults (age 13-61): \$5

Seniors (age 62 and older): \$3

Children (ages 2-12): \$3

Children under age 2: Free

Annual family membership: \$50

## Discounted admission: Museums for All

Ensuring opportunities for all is important to us. We have joined the "Museums for All" network as of Oct. 1, 2023. This new program replaces the Free Sunday/Thrilling Thursday programs we formerly offered. This new program offers a deeply discounted rate for those enrolled in SNAP EBT and/or WIC programs.

Cardholders who have a current SNAP EBT card or WIC card AND a valid photo ID will receive a discounted admission rate of just \$1 per person for themselves and up to five guests. The discount applies only to admission and not for special classes and programs. Admission costs must be paid by cash or with credit card at the time of admission.

To view other Michigan locations that are in the Museums for All network, visit <https://museums4all.org/#>.

## Convenient online registration

Our online registration system will facilitate registration for all programs offered at the OAC.

At <https://secure.rec1.com/MI/michigan-dnr/catalog>, you will find all options that are available for online registration. To register, you will need to create an account using your email address and a password. This will allow you to securely check out once you register. You will also be able to view past registrations and activities. If you have any questions about this site, please email [DNR-OAC@Michigan.gov](mailto:DNR-OAC@Michigan.gov).

## Offerings for teachers

Field trips to the Outdoor Adventure Center are the perfect combination of education and fun for all ages, from preschool through high school! To qualify for a field trip and discounted admission, groups must be preregistered at least three weeks in advance and have at least 20 people in the group.

A cafeteria area for groups to have lunch is available; however, the space is not reserved.

The building is best experienced in small groups. We require one adult chaperone to accompany every six children throughout the OAC.

For an additional \$2 per student, groups may choose to add a classroom experience to their visit. All programs include background information, age-appropriate activities and hands-on learning components meeting teaching standards for Michigan Grade Level Content Expectations and Next Generation Science Standards.

We will be open on Wednesdays and Fridays to the public and for field trips. On Thursdays, we will schedule select groups to visit when we are closed to the public. This option has limitations based on the size of the group and classroom sessions.

To register for a field trip, see the online [group application form](#).

## Sensory-Friendly Days

The DNR Outdoor Adventure Center welcomes friends and families with sensory processing differences to our sensory-friendly building hours!

Enjoy the opportunity to explore and experience the OAC with building sounds and ambient noises at a lower volume. During your visit, there will be a quiet room with sensory materials available to use, and a limited building capacity. At noon, the building will open to the public, with volumes returning to standard operating levels. All staff are KultureCity-certified to ensure the best possible experience.

Fee: complimentary admission

10 a.m. – noon

Sunday, Jan. 7

Sunday, Feb. 4

Sunday, March 3

Sunday, April 7

Sunday, May 5

## COVID safety

Post-COVID, we remain committed to the health and safety of our guests. Approved cleaning supplies and protocols remain in place, and complimentary masks are available to guests.

Hand sanitizer stations have been placed throughout our exhibit areas.

Masks and social distancing are encouraged for guests. Masks are available at the front desk at no cost.

## Accessibility at the OAC

### Mobility

- A paved sidewalk runs from the parking lot to our front door.
- Electronic-assist doors are available at the entrance and exit.
- An elevator is available to access all three floors of the building.
- Ramps are installed behind the sustainable home and behind the hunting exhibit on the second floor.
- Service dogs are welcome inside the building. The OAC follows Americans with Disabilities Act requirements for service dogs. The dog must be trained to provide assistance to a person with a disability. Visitors are not allowed to bring emotional support animals or pets into the OAC.

### Hearing

- With at least two weeks' notice, every attempt will be made to provide sign language interpreters.

### Vision

- Large print and Braille maps are available for loan at the front desk.

### Sensory inclusion

- The OAC has partnered with KultureCity to improve our ability to assist and accommodate guests with sensory needs. Our objective is to provide an inclusive and seamless experience for all guests for all events, including those with sensory needs.
- We strive to raise awareness of the needs and challenges faced by individuals with sensory processing differences by supplying our team members with annual training.
- A secure, private Quiet Room is located on the second floor of our building and is available to any person who needs this space during open OAC hours. The features of this room include: tile flooring with a soft rug, an automatic overhead light that can be turned off, a soft light that can be turned on and off, a two-person couch, a side table with a removeable lid containing a weighted blanket and sensory items, books, and a silent clock.

- A limited number of sensory bags – containing special KultureCity VIP badges, fidget tools, noise-canceling headphones and other resources – are available for checkout (at no cost by leaving an ID) at our front desk on a first-come, first-served basis.
- Weighted lap pads are also available upon request (at no cost by leaving an ID) at our front desk.
- A visual tour of our building is available to view at home to prepare for a visit.
- Communication boards are located on every level of the building next to the elevators, in both classrooms and outside by the front door.
- The KultureCity Sensory Inclusive App is available to view our social story to help you plan your visit. App Store: <http://bit.ly/KCiphone> or Google Play: <http://bit.ly/KCandroid>.

## Family needs

- An all-gender restroom is located on the second floor.
- A secure nursing room is available on the second floor. Any staff member can help guests gain access to this room.
- Baby-changing tables are available in all restrooms. They can be found in the accessible stalls.
- The entire building is stroller-accessible.

## Language

- Facility maps are available printed in Arabic, Spanish, German, French, Chinese and Japanese. These maps are available in the entrance lobby.

## OAC membership

### Annual family membership

An annual membership can be purchased for \$50 for up to five members of the same household.

For an additional \$25, you can bring up to two guests any time you visit the OAC. Family memberships can be purchased online by clicking on the OAC Membership tab at <https://secure.rec1.com/MI/michigan-dnr/catalog>.

### Benefits of membership include:

- Free admission for one year from the date of purchase.
- Exclusive, early admission to select special events.
- First glance (before the general public) at all newsletters.
- Members-only adventure packs (for use during your visit).
- Special pricing or early registration for select events.
- Early seating for popular programs.
- Reciprocal membership with Association of Science and Technology Centers (ASTC) and Association of Children's Museums (ACM) participating museums.

### Current member benefits

- Early entry for Farm Days.
- 25% off Camp Explore registration fees.
- 20% off gift shop merchandise.

### Membership benefits have expanded!

Your Outdoor Adventure Center Membership has new, added value. We have partnered with two museum networks. Our members will now be eligible for discounted admission at other attractions. Members will receive an email with a membership card indicating the two logos below. This will need to be saved for use at other partnering locations.

