



Waukesha County
Department of
Parks and Land Use

February 2016 - August 2016

Waukesha County Environmental Education Activity Guide

Adult | Family | Scout | Youth



waukeshacounty.gov/EnvironmentalEd

Waukesha County

Environmental Education Activity Guide



We are so fortunate to live in a County full of abundant natural resources, wonderful parks and many opportunities for residents and visitors alike to experience the outdoors.

This guide provides the information you will need to enjoy our programs and special events that promote preservation of our County's resources.

I encourage you to use this guide so that together we may:

- ☒ Increase the amount of material recycled from households and businesses to reduce our environmental impact
- ☒ Create opportunities for everyone to explore the outstanding natural resources in the Waukesha County Park System
- ☒ Collaborate with School Districts in the County to offer a variety of science-based programs to meet curriculum requirements and enhance the quality of life in the County
- ☒ Protect the County's lakes and streams by informing citizens on how property management decisions impact water quality
- ☒ Protect the quantity and quality of groundwater resources in the County by promoting water conservation and groundwater infiltration

So let's get out, get active and enjoy all of our great natural resources of Waukesha County!

A stylized, handwritten signature in white ink that reads "Paul".

Paul Farrow,
Waukesha County Executive

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Retzer Nature Center



@WaukeshaCoParks



Waukesha County Recycles



@WaukCoRecycles

**All programs are held at Retzer Nature Center,
S14 W28167 Madison Street, Waukesha, WI 53188, unless otherwise
noted and are subject to change without notice.**

Staff may photograph programs and events for promotional material such as, but not limited to, brochures, advertisement of events, website, etc. This booklet is printed on 100% post-consumer recycled paper.

At a Glance

February 1 Monday	Native Plant Pre-orders Begin	March 18 Friday	Planetarium Laser Shows
February 3 Wednesday	Camera Club	March 19 Saturday	Family Adventure Hike Planetarium Shows Planetarium Laser Shows
February 6 Saturday	Wild Winter Night Planetarium Shows	March 20 Sunday	Benjamin Goss Bird Club
February 8 Monday	Retzer Rangers "Cabin Fever"	March 26 Saturday	Family Adventure Hike
February 9 Tuesday	Wee Wonders "Birdie Buffet"	April 1 Friday	Morning Bird Hike
February 11 Thursday	Understanding Water Resources Presentation hosted by the New Berlin Public Library	April 2 Saturday	Family Adventure Hike Planetarium Shows
February 13 Saturday	Winter Wildlife on Snowshoes Ice Fishing Clinic Planetarium Shows	April 6 Wednesday	Camera Club Morning Bird Hike
February 20 Saturday	Winter Wildlife on Snowshoes Planetarium Shows	April 8 Friday	Morning Bird Hike
February 21 Sunday	Benjamin Goss Bird Club	April 9 Saturday	Free Kids Fishing Clinics Family Adventure Hike Planetarium Shows
February 25 Thursday	Get the Ground Water Picture Presentation hosted by the New Berlin Public Library	April 11 Monday	Retzer Rangers "April Showers Bring May Flowers"
February 27 Saturday	Winter Wildlife on Snowshoes Planetarium Shows	April 12 Tuesday	Wee Wonders "The Scents of Spring"
March 2 Wednesday	Camera Club	April 14 Thursday	Organic Lawn Care Presentation hosted by the Brookfield Public Library
March 5 Saturday	Planetarium Shows Aldo Leopold Weekend	April 15 Friday	Morning Bird Hike
March 8 Tuesday	Wee Wonders "The Sky Tonight"	April 16 Saturday	Planetarium Shows
March 12 Saturday	Family Adventure Hike Planetarium Shows	April 17 Sunday	Earth Week Event: Canoe Outing Benjamin Goss Bird Club
March 14 Monday	Retzer Rangers "Water, Water, Everywhere!"	April 18 Monday	Mom's Day Out
March 15 Tuesday	Planetarium Laser Shows	April 19 Tuesday	Earth Week Event: Green Cleaning Workshop Earth Week Event: Raptors - presented by Wildlife in Need
March 16 Wednesday	Mom's Day Out Planetarium Laser Shows	April 20 Wednesday	Last Day to Pre-order Native Plants
March 17 Thursday	Planetarium Laser Shows	April 21 Thursday	Earth Week Event: Preschool Hikes

April 22 Friday	Earth Week Event: Morning Bird Hike	June 11 Saturday	Family Adventure Hike Planetarium Shows
April 23 Saturday	Earth Week Finale Event!	June 13 Monday	Retzer Rangers "Flying Dragons"
April 29 Friday	Morning Bird Hike	June 14 Tuesday	Wee Wonders "Planting a Rainbow"
April 30 Saturday	Family Adventure Hike Planetarium Shows	June 17 Friday	Morning Bird Hike
May 1 Sunday	Swim Lesson Registration Begins	June 18 Saturday	Natural Landscape Volunteers
May 4 Wednesday	Camera Club	June 20 Monday	Cool World of Nature
May 6 Friday	Morning Bird Hike	June 20, 21 & 23 M, T & Th	Boy Scout Merit Camp "Environmental Science"
May 7 Saturday	Spring Sale & Workshop Event Planetarium Shows	June 24 Friday	Morning Bird Hike
May 9 Monday	Retzer Rangers "Down in the Dirt"	June 25 Saturday	Family Adventure Hike
May 10 Tuesday	Wee Wonders "I Spy with My Little Eye"	June 27 Monday	Cool World of Nature
May 11 Wednesday	Mom's Day Out	July 6 Wednesday	Camera Club
May 13 Friday	Morning Bird Hike	July 11 Monday	Cool World of Nature Retzer Rangers "Beetlemania"
May 14 Saturday	Spring Bird Count Planetarium Shows	July 12 Tuesday	Wee Wonders "Hop To It Adventure"
May 15 Sunday	Benjamin Goss Bird Club	July 12-13 Tues - Wed	Boy Scout Merit Camp "Soil & Water Conservation"
May 20 Friday	Morning Bird Hike	July 16 Saturday	Family Adventure Hike
May 21 Saturday	Family Adventure Hike Planetarium Shows	July 18-22 Mon - Fri	Retzer Summer Games
May 23 Monday	Rain Gardens & Rain Barrels Presentation hosted by the Pewaukee Public Library	July 23 Saturday	Natural Landscape Volunteers
May 27 Friday	Morning Bird Hike	July 25 Monday	Cool World of Nature
May 28 Saturday	Planetarium Shows	July 25-29 Mon - Fri	Boy Scout Merit Camps "Insect Study" "Bird Study"
June 1 Wednesday	Camera Club	July 30 Saturday	Family Adventure Hike Natural Landscape Volunteers
June 3 Friday	Morning Bird Hike	August 1 Monday	Cool World of Nature
June 4 Saturday	Planetarium Shows Natural Landscape Volunteers	August 3 Wednesday	Camera Club
June 10 Friday	Morning Bird Hike		

