



# Natural Resources

2880 GRAYS ROAD, PRINCE FREDERICK MD 20678 • 410-535-5327

## Policies

### HOW TO REGISTER



#### ONLINE

[www.calvertparks.org/programs.html](http://www.calvertparks.org/programs.html)  
[CypressSwamp@calvertcountymd.gov](mailto:CypressSwamp@calvertcountymd.gov)



#### PHONE

410-535-5327

Programs are sponsored by the Calvert Nature Society and Calvert County Parks & Recreation Natural Resources Division. Registration required. Online registration for programs will be given priority. Visa, Mastercard and Discover accepted online only.

### REGISTRATION DATES

#### MARCH PROGRAMS

Members Jan. 7, Nonmembers Jan. 21

#### APRIL PROGRAMS

Members Feb. 7, Nonmembers Feb. 21

#### MAY PROGRAMS

Members March 7, Nonmembers March 21

#### JUNE PROGRAMS

Members April 7, Nonmembers April 21

### REFUNDS

Calvert Nature Society will refund payments made for program fees over \$10 when the cancellation occurs a month before the event less a \$5 administrative fee. Program fees under \$10 will not be refunded. Dues payments are nonrefundable.

## Programs for Families

Families experience the fascinating natural world found in our area. These programs incorporate activities for learners of all ages. Most programs spend time outdoors: dress for the weather and wear appropriate footwear. Reservations required ([www.calvertparks.org](http://www.calvertparks.org)). Adult participation required unless noted. Children must be the age indicated for each program.

**Fees unless noted:** Free for society members.  
Nonmembers pay \$8 per family.

### Dr. Seuss Animal Stories

Celebrate "Read Across America Day" by joining a naturalist every hour for a read-aloud from the Dr. Seuss learning library books, such as "Miles and Miles of Reptiles," "Fine Feathered Friends" and more. Let Dr. Seuss take you on a whimsical adventure into the heart of nature. Drop in at any time during the day.

**Location:** Flag Ponds Nature Park

AGE	DAY	TIME	DATE
All ages	Sa	10:00A-4:00P	3/2

**Naturalist:** Kim Curren

### Toddler Hike

Hiking with toddlers is always an adventure. Join us as we flip over rocks, pick up sticks and hike through the woods at a toddler's pace.

**Location:** Kings Landing Park

AGE	DAY	TIME	DATE
All ages	Tu	12:00-1:00P	3/5

**Naturalist:** Amy Werking

## ☐ Spring Defeats Winter Hike

Take a journey through forest and field to discover nature's reawakening from its winter sleep and celebrate the coming of spring. This will be a moderately strenuous hike on uneven surfaces. Not suitable for strollers or children younger than six.

**Location: Ward Farm Recreation and Nature Park**

AGE	DAY	TIME	DATE
6+	Sa	10:00A-12:00P	3/9

**Naturalist: Tania Gale**

## ☐ What's that Beak for?

Learn about the diversity of beaks and how they work through hands-on activities. Discover nature's toolkits in action with games and a craft.

**Location: Kings Landing Park**

AGE	DAY	TIME	DATE
3-5	M	10:00-11:00A	3/11

**Naturalist: Paige Stevens**

## ☐ Spring Kickoff-Sock Burning

There is no better way to welcome spring than to get rid of your old winter socks and take a barefoot walk on the beach. Join us for this quirky Maryland tradition where we will gather around the campfire to celebrate the coming spring by burning our socks.

**Location: Flag Ponds Nature Park**

AGE	DAY	TIME	DATE
All ages	Su	10:00A-12:00P	3/17

**Naturalist: Kim Curren**

## ☐ Magnificent Mammals of Maryland

Explore the mysterious world of Maryland's swamp-dwelling mammals at the Battle Creek Cypress Swamp. Learn about the diverse creatures that call this unique habitat home, and then go on a short, guided hike to look for clues and signs of their presence.

**Location: Battle Creek Cypress Swamp**

AGE	DAY	TIME	DATE
All ages	Sa	10:00-11:30A	3/23

**Naturalist: Eva Blockstein**



## ☐ Extraordinary Eggs

Bunnies don't lay eggs, but lots of other animals do. Come learn about all the different types of eggs animals lay, go on an egg hunt and then dye some eggs to take home.

**Location: Kings Landing Park**

AGE	DAY	TIME	DATE
1.5-5	W	10:00A-12:00P	3/27
1.5-5	W	2:00-4:00P	3/27

**Naturalist: Kim Curren**

## ☐ Springtime Spotted Salamander Search

Every spring, Spotted Salamanders can be found making their way toward fresh water to mate and lay their eggs. In this program we will learn about and search for these incredible amphibians.

