

December 7 Wednesday	Retzer Camera Club
December 10 Saturday	Basket Workshop "Holiday Card Holder"
December 13 Tuesday	Wee Wonders "Nature's Winter Story"
December 14 Wednesday	Nature Sprouts "Nature's Winter Story"
January 3 Tuesday	Bird Feeding Workshop
January 4 Wednesday	Retzer Camera Club
January 7 Saturday	Tracking Workshop
January 7,14,28 Saturdays	Winter Wildlife on Snowshoes
January 10 Tuesday	Wee Wonders "Animal Talk"
January 10 Tuesday	Yoga Class Begins
January 18 Wednesday	Nature Sprouts "Winter's Footprints"
January 22 Sunday	Winter JanBoree Family Fun!
January 22 Sunday	JanBoree Charles Horwitz Planetarium
February 1 Wednesday	Retzer Camera Club
February 4 Saturday	Wild Winter Night
February 11 Saturday	Basket Workshop "Market Basket with Stick Handle"
February 11,18,25 Saturdays	Winter Wildlife on Snowshoes
February 14 Tuesday	Wee Wonders "Winter Walk"
March 6 Tuesday	Yoga Class
March 7 Wednesday	Retzer Camera Club

March 13 Tuesday	Wee Wonders "Feed the Birds"
March 21 Wednesday	Nature Sprouts "Nature Sculptures"
March 31 Saturday	Aldo Leopold Reading the Landscape
March 31 Saturday	ID of Trees & Shrubs in a Leafless Condition
March 31 Saturday	Basket Workshop "Tote with Braided Leather Handles"
April 4 Wednesday	Retzer Camera Club
April 6,13,20,27 Fridays	Morning Bird Hikes
April 10 Tuesday	Wee Wonders "Lamb or Lion"
April 18 Wednesday	Nature Sprouts "Inside the Earth"
April 22-28 Sunday-Saturday	Earth Week Programs (See Website for updates)
April 24 Saturday	GPS Aided Hiking Family Program
May 1 Tuesdays	Yoga Class
May 2 Wednesday	Retzer Camera Club
May 4,11,18,25 Fridays	Morning Bird Hikes
May 5 Saturday	GPS Aided Hiking Family Program
May 8 Tuesday	Wee Wonders "Wiggle Worms"
May 12 Saturday	Retzer Spring Native Plant Sale
May 16 Wednesday	Nature Sprouts "Crazy Critters"
May 18 Friday	Evenings Trails
May 19 Saturday	Bird & Wildflower Hike



Retzer Nature Center
Waukesha County Parks & Land Use
S14W28167 Madison Street
Waukesha, WI 53188

Return Service Requested

Nature 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

Your Winter/Spring Program Guide December 2011 - May 2012

This guide will now be coming out with programs six months out vs the three months.
We hope this gives you more time to plan out your busy schedules.

Happy Holidays!

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.

RETZER NATURE CENTER CAMERA CLUB

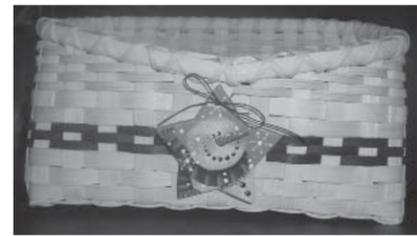
The Camera Club meets monthly, with instructional programs, sharing/critique of members' photographs, discussion of equipment and technique, and opportunities for taking photographs at Retzer Nature Center and other nature areas.

DATE: Wednesdays, December 7, January 4, February 1, March 7, April 4, May 2
 TIME: 7:00 p.m.

BASKET WORKSHOPS

Join basket instructor, Denise Arzberger, in learning techniques of basket making. The baskets she designs and teaches at basketry conventions around the country are intended to add a creative twist to a traditional basket style. We are pleased to have Denise share her work with us here at Retzer Nature Center. 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 and a sack lunch. Maximum number of registrants per class is 12, minimum 5.

Holiday Card Holder – Collect your holiday greeting cards in this practical holder... Or use it to keep your mail organized throughout the year! Practice the basics of laying out a base



and weaving the sides of a basket. A unique feature of this basket is the use of round reed to create a sloped front. Beginners will learn the basics of completing a rim; experienced students will

have the option of finishing this basket with a braided border. An assortment of painted leather tie-ons will be available to choose from and students will have a choice of accent reed colors. Finished size is approximately 10" long x 5" wide x 6" high (at the back). Class is suitable for all level weavers.

DATE: Saturday, December 10
 TIME: 9:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m.
 FEE: \$38.00
 REGISTER BY: Monday, November 28

(Allowing time to order supplies.)