At a Glance continued

**August 6
Saturday** Family Adventure Hike

**August 8
Monday** Cool World of Nature

Retzer Rangers
"Butterflies Flutter By"

**August 9
Tuesday** Wee Wonders
"Vista Visitors"

**August 13
Saturday** Family Adventure Hikes

Natural Landscape Volunteers

**August 20
Saturday** Family Adventure Hike

Natural Landscape Volunteers

**August 27
Saturday** Family Adventure Hike

DON'T GET LEFT INSIDE! Retzer Nature Center offers over 5 miles of picturesque trails to explore, taking you through forests, prairies, savannas, wetlands, and ponds. Summer holds hidden adventures lurking under the water; look for turtles, frogs and crazy looking creatures as you investigate down at the pond or wetlands. Fall provides a rainbow of color as the forests and prairies take hold with their artist murals. In the winter, try your feet in a pair of snowshoes to make the exploration of the lands that much more fun. If you can walk, you can snowshoe. We look forward to seeing you out on the land or stop in and discover the "Unseen World" exhibit with live animals and loads of hands-on explorations.

Enjoy Our Park Beach Locations!

**Fox Brook
Menomonee
Minooka*
Mukwonago*
Muskego
Naga-Waukee**

*Beaches are Swim At Your Own Risk

Follow us for daily updates on beach information
@WaukeshaCoParks
waukeshacountyparks.com

For upcoming events at the



visit

waukeshacountyexpo.com



Waukesha County
Park System

 @WaukeshaCoParks

 Waukesha County Expo



Special Events

Wild Winter Night

DATE: Saturday, February 6

TIME: 6 pm - 9 pm

FEE: \$2.00 per person

Cure your cabin fever and join us for this wild winter adventure! There will be Retzer Naturalist guided hikes throughout the evening, free snowshoe rental, 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 "Secret of the Cardboard Rocket." This delightful children's fantasy takes the audience on a voyage past the Sun, Moon and Planets, in a refrigerator box cardboard rocket.

PLEASE NOTE: There are a limited amount of snowshoes available for use, so there may be a wait time. Planetarium Shows are limited to 90 people per show, and is first-come, first-served. Ticket distribution begins at 6:20 pm

Aldo Leopold Weekend – "Aldo Leopold: His Life and Work"

Adults & Older Children

DATE: Saturday, March 5

TIME: 10 am - Noon (Indoors) & 1 - 3 pm (Hike)

FEE: Free

A look at Aldo Leopold through his life, writings and outdoor experiences. Join us as we explore this fascinating man.

Friend's of Retzer Nature Center's Earth Week Celebration!

DATES: Sunday, April 17 - Saturday, April 23 (Earth Week Finale Event on Saturday, April 23)

See page 8 for a complete listing of program and events.

Native Plant Pre-order Sale

DATE: Monday, February 1 - Wednesday, April 20

TIME: 9 am - 1 pm

Pre-order plants from our large selection of native wildflowers at great sale prices from February 1 through April 20. Pick-up your order at the Spring Sale & Workshop Event. See pages 34 & 35 for more information or visit waukeshacountyparks.com for order forms.

Spring Sale & Workshop Event

DATE: Saturday, May 7

TIME: 9 am - 1 pm

Join us as we welcome the full flowering of Spring! Come and get ready to tackle your Spring gardens. The Plant Doctors, UW- Extension Master Gardeners, Composting, Rain Garden and Rain Barrel Experts will all be on hand to assist you with your questions. Stop by the demonstration kiosk to learn about alternative gardening options or attend the various workshops. See pages 34 & 35 for more information. **Compost bin - \$50 | Rain barrel - \$60 | Tandem barrel set - \$100**

Spring Bird Count

DATE: Saturday, May 14

TIME: 7 am - Noon

FEE: Free

Join the Benjamin Goss Bird Club in their annual spring bird count. Teams observe and count the different species of birds found at Retzer Nature Center. For more information visit gossbirdclub.org



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.



General Programming

Join us at Retzer Nature Center for our general programming and activities!
Unless otherwise noted: pre-registration is required and no program fee.

Volunteer Teacher Naturalist Training

Adults
Call (262) 896-8007 for more information
 We offer an apprenticeship program for our Teaching Naturalist Training. Through this program you will receive training in our Teaching Naturalist course. We work with you to prepare you to lead a school group on their selected hike. There is no registration deadline for the apprenticeship program; we welcome new volunteers anytime of the year.

Retzer Nature Center Camera Club

Adults & Older Children
DATES: Wednesdays, February 3, March 2, April 6, May 4, June 1, July 6, & August 3
TIME: 7 pm

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.
 For more information visit retzercameraclub.blogspot.com

Winter Wildlife on Snowshoes

Adults/Families & Scouts
DATES: Saturdays, February 13, 20, 27
TIME: 9 - 11 am & 1 - 3 pm
FEE: \$5.00 per person
REGISTER BY: Friday prior to class (Space is limited)

Winter is a great time to get out and explore the environment, and snowshoes are a fun way to do it. Join a Retzer Naturalist as you trek the trails in the silent world of winter on snowshoes. The program will emphasize wildlife tracks and signs and recreational snowshoeing as you connect to your winter surroundings.