ACM allows active members 50% off general admission for up to six people at one of the 200 participating museums. The card holder must be present for discounted admission. View more information online. Some of the nearest participating museums include: Ann Arbor Hands-On Museum, Grand Rapids Children’s Museum, Impression 5 Science Center, Kids ‘N’ Stuff Children’s Museum, Mid-Michigan Children’s Museum and Mt. Pleasant Discovery Museum.

To take advantage of these partnerships, show your new DNR Outdoor Adventure Center membership card that you received in your email.

The ASTC Travel Passport membership allows active members discounted admission when traveling to a participating center over 90 miles from the OAC. A full list of participating centers can be found online. A few that are just over 90 miles include:

- Alden B. Dow Museum of Science & Art, 1801 W St Andrews Rd, Midland, MI 48640.
- Impression 5 Science Center, 200 Museum Dr, Lansing, MI 48933 (91 miles).
- COSI, 333 W Broad St, Columbus, OH 43215.

## FAQs

What happens if I forget my membership card?

Passport venues are not required to grant free admission to visitors who forget their cards. There is no universal database with all Passport visitors’ member data and expiration dates for admission staff to reference. Some venues will allow you to call the science center or museum you joined to confirm your membership, but they are under no obligation to do so.

What else do I need to bring?

Most facilities will ask for a valid picture ID along with your membership card.

## Scout badge workshops

The chart below shows the current offerings for Scout badge workshops. The sessions begin prior to the building opening on Sundays and take place both indoors and outdoors. The workshop provides your scout group with a classroom session to address the requirements listed on the chart below, an OAC patch for your brag vest and admission to the building. Dress for the weather and wear close-toed shoes. Due to limited classroom space, only the Scout leader and another responsible adult may join the badge workshop. Family members, including siblings, are welcome to join the Scouts to explore the OAC exhibits when the building opens to the public at noon.

FEE: \$14 per Scout for all workshops; includes OAC Scout patch

Regular admission fees apply for family members, including siblings who wish to visit the building with Scouts after the program.

Level	Badge	Length	Req. covered	Other info
Brownies	Bugs	1.5 hours	1, 2, 4 and 5	April-August only
Brownies	Hiker	1.5 hours	1-3 and 5	Troops can pack a snack for requirement 4
Brownies	Outdoor Adventurer	1.5 hours	1-4	
Junior	Animal Habitats	1.5 hours	1-3	
Junior	Camper	1 hour	1, 2, 4	
Cadette	Archery	1.5 hours	Badge completed	Only 12 Scouts per badge workshop

Cadette	Trees	2 hours	1-4	Late April-October only
Tiger	My Tiger Jungle	1 hour	Badge completed	
Tiger	Tigers in the Wild	1 hour	Badge completed	
Wolf	Call of the Wild	1 hour	Badge completed	
Wolf	Paws on the Path	2 hours	Badge completed	
Bear	A Bear Goes Fishing	1.5 hours	Badge completed	April-August only
Bear	Fur, Feathers and Ferns	2 hours	Badge completed	
Webelos	Earth Rocks	1.5 hours	Badge completed	
Webelos	Into the Wild	2 hours	Badge completed	
Webelos	Into the Woods	1.5 hours	1-3, 5	

Reservation instructions and to request a Scout badge workshop:

The calendar feature is best viewed on a computer. Mobile devices will not show available dates.

Step 1: Log in or create an account.

Step 2: Choose a green date - Sundays at 10 a.m. or 11 a.m. are the only current options.

Step 3: Choose a start time (this may change, when we send your confirmation, due to length of workshop and number of scouts).

Step 4: Click "Add to Cart."

Step 5: Check out.

Step 6: View or print attachments. Choose badge options and indicate number of scouts, then "Submit responses."

Step 7: Click "Complete Transaction" to submit your request.

Step 8: You will receive an email confirmation within five to seven days if your request is approved.

[Register for Scout badge workshop](#)

PLEASE NOTE: Availability is based on several factors and is not limited to the online calendar. Your online request will be confirmed once the request is reviewed against all factors.

## OAC rentals

### Events on the range!

Lt. Arthur A. Green, III's Archery Range at the Outdoor Adventure Center is not just for traditional target shooting. This versatile space has transformed into a hub for unique gatherings, offering an unconventional twist to events.

Detroit Auto Show 5K Packet Pick-up, Grand Prix Partner Reception, and Dean's Birthday/Retirement Party are just a taste of events that we've held on our archery range.

If you're looking for a unique place to host your corporate, social, or family event, contact our promotional agent Jackie Hoskins at 1-800-622-6237 or email [DNR-OAC@Michigan.gov](mailto:DNR-OAC@Michigan.gov) for more details. You can also view the [Outdoor Adventure Center's event spaces on our website](#).

## You should visit ... Muskallonge Lake State Park

Muskallonge Lake State Park is located 28 miles northwest of Newberry in Luce County. The 217-acre park is situated between the shores of Lake Superior and Muskallonge Lake and the area is well known for its forests, lakes, and streams. Muskallonge Lake State Park was the former site of Deer Park, a lumbering town in the late 1880s, and prior to its lumbering history, a Native American encampment.

Muskallonge Lake was a mill pond for millions of white pine logs brought by railroad lines. By 1900, the virgin stands of pines were depleted, the mill was closed and the lumbering operation moved away. All that remains as evidence of the lumbering community are piles of sawdust and a few partly submerged pine logs in the lake. The park was also the old site of a Coast Guard life-saving station.

There are about 70 lakes and five rivers within a 20-mile radius of the park. Historic forts and the Father Marquette National Memorial and Museum are excellent destinations for day trips. Tahquamenon Falls State Park is a relatively short drive away and offers spectacular scenery that includes Whitefish Point and several waterfalls. In Newberry, park visitors can take a trip to the Logging Museum or get on a riverboat that will take them down to the falls. West of Grand Marais is the Pictured Rocks National Lakeshore. Southwest of the park are the Kingston Plains and the Seney National Wildlife Refuge. Even closer to the park, duck and goose hunting are allowed on both lakes, but not within the confines of the park. Charter boat fishing is available at Grand Marais.

## Archery at the OAC

### Welcome to the Outdoor Adventure Center's archery range!

We offer a variety of archery experiences you can choose from, ranging in price from free to \$60 for a four-week session. To enhance your target practice, we offer National Archery in the Schools Program targets by Morrell, 3D animal targets, paper targets and much more! Archers will have the opportunity to practice shooting distances from 6 to 20 yards in the advanced programs.

For all archery programs:

- Participants must be 8 years of age or older.
- Closed-toed shoes are required on the range.
- A signed waiver for all participants must be on file before accessing the range.
- Children under the age of 18 must have a waiver signed by a parent or guardian and must be accompanied by a parent or guardian in the building.
- All equipment is provided.