Market Basket with Stick Handle – Lend a natural and creative touch to a market style basket. Select a stick to use as your handle and then let it guide your weaving. (The size of this basket may be adjusted to fit your choice of handle.) Students may choose which version of this basket you would like to weave. Beginners can learn basic techniques for start/stop rows and color design.



Experienced students can explore triple twining and twill chase weaving techniques. Drill and attach your handle, then finish with a traditional rim and embellish this basket with waxed linen, beads and found objects. Students will have a choice of accent colors and embellishments. Finished size is approximately 14" long x 8" wide x 5" high (dimensions may vary depending on size of stick used). Class is suitable for all level weavers.

DATE: Saturday, February 11
 TIME: 9:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m.
 FEE: \$52.00
 REGISTER BY: Friday, January 27

(Allowing time to order supplies.)

Tote with Braided Leather Handles – This versatile tote was designed for weavers of all levels. Begin your weaving experience with a sturdy filled base. The sides are woven in the stop/start manner with your choice of accent colors. Finish the top with a traditional rim and a high quality pair of braided leather handles. Finished size is approximately 16" long x 10" wide x 9" high.



DATE: Saturday, March 31
 TIME: 9:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m.
 FEE: \$58.00
 REGISTER BY: Friday, March 16

(Allowing time to order supplies.)

Plan ahead for Summer Fun!

NATURE DESIGN STUDIO

Week Long Summer Camp
 Ages 7-12 yr.

Join us in this week long summer camp and explore nature through art and design. Each session will focus on a different area of our environment. Children will take home completed projects at the end of the week. The following sessions are repeated twice with a morning and afternoon opportunity to fit your schedule. You can register your child for both weekly sessions and know that lunch supervision will be provided for your child between noon and 1:00 p.m. (Bring a bag lunch.) Maximum number of registrants 12, minimum 4.

Take advantage of discounted fees by registering your child before **May 1**.
 \$65.00 per session *before* May 1 and
 \$75.00 per session there after.

Session A
Capturing Nature On Fabric

In this session we will explore flower pounding, sun printing, photo transferring and stenciling to create a completed 24" pillow.

Session B
Building from Nature

In this session we will utilize parts of nature to construct a garden stepping stone, wind chime, bird house/feeder and a solar powered car.

Session C
A Date with Nature

In this session explore nature through photography, paper making, stamp printing and scrapbook techniques to create a 16 month calendar.

June 25-29
 Session A: 9:00-12:00 & Session C: 1:00-4:00
 July 23-27
 Session C: 9:00-12:00 & Session B: 1:00-4:00
 July 30-August 3
 Session B: 9:00-12:00 & Session A: 1:00-4:00

Program 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 2011 - May 2012
 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/Time	Date	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.

ALDO LEOPOLD—READING THE LANDSCAPE

Adults/Children 12 and over who are interested in Leopold
Aldo Leopold is well known as scientific ecologist/conservationist, Environmental teacher/philosopher, land essayist/poet, author of *A Sand County Almanac*, and originator of the celebrated Land Ethic. He was also a guy who really knew how to enjoy discovering the land’s secrets! He loved to read the particular details and evidence that the land shows us, and then figure out the fascinating answer, the big picture, the great story. This is not only good scientific reasoning—it’s also really great fun! Let us prove it to you, as we explore (with Leopold) the business, and pleasure, of Reading the Landscape. Join the Retzer Naturalist for a 2-hour outdoor Leopold-style exploration, in which we’ll unlock his inductive approach and discover the secrets of the early spring land. An indoor discussion (approximately 1 hour), with hot chocolate, will follow.

DATE: Saturday, March 31
TIME: 1:00-4:00 p.m.
FEE: Free

GPS AIDED HIKING

Family Program

Are you interested in using or exploring GPS techniques in your hiking? Come and explore our nature trails with a Retzer Teaching Naturalist. Try one of our GPS units, or bring your own GPS, with instruction manual, and sharpen your skills. In this family program, we will review basic GPS operation while hiking, and develop orienteering skills. In case of rain, there will be an indoor GPS discussion program.

DATE: Tuesday, April 24 – Adults
TIME: 10:00-11:30 a.m.
FEE: FREE During Earth Week – 6 maximum
REGISTER BY: Wednesday, April 18

DATE: Saturday, May 5 – Families
TIME: 10:00-11:30 a.m.
FEE: \$4.00 per person – 12 maximum
REGISTER BY: Wednesday, April 30

**2012 PARK ENTRANCE STICKERS ON
SALE DECEMBER 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.)

SPRING NATIVE PLANT SALE

Come out to Retzer to see and purchase our potted native grasses and wildflowers! We will have prairie species such as Shooting Star and Prairie Dropseed (which are difficult to start from seed), along with many others. We will also have a number of choice woodland wildflowers including Trillium and Virginia Waterleaf. These plants come from our native wildflower nurseries, all brought together just for you. Bring along your questions and plant samples for identification. Sales Manager: Dick Bautz.

