



Oregon Ridge Nature Center

Fall Calendar 2019



Tricks and Treats on the Ridge

Saturday, Oct. 26; 1 - 2:30 p.m.

Dress up in your best costume and stroll through the woods and meadow to learn about the tricks plants and animals have up their "leaves". Participating children will get a treat at each stop so bring your treat bag. The hike is approximately 1/2 mile. Advance registration is required! Groups will leave from the Nature Center at 10 minute intervals with start times assigned when you register. **If all slots fill, walk-in guests cannot be accommodated.**

All Ages

\$5 per child

(Up to two chaperones per paid participant, additional guests \$2 each)

Advance Registration Required!

Shoots and Letters

Every Thursday! 10 - 11 a.m.

Come plant the seeds of knowledge while learning basic skills and playing in the dirt with your little ones. We'll have a different nature related theme every week. Outdoor adventures and activities are all part of the fun!

Upcoming Themes

- September 5 - Life in Trees
- September 12 - Life Underwater
- September 19 - Monarch Butterflies
- September 26 - Honeybees
- October 3 - Birds of Prey
- October 10 - Leaves
- October 17 - Acorns
- October 24 - Bats
- October 31 - Spiders
- November 7 - Nocturnal Animals
- November 14 - Hibernation
- November 21 - Deer



Ages 3+

\$2 per child No registration required.

Honey Harvest Festival

Join us as we celebrate all things honey!

Free Admission
Minimal charge for some activities

October 5 & 6
11 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Our 38th Annual Honey Harvest Festival!

- Learn about honey and honeybees from the 2019 American Honey Princess, Nicole Medina
- Open hive and honey extraction demonstrations
- Local honey and honeybee product vendors
- Children's crafts, pumpkin painting, face painting, puppet shows, haystack treasure hunts and honey ice cream making
- Live Music
- Cider pressing, blacksmithing and mead making
- Animal encounters
- Food vendors, craft demonstrators and much more!

Watch our Facebook Page for updates and details on craft demonstrators, vendors and musicians that will be performing.

No alcohol and no glass please.



Oregon Ridge Park is open daily sunrise to sunset. The Nature Center is free and open to the public 9 a.m. - 5 p.m. Tuesday through Sunday



Clubs / Recurring Programs

Woolly Bear Club

The first Wednesday of every month.

Sept. 4, Oct. 2, Nov. 6, Dec. 4 and Jan. 8;
10 - 11:30 a.m.

Students, with their adult partner, will explore seasonal topics in this series of 5 classes as they go on adventures outside, make crafts and have a theme-related snack.

Ages 3 - 5 (non-mobile siblings only, adult partner should be an active participant)

\$20 for the series (\$16 for ORNCC Members)



Dulcimer Workshop

Thursdays, Sept. 5, 12, 19, 26, Oct. 3 and 10;
7 - 8:30 p.m.

An old-fashioned dulcimer meet-up and workshop. You only need an interest in this instrument to participate. Beginners welcome, no music experience necessary. Loaner dulcimers available on a first-come, first-serve basis.

Adults and children 12+

\$25 for the series *Price includes all 6 sessions!*

Bookworm Story Time

The first Friday of every month.

Sept. 6, Oct. 4 and Nov. 1; 11 - 11:45 a.m.

Enjoy a nature story with the storyteller's choice of an activity such as an animal encounter, puppets or a craft. This program is presented in partnership with the Baltimore County Public Library. Please dress for a brief outdoor experience.

Toddler to age 6

FREE (donations appreciated)

No registration required.

Senior Stroll

The first and third Saturdays of the month.

Sept. 7 & 21; Oct. 5 & 19; Nov. 2 & 16; 10:30 a.m.

Experience the many wellness benefits of sharing time walking in nature together. Meet us at the Nature Center, then head to the Marble Quarry Loop for a leisurely, guided stroll along our paved, .3 mile interpretive trail. Afterwards, stay for a guided reflection activity and/or extension of the hike onto some of the non-paved but non-strenuous trails near the Nature Center.

Adults

FREE (donations appreciated)



Pictures in the Park

Sundays, Sept. 8, Oct. 20 and Nov. 17; 10 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

Explore a different photographic theme each month. We'll start each session with a short presentation covering a theme, composition and camera setup, then head out into the park on a guided hike in search of the perfect picture. A camera is required – a DSLR is perfect, a quality point and shoot works great too, even a good smart phone will give shareable and memorable results.

