



Retzer Nature Center

Waukesha County Parks & Land Use
S14 W28167 Madison Street
Waukesha, WI 53188

Return Service Requested

Environmental Learning Center Office Hours:
Sunday - Saturday, 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
For more information call - (262) 896-8007
For Program Registration call - (262) 548-7801
www.waukeshacountyparks.com

YOUR **WINTER** NATURE PROGRAM GUIDE December 2010 - February 2011

December 1 <i>Wednesday</i>	Retzer Camera Club	January 8 <i>Saturday</i>	Tracking Workshop	February 2 <i>Wednesday</i>	Retzer Camera Club
December 14 <i>Tuesday</i>	Wee Wonders "Making Tracks"	January 8,15,29 <i>Saturdays</i>	Winter Wildlife on Snowshoes	February 5 <i>Saturday</i>	Wild Winter Night
December 15 <i>Wednesday</i>	Nature Sprouts "The Wild Christmas Reindeer"	January 11 <i>Tuesday</i>	Wee Wonders "Snow" Cold	February 8 <i>Tuesday</i>	Wee Wonders "Big Feet" Walk
January 4 <i>Tuesday</i>	Bird Feeding Workshop	January 18 <i>Tuesday</i>	Yoga Class Begins	February 12,19,26 <i>Saturdays</i>	Winter Wildlife on Snowshoes
January 5 <i>Wednesday</i>	Retzer Camera Club	January 19 <i>Wednesday</i>	Nature Sprouts "Tracks"	February 19 <i>Saturday</i>	Basket Workshop "Mocha Spice Tote"
		January 23 <i>Sunday</i>	Winter JanBoree Family Fun!		
		January 23 <i>Sunday</i>	Winter JanBoree Charles Horwitz Planetarium		



VOLUNTEER TEACHER NATURALIST TRAINING

This apprenticeship program is for adults interested in volunteering to lead hikes for school groups that come to Retzer Nature Center. Topics will include: general interpretation of the Wisconsin landscape (especially the plants, animals, and ecology of Retzer Nature Center); environmental education activities (and equipment) used at Retzer; and strategies and tactics for outdoor teaching of school children. Training will include assisting with scheduled programs.

There is no registration deadline; we welcome new volunteers anytime of the year.

Call Retzer Nature Center (262) 896-8007 to sign up or for additional information.

RETZER NATURE CENTER CAMERA CLUB

The Camera Club meets monthly, with instructional programs, sharing/critique of members' photographs, discussion of equipment and technique, and opportunities for taking photographs at Retzer Nature Center and other nature areas.

DATE: Wednesdays, December 1, January 5, February 2

TIME: 7:00 p.m.

WEE WONDERS

Ages 2-4

This monthly program is designed for parents or grandparents with young children ages 2 to 4. Wee Wonders will introduce sensory skills that help you, the adult, experience the natural world with your child. Each month we will introduce a new theme to stimulate and intrigue your young adventurer with focus on interactive discoveries. Join the Naturalist as she helps you explore and search the surroundings just outside Retzer's back door. Maximum number of registrants 30, minimum 5.

"Making Tracks." Don't let the weather stop you from making tracks to the nature center. We will explore different animal tracks both indoors and out. Then make an animal track placemat to take home. Please dress for the weather. **December class has a maximum number of registrants 15, minimum 5.**

DATE: Tuesday, December 14

TIME: 9:30-10:15 a.m.

FEE: \$3.00

REGISTER BY: Thursday, December 9

"Snow" Cold. Come share in the fun as we set off making tracks to explore the winter scenery. Letting the snow provide our adventures, we will discover interactive play that will introduce this magical wonder to your child. Please dress for the weather.

DATE: Tuesday, January 11

TIME: 9:30-10:30 a.m. (new time for 2011)

FEE: \$4.00 (fee increase for 2011)

REGISTER BY: Thursday, January 6

"Big Feet" Walk. Step into a pair of "Big Feet" snowshoes and head outdoors for a winter walk. Have fun making tracks the size of elephant feet as we explore the winter scenery on snowshoes. Pattern directions will be available for making snowshoes at home. Please dress for the weather.

DATE: Tuesday, February 8

TIME: 9:30-10:30 a.m.

FEE: \$4.00

REGISTER BY: Thursday, February 3

NATURE SPROUTS

Ages: 4-6 Maximum number of registrants 15, minimum 5.

"The Wild Christmas Reindeer" Learn about these beautiful creatures through this book featuring colorful illustrations that add a festive tone to the story. Have you ever seen one fly? Snack and activity included!

DATE: Wednesday, December 15

TIME: 10:00 a.m.-11:00 a.m. or 1:00 p.m.-2:00 p.m.

FEE: \$3.00 per child

REGISTER BY: Friday, December 10

"Tracks." Join us as we begin a new Leopold Year! Our first lesson from Aldo Leopold will lead you on the trail of tracks. How many can you find? Dress warm for the weather! Snack and activity included!

