



Friends of Retzer Nature Center's **Earth Week Celebration!** April 17-23 Free events all week long!

Canoe Outing

Families

DATE: Sunday, April 17

TIME: 1 pm

REGISTER BY: Monday, April 13

Experience the sights, sounds and smells of the marsh, river and wetlands in spring on a canoe outing led by Retzer staff and guest naturalists. We will canoe on the Oconomowoc River to Lowe's Lake. A wearable U.S. Coast Guard approved life jacket (PFD) is required. Participants must provide their own life jacket and canoe or kayak.

Green Cleaning Workshop

Adults

DATE: Tuesday, April 19

TIME: 2 - 3 pm

REGISTER BY: Monday, April 18

We strive to keep our homes & workplaces healthy by using chemicals that are toxic. Is there another way? Find out what common household ingredients can be used to keep your home healthy, clean, and safe. Find out what really works and which products on the market pass as "green." Make some creamy soft scrub to take home!

Raptors-Presented by the Wildlife in Need Center

Adults & Older Children

DATE: Tuesday, April 19

TIME: 7 pm

REGISTER BY: Monday, April 18 (Space is limited)

See and learn about these beautiful birds as naturalists from the Wildlife in Need Center showcase a few of their captive birds.

Preschool Hike

DATE: Thursday, April 21

TIME: 9-10 am (Ages 2-3 yrs.) or 1-2 pm (Ages 4-6 yrs.)

REGISTER BY: Monday, April 18

A nature experience awaits children on a Retzer hike. Explore the sensory wonders of the outdoors while observing and comparing spring insects, flowers, and other treasures. Participants must be accompanied by an adult. Each session is limited to 15 participants.

Morning Bird Hike

Adults & Older Children

DATE: Friday, April 22

TIME: 7 am; Meet in parking lot

This special Earth Week hike will explore the birds of the Fen; one of the rarest wetland plant communities in Wisconsin.



Friends of Retzer Nature Center's Earth Week Finale!

April 23 Free events all day long!

Jack Young Memorial Earth Watch

TIME: 5 am - Noon REGISTER BY: Wednesday, April 20

Adults, families and scouts can observe a moment in nature's time by picking a spot onsite to quietly sit & record the sights, sounds, smells & wildlife activities going on around you! Equipment provided—pick a half-hour shift or more.

Family Bird Watch

TIME: 10 - 11:30 am Meet by main entrance

Learn how to participate in this fascinating and fun activity through a guided 1/2 hour discussion and 1 hour hike on wooded and open areas on gentle terrain, near the building. Come see why bird watching is the fastest growing outdoor hobby, and great fun for families.

Planetarium Shows Nine Planets and Counting

TIME: 9 am - 4 pm Shows run every 45 minutes

See the most current images of the Sun, Moon and Planets in our Solar System. Find out why Pluto is now called a "Dwarf Planet." This show investigates the composition of our neighbors in space.

Family and Children Activities and Games

TIME: 10 am - 3 pm

Kids of all ages will enjoy a variety of crafts and activities including:

Water Bug Life Cycle Adventure! Leaving on the hour to visit the nearby Retzer pond or stream to look at interesting creatures living there and learn about their life cycles.

Wiggle with Worms! Hold live worms while learning about their structure, behavior and needs using microscopes and magnifiers! Learn the important role worms play in vermicomposting.

Papermaking

TIME: 1 - 1:30 pm

Families will discover how to use resources wisely by making your very own recycled paper. Have the option to add seeds to plant the paper in your garden and watch your creation grow!

Green Cleaning

TIME: 2 - 2:30 pm

Kids of all ages can learn how to make your home clean and green. Make a non-toxic creamy cleaner to take home!

Master Gardener Station

TIME: 10 am - 3 pm

UW-Extension Master Gardeners will be on hand to demonstrate a variety of planting & garden options, and answer questions you might have on plants and gardening.

Volunteer Opportunity

TIME: Noon - 3 pm REGISTER BY: Wednesday, April 20

Join Retzer staff in this worthwhile volunteer project of invasive species removal, or spreading wood chips on trails. Must be 14 years of age or older.

Trees & Wildflowers Hike

TIME: 2 - 3 pm Meet by main entrance

Enjoy this guided hike on trails in wooded and open area on moderately hilly terrain. Discover the trees and wildflowers of spring.

Family Concert by Tom Pease

TIME: 3 - 5 pm

Campfire Songs & S'mores

TIME: 5 - 7 pm

Magical Mystery Tour: Guided Twilight Hike Into Brown's Fen

TIME: Approx. 7:15 - 9 pm

This natural area features frogs and peepers, woodcocks, coyotes, and constellations. Enjoy our own treasure hunt! This hike is on very hilly terrain, in twilight and darkness, so bring your flashlight.