Benjamin Goss Bird Club

Adults & Older Children
DATES: Sundays, February 21, March 20, April 17, May 15
TIME: 7 - 9 pm

Benjamin Goss Bird Club provides those interested in an active study of birds and their habitats a venue to meet with fellow bird enthusiasts. Meetings are held on the third Sunday of the month, February through May.

Tai Chi Class

Adults
DATES: Monday & Wednesday, February – August (Ongoing class)
TIME: 9 - 10 am
FEE: \$80.00 punch card purchase (10 classes @ \$8 per class) -or- \$9 per class walk-ins

Learn the basic traditional forms modified and the principles of Tai Chi. With simple, gentle, slow movements we will work toward creating enhanced mental and physical relaxation, deeper breathing, better balance and stronger posture. This is truly a complete body exercise.
 Instructor: Virginia Mathias, is certified by the American Senior Fitness Association.

Morning Bird Hike

Adults & Older Children

DATES: Fridays, April 1, 8, 15, 29, May 6, 13, 20, 27, June 3, 10, 17, 24

TIME: 7 - 8:30 am

FEE: \$2.00

Our frisky, feathered friends are back! We'll explore their habitats, welcome back spring migrants, and check on our year round residents. Don't forget your binoculars. Binoculars are available at Retzer on a limited basis. No reservations needed. Meet in the parking lot. Join the naturalists from Retzer and Benjamin Goss Bird Club as they set out to discover who's chirping on the trails.

Family Adventure Hike

Adults/Families & Scouts

FEE: \$4.00 per person (Children under 5 are free)

REGISTER BY: Friday prior to class

Join us on Saturdays for flexible themed adventures to get families out on the trails, and have a land discovery experience - exploring with a Naturalist. Each Saturday listed will be a new adventure; you never know what you might be exploring.

DATE: March 12

TIME: 9 - 11 am

DATE: April 9

TIME: 10 - 11:30 am

DATE: June 25

TIME: 9 - 11 am

DATE: August 13

TIME: 10 - 11:30 am

DATE: March 19

TIME: 8:30 - 10 am

DATE: April 30

TIME: 9 - 11 am

DATE: July 16

TIME: 9 - 11 am

DATE: August 20

TIME: 9 - 11 am

DATE: March 26

TIME: 8:30 - 10 am

DATE: May 21

TIME: 9 - 11 am

DATE: July 30

TIME: 9 - 11 am

DATE: August 27

TIME: 9 - 11 am

DATE: April 2

TIME: 9 - 11 am

DATE: June 11

TIME: 9 - 11 am

DATE: August 6

TIME: 9 - 11 am

Mom's Day Out

Adults (any adult is welcome!)

DATES: Wednesday, March 16, Monday, April 18, & Wednesday, May 11

TIME: 9 - 10 am

FEE: \$4.00 per class

REGISTER BY: Monday prior to class

Kids are in school, so come take a breath of fresh air at Retzer Nature Center. Take a hike with a naturalist who is on the move to see what's up and out on our trails.

Cool World of Nature

Ages 6-10

DATES: Mondays, June 20, 27, July 11, 25, August 1, 8

TIME: 1:30 - 3 pm

FEE: \$6.00 per session

REGISTER BY: Friday prior to class

Get out and get active each week as we explore a new topic at Retzer Nature Center... from the tiniest of insects to the largest trees in the woods! Be prepared to hike, get dirty and have a blast getting out!



Retzer Summer Games

Ages 6-10

DATES: Monday – Friday, July 18-22

TIME: 12 - 3 pm

FEE: \$60.00

REGISTER BY: Monday, July 11

Join in the fun, as we celebrate the Summer Games. Our version of the games give a new twist as we challenge young naturalists to expand their knowledge and skills throughout the week. Earn a ring each day by completing our "Eco-letic" events. Sneak peak: archery is on target for one of the rings.

Natural Landscape Volunteers

Adults/Families & Scouts (under 13 years old must be accompanied by an adult)

DATES: Saturdays, June 4, 18, July 23, 30, August 13, 20

TIME: 9 am - Noon

Call (262) 970-6680 for more information

Join Retzer Nature Center for a day of learning and outdoor fun during our Natural Landscape Volunteer Saturdays. Throughout the sessions you will help with various projects such as: collecting and cleaning plant seeds, controlling invasive species and planting native plants. You will work alongside talented naturalists who will answer your questions and help you through the day's activity. All ages and experience levels welcome, however, we do ask that participants come dressed to enjoy the day outside and be able to walk along unpaved trails. We can't wait to meet you!



FOOTGOLF

18 holes for \$12!

FUN FOR ALL AGES!

Saturday Special!

Juniors under 18

Play FREE with adult entry
after 12 p.m.



golfwaukeshacounty.com | (262) 548-7821



Waukesha County
Park System



Program Registration 262.970.6680 • waukeshacountyparks.com

Don't forget to sign-up for Summer Fun



Retzer's SUMMER NATURE PROGRAMS

FOR CHILDREN AGES 6 - 10

Cool World of Nature



Mondays: June 20, 27
July 11, 25
August 1, 8

Retzer Summer Games

Monday - Friday: July 18-22

Sign-up early!

Learn to Swim at a Waukesha County Beach!

Registration starts May 1st

Call (262) 548-7801

Session 1: June 20 - July 1

Mukwonago Park, Mukwonago

Session 2: July 11 - 22

Menomonee Park, Menomonee Falls

Naga-Waukee Park, Hartland

Session 3: July 25 - August 5

Fox Brook Park, Brookfield

Muskego Park, Muskego

www.waukeshacountyparks.com

Do you Recycle Right?