**Location: Flag Ponds Nature Park**

AGE	DAY	TIME	DATE
5+	Sa	10:00A-12:00P	4/6

**Naturalist: Kim Curren**

## ☐ Little Hands Log Roll

As the weather warms, many animals can be found making their homes under logs. Join us for a fun adventure as we gently roll logs to uncover these hidden creatures in their natural habitat.

**Location: Flag Ponds Nature Park**

AGE	DAY	TIME	DATE
1.5-5	W	9:00-10:00A	4/10
1.5-5	W	2:00-3:00P	4/10

**Naturalist: Kim Curren**

## ☐ Springtime Safari Amphibian Hunt

This promises to be an exciting adventure through the vibrant world of amphibians. This is the perfect opportunity for young nature enthusiasts to explore the wonders of these fascinating creatures. We'll hike through the woods to search for vernal pools and streams fed by spring rains – looking for spring wildflowers and amphibians along the way. This will be a moderately strenuous hike on uneven surfaces.

**Location: Ward Farm Recreation and Nature Park**

AGE	DAY	TIME	DATE
6-9	Sa	10:00A-12:00P	4/13

**Naturalist: Tania Gale**

## Spring Sights and Sounds

Lace up your walking shoes and get your listening ears ready to look for signs of nature waking up after winter. We'll look for early wildflowers and listen for wildlife in the swamp, forest and meadow.

**Location: Battle Creek Cypress Swamp**

AGE	DAY	TIME	DATE
5+	Th	10:00-11:00A	4/18

**Naturalist: Amy Werking**

## Night Hike

The parks at night are thrilling. Join us to explore Kings Landing Park's red tail trail (approximately one mile) during a guided night hike. Children must be accompanied by adult.

**Location: Kings Landing Park**

AGE	DAY	TIME	DATE
5+	F	7:30-9:00P	4/19

**Naturalist: Paige Stevens**

## Earth Day Celebration

Celebrate Earth Day with some outdoor nature play. Drop-in any time between 10 a.m. and noon to discover how you can take better care of our beautiful planet.

**Location: Kings Landing Park**

AGE	DAY	TIME	DATE
3-5	M	10:00A-12:00P	4/22

**Naturalist: Kim Curren**

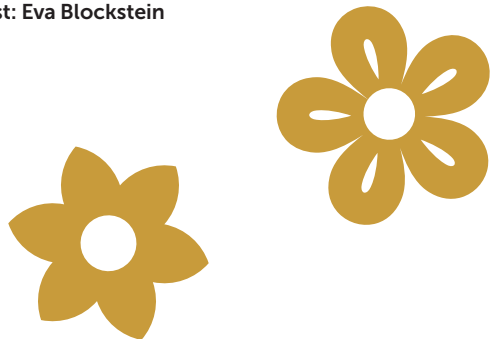
## Fossil Foray

Uncover the secrets of the Miocene Era with a Fossil Foray at Flag Ponds Nature Park. Learn about how fossils are formed and then go for a beach walk to look for your very own Miocene fossils and shark teeth. A journey back in time awaits.

**Location: Flag Ponds Nature Park**

AGE	DAY	TIME	DATE
6+	Su	12:00-2:00P	4/28

**Naturalist: Eva Blockstein**



## The Great Bird Journey

This time of year, there are many birds traveling back up north to their summer habitats. We will play a fun game and talk about why these birds make the big journey and what issues they could face along the way.

**Location: Kings Landing Park**

AGE	DAY	TIME	DATE
3-5	W	9:30-10:30A	5/1
3-5	W	11:00A-12:00P	5/1

**Naturalist: Gene Groshon**

## Frog Calls as Night Falls

Most frogs don't say "ribbit" but they make plenty of other interesting noises. Come learn all about our local frogs and what they sound like. Then test your identification skills as we explore the park in search of these incredible amphibians.

**Location: Flag Ponds Nature Park**

AGE	DAY	TIME	DATE
9+	SA	7-9 P	5/11

**Naturalist: Kim Curren**

## What's the Buzz about Bees and Butterflies?

Get ready to buzz with excitement as we explore the world of pollinators. In this program we will learn all about these incredibly helpful insects and you will get to take home some seeds to help attract them to your garden -.

**Location: Battle Creek Cypress Swamp**

AGE	DAY	TIME	DATE
3-5	Tu	9:00-10:00A	5/14
3-5	Tu	2:00-3:00P	5/14

**Naturalist: Kim Curren**

## Mud Pies and More

Prepare for hands-on mud-splashing as we dive into nature's messiest fun with sensory play and exciting science exploration. This will be an opportunity for little ones and their families to embrace the messiness of childhood and cultivate a love for the great outdoors.

