



SPRING 2021 PROGRAMS



Members Registration Opens January 11

Calvert Nature Society and Calvert County Natural Resources Division

See a full listing of all the upcoming programs at www.calvertparks.org

Online registration only.

The schedule of events is subject to changed based on the status of the coronavirus response, weather, staffing, and other situations that may arise. If Calvert Nature Society or Calvert County Natural Resources Division cancels a program, a full refund will be issued.

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.

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.

The schedule of events is subject to changed based on the status of the coronavirus response, weather, staffing, and other situations that may arise. If Calvert Nature Society or Calvert County Natural Resources Division cancels a program, a full refund will be issued.

Holiday Compass Course

Through January 13

Biscoe Gray Heritage Farm.

You can go to the park with your family any day, dawn to dusk, throughout this time period.

Families can enjoy the beautiful scenery at Biscoe Gray Heritage Farm while practicing to use a base plate compass. Find out more on our web page

<https://www.calvertparks.org/compass/>

NATURE AT HOME

You don't have to travel to exotic parks to study nature-you have plenty of plants and animals close to home. Whether it is right in your yard or a short walk away, adventure awaits.

CHECK OUT OUR ONLINE PROGRAMS

<https://www.calvertparks.org/Online-Programs>

Winter Programs

The Magic of Owls

Ages 8-12

Saturday, January 23, 9:00-11:00 a.m.

Online via Zoom

Calling all young witches and wizards! Come learn about the owls that live in both the magic and muggle worlds and discover what makes them so magical. You will also meet the owls that live at our nature center and make a snowy owl of your own!

Great Backyard Bird Count

All Ages

Friday, February 12 at Flag Ponds Nature Park

Saturday, February 13 at Ward Farm Nature Park

Sunday, February 14 at Kings Landing Park

Monday, February 15 at Gatewood Preserve

Two sessions each day, 8:00-10:00 a.m. and 10:00 a.m.-

12:00 p.m. The 24th Annual Great Backyard Bird Count

is this weekend. Whether you are a novice or an expert

birder, volunteers of all ages are welcome to help

identify and count birds.

Reservations required, www.calvertparks.org.

Children under 18 must be accompanied by an adult, unless noted. Children must be the age indicated for each program.

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

The schedule of events is subject to changed based on the status of the coronavirus response, weather, staffing, and other situations that may arise. If Calvert Nature Society or Calvert County Natural Resources Division cancels a program, a full refund will be issued.

Spring Programs

Dead or Alive? Winter in the Woods

All Ages

Wednesday, March 3, 10:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.

Battle Creek Cypress Swamp

The peaceful woods may seem lifeless in winter, but it's not. This program will explore plant, animal, and insect life in the quiet, but not dormant, woods in winter.

Dress for an outdoor winter hike.

Women in Science

All Ages

Saturday, March 6, 2:00-3:00 p.m.

Flag Ponds Nature Park

Celebrate Women's History Month by learning about some of the incredible contributions women have made in the field of science, and hear what is currently being done to close the gender gap within the field.

Baby Birding

Ages 3-5

Thursday, March 11, 10:00-11:30 a.m.

Battle Creek Cypress Swamp

It's never too early to start learning how to be a birder. Join us as we show your child the wonderful world of birds. Discover what is a bird. How we can find them. And test your skills with a bird watching scavenger hunt.

Spring Log Roll

All Ages

Saturday, March 13, 10:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.

Flag Ponds Nature Park

Worms, salamanders, toad and more! Join a naturalist as they take you off trail and bring you into the damp, dark world under a log. Discover a hidden habitat that is home to some of Calvert County's coolest and sometimes slimeiest residents.

Going GREEN for St. Patrick's Day!

All ages

Wednesday, March 17, 5:00 -6:00 p.m.

Kings Landing Park

Did you know that green is the easiest color for our eyes to see? This St. Patrick's Day, come learn why green is so common in nature, and take a short hike to see all the green that nature has to offer us this time of year!

Swamp Walk

Ages 7-9

Monday, March 22, 10:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.

Battle Creek Cypress Swamp

Explore some of what Battle Creek Cypress Swamp has to offer. Learn what the swamp was named for, why bald cypress trees last so long in nature and check out some foliage in the swamp area.

Snakes are not Worms

Ages 3-5

Tuesday, April 6, 10:00-11:30 a.m.

Battle Creek Cypress Swamp

Did you know snakes are not worms? Explore and discover what makes snakes different from worms. Even get a chance to meet a snake and worm in person!

Tracks and Signs 101

Ages 5 and older

Saturday, April 10, 10:00-11:30 a.m.

Flag Ponds Nature Park

Meet the naturalist to learn how to identify some of our local wildlife by their tracks and other signs they leave behind. Then we will take a hike to practice our skills and see which critters have been out and about. The hike will be approximately 1 mile and is not stroller-friendly. Participants should wear sturdy shoes and bring water and insect spray.

Reservations required, www.calvertparks.org.

Children under 18 must be accompanied by an adult, unless noted. Children must be the age indicated for each program.

