



WINTER 2022 PROGRAMS

Calvert Nature Society and Calvert County Natural Resources Division

See a full listing of all the upcoming programs at

www.calvertparks.org . Online registration is recommended.



Join or renew today

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.

PLEASE NOTE: Registration Dates Have Changed.

Programs in January...	Members October 7	Nonmembers October 21
Programs in February...	Members November 7	Nonmembers November 21
Programs in March ...	Members December 7	Nonmembers December 21

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.

These Programs Are Full; Waitlists Are Available

Animal Feast, Ages 3-5

Tuesday, November 2, 10:00-11:00 a.m.

Animal Stories Campfire, All Ages

Friday, November 12, 7:00-8:30 p.m.

Budding Backyard Birders, All Ages

Saturday, November 13, 10:00-11:00 a.m.

Fuzzy Sock Walk, Ages 3-5

Tuesday, November 16, 10:00-11:00 a.m.

Beaver Moon Hike, Ages 8 and older

Friday, November 19, 5:00-6:30 p.m.

Animals Love Winter Naps, Ages 3-5

Thursday, December 2, 10:00-11:00 a.m.

Compass Skills: Candy Cane Hunt, Ages 5 and older

Saturday, December 11, 2:00-3:30 p.m.

Starry, Starry Night, Ages 8 and older

Sunday, December 12, 6:00-7:30 p.m.

Winter Nature Play and Campfire, Ages 3-5

Tuesday, December 14, 10:00-11:00 a.m.

Winter Beachcombing, All Ages

Saturday, December 18, 10:00-11:00 a.m.

January Programs: Registration Opens

October 7 for members

October 21 for nonmembers

First Day Hike, All ages

Saturday, January 1, 9:00-11:00 a.m.

Location: Biscoe Gray Heritage Farm | Naturalist: Amy Werking

Location: Flag Ponds Nature Park | Naturalist: Kim Curren

Ring in the new year with a guided hike and enjoy being outdoors on the first day of 2022.

Winter Weather, Ages 3-5

Tuesday, January 11, 10:00-11:00 a.m.

Location: Battle Creek Cypress Swamp

Naturalist: Tori Hall

Have you ever wondered where snow comes from or how icicles form? Explore what makes winter stand out from all the other seasons. Come prepared for crafts and an outdoor adventure.

Prepping for Spring!, Ages 6-8

Saturday, January 22, 10:00-11:00 a.m.

Location: Battle Creek Cypress Swamp

Naturalist: Tori Hall

Winter is so beautiful, but wouldn't it be great if spring was here already. If you are ready for the warmer days ahead, come learn when animals will start to come back out and what they will be doing. We will make some things to help prepare our gardens and yards for the upcoming spring.

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.

February Programs: Registration Opens

November 7 for members

November 21 for nonmembers

Maple Sugarin' Time

All ages

Sunday, January 30, 2:00-3:30 p.m.

Sunday, February 13, 2:00-3:30 p.m.

Sunday, February 20, 2:00-3:30 p.m.

Location: Kings Landing Park

Naturalist: Jessy Oberright

Learn the process of tapping Maple trees to collect sap that can be boiled into delicious syrup. We will have an overview of the process and history of Maple "sugaring", then visit the our local Maple trees to get a first-hand opportunity to learn this simple skill. After we visit our trees, warm up by an outdoor campfire and roast a marshmallow.

Amazing Evergreens

Ages 3-5

Wednesday, February 9, 10:00-11:00 a.m.

Location: Flag Ponds Nature Park

Naturalist: Kim Curren

Most of the trees in the woods have lost their leaves – but not the evergreens! We will use our senses to explore the local evergreens. How do they feel? How do they smell? We will also look to see how different animals use these trees in the winter. Dress appropriately for this entirely outdoor adventure!

Animal Sweethearts

All Ages

Saturday, February 12, 10:00-11:00 a.m.

Location: Battle Creek Cypress Swamp

Naturalist: Tori Hall

This family oriented program shows how all the different animals care for one another. How long do animal families stay together and how do they find their true love? Come explore the loving side of animals just in time for Valentine's Day.

Toddler Hike

Ages 1.5-3

Tuesday, February 15, 10:00-11:00 a.m.

Location: Ward Farm Recreation and Nature Park

Naturalist: Amy Werking

Bundle up for a winter hike exploring Ward Farm. We'll flip logs and pick up sticks as we meander at a toddler's pace. The hike is approximately a half mile in length. Terrain is not suitable for strollers.