**Location: Flag Ponds Nature Park**

AGE	DAY	TIME	DATE
3-5	W	10:00-11:00A	5/29

**Naturalist: Tania Gale**







# HORSESHOE Haven

## Horseshoe Crab Beach Walk

Embark on a beachfront expedition during the peak spawning season of horseshoe crabs. Discover these ancient creatures as we search the shoreline, unraveling their remarkable history and essential role in the ecosystem. A thrilling and educational adventure awaits on the sandy shores of Flag Ponds Nature Park.

**Location: Flag Ponds Nature Park**

AGE	DAY	TIME	DATE
All ages	F	10:00-11:30 P	5/31

**Naturalist: Kim Curren**

## Horseshoe Crab Campout

Experience the magic of a beachfront overnight campout while searching for horseshoe crabs during their peak spawning season. Roam the shoreline, encounter these ancient creatures, and uncover their remarkable history. It's sure to be a thrilling and educational journey under the stars that you won't want to miss.

**Location: Flag Ponds Nature Park**

**Fee: \$10 for society members. Nonmembers pay \$20 per family.**

AGE	DAY	TIME	DATE
8+	Sa-Su	9 P-9 A	6/1-6/2

**Naturalist: Kim Curren**

## Happy Helpful Horseshoe Crabs

Explore the enchanting world of horseshoe crabs. We'll search for these remarkable creatures while uncovering their fascinating history and unique features. Join us for a fun, educational beach adventure like no other.

**Location: Flag Ponds Nature Park**

AGE	DAY	TIME	DATE
3-5	Th	2:00-4:00P	6/6

**Naturalist: Kim Curren**

## River Critters

The river is home to many animals that we don't often get to see. We will use a seine net to discover the animals that call the Patuxent River home. Parents and children should come dressed to get in the water.

**Location: Kings Landing Park**

AGE	DAY	TIME	DATE
3-5	M	9:30-10:30A	6/10
3-5	M	11:00A-12:00P	6/10

**Naturalist: Gene Groshon**

## Turtle Time

Join us at Flag Ponds Nature Park anytime to meet and feed some of our ambassador animals - the turtles. You will then be given a turtle scavenger hunt and craft to complete during your visit or to take home.

**Location: Flag Ponds Nature Park**

AGE	DAY	TIME	DATE
All ages	Sa	10:00A-12:00P	6/15

**Naturalist: Paige Stevens**

## Dragonfly Discovery

Explore the world of dragonflies and learn about these fascinating insects. Marvel at their graceful flights and discover their important ecological role.

**Location: Battle Creek Cypress Swamp**

AGE	DAY	TIME	DATE
All ages	Sa	10:00-11:30A	6/29

**Naturalist: Eva Blockstein**



# Homeschool Fridays

Homeschool Fridays is a series of environmental education programs developed especially for homeschoolers ages 4 to 12 years. These classes are a great way to get hands-on science and nature lessons, receive help on projects and research and network with other homeschooling families. Each two-hour program will consist of indoor and outdoor hands-on learning. Students will be grouped by age to allow for age-appropriate topic exploration. Parents with younger children will stay with the group; parents of older children have the option to stay and participate as mentors and teachers. Siblings younger than 3 are welcome but must be under the care of a parent/guardian at all times and should not distract other participants. Reservations required ([www.calvertparks.org](http://www.calvertparks.org)).

**Fees unless noted:** Free for society members.  
Nonmembers pay \$8 per family.

**Location:** Flag Ponds Nature Park

AGE	DAY	TIME	DATE
4-12	F	10 A-12 P	4/12
4-12	F	1:30-3:30 P	4/12
4-12	F	10 A-12 P	5/3
4-12	F	1:30-3:30 P	5/3
4-12	F	10 A-12 P	6/7
4-12	F	1:30-3:30 P	6/7

**Naturalist:** Tania Gale

# Kayak Trips

Kayaks, paddles and life jackets are provided. Wear shoes that can get wet and bring water, hat and sunscreen.

Participants must be at least nine years of age to accompany an adult in a double kayak, and at least 12 years old to ride in a single kayak. Those under age 18 must be accompanied by an adult. Reservations and payment are required in advance.

**Fees unless noted:** \$15 for society members.  
Nonmembers pay \$30 per person.  
\$10 discount if you bring your own kayak.

## Marvelous Marsh Kayak Trip

A perfect trip for beginners to learn about kayaking and get out on the water. We will focus on basic kayak skills and the ecology of the Patuxent River. Will include a quick lesson on basic kayak skills.