Did you know...

not all plastics are
recyclable at the curb!

Look for numbers
1, 2, 4, 5 or 7
before recycling

Get your
guide at

waukeshacounty.gov/recycling





Wee Wonders Program

Ages 2-4

Time: 9:30 am - 10:30 am

Fee: \$4.00

This monthly program will focus on "The Senses" for the next few months and 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 an adult for participation in this program. Please dress for the weather. Maximum number of registrants 30, minimum 5. Registration required.

Birdie Buffet

DATE: Tuesday, February 9

REGISTER BY: Friday, February 5

Recipes even the fussiest bird would love to enjoy. Mix, blend and decorate treats for the wild birds waiting for an early winter feast. Parents are encouraged to create a few birdie recipes with their child to take home. Wrap up this program by helping to set out our outdoor buffet.

The Sky Tonight

DATE: Tuesday, March 8

REGISTER BY: Friday, March 4

Visit the Planetarium for a fun interactive program on our solar system. Reach up and paint the sky blue, make a rainbow, sing a song about space, and clap to the music as we meet Joe Star, Marsha Moon and Mike Meteor in this fun sky theater program.

The Scents of Spring

DATE: Tuesday, April 12

REGISTER BY: Friday, April 8

Our noses will take us on this adventure along the trails as we sniff our way through as many smells as we can find. How many do you think we will come upon?

I Spy with My Little Eye

DATE: Tuesday, May 10

REGISTER BY: Friday, May 6

We provide the "binoculars" for your child to use and take home. Come see what you can find as we search the landscape in our version of "I Spy with My Little Eye!"

Planting a Rainbow

DATE: Tuesday, June 14

REGISTER BY: Friday, June 10

Purple, green, yellow and red will find their place in our Children's Garden. Gather up your color wheel as we plant a rainbow of plants in the garden. Children will take home their favorite colored plant to grow. Boots are recommended.

Hop To It Adventure

DATE: Tuesday, July 12

REGISTER BY: Friday, July 8

Grab your boots as we hop down to the water's edge to see what is swimming, hopping, and flying around the pond.

Vista Visitors

DATE: Tuesday, August 9

REGISTER BY: Friday, August 5

Travel up to the Vista for an "insect-able" time looking for cool creatures hiding among the grasses and flowers. Use a sweep net to catch a few of these summertime visitors.





Retzer Rangers (formerly Nature Explorers)

Ages 5-7

Time: 4:30 pm - 5:30 pm

Fee: \$4.00

Join in our updated program as we discover the wonders of nature each month. Dive deep into a new topic and head outside for hands-on exploration and adventure. Each child must be accompanied by an adult for participation in this program. Please dress for the weather. Maximum number of registrants 15, minimum 5. Registration required.

Cabin Fever

DATE: Monday, February 8

REGISTER BY: Friday, February 5

Let's get outside and shake the winter blues. We will hunt for signs of who is out there!

Water, Water, Everywhere!

DATE: Monday, March 14

REGISTER BY: Friday, March 4

Discover the water sources of Retzer Nature Center and how water effects the land, plants, and animals. Take a hike to find any signs of erosion or flooding from the winter. Dress for the weather, put your boots on.

April Showers Bring May Flowers

DATE: Monday, April 11

REGISTER BY: Friday, April 8

Explore the woods of Retzer to find out what is the first to bloom this year! Be prepared to get off the trails, so wear your boots.

Down in the Dirt

DATE: Monday, May 9

REGISTER BY: Friday, May 6

Learn the different types of soil and which one is ideal for planting a garden at home. Help plant the Retzer Children's Garden and take a plant home! Be ready to get dirty.

Flying Dragons

DATE: Monday, June 13

REGISTER BY: Friday, June 10

Learn the life cycle of the dragonfly, from water to sky. We will explore in and around the pond, so bring your rubber boots and be prepared to get muddy.

Beetlemania

DATE: Monday, July 11

REGISTER BY: Friday, July 8

With over 24,000 species, discover why the beetle is the most diverse organism on the planet. Go sweep netting to see how many different types we can find!

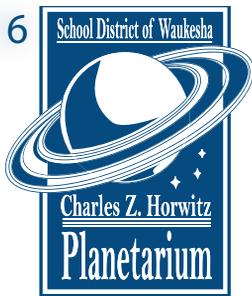
Butterflies Flutter By

DATE: Monday, August 8

REGISTER BY: Friday, August 5

Learn about the transforming life of the Monarch butterfly. Explore the prairies for milkweed in search of eggs, caterpillars, chrysalises or butterflies. Take home a Painted Lady butterfly caterpillar and watch it go through metamorphosis.





Charles Z. Horwitz Planetarium Programs

\$4.00 per person unless otherwise noted.

Private group shows available by reservation.

All shows are held at Charles Z. Horwitz Planetarium located inside of Retzer Nature Center. Planetarium Shows are limited to 90 people per show, which are first come, first served.

For more information or to register a group call (262) 896-8423

Secret of the Cardboard Rocket

DATE: Saturday, February 6

TIME: Show runs every ½ hour from 6:30 pm - 9 pm

FEE: Included in the entrance fee of \$2/person for the Wild Winter Night event

This delightful children's fantasy takes the audience on a voyage past the Sun, Moon and Planets. Children make a refrigerator box into a cardboard rocket. Their pretend blast-off turns into a real solar system journey.

See Wild Winter Night (page 7) for more event information.

Ticket distribution begins at 6:20 pm.

Skies Over Mister Rogers' Neighborhood

Children's Show (recommended for ages 4-8)

DATES: Saturdays, February 13, 20, 27

TIME: 11 am

This program uses the scenes and show characters from the famous television show "Mr. Rogers' Neighborhood" to introduce your young students to the wonders of the day and night sky.

Galileo

DATES: Saturdays, February 13, 20, 27

TIME: 1 pm

This show celebrates 400 years of telescope sky viewing. It also examines the fascinating life and accomplishments of Galileo. Don't miss it!