Help Take Care of the Animals

Ages 6-9

Saturday, February 19, 10:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.

Location: Battle Creek Cypress Swamp

Naturalist: Kim Curren

Have fun helping the naturalist take care of the nature center's live animals while being able to see them up-close. Wear clothes that can get dirty.

Marvelous Mammals

Ages 3-5

Friday, February 25, 10:00-11:00 a.m.

Location: Flag Ponds Nature Park

Naturalist: Tori Hall

What makes a mammal a mammal? Where can you find them? What do mammals do in the winter? Learn the answers to these and other questions.

March Programs: Registration Opens

December 7 for members

December 21 for nonmembers

Help Take Care of the Animals

Ages 6-9

Saturday, March 19, 10:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.

Location: Battle Creek Cypress Swamp

Naturalist: Kim Curren

Have fun helping the naturalist take care of the nature center's live animals while being able to see them up-close. Wear clothes that can get dirty.

Life Under Logs

Ages 3-5

Tuesday, March 22, 10:00-11:00 a.m.

Location: Battle Creek Cypress Swamp

Naturalist: Amy Werking

Worms, bugs, and grubs. So many things to see under logs in the woods. Join us for a wooded walk checking out life under logs. Terrain is not suitable for strollers.

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.

PLEASE NOTE: Registration Dates Have Changed.

Programs in January...	Members October 7	Nonmembers October 21
Programs in February...	Members November 7	Nonmembers November 21
Programs in March ...	Members December 7	Nonmembers December 21

Spring's School's Out Adventure

Ages 8-10

Friday, March 18, 9:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m.

Location: Biscoe Gray Heritage Farm

Naturalist: Tania Gale

Come explore the outdoors, meet new friends, discover new interests, and create memories that last a lifetime. We will spend the day exploring the park-looking for signs of spring like amphibians waking up from hibernation.

Registration Opens December 7 for members; December 21 for nonmembers.

Fee per child: Members: \$25. Nonmembers: \$40

PHENOLOGY SERIES

Ages 12-16

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

Wednesday, February 16, 10:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.

Wednesday, March 9, 10:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.

Location: Flag Ponds Nature Park

Naturalist: Tania Gale

Our Winter/Spring Teen classes will be a cumulative series on phenology-the study of nature over time. This series will weave together science, math, art ... and whatever else we can pull in. Each month we will record information about the physical environment so that we can watch for changes as the year moves forward. We will pick sit spots and make observations in those same spots over time to look for seasonal changes to the plants and animals living in that spot. Other fun, hands-on activities that highlight seasonally important topics. Each month will build upon the skills learned before so students must be registered for the series. **We expect teens to attend all 3 sessions.**

Fee per teen: \$10 for members \$20/person for nonmembers

Registration Opens

October 7 for members

October 21 for nonmembers

HOMESCHOOL FRIDAYS

Ages 4-12, with adult

January 14

February 11

March 4

SEE ABOVE FOR REGISTRATION OPENING DATES

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

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

Flag Ponds Nature Park

Naturalist: Tania Gale

Our homeschool series focuses on "phenology," the study of seasonal changes in plant and animal life-cycles such as date flowers begin to bloom or frogs start singing in the spring. Month to month, we will make and record weather observations and check in with the plants and animals at Flag Ponds Park- watching winter change to spring.

Reservations required.

Free for society members.

Nonmembers pay \$8 per family.

Homeschool First 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. Depending on the topic, students may observe live animals, collect aquatic creatures, take measurements of water quality or play games. 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

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.

For Teen (& Tweens)

Registration is Open For These Programs

<https://www.calvertparks.org/programs/teens.html>

Owls of Maryland

Ages 10 and older

[Sunday, October 31, 7:00-11:00 p.m.](#)

[Saturday, November 6, 7:00-11:00 p.m.](#)

Location: Flag Ponds Nature Park

Naturalist: Gene Groshon

Ever wondered what owls live in Maryland? Come to our owl banding station and learn about what owls could be living in your backyard as well as the migratory Saw-Whet Owls we are studying. You may even see a wild Saw-Whet Owl!

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

Teen Birding: Christmas Bird Count

Ages 12-18

[Sunday, December 19, 9:00 a.m-12:00 p.m.](#)

Location: Ward Farm Recreation and Nature Park

Naturalist: Gene Groshon

Come help us with the Jug Bay Christmas Bird Count. These surveys help to show population trends in the different species of birds wintering in our area. We will hike and attempt to identify and count all the birds we see.