For Graduate Shoot:

- Must have completed one of the following prerequisite archery classes within the last year: Explore It, 3D Animal Target, Archery 101 or Bowhunting Basics.
- Outside bows with a draw weight over 30 pounds is prohibited.
- Crossbows and broadhead arrows are prohibited.
- The OAC does not provide assembly or maintenance support for outside equipment.

### Try-It!

This is your opportunity to give archery a try. This 30-minute program is designed as a brief introduction to archery. Participants will learn to safely handle a bow and shoot several arrows.

Preregistration is not available for this program. Participants must sign up on-site at the Outdoor Adventure Center on the day the program is offered. Sign-up will begin about an hour before the first program and is on a first-come, first-served basis.

Fee: Included with the price of admission.

Times: 1:30 and 2:15 p.m.

Dates:

Saturday, Jan. 20

Sunday, Jan. 28

Saturday, Feb. 10

Sunday, Feb. 25

Saturday, March 9

Sunday, March 24

Saturday, April 6

Sunday, April 28

### [3D Animal Target Archery](#)

This 90-minute program will introduce hunting with a bow and arrow. The program will include how to safely handle a bow, have proper stance, and ethical shot placement. Archers will be shooting at 3D animal targets.

FEE: \$18 per person

Preregistration required.

On-site registration is not available after the registration deadline.

Time: 6-7:30 p.m.

Doors will open at 5:45 p.m. Range time will begin promptly at 6 p.m. We are not able to accommodate late arrivals.

Date: Tuesday, Feb. 27

[Register for 3D Animal Target Archery](#)

### [Explore It!](#)

This is your chance to explore archery. This one- hour program will give participants the opportunity to learn to safely handle a bow, learn proper stance and shoot several arrows. Grow your love for archery in this fun, skill-building program.

FEE: \$12 per person

Preregistration required.

On-site registration is not available after the registration deadline.

Time: 6:30-7:30 p.m.

Doors will open at 6:15 p.m.

Range time will begin promptly at 6:30 p.m. We are not able to accommodate late arrivals.

Dates:

Tuesday, Jan. 30

Tuesday, Feb. 6

Tuesday, March 12



[Register for Explore It.](#)

## Archery 101

This four-week program will offer a more in-depth archery experience in a safe and fun environment. Each week will focus on a different part of the shot process with fun drills and games to help students learn the sport of archery in a hands-on way. The program will cover the steps of shooting, how to retrieve arrows, and will provide plenty of shooting opportunities for students to refine their skills.

FEE: \$60

Preregistration required.

On-site registration is not available after the registration deadline.

Time: 6:30-7:30 p.m.

Doors will open at 6:20 p.m. Range time will begin promptly at 6:30 p.m. We are not able to accommodate late arrivals.

Dates: Tuesdays (four weeks), April 9, 16, 23, 30

[Register for Archery 101.](#)

## Graduate Shoot

Graduate open shoot is available to students who have taken any paid public archery program at the OAC within one year (this excludes Try-It programs). Sessions will allow returning students the opportunity to practice their skills without repeating the instructional portion of a program. Archery games may be available to archers upon request.

FEE: \$10 per person

Preregistration required.

On-site registration is not available after the registration deadline.

Time: 5:30-6:20 p.m.

Range time will begin promptly at 5:30 p.m. We are not able to accommodate late arrivals. Participants bringing their own equipment must arrive by 5:15 p.m. for an equipment inspection.

Children under the age of 18 years old will need to have at least one parent/guardian enrolled in the class with them.

Dates:

Tuesday, Jan. 30: Ages (18+)

Tuesday, Feb. 6: Ages (8+)

Tuesday, Feb. 20: Ages (18+)

Tuesday, March 12: Ages (8+)

Tuesday, April 16: Ages (18+)

Tuesday, April 30: Ages (8+)

[Register for Graduate Shoot](#)

## Active Aging Adventures

### Brunch & Learn

During this monthly series for active aging adults, participants will have opportunities to meet our on-site educators, listen to guest presenters, and take part in various natural resource-themed activities. All programs begin at 9 a.m. and include pastries, coffee and tea upon entry. At 9:30 a.m., presentations will begin, so sit back and enjoy your snack during an exciting and informative program, then wrap up with time to explore the OAC exhibits.

Fee: \$8 per person; preregistration required. Payment can be made for groups or individuals.

### Boat Building in Michigan

Tuesday, Jan. 23, 9 a.m.-noon

Michigan will always be known as the automobile capital of the world, but the Great Lakes State boasts a similarly rich heritage in the development of boat building in America. By the late 19th century,

Michigan had emerged as the industry's hub, drawing together the most talented designers, builders, and engine makers to produce some of the fastest and most innovative boats ever created. Within decades, gifted Michigan entrepreneurs like Christopher Columbus Smith, John L. Hacker, and Gar Wood had established some of the nation's top boat brands and brought the prospect of boat ownership within reach for American consumers from all income ranges. More than just revolutionizing recreational boating, Michigan boat builders also left their mark on history—from developing the speedy runabouts favored by illicit rum-runners during the Prohibition era to creating the landing craft that carried Allied forces to European and Pacific shores in WWII. In *Making Waves*, Scott M. Peters explores this intriguing story of people, processes, and products—of an industry that evolved in Michigan but would change boating across the world.

Scott M. Peters is retired as curator of collections at the Michigan History Museum in Lansing and a lifelong Great Lakes boater. A frequent contributor to *Michigan History Magazine*, he has been collecting information on the state's boat-building industry for the past 25 years.

[Register for Brunch & Learn: Boat Building in Michigan.](#)

### Get a Glimpse of the Solar Eclipse

Thursday, Feb. 29, 9 a.m.-noon

Professor Ed Cackett, chair of the Department of Physics and Astronomy at Wayne State University, will describe how the sun is much more than just a glowing ball in the sky. You'll learn what to expect during the upcoming eclipse in April 2024 and how best to view it. Clear skies permitting, Professor Cackett will then run a hands-on session using solar telescopes to look at the Sun's surface and identify features such as sunspots and prominences.

Dr. Cackett is an expert on using observations of black holes and neutron stars and to understand how gas falls into/onto them in such extreme gravitational environments. He studied Physics at Durham University, England, before pursuing his PhD in Astrophysics at the University of St. Andrews in Scotland. After his doctorate, he spent four years as a postdoctoral researcher at the University of Michigan where he was a NASA Chandra Fellow, and 1.5 years as a research fellow at the Institute of Astronomy, University of Cambridge.