DATE: Wednesday, January 19

TIME: 10:00 a.m.-11:00 a.m. or 1:00 p.m.-2:00 p.m.

FEE: \$4.00 per child (fee increase for 2011)

REGISTER BY: Friday, January 14

TRACKING WORKSHOP

Adult/Family Program

In winter, nature records the fascinating activities of animals. We can often tell more about animals by the signs they leave behind than we can from direct contact with them. Animal tracks are important clues but nibbled branches, stray animal fur, or scat makes these clues all significant to the story they tell. Participants will learn how to identify the tracks of different animal species, and read the animals' activities. We will even learn how to move the way different animals do in order to make certain kinds of tracks. When you learn to read the signs, it's like being let in on little secrets of animal life. Maximum number of registrants 25, minimum 5.

DATE: Saturday, January 8

TIME: 9:00 a.m.-Noon

FEE: \$5.00 (includes handouts)

REGISTER BY: Monday, January 3

BIRD FEEDING WORKSHOP

Adult & Families with older children

When you select the right food and presentation, it's generally easy to attract and observe a wide variety of birds in your back yard. Through careful placement of your feeder and selection of foods, you'll have the opportunity of seeing birds up close. Join Naturalist Larry Kascht for a program on all aspects of bird feeding. The program will include types of feeders, kinds of seed (and which birds eat them), bird identification, ecology of feeder visitors, and related topics. Maximum number of registrants 25, minimum 5.

DATE: Tuesday, January 4

TIME: 7:00 p.m.-8:30 p.m.

FEE: \$5.00

REGISTER BY: Tuesday, December 28



Stop by Retzer's Gift Shop
Choose from many different
bird feeders, bird houses or bird books.

WINTER WILDLIFE ON SHOWSHOES

Adult/Family Program

Get moving! Get connected! Winter is a great time to get out and explore your environment, and snowshoes are a great way to do it. Join a Retzer naturalist as you trek the trails in the silent world of winter on snowshoes. These half-day Saturday sessions cover the various styles of snowshoes and how to use them. The program will emphasize wildlife tracks and signs, and recreational snowshoeing as you connect to your winter surroundings. Maximum number of registrants 25, minimum 5.



DATES/TIMES: Saturdays

January 8	1:00-3:00 p.m.	Adult
January 15	9:00-11:00 a.m.	Adult
January 15	1:00-3:00 p.m.	Scouts & Families
January 29	9:00-11:00 a.m.	Adult
January 29	1:00-3:00 p.m.	Scouts & Families
February 12	9:00-11:00 a.m.	Adult
February 12	1:00-3:00 p.m.	Scouts & Families
February 19	9:00-11:00 a.m.	Scouts & Families
February 19	1:00-3:00 p.m.	Scouts & Families
February 26	9:00-11:00 a.m.	Scouts & Families
February 26	1:00-3:00 p.m.	Scouts & Families

FEE: \$7.00 per person per session
includes snowshoe rental

REGISTER BY: 5 days before program

YOGA CLASS

Age 12 thru Adult

Yoga is the oldest system of personal development in the world, encompassing body, mind, and spirit. Get started and discover how Yoga can be beneficial to the quality of your life. This 6-week course with Certified Instructor, Fred Varin, will focus on the basics of Hatha Yoga, a physical and mental form of Yoga that emphasizes Asanas, or physical postures. Postures exercise every part of the body, stretching and toning muscles and joints, the spine, and skeletal system. This gentle introduction to Yoga will help you stretch and introduce you to a series of movements. It will also include balanced postures and relaxation. You will learn techniques on how to breathe to minimize the stress in your life and gain vital inner energy. You do not need to have a prior Yoga experience to join. Participants should bring a mat/blanket and wear loose, comfortable clothing. Ages 12 to 17 must be accompanied by an adult. Maximum number of registrants 15, minimum 5.

DATE: Tuesdays, starting January 18

TIME: 5:30 p.m.-6:30 p.m.

FEE: \$60.00 for 6 weeks of class over 8-week period

REGISTER BY: Monday, January 17

ENJOY A GREAT FAMILY ACTIVITY - Snowshoeing

Come breathe in the fresh air and stretch those muscles as you make tracks in the snow on the Retzer trails.

Snowshoe rental is \$5.50 for a half day and \$9.00 for a full day.

WILD WINTER NIGHT

Adults & Families

Cure your winter cabin fever and join us for this wild winter adventure! There will be guided hikes throughout the evening led by Retzer Naturalist, free rental of our snowshoes, and an informal sing-along by a warm campfire with s'mores and hot cocoa. We'll explore the winter sky through an outdoor observation with telescopes, as well as an indoor Planetarium program entitled "Honey, I Shrunk the Solar System." This solar system exploration show takes the audience on an imaginary bike ride past the sun, moon and planets. Planetarium visitors actually help answer space questions along the way. This event is ideal for families of all ages and scout groups. Make sure your dress appropriately, this event will be held regardless of the weather.

DATE: Saturday, February 5

TIME: 6:00-9:00 p.m.