**Location:** Kings Landing Park

AGE	DAY	TIME	DATE
9+	Sa	10:00A-12:00P	6/1

**Naturalist:** Tania Gale

# Outdoor Adventures

Adult participation is not required. Reservations required ([www.calvertparks.org](http://www.calvertparks.org)).

## Mud Monsters Spring Adventure

Feel like you've been stuck inside all winter? Get outdoors and enjoy the spring. Each day will be full of adventures. We will wade into the swamp, use nets to look for amphibians and, of course, play in the mud.

**Location:** Flag Ponds Nature Park

**Fee per child:** Members: \$25; Nonmembers: \$40

AGE	DAY	TIME	DATE
Grades 3-5	M, Tu	9:00A-3:00P	3/25-3/26

**Naturalist:** Tania Gale

## Swamp Sleuths

Dive into the wonders of aquatic life with our Swamp Sleuths adventure. Participants will have the chance to use nets to uncover the diverse aquatic life inhabiting these ecosystems. Get up close and personal with the fascinating creatures that call the swamp home and gain a deeper appreciation for the intricate web of life in this unique habitat. This is a drop off program, no adults required.

**Location:** Flag Ponds Nature Park

**Fee per child:** Members: \$10; Nonmembers: \$20

AGE	DAY	TIME	DATE
Grades 4-6	F	10:00A-12:00P	5/17

**Naturalist:** Eva Blockstein





## Events for Teens

Adult participation is not required. Reservations required ([www.calvertparks.org](http://www.calvertparks.org)). Fees are listed with each program.

### Teen Birding: Duck Hike

We'll scan the Chesapeake Bay, wetlands and ponds to see what duck species are spending their winter here before they head off on their spring migration. We may even catch a glimpse of our resident Bald Eagle nest.

**Location: Flag Ponds Nature Park**

**Fee per teen: Free for members, \$8 for nonmembers**

AGE	DAY	TIME	DATE
12-18	Sa	9:00-11:00A	3/16

**Naturalist: Gene Groshon**

### Amphibian Bioblitz Overnight

Spend part of spring break with friends searching the woods, ponds and swamps for animals big and small. If you're an adventurer at heart, ready to embrace the thrill of the unexpected, and you don't mind getting dirty in the process, come on down. This is an overnight program.

**Location: Flag Ponds Nature Park**

**Fee per teen: Members: \$10; Nonmembers: \$20**

AGE	DAY	TIME	DATE
Grades 6-8	Th-F	9:00A-9:00A	3/28-3/29

**Naturalist: Tania Gale**

### Teen Homeschool - Kayak Series

Our spring teen homeschool classes will be a three-part series on kayaking and the ecology of the Patuxent River and its tributaries. Each month we will go out in kayaks to explore the river and the areas around it. We will use nets, water quality equipment and our senses to learn more about the river and the plants and animals that call it home. We expect teens to attend all three sessions. No parent needed; participants must be at least 12 years old.

**Location: Kings Landing Park**

**Fee per teen: Members: \$10; Nonmembers: \$20**

AGE	DAY	TIME	DATE
12-16	W	10:00A-12:00P	4/17, 5/8, 3/5

**Naturalist: Tania Gale**

## Events for Adults and Teens

Unless noted, children under 18 require adult participation. Reservations required ([www.calvertparks.org](http://www.calvertparks.org)). Fees are listed with each program.

### Eagle Hike

Flag Ponds Nature Park is one of the best areas in Calvert to view nesting Bald Eagles. We will hike to a viewing point from one of our trails to get an up close view of the nestlings through our spotting scope. Along the way we will discuss these amazing birds.

**Location: Flag Ponds Nature Park**

**Fee: Free for society members. Nonmembers pay \$8 per person.**

AGE	DAY	TIME	DATE
12+	Su	9:00-11:00A	4/7

**Naturalist: Gene Groshon**

### Migratory Bird Hike

Every spring many species of birds will be migrating to their breeding grounds and pass through our parks. We will go on a hike to see what warbler species are stopping by along their journey.

**Location: Battle Creek Cypress Swamp**

**Fee: Free for society members. Nonmembers pay \$8 per person.**

AGE	DAY	TIME	DATE
10+	Tu	9:00-11:00A	4/9
10+	Tu	9:00-11:00A	4/16
10+	Tu	9:00-11:00A	4/30
10+	Tu	9:00-11:00A	5/7
10+	Tu	9:00-11:00A	5/14
10+	Tu	9:00-11:00A	5/21

**Naturalist: Gene Groshon**

**See page 61-64 for information from the Calvert County Department of Economic Development.**