Teen Birding: Raptor Survey

Ages 12-18

[Monday, January 17, 9:00 a.m-12:00 p.m.](#)

Location: Battle Creek Cypress Swamp

Naturalist: Gene Groshon

As part of our raptor research project staff are conducting surveys of wintering hawks and falcons to better understand their survivability. Join us as we conduct surveys in Calvert and try to trap and band raptors to collect more data for this study.

We will meet at Battle Creek and travel in the county van to various areas.

Wild Careers

Ages 11-13

[Saturday, March 5, 9:30-11:00 a.m.](#)

Location: Flag Ponds Nature Park

Naturalist: Tori Hall

Have you ever been to any of our county nature parks and wondered what it would be like to work there or in other natural places? Come dive into some of the careers in this exciting field.

Special Programs For Adults

Registration is Open For These Programs

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

Adventures in Raptor Research

Adults

[Friday, December 10, 6:30-8:00 p.m.](#)

Location: Battle Creek Cypress Swamp

Naturalist: Gene Groshon

Raptors are an important part of our ecosystem but they are facing some hard times these days. Come learn about what is being done to study these birds and help save them. Naturalist Gene Groshon will share stories from current research projects, conferences and working with a raptor researcher in Wisconsin. Free Program.

Nature's Trivia

Ages 21 and older

[Saturday, February 26, 6:30-9:00 p.m.](#)

Location: TBD

Naturalist: Gene Groshon

Think you are a nature expert? Well, grab your friends and come test your skills at Nature Trivia while helping benefit your local nature programs. A local brewery will be hosting this trivia event and will have beer and soda for sale. There is a cash prize for the team finishing in first as well as door prizes. We will provide light snacks but you are welcome to bring snacks too.

\$60 per team

CALVERT STEWARDS

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Assisting at the parks is a rewarding way to raise awareness of the importance of our natural lands. Use your experience to help preserve our future in Calvert County by becoming one of our Calvert Stewards. Some projects are appropriate for families and teens.

Explore our Calvert Steward web site <https://calvertstewards.galaxydigital.com> to learn about these and other opportunities.

[Bird Counts & Surveys](#)

Christmas Counts: Each winter, volunteers from all over the U.S. conduct bird counts for the National Audubon Society. Now more than 100 years running, the Count provides important data on the long term trends of bird populations in our area. Calvert County participates in 2 of these Counts. The Jug Bay circle encompasses the northern third of the County and the Patuxent River Count extends into the southern third.

[Calvert County Biodiversity via iNaturalist](#)

Document the distribution and abundance of plants, animals, fungi and other species found throughout Calvert County. Use iNaturalist to photograph and map your observations in a few easy steps.

[Fishing Line Recycling](#)

Volunteers collect and sort the contents of Fishing Line Recycling bins in order for the recycling facility to accept the fishing line for recycling. Fishing Line is a high density plastic and requires a special recycling process.

[Gardening Days](#)

Help with the upkeep of the gardens at Battle Creek Cypress Swamp, Kings Landing Park and Flag Ponds Nature Park. From invasive plant removal, to routine garden care, to maintaining the nature play space and trails-there is always something to be done. Must be able to perform moderately strenuous physical tasks.

[Kings Landing Wedding and Special Event Helper](#)

Volunteers are needed to help assist during weddings and other special events at Kings Landing Park's Tom Wisner Hall in Huntingtown.

[Plastic, Aluminum, and Glass Recycling](#)

Volunteers help with the upkeep of Kings Landing Park's recycling initiatives in Huntingtown. Duties include: Checking designated trash areas for recyclables; Collecting plastics, aluminum, and glass; Taking recyclables to appropriate receptacles within the park.

[Service Projects for Groups](#)

We have a wide variety of opportunities suitable for an organized group (ex: scout, church, school group, etc.) looking to perform a service project in the park.

[Trail Monitoring & Park Maintenance](#)

Kings Landing Park; Hughes Tree Farm; Flag Ponds Nature Park, Biscoe Gray Heritage Farm
Volunteer assists park staff in maintaining trails at all of our nature parks. Duties include removing debris and obstacles from trails and reporting unusual conditions, such as items too large or dangerous for volunteers.

[Raptor Road Surveys](#)

County-wide

Calvert Stewards assist the Naturalists by conducting surveys of raptors along specific driving routes. These surveys will not only help to aid in catching raptors for banding and further research but they will also be useful in estimating population sizes similar to Christmas Bird Counts. By comparing the data from different years of surveys we will be able to look for trends in the populations.