FEE: \$2.00 per person, payable at the door

PLEASE NOTE: There are a limited amount of snowshoes available for use, there may be waiting time. Planetarium Shows are limited to 90 people per show, which are first-come, first serve. We will begin distributing tickets at 6:00 p.m. and show times are at 6:30, 7:00, 7:30 and 8:00 p.m.

BASKET WORKSHOP

Adult Program

"Mocha Spice Tote" Practice laying out a base and weaving sides accented with dyed reed in rich, spicy browns. Shaping techniques are emphasized to fit the sturdy handle. The fun rim is lashed with waxed linen. This versatile tote is perfect for storing magazines next to your favorite chair or carrying on your daily errands. Students should be comfortable weaving start/stop

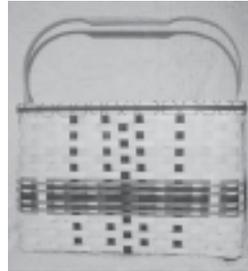
rows prior to taking this class. Finished size is approximately 13" long x 6" wide and 9" high. Please bring the following supplies to class with you: clippers or strong scissors, flexible tape measure, plant mister, old towel, pencil, several clip clothespins, pail or bucket and a small flat screwdriver. Maximum number of registrants 12, minimum 5.

DATE: Saturday, February 19

TIME: 9:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m.

FEE: \$58.00

REGISTER BY: Friday, February 4 (Allowing time to order supplies.)



2011 PARK ENTRANCE STICKERS ON SALE DEC. 1ST

Stickers are available at all park locations, Retzer Nature Center and Park and Land Use Office, Room AC230, 515 W. Moreland Blvd, Waukesha.

ANNUAL PARK ENTRANCE STICKERS

Resident	\$27.00/Car
Second Vehicle*	\$14.00/Car
Resident Senior Citizen**	\$14.00/Car
Second Vehicle*	\$ 7.00/Car
Non Resident	\$38.00/Car

*Second vehicle registered to same residence. Maximum of 2 per resident. Must be purchased with resident sticker.

**Senior Citizen 60 years of age & older.

A Look Ahead...

Waukesha County Park System
Camp Grounds open April 1st

Earth Week - a week of free, fun activities
to celebrate Mother Earth.
April 17 thru 23

WINTER JANBOREE

Adults & Families

Winter JanBoree is a city/county-wide event sponsored by the City of Waukesha Park and Recreation Department. Retzer Nature Center offers a full day of *free* family fun on Sunday, which tentatively includes:



- Free Snowshoe Use 10:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m.
- Family Nature Activities 10:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m.
- Bird Feeding Program 11:00 a.m. & 1:15 p.m.
- Winter Tracking Program 12:00 p.m. & 2:30 p.m.

Refreshments will be provided.

DATE: Sunday, January 23

TIME: 10:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m.

Continue the JanBoree celebration with a Charles Horwitz Planetarium Show, "**Time Bandits.**" Our calendars and many of our methods of timekeeping are based on the motions of the sun, moon and earth. This fascinating show describes the astronomical reasons for modern-day timekeeping. It also presents many of the world's wonderful mechanical clocks and how they work. All programs are FREE. Tickets are available in the lobby. For more information call: (262) 896-8423.

DATE: Sunday, January 23

TIMES: Every hour from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

ANNOUNCEMENTS



THE PERFECT HOLIDAY GIFT!

Retzer Nature Center Perpetual Calendar is here! Only \$10.00. All Proceeds go to the "Friends" of Retzer Nature Center

A Perpetual Calendar displays the dates of each month; perfect for recording your personal dates to remember year after year.

Monthly photos courtesy of Retzer Camera Club

HELP US SAVE SOME TREES!

Please think of the environment and consider receiving this Program Guide via e-mail.

Please e-mail your name, postal address (to take you off the postal mailing list) and your e-mail address with PROGRAM GUIDE in the subject line to: retzer@waukeshacounty.gov

Thank you for helping us in our mission to create a sustainable environment.



Payment & Cancellation Policy:

Program fees must be paid 10 days before program is held, or at the time of booking if less than 10 days before program, unless listed otherwise in this program guide.

A cancellation fee of \$5.00 maximum if cancelled on program registration date. If cancelled after registration date, we reserve the right to forfeit the whole program registration fee. We reserve the right to issue credit on account, or a voucher toward future programs, instead of refunding money. Credit on account and vouchers must be redeemed within the same calendar year unless otherwise noted.

December 2010 - February 2011 Retzer Nature Center Programs

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ Zip _____

Day Phone _____

Home Phone _____

E-mail _____

Fee Enclosed \$ _____

Please enroll me in the following class(s):

Name Workshop Date/Time Child's Birth Date

Make checks payable to: **Waukesha County Parks**
Master Card and Visa accepted.

Mail form and fee(s) to:
Retzer Nature Center Programs
Attn: Jan
515 W. Moreland Blvd., AC 230
Waukesha, WI 53188

Questions: **(262) 548-7801**

Some workshops fill up quickly, please call to verify openings.