DATE: Saturday, May 12
TIME: 9:00 a.m.-Noon

During the plant sale, customers can view a continuously running 10-minute powerpoint program on “Selection and Care of Your Native Plants.” Step into the Forest Room of the Nature Center to view this topic of interest designed for our plant sale customers.

BIRD AND WILDFLOWER HIKE

Adults and families with older children

Woods come alive with warblers and wildflowers in spring-time. Join Naturalist, Larry Kascht, on Saturday afternoon for a walk. We will identify, smell, photograph, and appreciate the flowers, and learn about their life and ecology. We will identify as many of the warblers as we can, let ourselves be awed by their incredible beauty, and learn about their migration. Bring your field guide, camera, and binoculars!

DATE: Saturday, May 19
TIME: 1:00-3:00 p.m.
FEE: \$5.00

Walk-in registration. Cash or check only.

EVENING TRAILS

Adults and families with older children

Discover the blooming “stars” of spring during this evening’s wildflower hike. Maximum number of registrants 20, minimum 5.

DATE: Friday, May 18
TIME: 6:30-8:00 p.m.
FEE: \$5.00 per person
REGISTER BY: Monday, May 14

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.



WEE WONDERS

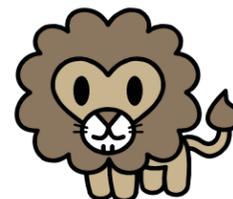
Ages 2-4

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 child must be accompanied by a parent/grandparent for participation in this program. Please dress for the weather. Maximum number of registrants 30, minimum 5.

“Nature’s Winter Story.” - How have the animals been getting ready for winter? Where would we look for them? What are they doing now? You will explore the land as winter comes in. We will look for the clues to answer these questions and more.

DATE: Tuesday, December 13
TIME: 9:30-10:30 a.m.
FEE: \$4.00
REGISTER BY: Thursday, December 8

“Animal Talk” – Can you talk to the animals? Roar like a lion, purr with a cat, and chatter at a squirrel as we explore animal sounds in this indoor adventure.



DATE: Tuesday, January 10
TIME: 9:30-10:30 a.m.
FEE: \$4.00
REGISTER BY: Thursday, January 5

“Winter Walk” – Come walk with your special Valentine, hand-in-hand, as we stroll along the trails on an adventure into the winter wonderland. We will put out special Valentine treats for the wildlife to enjoy as we wander in the snow.

DATE: Tuesday, February 14
TIME: 9:30-10:30 a.m.
FEE: \$4.00
REGISTER BY: Thursday, February 9



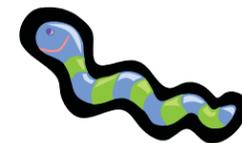
“Feed the Birds” – Snow covers the ground and the birds are looking for food. Join the naturalist for an adventure on the trails, by leaving food for the wildlife to enjoy. Find the perfect spot to leave a bit of birdseed or

where to stash a carrot for the rabbits to find.
DATE: Tuesday, March 13
TIME: 9:30-10:30 a.m.
FEE: \$4.00
REGISTER BY: Thursday, March 8

“Lamb or Lion” – Discover the world outside through texture in this lamb or lion safari. Your guide will assist you and your child as you search out soft, rough, smooth, hard and fuzzy feelies on this expedition.

DATE: Tuesday, April 10
TIME: 9:30-10:30 a.m.
FEE: \$4.00
REGISTER BY: Thursday, April 5

“Wiggle Worms” – Explore the life of a worm and the places they live as we dig up a few of these wiggly creatures to hold and enjoy.



DATE: Tuesday, May 8
TIME: 9:30-10:30 a.m.
FEE: \$4.00
REGISTER BY: Thursday, May 3

NATURE SPROUTS

Ages: 4-6

Come join the fun! A new topic will be explored each session through stories, crafts, and activities. Sprout’s will have a change to discover nature while making friends. Participants must be accompanied by an adult. Please dress for the weather. Maximum number of registrants 15, minimum 5.

“Nature’s Winter Story” - How have the animals been getting ready for winter? Where would we look for them? What are they doing now? Come look for clues to answer some of these questions and more.