[Register for Brunch & Learn: Get a Glimpse of the Solar Eclipse.](#)

### Maple Sugaring: Nature's Sweet Treat

Thursday, March 14, 9 a.m.-noon

Celebrate one of Michigan's tastiest natural resources during this hands-on program! We'll explore the adaptations that make the marvelous maple sap so sweet and learn about Michigan's maple syrup industry through history. End the experience with a tasting of local syrup.

This program is indoors and outdoors – dress for the weather.

This program includes a short walk to observe different types of trees at Milliken State Park. The walk will be approximately a quarter-mile in length, along a linear paved path at Milliken State Park. We will hike along the Detroit River – be prepared for windy conditions.

This walk will occur rain or shine – note that we will cancel the walk portion of the program in case of inclement weather including lightning.

[Register for Brunch & Learn: Maple Sugaring.](#)

### Civilian Conservation Corps in Michigan

Thursday, April 4, 9 a.m.-noon

In the summer of 1933, thousands of young Michigan men ventured into northern Michigan forests for work and conservation. The Civilian Conservation Corps was one of President Franklin Delano Roosevelt's major successes during the Great Depression. Join Outdoor Adventure Center educators as we explore how Michiganders contributed to the CCC, what the workers' average day looked like, and where we can still see their impact in our state. Guests will also receive a tree sapling to take home and plant at the end of this event.

[Register for Brunch & Learn: Civilian Conservation Corps in Michigan.](#)

### Peregrine Falcons in Detroit

Thursday, May 23, 9 a.m.-noon

From the edge of extinction to conquering concrete jungles. Dive into the history of the world's fastest animal, the peregrine falcon. Follow along and learn about this amazing raptor's journey to recovery and how falconry, the sport of kings, played a pivotal role.

Danielle Durham has been the peregrine falcon nest coordinator with the Department of Natural Resources since 2019. This position has involved monitoring peregrine falcon nests, assisting with fledgling birds, coordinating with site contacts, and collaborating with wildlife rehab facilities in southeast Michigan. As a naturalist, wildlife educator, and falconer, Danielle is deeply involved in avian conservation and has had the pleasure of working with many different species of birds.

[Register for Brunch & Learn: Peregrine Falcons in Detroit.](#)

### Senior Stroll – Explore Your Parks!

Join a naturalist for a casual stroll through one of our state parks or local historic areas. Each month, we'll focus on a topic related to natural or cultural history. Wear your walking shoes and dress for the weather – we'll go out rain, snow or shine! Meet at the location designated in each individual program description.

### Old Meets New on the Dequindre Cut

Thursday, Jan. 11, 10-11 a.m.

Explore the history of the Dequindre Cut and enjoy the contemporary artwork along the way. This walk will be approximately 1.5 miles on a level, paved walkway. Meet in the Outdoor Adventure Center lobby.

Fee: This is a free outdoor event.

Preregistration required.

[Register for Senior Stroll: Old Meets New on the Dequindre Cut.](#)

### Riverfront History at Milliken State Park

Thursday, Feb. 15, 10-11 a.m.

Various plaques at Milliken State Park commemorate several historical events. Learn more about these topics, including the Underground Railroad, during a short stroll around the park, culminating at the top of the hill. This

walk will be about 1 mile along city and park sidewalks. The ascent to the hilltop is along a gently sloped ramp. Meet in the Outdoor Adventure Center lobby.

Fee: This is a free outdoor event

Preregistration required.

[Register for Senior Stroll: Riverfront History at Milliken State Park.](#)

### Exploring the Woodside Trail Loop on Belle Isle

Thursday, March 21, 10-11 a.m.

We'll start our adventure at the Woodside Shelter on the south side of the Island. From there, we'll take a loop through the woods and along the creek. This trail, at just over 1 mile, starts with a boardwalk and is paved. We'll keep our eyes open for the resident bald eagles who have nested in the area over the past few years! A limited number of binoculars will be available for loan.

Fee: This is a free outdoor event.

Preregistration required.

Recreation Passport required for park entry.

[Register for Senior Stroll: Exploring the Woodside Trail Loop on Belle Isle.](#)

### Solar Eclipse and Planet Walk at Milliken State Park

Monday, April 8, 2:30-3:30 p.m.

The Detroit area is scheduled to experience an almost total eclipse! Join us to view the solar eclipse (weather permitting) and a planet walk (rain or shine) as we go up the hill at Milliken State Park. The walk is fully paved, with a gentle slope to the top of the hill. We will provide eclipse viewing glasses. Meet in front of the Outdoor Adventure Center to begin our stroll!

FEE: This is a free outdoor event

Preregistration required.

Recreation Passport required for park entry.

[Register for Senior Stroll: Solar Eclipse and Planet Walk at Milliken State Park.](#)

## Featured Interactive Exhibit

### State Park Madness 2024

Jan. 2-27, 1-3:30 p.m.

It's State Park Madness! The four-week tournament kicks off Jan. 2. Join us on social media or at the OAC to check each park's stats, learn about recreation opportunities, and vote for your top pick each round!

Brackets will be updated weekly on Saturdays. The winning park will be announced Jan. 27 during Michigan's 187th Birthday Celebration at the OAC.

### Knowing Dr. Martin Luther King

Friday, Jan. 12, 1:30-2:30 p.m.

A walk through Dr. King's history and the many things he did for this country. Check out the teaching table on the second floor in the Citizen Science exhibit area.

Included with the price of admission.

## Hunters of Color

Saturday, Feb. 3, 1-3:30 p.m.

Explore wildlife adventures through the eyes of African-American hunters through the years. Exhibits and a guest share many hunting explorations handed down through family and friends.

Included with the price of admission.

## Valentine's Day Card Making

Saturday, Feb. 10, 1-3:30 p.m.

Take a minute to make a beautiful card or color a picture for a loved one in recognition of this wonderful day of love and happiness.

Included with the price of admission.

## Random Acts of Kindness

Sunday, Feb. 18, 1-2:30 p.m.

Join us as we take time to show our appreciation and kindness by making a Kindness card or paint a friendship rock.

Included with the price of admission.

## Wildlife Craft

Saturday, March 2, 2-3:30 p.m.

Recognizing National Wildlife Day, we'll offer a chance to talk about various wildlife, do crafts, color pictures of your favorite animals and visit a teaching table with books on wildlife from around the nation.

Included with the price of admission.

## Get Outside

### Birding Belle Isle

Sunday, Jan. 14

Sunday, Feb. 11

Sunday, March 10

Sunday, April 14

9-11 a.m.

