



WELCOME TO Birding Adventures CAMP!



WHERE: Battle Creek Cypress Swamp, Kings Landing Park,
Ward Farm Recreation and Nature Park and Flag Ponds Nature Park

WHEN: Mon, July 9 - Friday, 13

*** See schedule on following page for times ***

Dear Parents and/or Guardians,

Welcome to Birding Adventures Camp! To help insure that your child has a safe and fun time, I have a few suggestions:

- **Drop off and pick up** your child at the specified location promptly at the scheduled times below. Please stop at the front gate booth at Flag Ponds Park and inform the park staff that you are here for camp.
- **Sign In:** Please sign your child in and out every day, and let us know if someone else will be taking them home.
- **Lunch & Snacks:** Pack a lunch of non-perishable food items, or provide an ice pack. Please pack 2 additional snack items (such as crackers, granola bar, grapes) which can easily be eaten while we're hiking throughout the park.
- **Food Allergies:** Occasionally, we will try wild edibles varying from wine berries to wild greens. If you would prefer your child does not try any or all of these things, or has any food allergies, please let me know in advance.
- **Backpacks:** Please place all personal belongings in a backpack. Occasionally, campers will carry their backpacks with them to the different parts of the park, leaving unnecessary items in the building or van to lighten their load.
- **Clothing:** dress in OLD CLOTHES that can get dirty. Please make sure that your child has a change of clothes each day.
- **Shoes:** Comfortable sturdy shoes are a must, since we will be hiking quite a bit throughout the day. Water shoes will also be needed and can include Chacos, Keens, old tennis shoes, or anything with lots of straps that will stay on really well. For safety reasons, we ask that campers do not wear flip flops or Crocs.
- **Bullying:** We want our campers to feel safe; therefore, campers who are bullying others will be permanently expelled from all CCNRD camps.
- **Health/Safety:** While we are having fun exploring nature, I will make every effort to minimize your child's exposure to things like poison ivy, ticks, jellyfish, etc; however, if your child develops a rash or other symptoms, don't hesitate to contact your physician. In addition, please check your child for ticks after camp every day.

I have enjoyed preparing for this camp, and I can't wait to explore the outdoors with your children. I look forward to meeting everyone this summer, and please don't hesitate to contact me if you have questions. I can be reached at Battle Creek by phone at (410) 535-5327 or by email groshopg@co.cal.md.us

Sincerely,

Gene Groshon

Birding Adventures Schedule

****Depending on weather and traffic we may be arriving back later or at another site. As things changes we will contact you to let you know****

Monday: Drop off at **Battle Creek** at 9:00 am at Nature Center
Pick up at **Battle Creek** at 3:00 pm at Nature Center

We will be exploring the swamp to check warbler nest boxes as well as birding throughout the park.

Tuesday: Drop off at **Ward Farm** at 9:00 am at fallen barn
Pick up at **Ward Farm** at 4:00 pm at fallen barn

We will go birding in the morning and then head Patuxent River Park in the afternoon for a boat trip with naturalist Greg Kearns. If you have a life jacket you prefer you can bring that as well.

Wednesday: Drop off at **Kings Landing Park** at 6:30 am at Wisner Hall
Pick up at **Kings Landing Park** at 3:00 pm at Wisner Hall

We will be traveling to the eastern shore to visit Poplar Island. Life jackets will be provided by the staff of Poplar Island.

Thursday: Drop off at **Flag Ponds** at 9:00 am at Education Building
Pick up at **Battle Creek** at 3:00 pm at Nature Center

We will be going on a morning birding hike and possibly checking nest boxes at Flag Ponds. Then we will travel to Battle Creek to build some nest boxes to be used in our programs.

Friday: Drop off at **Battle Creek** at 4:00 pm at Nature Center
Pick up at **Battle Creek** at 10:00 pm at Nature Center

We will meet some of our captive birds of prey before cooking campfire burritos for dinner. Then after it gets dark we will try to call in some wild owls.

What to Bring:

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| <input type="checkbox"/> Lunch (pack in reusable containers ,if possible, to minimize trash) | <input type="checkbox"/> 2 or 3 plastic bags for wet clothes, etc. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 2 additional snacks (finger food) for the trail | <input type="checkbox"/> Water Shoes or old tennis shoes for swimming (no flip flops or crocs) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Refillable water bottle | <input type="checkbox"/> Towel for drying off |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Backpack | <input type="checkbox"/> Camera |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Extra Set of Clothes (in a labeled plastic bag) | <input type="checkbox"/> Binoculars |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Hat (wide brimmed is best) | <input type="checkbox"/> Raincoat or Poncho (no umbrellas) if rain is forecasted |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Sunscreen (on and packed) | <input type="checkbox"/> Small Antibacterial Gel (optional) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Insect Repellent (one that works for both ticks and mosquitoes) {on and packed} | |

What NOT to Bring:

- Electronic Devices besides a camera
- Money
- Candy (except in your lunch)
- Flip flops or Crocs