Adults and children 16+

\$20 per person (\$15 for ORNCC Members)

Price includes all 3 sessions!

Yoga by the Lake

Tuesdays, Sept. 10 & 24, Oct. 8 & 22; 10 - 11 a.m.

Join a certified Yin Yoga instructor for a slow, meditative yet challenging yoga experience overlooking the serene Oregon Ridge Lake. You are sure to leave each session feeling more flexible, energized and peaceful. Participants should wear comfortable clothing and bring a yoga mat or two beach towels.

Adults and children 16+

FREE (donations appreciated)

Morning Bird Walk

Fridays, Sept. 13, Oct. 11 and Nov. 8; 8 - 9:30 a.m.

The early bird gets the most sightings. Join a naturalist for this early morning bird walk to find and identify birds in the park. Bring binoculars or borrow a pair from us and wear shoes for hiking.

Adults

FREE (donations appreciated)



Homeschool Nature Days

"It's Not Easy Being Green"

Every other Friday, Sept. 13, 27, Oct. 11 and 25;

Morning Session, 10 - 11:30 a.m.

Afternoon Session, 1 - 2:30 p.m.

Join us as we study plants at Oregon Ridge Park. We will take a close look at mosses, identify trees, learn about alien plants and discover how plants work with each other and with animals.

Children ages 6 - 13 (parents are welcome to stay but we are not able to accommodate sibling for this program)

\$20 for the series (\$16 for ORNCC Members)

Price includes all 4 sessions!

Trail Guide Training

Tuesday, Sept. 3 thru Friday, Sept. 6; 10 a.m. - 1 p.m.

The Nature Center is in need of volunteers to help with school field trips, Tuesday thru Friday, year-round. Trail Guide Volunteers lead small groups of students around the park for a hands-on nature experience. No minimum time commitments. This season's topics include **Native Americans, Habitats and Rocks Rock!** We will end the week with an offsite Trail Guide Outing to visit the **Indian Steps Museum** to learn more about the Eastern Woodland Native Americans.

Adults

\$20 for first time attendees (*Price includes all 4 sessions*)

Please call to register!

Unless otherwise noted, all programs require advance registration. Some programs will fill, in which case, walk-in guests cannot be accommodated.

410-887-1815

info@OregonRidgeNatureCenter.org

When registering please provide the names of everyone attending, ages of children, phone number and email address.

Nature's Shadow Box

Saturday, August 31 or Sunday, Sept. 1; 1 - 3 p.m.

Nature and art combines in this creative program! Collect natural objects to create a stunning work of art.

Adults and children 6+ \$4 per person (\$2 for ORNCC Members)

Picnic and Paddle

Sunday, Sept. 1; 10 a.m. - 12 p.m. or 1:30 - 3:30 p.m.

Bring a picnic lunch to enjoy at the lake pavilion. Our ACA canoe instructors will teach basic paddling at the Oregon Ridge Lake.

Adults and children 4+ \$10 per person (\$5 for ORNCC Members)

Vultures! Nature's Clean-Up Crew

Saturday, Sept. 7 or Sunday, Sept. 8; 2 - 3:30 p.m.

Celebrate International Vulture Awareness Day with us! Learn about this under-appreciated bird that is a vital member of nature's clean-up crew, then head out to look for our resident vultures.

Adults and children 4+

\$3 per person (**FREE** for ORNCC members)

Meadow Grass Weaving

Saturday, Sept. 14 or Sunday, Sept. 15; 1 - 3 p.m.

Join us as we learn about the adaptations and importance of grasses in the meadow. We will finish our exploration with an outdoor activity and a meadow branch weaving craft.

Adults and children 5+ \$4 per person (\$3 for ORNCC Members)

Ready for Fall Family Campout

Saturday, Sept. 14; 6 p.m. - Sunday, Sept. 15; 9 a.m.

Our last campout of the season! Bring your tent, camping gear and picnic dinner; we'll provide the evening activities, campfire, s'mores and light breakfast. Rental tents available at \$10 each.

All ages \$10 per person or \$30 per family

(A family includes up to 5 people, parents/children or grandparents/grandchildren)

Monarch Magic

Saturday, Sept. 21 or Sunday, Sept. 22; 1 - 3 p.m.