Our Place in Space

Children's Show (recommended for ages 4-8)

DATES: Saturdays, March 5, 12, 19

TIME: 11 am

This award-winning, participatory children's planetarium show introduces jungle animals and a space crossword puzzle to unravel the wonders and the mysteries of the universe.

Saturn, Jewel of the Heavens

DATES: Saturdays, March 5, 12, 19

TIME: 1 pm

The Cassini mission to Saturn has given us amazing images from this awesome planet. This show highlights the Cassini spacecraft instruments to give us an understanding of the mission's incredible scientific achievements.

Honey, I Shrank the Solar System

Children's Show (recommended for ages 4-8)

DATE: Saturdays, April 2, 9, 16, 30

TIME: 11 am

This show takes you on an incredible journey past the Planets in our solar system. Don't miss it!

The First Stargazers

DATES: Saturdays, April 2, 9, 16, 30

TIME: 1 pm

Ancient astronomers gazed at the heavens with fascination. They built pyramids and massive structures, like Stonehenge, to mark the movements of the Sun, Moon and Planets. Join us as scientists unravel the mysteries of these ancient astronomical observatories.

Nine Planets and Counting

DATES: Saturday, April 23

TIME: Show runs every ½ hour from 9:30 am - 4 pm

FEE: FREE; held during the free Earth Day Finale Event!

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 very beautiful show investigates the composition of our neighbors in space. See Earth Day Finale (page 9) for more event information.

Skylase - Laser Shows at Horwitz Planetarium

March will host series of unique Skylase shows. Watch the Planetarium dome light up with lasers, as they dance in sync with the music.

Special Showings

Pink Floyd - Skylase

DATE: Tuesday, March 15; Friday, March 18

TIME: 7 pm

Join us as the skies light up with colorful dancing laser beams in sequence to your favorite Pink Floyd songs.

Led Zeppelin - Skylase

DATE: Tuesday, March 15; Friday, March 18

TIME: 8 pm

Join us as the skies light up with colorful dancing laser beams in sequence to your favorite Led Zeppelin songs.

The Beatles - Skylase

DATE: Wednesday, March 16

TIME: 7 pm

Join us as the skies light up with colorful dancing laser beams in sequence to your favorite Beatles songs.

Classic Rock & Roll - Skylase

DATE: Wednesday, March 16

TIME: 8 pm

The hottest pop artists and the latest laser art come together in a sensational Legends of Rock and Roll laser show that will have your heart thumping and your feet tapping! Laser Rock and Roll features sizzling stars, both past and present, in brilliant laser light.

Laser Magic - Skylase

DATE: Thursday, March 17

TIME: 7 pm

This program offers a magical mix of music, from those you love to those you have forgotten, all presented in concert with stunning laser images! This musical compilation is fun for the entire family and includes artists like Joan Jett, Will Smith, The Blackhearts and much more.

Laser Vinyl - Skylase

DATE: Thursday, March 17

TIME: 8 pm

Audio-Visual Imagineering proudly presents Laser Vinyl – a program that captures the pure intent of the laser show experience. Accompanying a fantastic musical concert representing the best of classic rock is some of the most beautiful and stunning laser art ever produced! Reminisce, tap your feet and enjoy a truly fantastic audio-visual event that will rock your body, mind and soul! (AC/DC, Van Halen, Boston, Journey, Kansas, Queen and more)

Perseus and Andromeda - Skylase

DATE: Saturday, March 19

TIME: 10 am

Perseus and Andromeda is 20 minutes of full-dome fun, while also teaching children and adults the Greek story about the stars.

Legends of Orion - Skylase

DATE: Saturday, March 19

TIME: 2 pm

The Legends of Orion is 20 minutes of full-dome fun, while also teaching children and adults the Greek story about the stars.

Public Skywatches at Retzer

For dates and times, please visit the Horwitz Planetarium website:
www.waukeshaschools.com/planet

18 Planetarium Shows Continued

Starship Earth

Children's Show (recommended for ages 4-8)

DATES: Saturdays, May 7, 14, 21, 28

TIME: 11 am

This fast-paced astronomy presentation uses spectacular visuals to answer questions about our home planet, Earth. Views of Earth from space, reasons for the seasons, and Earth's place in the universe are explored.

Summer Sky Legends

DATES: Saturdays, May 7, 14, 21, 28

TIME: 1 pm

This new summer-season sky show presents favorite constellation characters like Cygnus the Swan, Scorpius the Scorpion, and Sagittarius the Archer. These constellation friends magically appear in the sky to tell their fantastic stories.

Explorers of International Space Station

Children's Show (recommended for ages 4-8)

DATES: Saturdays, June 4 & 11

TIME: 11 am

This program shows science research being done on the International Space Station. Communication, medical technology and life aboard the Space Station are just some of the topics in this spectacular visual presentation.

Hotter than Blue

DATES: Saturdays, June 4 & 11

TIME: 1 pm

Scientists point out that the hottest stars in space are the blue stars. But there are objects in space that are even hotter than the hottest stars. These are the strange high-energy emitting objects known as quasars. Don't miss this study of quasars, neutron stars, and black holes.

Book Your Birthday Party With Us!

for more info visit waukeshacountyparks.com

NAGA-WAUKEE PARK ICE ARENA
WAUKESHA COUNTY PARKS

EBLE PARK ICE ARENA
WAUKESHA COUNTY PARKS

Public Skate Hours

<u>Naga-Waukee Park - Delafield</u>	<u>Eble Park - Brookfield</u>
Monday - Friday: Noon - 2 pm	Monday - Friday: Noon - 2 pm
Saturday & Sunday: 3 pm - 5 pm	Saturday & Sunday: 2 pm - 4 pm

waukeshacountyparks.com @WaukeshaCoParks

Do you Recycle Right?



Did you know...