As an island of green surrounded by the Detroit River, Belle Isle is fantastic spot for birding any time of year. We'll meet near the entrance to the island just past the toll booth, west of the MacArthur Bridge, then caravan to different locations according to where the birds are! For our January - March programs we'll focus mostly on migrant waterbirds in the Detroit River and inland canals. April and May programs will focus more on songbirds along the trail. Dress for the weather - it is often colder and windier near the river. Staff will provide a spotting scope to share among guests, and a limited number of binoculars will be available for loan. All skill levels welcome.

Fee: This is a free offsite event.

Preregistration required.

[Register for Birding Belle Isle Jan. 14.](#)

[Register for Birding Belle Isle Feb. 11.](#)

[Register for Birding Belle Isle March 10.](#)

[Register for Birding Belle Isle April 14.](#)

## Nature at Night on Belle Isle – Owl Prowl and Bonfire

Thursday, Jan. 18, 6-8 p.m.

Join us at the Belle Isle Nature Center to learn all about our local owls! We'll have some indoor activities related to owls, an "owl prowling" walk to listen for resident owls, and a toasty bonfire to stay warm! The Belle Isle Nature Center is located at 176 Lakeside Drive on Belle Isle Park.

Note that a Recreation Passport is required for entry to Belle Isle Park.

FEE: This is a free outdoor event located at the Belle Isle Nature Center.

Preregistration required.

[Register for Nature at Night on Belle Isle – Owl Prowl and Bonfire.](#)

## Birding Proud Lake

Sunday, March 24 9-11 a.m.

Join OAC staff for an early spring exploration of the Marsh Trail at Proud Lake State Recreation Area! We'll expect to see a mixture of year-round resident birds and some early spring migrants. A limited number of binoculars will be available for loan. All skill levels welcome.

Fee: This is a free offsite event.

Preregistration required.

[Register for Birding Proud Lake March 24.](#)

## Detroit Pheasant Walk

Saturday, April 27, 8:30-10 a.m.

Did you know that the Ring-necked Pheasant has been a resident species of Detroit for decades? Join us for a walk along the Riverfront and other areas around the OAC to look and listen for this beautiful Detroit grassland bird. We'll discuss how pheasants may have gotten here and why they have stayed, and we'll also look for any other migrant birds passing through for the season. Limited binoculars will be available for loan.

As an extra bonus, join us for a showing of the award-winning documentary short "Pheasants of Detroit" by Diane Cheklich and Diane Weiss at the conclusion of our walk

FEE: Included with the price of admission.

Preregistration required.

[Register for Detroit Pheasant Walk.](#)

## OAC Running Club

Sundays, Jan. 21 – March 17, 9-10:30 a.m., weekly

Join us for a Couch to 5k program at the Outdoor Adventure Center! Meet our OAC educators and special guests weekly for a brief informational session, followed by a self-guided run outdoors on the Dequindre Cut and at Milliken State Park. The running route will be marked each week. Informational sessions will help you

connect with other runners, set your fitness goals, and learn tips and tricks to enhance your performance. This program is designed for those new to running - we will follow a Couch to 5k plan each week. Our Running Club members are encouraged to register for the annual Lumberjack Run at the OAC on March 23.

This is an outdoor event held rain or shine; please dress for the weather.

Fee: \$20 per runner.

T-shirt: Optional t-shirts are available to participants for \$15 each during checkout. T-shirt orders must be submitted by Jan. 28.

Preregistration required.

[Register for OAC Running Club.](#)

## Free Fishing Weekend

Sunday, Feb. 18, 1-2 p.m.

Fishing is not just for the warmer months! Join our educators for winter fishing at Milliken State Park. We will learn what equipment is needed and how to safely fish during the wintertime.

Equipment and guidance will be provided. This is an outdoor event held rain or shine; please dress for the weather. Including winter boots and outerwear.

This is an outdoor event held rain or shine; please dress for the weather including winter boots and outerwear.

Fee: Included with the price of OAC admission.

Preregistration required.

[Register for Free Fishing Weekend.](#)

## Statewide Astronomy Night at Belle Isle Nature Center

Friday, April 12, 7-10 p.m.

Celebrate Statewide Astronomy Night with crafts, activities and stargazing (if the weather is clear!). The event will take place at the Belle Isle Nature Center in partnership with Wayne State University Planetarium, Michigan Science Center and Outdoor Adventure Center.

This is an outdoor event held rain or shine; please dress for the weather.

Fee: This is a free offsite event.

Recreation Passport required for Belle Isle State Park entry.

## Grown-Up Gatherings

### Girl's Night Out: Archery

Friday, Jan. 26, 5-7:30 p.m. or 6-8:30 p.m.

Join us at the Outdoor Adventure Center with your girlfriends for a Girls' Night Out of archery and fun! This evening will feature an archery class in our indoor range. After our one-hour archery class, we will have a trivia competition with light snacks and refreshments.

Close-toed shoes are required to participate in archery; athletic or flat shoes strongly recommended.

Light snacks and refreshments will be included.

The doors to the Outdoor Adventure Center will open at 5 p.m. and 6 p.m. respectively for participants registered at those times. Participants must arrive on time to their scheduled session. We are not able to accommodate late arrivals.

Fee: \$20 per person.

Preregistration required.

This event is subject to cancellation if minimum attendance is not met.

[Register for Girl's Night Out: Archery 5 p.m.](#)

[Register for Girl's Night Out: Archery 6 p.m.](#)

## Murder Mystery: Who Killed Roger Rabbit?

Friday, Feb. 23 6-8:30 p.m.

Blood and paw prints on the trail – whodunit?! Join us for a hands-on “murder mystery” with some of Michigan’s wildest suspects. You’ll examine tracks and scat, ponder predator and prey activity, dig into dentition and do some DNA sleuthing. Participants are encouraged to take an active role as one of the suspects as we go through several rounds of questioning and clues.

This event is open to those 21 and older and sponsored by Friends of the OAC. Please provide ID at event check-in. Beer, wine, non- alcoholic refreshments, and light snacks will be provided during the program.

Fee: \$20 per person.

Preregistration required. Registration will be available soon.

This event is subject to cancellation if minimum attendance is not met.

## Archery

Friday, March 15, 5-7:30 p.m. or 6-8:30 p.m.

Join us at the Outdoor Adventure Center for a night of archery and fun! This evening will feature an archery class in our indoor range. After our one-hour archery class, we will have a trivia competition with light snacks and refreshments.

Close-toed shoes are required to participate in archery; athletic or flat shoes strongly recommended. This event is open to those 21 and older; please provide ID at event check-in.