Monarch migration is underway! Learn about their amazing journey and become a citizen scientist as we capture, tag and release monarchs sending them on their way to overwinter in Mexico.

Adults and children 5+

\$2 per person (**FREE** for ORNCC members)

ACHOO! Goldenrods?

Saturday, Sept. 28 or Sunday, Sept. 29; 1 - 3 p.m.

Autumn is here and goldenrods are in full bloom! ACHOO... they also get the bad rap for causing seasonal allergies. Join a naturalist as we debunk the myths, learn about goldenrods, explore the park and complete a craft to take home.

Adults and children 5+ \$3 per person (\$2 for ORNCC Members)

Nature Quest Guided Hike

Saturday, Oct. 12 or Sunday, Oct. 13; 10 a.m. - 1 p.m.

Join a naturalist and hike to the two Baltimore County Nature Quest Trail markers at Oregon Ridge. This is a moderately strenuous 5 mile hike.

Adults and children 7+ **FREE** (donations appreciated)

Discovering Mothman

Friday, Oct. 18; 7 - 9 p.m.

Part man, part moth. Real or fake? Hear folklore and stories of Mothman as we enjoy s'mores around the campfire. We'll take a hike in search of signs of the legendary creature and its kin.

Adults and children 8+ \$5 per person (\$3 for ORNCC Members)

Apple Cider Please!

Saturday, Oct. 19; 1 - 3 p.m.

Ever wondered how apple cider is made! After a short story we'll use an apple press to make cider and learn about the history of cider making. Participants will receive a sample to take home.

Apples and container provided. Feel free to bring more apples!

All ages \$8 per person (\$5 for ORNCC Members)

Nature QuestFest at Lake Roland

Sunday, Oct. 20; 12 - 2 p.m.

Nature Quest is a county-wide scavenger hunt to find posts along the trails in Baltimore County parks. QuestFest is a festival that includes live animal encounters, face painting, dam tours, raffles, crafts and more!

All ages \$5 per person

(**FREE** with 5 or more completed Nature Quest trails)

Squirrel Tales

Sunday, Oct. 27; 1 - 2:30 p.m.

Discover the fascinating lives of squirrels! Hear a squirrel tale and look for squirrels in the park before heading back to the Nature Center to make a craft.

Adults and children 4+ \$3 per person (\$2 for ORNCC Members)

Animals in Autumn

Saturday, Nov. 2 or Sunday, Nov. 3; 1 - 3 p.m.

What do animals do in Autumn to get ready for winter? Migrate? Hibernate? We'll get up close with some of our resident animals and explore the park to see what animals are doing this time of year.

Adults and children 4+

\$2 per person (**FREE** for ORNCC members)

Autumn Campfire and Night Hike

Saturday, Nov. 9; 7 - 9 p.m.

Enjoy a crisp fall night on the trails after dark then relax by the campfire and enjoy apple cider, s'mores and stories of autumn.

Adults and children 4+

\$5 per person (\$3 for ORNCC Members)

Finding Your Way

Sunday, Nov. 10; 1 - 3 p.m.

Join a naturalist and learn about the basics of orienteering before hitting the trail to test your skills!

Adults and children 10+ \$5 per person (\$3 for ORNCC Members)



Campfire Cooking

Saturday, Nov. 16 or Sunday, Nov. 17; 1 - 3 p.m.

Nothing tastes better than food cooked over a fire. Hike to find kindling and learn about fire safety and how to build a campfire. Then we'll make some classic campfire treats to enjoy.

Adults and children 8+ \$8 per person (\$5 for ORNCC Members)

Habitat Hunt

Saturday, Nov. 23 or Sunday, Nov. 24; 1 - 3 p.m.

Challenge your brain and legs on this fun nature filled hike looking for clues hidden in the park leading to a sweet surprise.

Adults and children 5+ \$5 per person (\$3 for ORNCC Members)

Turkey Tales

Saturday, Nov. 30; 1 - 2 p.m.

Join us to celebrate the turkey... after all it's been a rough week for him. We'll have turkey tales, a turkey craft and we'll meet one of the lucky ones that survived the holiday.

Adults and children 5+

\$2 per person (**FREE** for ORNCC members)



Monthly Speaker Series

Birds of Maryland

Middleton Evans, *photographer*

Monday, Sept. 16; 7 - 8:30 p.m.