Only empty aluminum
and steel cans plus pots
and pans are recyclable
at the curb!



Take ALL other metals to your local
scrap metal dealer.

For more information visit
waukeshacounty.gov/recycling

Retzer Nature Center's Native Plant Pre-order Sale

**Pre-Order the great Retzer Native Plants
at discounted rates!**

Orders will be taken February 1 - April 20.

**Pick up your plants at the
Spring Sale & Workshop Event on May 7**

**Order forms are available online at
waukeshacountyparks.com**

Free Fishing Clinics

Ice Fishing Clinic

Saturday, February 13th

9am-3pm On-going (Approx. 1 hour to complete all stations)

Menomonee Park– W220 N7884 Town Line Rd., Menomonee Falls

Instruction by: Badger Fisherman's League

Free Kids Fishing Clinics

Saturday, April 9th

9am-3pm On-going (Approx. 1 hour to complete all stations)

Menomonee Park– W220 N7884 Town Line Rd., Menomonee Fall

Instruction by: Wisconsin House Outdoorsmen & Wern Valley Sportsmen Clubs

Muskego Park– S83W20370 Janesville Rd., Muskego Instruction by: Women's Hunting & Sporting Association



Introduce fishing to your minnow (ages 15 and under). Equipment and bait will be available and instruction will be provided on knot tying, safe use of equipment, proper techniques, and safety issues. Instructors are DNR Angler Certified. The daily park entrance fee is included with clinic participation, parking passes will be distributed the day of the clinic by clinic organizers.

Call Waukesha County Park System (262) 896-8074 to register groups of 10 or more.

SAVE THE DATE

September 17 Doors Open Milwaukee Event

Take a free tour of the City of Milwaukee/ Waukesha County Materials Recycling Facility, 1401 W Mount Vernon, Milwaukee.

September 17 Friends of Retzer Nature Center's Apple Harvest Festival

Celebrating 30 years! Enjoy arts & crafts, children's activities, live music, guided hikes, planetarium shows, horse-drawn wagon rides and of course apples!

September 17 Landscape Plastics Recycling Event

Bring your used, plastic growing containers and plastic growing pots to be recycled at no charge to Johnson's Nursery, Inc. W180 N6275 Marcy Rd., Menomonee Falls.

October 14 Friends of Retzer Nature Center's Howl-O-Ween

Presented by the City of Waukesha Parks, Recreation & Forestry and Waukesha County Park System

Come enjoy this unhaunted Halloween event geared for children 10 & under!

Up-to-date event and program information can be found on our website:

www.waukeshacounty.gov/EnvironmentalEd



Waukesha County
Park System



JUNIORS GOLF FREE

with paying adult at

Wanaki - Saturdays after 3pm

Moor Downs - Sundays after 12 pm

Well Water Test Kits

Available for \$25.00

test for coliform bacteria

Pick up a kit at

515 W. Moreland Blvd., AC 260
Waukesha, WI 53188

Open Monday-Friday • 8 am-4:30 pm

Or receive a test kit by mail

(additional \$3.00 for shipping).

**Purchase a test kit from
May 2 to May 6
during Drinking Water Week
and receive a FREE Nitrate test!**

Courtesy of Waukesha County

Call (262) 896-8305 for more information
or visit www.waukeshacounty.gov/eh



SCOUT PROGRAMS

Call (262) 970-6680 to register your scout or group.

****All Scout Programs are held at Retzer Nature Center unless otherwise noted ****

All programs may only be scheduled as follows:

Tuesdays & Thursdays

4:30 pm (start by)

Saturday Spring Dates*: March 5 & 26, April 16, May 14

10 am - noon, or 1 - 3 pm

FEE: \$4.00 per scout per hour

(Unless otherwise noted)

*There may be more than one group scheduled for same programs during the same time slot.

Girl Scouts

(for Troops)

Daisy

Between Earth and Sky • 1.5 hours (May-Oct, or book a Saturday Spring Date)

Search and discover different colors shapes and textures around Retzer Nature Center and create bark rubbings.

FREE Daisy Programs

Call (262) 896-8300 to schedule

Using Resources Wisely • 1/2 hour

May be held at Retzer Nature Center or your public meeting place

Find out about natural resources from our planet and how to conserve them by applying the 4 Rs: Reduce, Reuse, Recycle & Rot. Feel samples of minerals & other resources used to create things we use everyday.

Girl Scout Recycling Fun Patch • 1 hour

May be held at Retzer Nature Center or your public meeting place

Find out where your recyclables go, what gets recycled, how they are processed and what they become! Do a waste-sort, see a video of recycling in action, and play Recycle Match. Girl Scout leaders supply patch.

Brownie

Bugs (Naturalist Legacy Badge) • 1.5 hours (May-Oct, or book a Saturday Spring Date)

Step 1: Talk to a bug specialist

Step 3: Watch three bugs

Step 4: Do a “bug” race

Step 5: Take a bug walk

Extend your program by 1/2 hour to include:

Step 2: Create a bug box or bug craft

Hikers (Skill Building Badge) • 1.5 hours (May-Oct, or book a Saturday Spring Date)

Step 1: Choose a Retzer Nature trail

Step 2: Try out a hiking skill

Step 3: Know the right gear for hiking

Step 4: Make a healthy snack to take on your hike

Step 5: Go on a hike with a naturalist choosing to include one of the following:

A) Scavenger hunt

B) Play “I Spy”

C) Do a detective hike

Letter Boxing (Skill Building Badge) • 2 hours (May-Oct, or book a Saturday Spring Date)

Step 1: Practice your “seeking” skills

Step 2: Create your own stamp

Step 3: Practice solving clues

Step 4: Go on a letterbox hunt

FREE Brownie Program

Call (262) 896-8300 to schedule

BROWNIES—SKILL-BUILDING BADGE!

Did you know: Earning your Household Elf Badge with us can help water quality in your community for your Wonders of Water Journey? Our “green cleaner” is non-toxic and safe to wash down the drain!