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

The schedule of events is subject to changed based on the status of the coronavirus response, weather, staffing, and other situations that may arise. If Calvert Nature Society or Calvert County Natural Resources Division cancels a program, a full refund will be issued.

Animal Stories Campfire

All Ages

Saturday, April 10, 7:30-9:00 p.m.

Kings Landing Park

Come get cozy around the campfire and roast marshmallows while the naturalists share some traditional animal folk stories. Bring a lawn chair or blanket to sit on. Meet at Pavilion 1.

Scales and Scutes

Ages 6-10

Saturday, April 17, 10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

Battle Creek Cypress Swamp

Do you know the different types of reptile there are? Do you know what make a reptile, a reptile? Join and discover what makes reptiles a unique and special part of our ecosystem. Even get a chance to

Recycled Bird Feeders

Ages 4-6

Monday, April 19, 10:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.

Battle Creek Cypress Swamp

Enjoy a read-aloud story about backyard birds. Bring an empty half gallon paper or plastic screw top jug to paint a bird feeder. Wear clothes that can get messy.

Earth Day Nature Play

All ages

Saturday, April 24, 10:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.

Battle Creek Cypress Swamp

Come celebrate Earth Day with us! We will have games, crafts, and learn about ways to keep our planet beautiful. Drop in any time between 10-12.

Nests!

Ages 3-5

Thursday, April 29, 10:00-11:00 a.m.

Battle Creek Cypress Swamp

What kinds of animals build nests? Birds do, of course, but what other animals protect their babies? We'll discover nests big and small, try building our own, then go for a nest search! This class will be all outdoors.

Roots to Shoots

All Ages

Saturday, May 1, 10:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.

Saturday, May 1, 12:30-2:30 p.m.

Kings Landing Park

Do you know how seeds grow? Join us as we explore the fascinating world of plants and seeds. Experience the variety of seeds in the world and discover how a single seed turns into a plant. Even take home a seedling of your own to start your own at home garden.

Owl Eyes and Fox Ears

Ages 3-5

Thursday, May 13, 10:00-11:00 a.m.

Battle Creek Cypress Swamp

Animals have some really cool ways of keeping track of the world around them - so do you. We will learn more about animal senses and our own through hands-on activities and games. This class will be all outdoors. Masks will be needed for all for the age of 2.

Happy Helpful Horseshoe Crabs!

Ages 18 months-5 years

Wednesday, May 26, 2:00-4:00 p.m.

Flag Ponds Nature Park

Horseshoe crabs are one of the coolest animals that inhabit the Chesapeake Bay. Come learn all about these amazing prehistoric animals and then take a walk on the beach to look for them!

Reservations required, www.calvertparks.org.

Children under 18 must be accompanied by an adult, unless noted. Children must be the age indicated for each program.

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

The schedule of events is subject to changed based on the status of the coronavirus response, weather, staffing, and other situations that may arise. If Calvert Nature Society or Calvert County Natural Resources Division cancels a program, a full refund will be issued.

Seine the Bay

All Ages

Wednesday, May 28, 12:00 - 2:00 p.m.

Flag Ponds Nature Park

Wade in the bay with a seine net to discover critters living close to the shore. Participants will get a close look at bay animals such as grass shrimp, gobies, and skittlefish. Wear clothes and shoes that can get wet.

Ward Farm Spring Hike: MEMBERS ONLY

Ages 8 years old and older

Saturday, May 29, 10:00-11:30 a.m.

Ward Farm Nature Park

Get a behind-the-scenes look as we enjoy a spring hike around Ward Farm. We will visit several habitats and see which springtime flowers, plants and animals abound. The hike will be approximately 1.5 miles and is not stroller-friendly. Participants should wear sturdy footwear and bring water and insect spray.

Mud Pies

Ages 3-5

Tuesday, June 1, 10:00-11:00 a.m.

Battle Creek Cypress Swamp

You can't eat them, but it sure is fun to make them! Join in the muddy fun as we explore the mud –how it feels, how it smells - what animals live in the mud? Come prepared for getting wet and dirty (adults and kids both), wear old sneakers that you can wear in the water (no flip flops), an old towel, and bring a change of clothes for the way home.

Horseshoe Crab Walk

Ages 8 and older

Friday, June 4, 9:00-11:30 p.m.

Friday, June 4, 9:30-11:30 p.m.

Friday, June 4, 10:00-11:30 p.m.

Flag Ponds Nature Park

Want to see some horseshoe crabs spawning on the beach by starlight? Join us for this unique chance to see Flag Ponds at night! With luck we will see horseshoe crabs spawning at the water's edge or maybe bioluminescent comb jellies in the water!

Moth Mania! MEMBERS ONLY

Ages 8 years old and older

Saturday, June 19, 8:00-9:30 p.m.

Battle Creek Cypress Swamp

Learning to observe our local moths is a fun and easy pastime for families. We will get to know our local moth species up close and personal as we go mothing. Learn to attract moths, identify them and log them on iNaturalist for research purposes. Participants should bring a flashlight and insect spray.

Mud Monsters Spring Adventure

Grades 3-5

March 31 - April 2

9:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m.