Middleton Evans is a photographer, author and publisher. A Baltimore native, he has dedicated much of his 30-year career to documenting Maryland's diverse cultural life and natural heritage. In 2001, he was featured in Maryland Public Television's documentary "Images of Maryland: 1900-2000", honoring the state's distinguished lensmen.

Middleton returns to Oregon Ridge to talk about a new book featuring his photography, with insightful commentary by reknown Smithsonian ornithologist Bruce Beehler: *Birds of Maryland, Delaware, and the District of Columbia*.

This book will thrill birders of all levels, from novice backyard birdwatchers to habitual birders with enviable life lists. Evans will share stories about his journey creating this book and about each captivating image of Maryland's common and rare birds. You might even learn about the best places to see these feathered treasures for yourself.

Restoring Creation

Charlie Conklin, *Vice President of Operations, Gunpowder Valley Conservancy*

Monday, Oct. 21; 7 - 8:30 p.m.

Charlie Conklin retired from Bethlehem Steel, Sparrows Point, after a 37 year career in management. He has been associated with GVC since 1990, a past board president and now Vice President of Operations. His primary interests lie in restoring God's Creation for future generations.

Charlie, now 82, has overseen efforts to plant thousands of trees on hundreds of acres of the Gunpowder watershed. He will share his journey to live each day contributing to a healthier world for future generations. He will solicit discussion to help listeners understand how our earthly actions can negatively impact future generations. He will give a brief history of the environmental movement, identify our regional and local challenges and talk about the opportunities to turn the tide – ACTIVE HOPE!

Monarch Butterflies

Pam Spencer, *pollinator enthusiast*

Monday, Nov. 18; 7 - 8:30 p.m.

Pam Spencer is a Master Gardener and pollinator enthusiast who lives in Monkton. For the past several years, she has studied, raised and tagged monarchs for the annual migration to their forest sanctuaries in Mexico. With Pam's guidance, over 1000 youth and adults have had the opportunity to participate in Citizen Science by tagging a monarch. Pam's main focus is on creating pollinator habitat, which includes both host plants and nectar sources that bloom all season.

Pam will explain how her passion for monarchs began and what she has learned from her experiences raising, releasing and tagging them. Her colorful presentation is full of photos and video of her adventures and contains information about the many theories on why monarchs are at risk and ways we can help, including plants to add to our own gardens.

Adults

FREE (donations appreciated)

No registration required



Nature Book Club

Sand County Almanac

Monday, Sept. 23; 7 - 8 p.m.

Admired by an ever-growing number of readers and imitated by hundreds of writers, *A Sand County Almanac* serves as a cornerstone of modern conservation science, policy and ethics. First published in 1949, it has become a conservation classic.



A Crack in Creation: Gene Editing and the Unthinkable Power to Control

Monday, Nov. 4; 7 - 8 p.m.

Not since the atomic bomb has a technology so alarmed its inventors that they warned the world about its use. Not, that is, until the spring of 2015, when biologist Jennifer Doudna called for a worldwide moratorium on the use of the new gene-editing tool CRISPR a revolutionary new technology she helped create.

Adults

FREE (donations appreciated)

No registration required



13555 Beaver Dam Road • Cockeysville, MD 21030

410-887-1815

www.OregonRidgeNatureCenter.org

Public Program Registration Procedures

All programs require advance registration unless otherwise noted. To register, email info@OregonRidgeNatureCenter.org or call 410-887-1815. We'll need the names of everyone attending, the ages of children, an email address and phone number. Payment must be made within one week of registration. Unpaid spots will be yielded to the wait list. Checks should be made payable to: ORNCC and mailed to 13555 Beaver Dam Road, Cockeysville, MD 21030.

All programs and events are rain or shine unless a rain date is specified. All payments are considered donations and are non-refundable unless Oregon Ridge Nature Center cancels the program. Children under 16 years of age must be accompanied by an adult. Programs are for individuals and their immediate families and are not intended for groups. **Groups may schedule programs by calling 410-887-1815.**

For special accommodations (i.e. language interpreter, large print, etc.) please give as much notice as possible by calling Oregon Ridge Nature Center at 410-887-1815, or the Therapeutic Office at 401-887-5370 (voice) 410-887-5319 (TTD/Deaf).

Become a member of the
Oregon Ridge Nature Center Council

A non-profit, volunteer organization
dedicated to enhancing the enjoyment of nature.

Join online at www.OregonRidgeNatureCenter.org

Keep in touch!