Sponsored by Friends of the OAC: Beer, wine, nonalcoholic refreshments, and light snacks will be provided during the program.

The doors to the Outdoor Adventure Center will open at 5 p.m. and 6 p.m. respectively for participants registered at those times. Participants must arrive on time to their scheduled session.

Fee: \$20 per person.

Preregistration required. Registration will be available soon.

This event is subject to cancellation if minimum attendance is not met.

## Just for Kids

### Summer Camp Open House

Sunday, April 21, 12:30-3 p.m.

Camp Explore at the Outdoor Adventure Center invites registered and prospective summer campers and their families to preview our 2024 programs. Experience exciting summer activities including archery, meet the staff, and have all your questions about camp answered!

Space in the archery class is limited, and open only to those 8 and older. Arrive at noon to sign up for archery.

Fee: Included with the price of admission.



## Camp Explore 2024

Find your summer adventures at Camp Explore!

We have two options for summer 2024 - Trailblazers Middle School Camp, and our NEW Leaders in Training program

### Trailblazers

For rising fifth to eighth graders

Join us for a thrilling week of hands-on activities and classic camp games! Explore the one-of-a-kind Outdoor Adventure Center, fish and hike at Milliken State Park, and bike to Belle Isle with our enthusiastic camp counselors in a variety of on- and off-site adventures. End the week with a lock-in and pizza party at the OAC!

Fee: \$150 per camper.

Session 1: July 8-11

Session 2: July 22-25

Session 3: August 5-8

### Leaders in Training

For rising ninth to 12th graders

This session of camp is a hands-on leadership experience for high schoolers. Campers will discover their own leadership style and work together to complete a service project at Milliken State Park. On Wednesday, the group will travel to Maybury State Park for an overnight campout, complete with bike riding, campfire cooking and s'mores!

Fee: \$200 per camper.

Dates: June 24-27

[Register for Camp Explore.](#)

### Little Cubs and Explorers Club: Mammal Tracks

Saturday, Jan. 13, 10:30 a.m.-noon

Winter is a great time to look for signs that animals leave behind, like tracks and scat! We'll learn how to identify some common mammal tracks, practice our skills with some indoor activities, then check outside for local winter animal activity!

Fee: Included with the price of admission.

Preregistration required.

[Register for Little Cubs and Explorers Club: Mammal Tracks.](#)

### Little Cub and Explorers Club: Winter Outdoor Recreation

Saturday, Feb. 10, 10:30 a.m.-noon

Let's take the winter fun outdoors! Activities could include some of Michigan's finest winter pastimes – sledding, playing in the snow, looking for animal tracks, snowshoeing or ice fishing depending on weather conditions.

Fee: Included with the price of admission.

Preregistration required.

[Register for Little Cub and Explorers Club: Winter Outdoor Recreation.](#)

## Little Cub and Explorers Club: Busy Beaver

Saturday, March 9, 10:30 a.m.-noon

Our March program will focus on the fascinating, engineering, busy, large rodent - the beaver! This mammal has made a big comeback around the Detroit River over the past several years. We'll take a look at what makes the beaver unique and search for signs of this animal at Milliken State Park.

Fee: Included with the price of admission.

Preregistration required.

[Register for Little Cub and Explorers Club: Busy Beaver.](#)

## Little Cub and Explorers Club: Herp Habitats

Saturday, April 6, 10:30 a.m.-noon

Springtime is when we first start to see or hear Michigan's reptiles and amphibians after the cold winter months. We'll take an up-close look at some of the species found in Michigan, compare and contrast their habitats, and look for some of them at nearby Milliken State Park!

Fee: Included with the price of admission.

Preregistration required.

[Register for Little Cub and Explorers Club: Herp Habitats.](#)

## New series! Nature Play for Pre-K

Nature Play for Pre-K invites all participants ages 3-5 for our Nature Play series, exploring different topics every month. This series is hands on with a discovery focus. We will start with an introduction inside and then head outside to explore, so please come dressed and prepared for the weather!

### Nature Play for Pre-K: Tracking

Friday, Jan. 5, 10:30-11:15 a.m.

We may not always see who has visited our backyards and parks, but we can investigate and figure out who has been there based on what they leave behind. Join us as we investigate who leaves what kind of tracks!

Fee: Included with the price of admission.

Preregistration required.

[Register for Nature Play for Pre-K: Tracking.](#)

### Nature Play for Pre-K: Snow Play

Friday, Feb. 16, 10:30-11:15 a.m.

Winter is a magical time, especially with snow! We will look at snow up close and all the different ways we can interact with it, including painting!

Fee: Included with the price of admission.

Preregistration required.

[Register for Nature Play for Pre-K: Snow Play.](#)

### Nature Play for Pre-K: Spring

Friday, March 29, 10:30-11:15 a.m.

This month we will go exploring for signs of Spring! We will use all our senses to discover what is new and fresh with the start of Spring.

Fee: Included with the price of admission.

Preregistration required.

[Register for Nature Play for Pre-K: Spring.](#)

Nature Play for Pre-K: Birds

Friday, April 19, 10:30-11:15 a.m.

Time to migrate! It is the middle of migration, let's see who we can find coming back or passing through the area.

Fee: Included with the price of admission.

Preregistration required.

[Register for Nature Play for Pre-K: Birds.](#)

## Special Events

Family Adventure Night

Sunday, Feb. 18, 6 to 10 p.m.

Stay up late at the Outdoor Adventure Center!

Join us for a fun-filled evening: night hike, crafts, "minute to win it" games and more. Oakland County Parks will share the night sky with their StarLab program, and exhibits will be open all evening.

We'll end the night with a campfire and s'mores under the stars!

Fee: \$10 per person.

Preregistration required.

[Register for Family Adventure Night.](#)

Invasive Species Awareness Day

Saturday, Feb. 24, 1-4 p.m.

Join OAC staff and several guest agencies to learn about some of the invasive species common here in Michigan and the Great Lakes region, what is being done to combat them, and how you can help in the effort! Visit each of our interactive spots throughout the building to earn a small prize.

Fee: Included with the price of admission.

Lumberjack Day

Saturday, March 23

After our Lumberjack Pancake Run, join us for special programming and activities that include a maple syrup infusion, a visit from our DNR Forest Resources Division and a Michigan lumbering history informational table.

Lumberjack Pancake Run

Saturday, March 23

It is time to run with sap!

This race takes place on the Dequindre Cut. The course is flat and fast. We start in front of the Outdoor Adventure Center at 1801 Atwater St. in Detroit. Parking is located on Atwater, across from Milliken State Park and Harbor.

