



## WELCOME TO Birding Adventures CAMP!



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

WHEN: Mon, July 8 – Thu, July 11

\*\*\* 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.
- **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. Please let me know of any food allergies your camper has as we will be providing dinner on Thursday night.
- **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 comfortable outdoor clothes that can get dirty. Please make sure that your child has a change of clothes for Monday.
- **Shoes:** Comfortable sturdy shoes are a must, since we will be hiking quite a bit throughout the day. 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](mailto: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 and maybe nearby parks.

Tuesday: Drop off at **Ward Farm Recreation and Nature Park** at 6:15 am meeting our intern at the driveway  
Pick up at **Battle Creek** at 1:00 pm at nature center

Observe a MAPS bird banding station while hiking at Ward Farm. Maybe additional birding back at Battle Creek.

Wednesday: Drop off at **Battle Creek** at 6:00 am at Nature Center  
Pick up at **Battle Creek** at 3:00 pm at Nature Center

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 **Battle Creek** at 12:00 pm at Nature Center  
Pick up at **Battle Creek** at 9:00 pm at Nature Center

We will take a birding trip to Flag Ponds Nature Park to hike to the beach. Afterwards campers will meet some of our captive birds of prey before cooking burgers for dinner. Then after it gets dark we will try to call in some wild owls.

### **What to Bring:**

- Lunch (pack in reusable containers ,if possible, to minimize trash)
- 2 additional snacks (finger food) for the trail
- Refillable water bottle (camper will be given 1 on first day of camp too)
- Backpack
- Extra Set of Clothes (Monday only)
- Hat (wide brimmed is best)
- Sunscreen (on and packed)
- Insect Repellent (one that works for both ticks and mosquitoes) {on and packed}
- 2 or 3 plastic bags for wet clothes, etc.
- Towel for drying off (Monday only)
- Camera
- Binoculars
- Raincoat or Poncho (no umbrellas) if rain is forecasted
- Small Antibacterial Gel (optional)

### **What NOT to Bring:**

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