Household Elf Skill-Building Badge • 1 hour

Learn how to make your home clean and green. Make a non-toxic Creamy Soft Scrub cleaner to take home. Learn the importance of Reduce, Reuse, Recycle & Rot. Take away tips to save water & energy at home to earn your badge!

Girl Scouts Continued

(for Troops)

Junior

Animal Habitat (Skill Building Badge) • 1.5 hours (May-Oct, or book a Saturday Spring Date)

Complete this badge outdoors at Retzer.

Step 1: Find out about wild animals

Step 2: Investigate an animal habitat

Step 4: Explore endangered habitats

Step 5: Help protect animal habitats

Extend your program by 1/2 hour to include:

Step 3: Create an animal house

FREE Junior Programs

Call (262) 896-8300 to schedule

Papermaking • 1 hour

Does paper always have to be made from trees? How does it get recycled? Make recycled paper to take home, play a team game/quiz & feel paper made from a variety of plants. Watch a short video on how paper is made from trees, sorted at the recycling facility and recycled into new paper at the mill.

Reduce, Reuse, Recycle, Rot • 1 hour

May be held at Retzer Nature Center or your public meeting place

Learn about the "4 Rs" and how they all save energy! Review what gets recycled. Watch a video clip of the new high-tech recycling facility in action. Find out where recyclables go and what they become. Do a timed waste sort. Take home a worksheet to see how much energy your home recycling saves in a week! Discover all the benefits of reducing waste and recycling, and the positive effects they have on our planet!

Tour the City of Milwaukee/Waukesha County Recycling Facility • 1 hour (For 5th grade + up only)

Facility located at 1401 W Mt. Vernon Ave., Milwaukee

Observe the fascinating combination of physics, technology and workers sorting the new mix of recyclable materials before heading to market. Learn the details of what can be recycled, why some things cannot, where recyclables go and what they become. (minimum 10 Girl Scouts, restricted hours--call for more details)

Cub Scouts

(for Dens/Packs)

Tiger

Tigers in the Wild • 1.5 hours (May-Oct, or book a Saturday Spring Date)

Enjoy the outdoors through identify different plants and animal and their signs they have left behind, as we hike the trails.

Wolf

Paws on the Path • 1.5 hours (May-Oct, or book a Saturday Spring Date)

Join a Naturalist on a hike to identify birds, insects and other animals along the trails. We will watch and record interesting items we find as we go along.

Finding Your Way • 1.5 hours (May-Oct, or book a Saturday Spring Date)

Learn how to read a map and use a compass to work your way through a scavenger hunt on our trails.

FREE Recycling Program

Call (262) 896-8300 to schedule

Wolf Adventure: Council of Fire • 1 hr

May be held at Retzer Nature Center or your meeting place

Learn about the three Rs: Reduce, Reuse, Recycle! Discover a way to do each of these at home, school or in your community!

Bear

Fur, Feathers & Ferns • 1.5 hours (May-Oct, or book a Saturday Spring Date)

During your visit to the Nature Center learn about an extinct animal, hike the trails, and identify six signs of living creatures found along our trails.

FREE Composting Program

Call (262) 896-8300 to schedule

Bear Adventure: Fur, Feathers & Ferns • 1/2 hr or 1 hr

Visit Retzer Nature Center and learn about composting to complete 2 of your requirements!

Cub Scouts Continued

(for Troops)

Webelos

Into the Wild • 2 hours (May-Oct, or book a Saturday Spring Date)

Complete requirements 4-9 to earn your badge during this program.

Into the Woods • 2 hours (May-Oct, or book a Saturday Spring Date)

Complete all requirements except #5 during this program.

Boy Scout Merit Badges

(for individual Boy Scouts)

Merit Badge Camps will fulfill the requirements needed by utilizing a variety of habitats found at Retzer Nature Center to include: forest, savannah and prairie. These hands-on camps will allow the scout to learn and explore while working with the naturalists and other specialists. At the conclusion of some of the camps, scouts will have completed a merit badge. There will be required homework that must be completed prior to start of the camp and during camp sessions. Scouts are also expected to attend all required days and actively participate and complete all assigned tasks to earn the badge.

Don't wait! Sign up early! Space is limited for all Merit Badge Camps.

Environmental Science

Complete this Eagle-required badge in 3 half-day sessions. Scouts must attend all 3 sessions to receive badge. Maximum number of registrants 60, minimum 5.

DATES: Monday, June 20, Tuesday, June 21 & Thursday, June 23

TIME: 8:30 am - 12:30 pm

FEE: \$42.00

REGISTER BY: Monday, June 13

Soil & Water Conservation

Learn about soil and water through a variety of hands-on activities. This 2 half-day class includes a field trip to the Waukesha Waste Water Treatment Plant and Water Utility on Tuesday, July 12. Scouts must attend both days to complete the badge requirements. Maximum number of registrants 20, minimum 5.

DATE: Tuesday, July 12 & Wednesday, July 13

TIME: 8 am - Noon

FEE: \$34.00

REGISTER BY: Wednesday, July 6

Insect Study

Explore the forest, prairie, and pond for limitless and vastly diverse members of the insect world. Compare their life histories, unique and amazing adaptations, social behaviors, and their interactions with the web of life! Finish this badge as you assemble a scrap book with the required information of 20 insects of your choice. Requirement 7 will be started at camp; scouts must finish this activity on their own and submit verification to receive credit. Requirements 1, 2, & 11 are to be completed prior to the first day of camp. Scouts must attend all 5 days and complete all requirements to earn this badge.

DATES: Monday, July 25 - Friday, July 29

TIME: 8:30 - 11:30 am

FEE: \$60.00

REGISTER BY: Monday, July 11

Bird Study

Learn to use binoculars to identify 20 species of birds to help you document your discovery. Follow along with an expert birder and keep track of various species. Listen to a variety of songs and learn 5 distinctive bird songs. Build a bird feeder or birdbath to use in your own backyard setting.