DATE: Wednesday, December 14
TIME: 10:00 -11:00 a.m. or
1:00 -2:00 p.m.
FEE: \$4.00 per child
REGISTER BY: Friday, December 9

“Winter’s Footprints” – Learn the basics of animal tracking at this indoor/outdoor program! We’ll search for animal tracks in the wild and make our own track prints to take home.



DATE: Wednesday, January 18
TIME: 10:00 -11:00 a.m. or
1:00 -2:00 p.m.
FEE: \$4.00 per child
REGISTER BY: Friday, January 13

NATURE SPROUTS cont.

“Nature Sculptures” – The world is filled with beautiful art! From frozen streams to sculpted trees, we will explore these wonderful sights. We’ll come inside and make our own art using an assortment of natural items found on our walk.

DATE: Wednesday, March 21
 TIME: 10:00 -11:00 a.m. or 1:00 -2:00 p.m.
 FEE: \$4.00 per child
 REGISTER BY: Friday, March 16

“Inside the Earth!” – Today we will take an imaginary trip far below the crust of the earth. We will investigate minerals, crystals, and fossils!



DATE: Wednesday, April 18
 TIME: 10:00-11:00 a.m. or 1:00-2:00 p.m.
 FEE: \$4.00 per child
 REGISTER BY: Friday, April 13

“Crazy Critters” Have fun and mix it up as we combine grasshopper legs with a porcupine body, add robin wings and a coyote tail. Learn about different animal parts, read a silly story, and create your own imaginary critter using hands-on objects as inspiration.

DATE: Wednesday, May 16
 TIME: 10:00 -11:00 a.m. or 1:00 -2:00 p.m.
 FEE: \$4.00 per child
 REGISTER BY: Friday, May 11

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 3
 TIME: 7:00 -8:30 p.m.
 FEE: \$5.00
 REGISTER BY: Monday, December 26

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.

DATE: Saturday, January 7
 TIME: 9:00-11:00 a.m.
 FEE: \$5.00 (includes handouts)
 REGISTER BY: Walk-in registration.

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 7 1:00-3:00 p.m. Adult
- January 14 9:00-11:00 a.m. Adult
- January 14 1:00-3:00 p.m. Scouts & Families
- January 28 9:00-11:00 a.m. Adult
- January 28 1:00-3:00 p.m. Scouts & Families
- February 11 9:00-11:00 a.m. Adult
- February 11 1:00-3:00 p.m. Scouts & Families
- February 18 9:00-11:00 a.m. Scouts & Families
- February 18 1:00-3:00 p.m. Scouts & Families
- February 25 9:00-11:00 a.m. Scouts & Families
- February 25 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, with Sessions starting January 10, March 6, and May 1
 TIME: 5:30 -6:30 p.m.
 FEE: \$60.00 each session for 6 weeks of class over an 8-week period
 REGISTER BY: Monday before start of each session.

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. Make sure you dress appropriately, this event will be held regardless of the weather. We’ll explore the winter sky through an outdoor observation with telescopes, as well as an indoor Planetarium program entitled “Legends of the Winter Sky”. This wonderful winter season program presents many of your favorite constellation characters like “Orion the Hunter”, “Taurus, the Bull”, and “Gemini, the Twins.” Watch them all come alive on the planetarium dome to tell their fascinating adventures.

DATE: Saturday, February 4
 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.

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 22
 TIME: 10:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m.

WAUKESHA JANBOREE— CHARLES HORWITZ PLANETARIUM

Continue the JanBoree celebration at Retzer Nature Center by attending the Charles Horwitz Planetarium Show, “Orion: The Great Hunter”. This colorful sky-lazer program takes a light-hearted and imaginative look at the myths and stories associated with the constellation Orion, the great hunter of the winter sky. This program is 45 minutes in length. All programs are FREE admission. Tickets are available in the lobby.

For more information call: 262-896-8423.

DATE: Sunday, January 22
 TIMES: Every hour from 9:00 am to 3:00 pm

ID OF TREES & SHRUBS IN A LEAFLESS CONDITION

Adult Program

Explore the peaceful early spring woods of Retzer Nature Center as you learn to identify common trees and shrubs. Focus on leafless twig identification!

DATE: Saturday, March 31
 TIME: 9:00-11:00 a.m.
 FEE: \$5.00
 REGISTER BY: Walk-in registration.

MORNING BIRD HIKES

Adults & Families with older children

Enjoy the early morning and the return of our feathered friends. Don’t forget your binoculars. Binoculars are available at Retzer on a limited basis.

DATES: April 6, 13, 20, 27
 May 4, 11, 18, 25
 June 1, 8, 15, 22, 29
 TIME: 7:00-8:30 a.m.
 FEE: \$1.00 per person (payable at the door)
 REGISTER BY: Walk-in registration.