Race swag includes a custom medal, a lumberjack buff, entry to the Outdoor Adventure Center beginning at 10 a.m. and a pancake breakfast.

All participants are encouraged to wear their best flannel apparel and sport their best lumberjack beard. Prizes will be awarded to the best dressed!

Race times

7:30 a.m.: Check in/on-site registration

9:00 a.m.: Fun Run begins (just 162 feet – fun for every age)

9:30 a.m.: 5K Run/Walk begins

10 a.m.: Pancake breakfast

[Register for Lumberjack Pancake Run.](#)

Additional tickets for the pancake breakfast are available for purchase for all family and friends of our racers for just \$5.

[Register for Lumberjack Pancake Breakfast.](#)

## Homeschool Hangout: An Academic Adventure

Thursday, March 28, 10 a.m.-1 p.m.

Bring your young scholars to the Outdoor Adventure Center for a fun and educational experience! This event is designed as an opportunity for homeschool students grades Kindergarten through eighth to enjoy the OAC while participating in programs by grade level. During this event, the building will be closed to the public. Preregistered students and their families may explore the OAC exhibits and participate in programs from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Children must be registered as “students” under the appropriate grade categories to be eligible to participate in programs designated for that grade level. Individuals registered under the “non-student” category will not be admitted to programs but may still enjoy the OAC exhibits for the duration of the event. Programs for this season’s Homeschool Hangout will focus on Michigan’s natural history.

Fee: Included with the price of admission.

Only the admission fee is charged at registration.

Preregistration required.

[Register for Homeschool Hangout: An Academic Adventure.](#)

## ScOutdoor Adventure: Girl Scouts

Saturday, April 13, 1-4 p.m.

Join us for our annual Girl Scout badge workshop day! Brownies, Juniors, and Cadettes will have the opportunity to meet requirements towards various badges and receive OAC Scout patch for attending this day of programming. This is not a drop-off program; Scouts must be accompanied by a paid adult during the program. Preregistration required for all attendees (Scouts and family members). This event is subject to cancellation if minimum attendance is not met. A portion of the event will be held outside rain or shine; please dress for the weather. Click the registration link to learn more details for each level.

Please note that check-in for ScOutdoor Adventure begins at 12:30 p.m.; Scouts must complete check in by 1 p.m. or they will miss their first session.

OAC educators will address components of the following badges:

Brownie: Outdoor Art Creator, Eco Friend, Hiker

Junior: Animal Habitats, Camper, Eco Camper

Cadette: Archery (all steps will be addressed)

Fee: \$16 per Scout.

Preregistration is required for all attendees (Scouts and family members).

[Register for ScOutdoor Adventure: Girl Scouts.](#)

## Down on the Farm in Downtown Detroit With Upland Hills Farm

Sunday, April 14, noon-3 p.m.

11:30 a.m.-noon: early entry for members

Agriculture is an important part of Michigan's past, present, and future! Meet some of our farm animal favorites right here at the OAC. Our archery range will be transformed into a barn, and you will be able to get up close to cows, pigs, chickens, and more! This is a popular exhibit; there may be a wait during hours of operation.

Fee: Included with the price of admission.

## Community Open House

Thursday, April 18, 6-8 p.m.

Come on down to the Outdoor Adventure Center for the Community Open House! This is an opportunity for you to meet our area community groups while learning about many social, leisure and educational programs they offer.

Fee: Complimentary admission.

## Detroit River Coalition Earth Day Cleanup

Saturday, April 20, 9 a.m.-noon

The Michigan DNR and Outdoor Adventure Center are proud members of the Detroit River Coalition. Each year we participate in the coalition's international Earth Day Cleanup effort. Join us as we clean up at Milliken State Park (across the street from the Outdoor Adventure Center). This is a great opportunity for all ages to get outside and make a positive difference in our state park. Trash bags and nitrile gloves provided to all volunteers. Dress for the weather.

Fee: Complimentary admission.

[Register for Detroit River Coalition Earth Day Cleanup.](#)

## Celebrate our Great Lakes!

Saturday, April 20, 1-4 p.m.

Sometimes called inland seas, our Great Lakes are a valuable and unique ecosystem of their own, and they provide endless opportunities and resources for society's livelihood and well-being. Join us to explore some science of the Great Lakes, meet some of their unique species, and interact with folks working to protect these valuable resources. We'll offer several opportunities for hands-on science observation.

Fee: Included with the price of admission.

## Train Day at the OAC!

Saturday, May 4, 10 a.m.-5 p.m.

Join us for this celebration of trains and the history of railroading on the riverfront. The event will include interactive activities, guest speakers, a model railroad, railroading artifacts and more!

Fee: Included with the price of admission.

## The More You Know

### Wild Science Saturdays

1:30 - 2:30 p.m.

There's always more to nature than meets the eye! We'll take an in-depth look at the science behind natural phenomena with hands-on activities one Saturday each month

Fee: Included with the price of admission.

### Let It Snow!

Saturday, Jan. 13

Is it true that no two snowflakes are alike? Find out and learn more "cool" things about snow!

### Outstanding Owls

Saturday, Feb. 17

Owls are amazing! Their adaptations for the "night life" have inspired all sorts of new technology. Explore how owls survive with activities and games.

### Take Flight!

Saturday, March 16

How do animals (and some plants!) fly and what can we learn from them? Design a drone and make a kite while exploring the marvels of flight.

### Fabulous Fossils

Saturday, April 6

How do fossils form? What can fossils tell us? Explore the world of fossils and celebrate the anniversary of Michigan's state fossil with activities and crafts.

### Hunter Education Field Day

Saturday, Feb. 3, 9 a.m.-3 p.m.

The main purpose of the hunter education field day course is to provide an alternative to the traditional course. This course is the same as the traditional hunter education course; however, the classroom portion is completed by enrolling in the online training session. In order to purchase a hunting license in Michigan, an individual born on or after Jan. 1, 1960, is required to successfully complete an approved hunter education course. The online course is fee-based and can be taken at [www.huntered.com/Michigan](http://www.huntered.com/Michigan). Students completing the online course followed by the field day must present a copy of their certificate of completion (voucher) for the online course at the start of the field day.

All participants must have successfully completed the online hunter education course prior to registering for the field day.

About the field day:

- Six-hour course.
- Written test (80% or better to pass) and practice assessment (pass/fail).
- No minimum age requirement; however, students under 16 years of age should be accompanied by a parent, legal guardian or other adult approved by parent or legal guardian.

Fee: This is free event.

Preregistration required.

