

Beall Woods State Park 2016 Programs Spring & Summer

Hike for Your Health

Saturdays, 9am
March 5th, 12th, 26th & April 2nd, 9th, 16th

During this six week program, you will have the opportunity to exercise in a serene setting with a group of people who enjoy being outdoors. Each week the hiking distance will increase and different paths will be utilized. Participants should dress appropriately for weather conditions.

Woodpecker 101

Saturday, March 19th, 9am

Which species of woodpecker is the smallest in Illinois? How do you tell the difference between a male and female Red-bellied woodpecker? Learn how to identify the woodpeckers found in our area. The nesting and feeding behaviors of each bird will also be discussed. The program will begin with a presentation in the Visitor Center and end with a short hike. Don't forget your binoculars!

Woodland Wildflower Hikes

Saturdays - April 2nd, 9th, & 16th -1pm

Sap used as dye by Native Americans... A root-stock that tastes like radish... Discover past uses of our native flora and interesting characteristics about each wildflower species during a 1.5 mile hike along the trails of the Nature Preserve. Feel free to bring along your camera to capture the intricate design and delicate nature of these spring beauties.

Spring Catchable Trout Season

Opens Saturday, April 2nd at 5am

Earth Day in the Park

Wednesday, April 20th

Since 2010, the park has participated in the IDNR's EDITP event. Students have planted native prairie wildflowers and grasses, assembled bird nesting boxes, removed invasive species, planted oak trees, and mulched newly planted trees and flower beds. If you are a teacher and would be interested the EDITP event or a future one, please visit <http://www.dnr.illinois.gov/education/Pages/EDITPinstruct.aspx>

TREASURE HUNT

Saturday, April 23rd

This challenging hunt involves searching for clue boxes, solving the clues, and ultimately discovering the hidden location of the treasure box. It will take a couple of hours or longer to complete. This is a family activity and help will be needed by the adults. Clue boxes will be scattered in several different locations around the park, which will require driving to a couple of different areas. Please have one member of each group pick up the first clue inside of the Visitor Center between 10am and 1pm.

Dragonflies: Life Through a Lens

Saturday, May 14th, 1pm

With great patience and perfect timing of the shutter button, Norm Cline has captured amazing up-close photographs of dragonflies. His pictures reveal detailed behaviors of these winged predators that would normally be missed if viewed from a distance. Norm will show several images of these beautiful creatures while discussing his observations from behind the camera.

Plants in Need of Ants

Saturday, May 21st, 10am

Many flowering plants rely on animals to aid in the dispersal of their seeds. Discover how ants and the "ant-loving" plants found in the park benefit from seed dispersal.

Fishing With My Dad

Saturday, June 4th
Registration 8:30am-9am
Fishing 9-10:30am

Fishing With My Dad is sponsored by the Wabash County Health Department (All Our Kids Network) and is for children ages 5 and under. Children must be accompanied by an adult. Please remember to bring your fishing gear and register upon arrival at the shelter by the boat dock. Everyone should return to the shelter by 10:45am for prizes.

Junior Naturalist Programs

***Ages 8-11 *Registration Required**

Squirmin' Worms

Friday, June 10th, 9am-11am

What has five hearts, can eat as much as it weighs each day, and plays an important role in soil and plant health? An earthworm! Learn about the anatomy of earthworms, how their functions benefit soil, and vermicomposting.

Curious About Caterpillars?

Friday, June 17th, 9am-11am

Let's examine the larval stage of butterflies and moths. How do caterpillars defend themselves against predators? What do they prefer to eat? Why are certain species of caterpillars considered pests? Participants will learn the answers to these questions and practice identifying caterpillars common to the area.

A Drop of Water

Friday, June 24th, 9am-11am

Imagine that you are a molecule of water traveling from one location in the water cycle to another. You may be absorbed by plant roots, frozen in a glacier, or consumed by a thirsty animal. Play a game to find out just how many places you could end up.

*Please register your child for one or all three of the Junior Naturalist programs by June 4th. Adults are welcome to stay with their child during the program. Each week, a participation form must be completed by a parent or guardian.

Youth Fishing Derby

Saturday, June 11th
Registration 8-8:30am
Fishing 8:30-10:30am

Calling all anglers ages 6 to 16! Find your favorite fishing pole and lucky bait. You are invited to Beall Woods State Park's annual youth fishing derby, sponsored by The Hanging Rock Bass Club. Please register upon arrival between 8am-8:30am at the south shelter. Participants will begin fishing at 8:30am. Prizes will be presented at approximately 10:45am.

GARDENING FOR POLLINATORS

Saturday, June 18th, 10am

With the array of brilliant colors added to the green landscape, flowers bring forth a state of peacefulness and happiness to their observers. Not only is their aesthetic value of importance, but many organisms rely on flowers for survival. Find out how to attract wildlife to your yard by planting beautiful native prairie plants. Participants should meet at the north shelter at 10am. We will be taking a short hike around the pollination garden and the prairie restoration site. Feel free to bring your camera!

Sights and Sounds of Summer

Saturday, June 25th, 10am

Summer is a time for nature to grow and express itself. Fields abound with colorful displays of flowers. Courtship and nesting have taken place so many birds are going about the business of feeding young. Sit back as Bob and Kathy Andrini present a program about prairies, woodlands, and ponds at this special time of the year. Enjoy not only the sights, but also special summer sounds.

Fireflies

Friday, July 8th, 7:30pm

Let's examine the beetle behind the small flashing lights that appear and disappear throughout the dark summer nights. The program will include a presentation, craft for kids, and outdoor activities. Please meet in front of the Visitor Center and bring a flashlight. If you plan on attending, please call by July 2nd.

The park's Natural Resources Coordinator presents programs throughout the year to school groups, scouts, church groups, clubs, etc... If you would like to schedule a presentation or guided hike, please call the park's Visitor Center.

Programs are free of charge and will begin at the Visitor Center unless otherwise noted.

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