Flag Ponds Nature Park

Feel like you've been stuck inside all winter? This camp will be full of adventures -- we will wade into the swamp, use nets to look for amphibians, and, of course, play in the mud.

Fee per child: Society members pay : \$25

Nonmembers pay : \$40

Summer Camps

Summer programs will be advertised in March.
Early registration for members will begin March 29.

Reservations required, www.calvertparks.org.

Children under 18 must be accompanied by an adult, unless noted. Children must be the age indicated for each program.

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

The schedule of events is subject to changed based on the status of the coronavirus response, weather, staffing, and other situations that may arise. If Calvert Nature Society or Calvert County Natural Resources Division cancels a program, a full refund will be issued.

Homeschool Fridays

Homeschool Fridays is a series of environmental education programs developed especially for homeschoolers ages 4 to 12. 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.

Water is important-in so many ways. During this homeschool series we will explore some of the properties that make water unique and think about how we use water. Zoom meetings will serve as a springboard for at-home, in-your-yard or kitchen experiments. Each month will feature a different watery theme.

Ages 4-12, with adult

Friday, January 8

Friday, February 12

Friday, March 5

Friday, April 9

Friday, May 7

Friday, June 4

Session A: 10:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.

Session B: 1:30-3:30 p.m.

Online via Zoom

Reservations required.

Free for society members.

Nonmembers pay \$8 per family.

Teen Programs

Free for members; \$8 per teen for nonmembers.

Adult participation not required.

Trail School

Ages 12-16

Wednesday, January 13, 10:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.

Wednesday, February 10, 10:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.

Wednesday, March 10, 10:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.

Flag Ponds Nature Park

This winter we will start an exploration of the habitats present at Flag Ponds Nature Park. Teens will meet outside each month and spend the class out hiking the trails-we will explore the park, learn to identify the common plants and animals, build shelters, and whatever the season has to offer.

Kayak Series

Ages 12-16

Tuesday, April 13, 9:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.

Tuesday, May 11, 9:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.

Tuesday, June 8, 9:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.

Lower Marlboro Pier

Our spring Teen Homeschooler series will be a 3-part series on kayaking and the ecology of the Paxtuxent River and its tributaries. Each month we will go out in kayaks and explore the river and the areas around it. We will use nets, water quality equipment, and our senses to learn about the river and the plants and animals that call it home. Teens are expected to attend all three sessions.

Teen Birding Hike

Ages 12-18

Sat., April 17, 7-10 am @ Flag Ponds Nature Park

Sat., May 8, 7-10 am @ Battle Creek Cypress Swamp

Join us for an early morning birding hike through the park. Members of the Southern Maryland Youth Birders Group will be in attendance so it's a great way to meet other birders your age. We will hike along the trails to try and get a view of an eagle's nest.

Reservations required, www.calvertparks.org .

Children under 18 must be accompanied by an adult, unless noted. Children must be the age indicated for each program.
The schedule of events is subject to changed based on the status of the coronavirus response, weather, staffing, and other situations that may arise. If Calvert Nature Society or Calvert County Natural Resources Division cancels a program, a full refund will be issued.

Eagle Hike

Ages 12 and older, under 18 with adult

Saturday, April 3, 9:00-11:00 a.m.

Flag Ponds Nature Park

Flag Ponds Nature Park is one of the best areas in Calvert to view nesting Bald Eagles. We will hike along the trails to try and get a view of an eagle's nest. We will be socially distancing and wearing masks.

Free for members; \$8 per person for nonmembers.

Calvert Stewards

Explore our Calvert Steward web site
<https://calvertstewards.galaxydigital.com> to learn about our volunteer Programs and Opportunities.

Hike to the Big Cypress

Ages 18 and older

Tuesday, January 12, 10:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.

Battle Creek Cypress Swamp

This is a special opportunity for current Calvert Stewards volunteers to get together with a park naturalist and explore a little-visited part of the Battle Creek Cypress Swamp property. We will trek thru the winter swamp to the county champion bald cypress tree – the biggest of its kind in the county.

Nature Center Garden Work Day

Ages 13 and older, under 18 with an adult

Monday, March 22, 2:00-4:00 p.m.

Thursday, April 22, 2:00-4:00 p.m.

Wednesday, May 5, 2:00-4:00 p.m.

Battle Creek Cypress Swamp

Volunteers are needed to help our staff with the maintenance and upkeep of the trails and gardens around Nature Center.

Kayak Leader Training

Ages 18 and older

Friday, May 22, 9:00 a.m.-4:30 p.m.

Kings Landing Park

Are you interested in helping out with our kayak trips? This training course will cover getting boats to the water, paddle strokes, rescues, and routes for our trips. While this program is free we expect volunteers to help with two trips during the following season.

The Animal Mating Game

Ages 21 and older

Saturday, February 13, 7:00-9:00 p.m.

Location Kings Landing Park

Celebrate Valentine's Day this year in a new way! You'll see just how WILD nature can get at this fun trivia-style event. Teams of two will work together to figure out which animals have the weirdest and wildest mating habits!

Registration fee per team: \$20