## [Register for Hunter Education: Field Day.](#)

### Bowhunter Education Field Day

Sunday, April 28, 9 a.m.-1 p.m.

Bow hunter education is an optional course offered to hunters to continue their education above and beyond the required Michigan hunter education course. Bow hunter education is not required in Michigan; however, it is required in other states and this certification may satisfy other states requirements. There are two different formats for successfully completing the field day course. Students must take either, the online course or the take home study, then complete the field day in order to earn a bow hunter safety certificate. Students choosing the online course followed by the field day must present a copy of their certificate of completion (voucher) of the online course at the start of the field day. The online course is fee based and can be taken at <https://www.bowhunter-ed.com/michigan/>. The second format is take-home study. Students register for the field day and pick up the student manual, a minimum of three weeks prior to the field day. Take home study students must complete the chapter review questions and present them at the start of the field day. Michigan's bow hunter education course is taught by a dedicated corps of certified volunteer instructors and Michigan conservation officers.

About the field day:

- In-person field day.
- Four hours
- Written test (80% or better to pass) and practice assessment (pass/fail).
- No minimum age requirement; however, students under 16 years of age should be accompanied by a parent, legal guardian or other adult approved by parent or legal guardian.

Fee: This is free event.

Preregistration required.

## [Register for Bowhunter Education: Field Day.](#)

### Boater Education

Saturday, May 11, 9 a.m.-5 p.m.

The main purpose of the boater safety education course is to train knowledgeable, safe and responsible boaters. Topics covered include general boating and water safety, navigational rules, causes and prevention of crashes, operation and fueling techniques, environmental concerns and reporting responsibility. Any motorized boat operator born after June 30, 1996, is required by law to pass an approved boater safety course and to carry a boater safety certificate. In addition, boater education is also required for all PWC operators born after Dec. 31, 1978. Michigan's boater education course is taught by a dedicated core of certified volunteer instructors, sheriff's deputies and Michigan conservation officers.

About this class:

- In-person, traditional classroom setting.
- Written test (75% or better to pass).
- No minimum age requirement; however, students under 10 years of age should be accompanied by a parent, legal guardian or other adult approved by parent or legal guardian.

Fee: This is free event.

Preregistration required.

### Michigan Rocks!

Saturday, Jan. 27 2-4 p.m.

Stop in our classroom space to explore the geology of Michigan! Michigan rock, mineral and fossil specimens will be available for hands-on observation and discovery. If you love Michigan's rocks or want to learn more about our state's geological history, this is the place to be! You can even create a fossil cast to take home with you (while supplies last).

Fee: Included with the price of admission.

## Freshwater Fishing Series

Saturday, Jan. 27 - Ice Fishing

Sunday, March 10 - Walleye

Sunday, May 19 - White Bass

1-3 p.m.

Freshwater Fishing is a new series of workshops that will connect DNR staff with participants wanting to learn more specialty fishing. DNR staff will discuss specific fish species, equipment recommendation, techniques and regulations. Participants will also have a chance to make their own equipment/tackle to take home and use.

Fee: \$10 per person.

Preregistration required.

[Register for Freshwater Fishing Series.](#)

## Black Faces in Green Spaces: The Journeys of Black Professionals in Green Careers

Saturday, March 16, 10 a.m.-4 p.m.

Attention K-12 and nonformal educators! Participate in a workshop to learn how to integrate the curriculum Black Faces in Green Spaces: The Journeys of Black Professionals in Green Careers into your lessons! The Journeys guide was created in partnership with Minorities in Agriculture, Natural Resources and Related Sciences (MANRRS), The Sustainable Forestry Initiative® (SFI), and Project Learning Tree. The purpose is to inspire young Black Americans to pursue forest and conservation careers by telling the stories of Black Americans who have taken this career path and who have advice and resources to share. This workshop will provide both formal and nonformal educators with the tools, resources and network to share the guide with students and other educators.

[List your email here to stay in the loop about the event.](#)

## Recreation Passport

### Cost, where to purchase and details

- Vehicles \$13 (through Dec. 31, 2023) when purchased at time of license plate registration renewal through the Secretary of State. A two-year option is available for \$26.
- Vehicles \$14 (beginning Jan. 1, 2024) when purchased at time of license plate registration renewal through the Secretary of State. A two-year option is available for \$28.
- Motorcycles \$7 when purchased at time of your license plate registration renewal through the Secretary of State.
- Moped \$7 when purchased at state parks and most DNR customer service centers.
- Commercial daily pass \$20 when purchased at state parks (24k+ lbs and/or seating capacity of 16+).
- The purchase of a separate Recreation Passport is required for unhitched towed vehicles.

There's a \$5 convenience fee (except for Belle Isle Park) when the Recreation Passport is not purchased at the time of your license plate registration renewal through the Secretary of State, and is instead purchased at a state park, recreation area or DNR customer service center. There is no convenience fee when purchasing a passport for a moped.



## Other need-to-know info:

- A resident Recreation Passport cannot be purchased online.
- The passport is valid for one year and/or until your license plate registration expires.
- When purchased at the time of license plate registration renewal, your license plate tab will have the letter "P." When purchased at a different time, you'll receive a sticker that must be permanently affixed to the lower passenger-side windshield.
- State parks accept debit/credit, cash and check.
- DNR customer service centers, with the exception of Baraga and Bay City, sell Recreation Passports via cash or check (no credit/debit).
- Self-registration envelopes and fee pipes are available at many state parks, boating access sites and state forest campgrounds. In addition, there are self-serve kiosks at Belle Isle, Duck Lake, Island Lake, Maybury, Palms Book, Saugatuck Dunes and Tahquamenon Falls state parks/recreation areas, as well as Black Lake State Forest Campground, Harley Ensign Boating Access Site and Island Lake Recreation Area gun range. The \$5 convenience fee applies.

Questions? Please contact us [DNR-ParksAndRecreation@michigan.gov](mailto:DNR-ParksAndRecreation@michigan.gov) or call 517-284-7275.

## Outdoor Adventure Center

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844-OAC-MDNR (844-622-6367)

[Michigan.gov/OAC](http://Michigan.gov/OAC)

[DNR-OAC@Michigan.gov](mailto:DNR-OAC@Michigan.gov)

This newsletter is posted on our website and is available by email.

Visit [Michigan.gov/OAC](http://Michigan.gov/OAC) and scroll to the bottom of the page to sign up for email alerts, including this triannual newsletter.

The Michigan Department of Natural Resources is committed to the conservation, protection, management, use and enjoyment of the state's natural and cultural resources for current and future generations. For more information, go to [Michigan.gov/DNR](http://Michigan.gov/DNR).