DATES: Monday, July 25 - Friday, July 29

TIME: Noon - 3 pm

FEE: \$60.00

REGISTER BY: Monday, July 11

Recycling & Water Resources are Coming to your Community!

*Got questions? Need information? Looking for something fun to do?
Visit our recycling/water resources booth, event, or themed workshop at a
community event near you! All programs are FREE! Visit our websites for specific
locations, dates, and times.*

waukeshacounty.gov/recycling • waukeshacounty.gov/cleanwater

February

- February 6** **Cool Stuff for Kids Opportunity Fair Booth** – Pewaukee Lake Elementary School Cafeteria • 10 am - 2 pm
- February 11** **Understanding Water Resources Presentation** – New Berlin Public Library • 6 pm
- February 25** **Get the Ground Water Picture Presentation** – New Berlin Public Library • 6 pm

March

- March 12** **Lake Country Community Fest Booth** – Kettle Moraine High School • 10 am - 3 pm
- March 19** **Oconomowoc Community Recreation Fair Booth** – Oconomowoc Community Center • 9 - 11 am

April

- April 14** **Organic Lawncare Presentation** – Brookfield Public Library • 7 pm
- April 17** **Big Bend Fire Department Pancake Breakfast & Open House Booth** – Big Bend Village Hall • 7 am - 12:30 pm
- April 19** **Green Cleaning Workshop** – Retzer Nature Center • 2 pm
- April 23** **Friends of Retzer Nature Center's Earth Week Finale Event!** – Retzer Nature Center 10 am - 3 pm • Families can learn about the water bug life cycle at the pond or wiggle with worms using microscopes and magnifiers. Make your very own recycled paper at 1 pm or discover how to make a green cleaner to take home at 2 pm! *See pages 8-9 for more details.*

May

- May 7** **Spring Sale & Workshop Event** – Retzer Nature Center • 9 am - 1 pm
Attend free workshops and learn about home composting, rain gardens & rain barrels, native plant landscaping, or take a guided native wildflower walk! *See pages 34-35 for sale information and more event details.*
- May 23** **Rain Gardens & Rain Barrels Presentation** – Pewaukee Public Library • 6:30 pm

August

- August 10** **Waukesha National Night Out Booth** – Frame Park, Waukesha • 5 - 8 pm
- August 16** **YMCA Pabst Farms Kids' Fest Booth** – Roosevelt Park, Oconomowoc • 9 am - 1 pm

Like Us On Facebook
& Follow Us On Twitter!



Waukesha County Recycles



@WaukCoRecycles

RECYCLING PROGRAMS

FREE for Community Groups and Organizations!

School program guide also available for educators.

We'll come to you or bring your group to Retzer Nature Center!

Contact us today!

(262) 896-8300 • recycling@waukeshacounty.gov

Recycling 101: Easier than Ever!

Adult (youth presentations also available)

Duration: 30 mins (45 mins. with Q & A)

We're doing a good job of recycling more. Now we need to be sure we're recycling right! Find out what people are putting in their bins with photos of the good & the bad to help clear up those question-mark items. Watch video clips of the latest technology at the new facility and take part in a prize drawing! We'll send you home with some great things to talk about with your neighbors & friends!

Home Composting Workshop

Adult

Duration: 1 hour

Available in Spring/Fall

Learn how to create your own compost and how to use it as well as different bin styles to build or buy. Find out the Top 10 Reasons to compost! Discover the secrets of healthy soil for beautiful lawns & gardens and the role compost plays.

Turn Over a New Leaf Workshop: Easy Fall Yard Care

Adult

Duration: 1 hour

Available in Fall

Learn how to handle large amounts of fallen leaves without burning, raking, piling, bagging, or dragging. Find out the steps to organically improve your lawn and why fall is the best time to do it!

Organic Lawn Care Presentation

Adult

Duration: 45 mins - 1 hour

Available in Spring/Fall

Find out the latest approaches and steps to a green & healthy lawn through organic practices that feed the soil and create the best growing medium for the biggest crop in America: the lawn.

Green Cleaning Workshop

Adult

Duration: 45 mins - 1 hour

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." (Presentation only or add: "Make & Take" Creamy Soft Scrub to take home!)

Water Resources Programs

FREE for Scouts, Community Groups, and Organizations!

School program guide also available for educators.

We'll come to you or bring your group to Retzer Nature Center!
Contact us today! (262) 896-8300 • water@waukeshacounty.gov

Program Duration: about 1 hour

Sewerology 101

Ages 8 to Adult

Discover where your water comes from, where it goes when you are finished with it, and the difference between storm sewers and sanitary sewers. In this interactive presentation about water, we will also discuss the Waukesha water issue, find out what a watershed is and what impact you have on our waters—for better or worse. You can become a positive influence on your watershed!

Mayflies, Leeches and Scuds—Oh My!

Ages 8 to Adult

Children will create a storm and watch pollution wash into lakes and rivers on a watershed model. Then we will look at live aquatic critters to see who that pollution hurts when it enters our waters. Older students can calculate a biotic index of water quality and relate their findings to the water quality of the stream. Hands-on science in action!

Get the Groundwater Picture

Ages 8 to Adult

Learn how a well works and what goes on above ground that affects our drinking water supply. See how groundwater moves and functions using a groundwater model. This model helps take the guesswork out of groundwater.

Stream Monitoring Field Trip

Ages 10 to Adult

Choose a local river or stream and we will meet you on-site to measure turbidity, temperature, and biotic index. We will also use a hands-on watershed model to find out how these things are affected by polluted runoff and ways we can prevent it.

The Value of Rain Gardens and Rain Barrels

Adults

Rain barrels have been used for many generations. Discover how they can actually help restore a more natural water flow while saving you money. Not only will we explore how to install rain barrels, we will learn about the benefits of rain gardens, too! Rain gardens and rain barrels can be a beautiful solution to water pollution.

Clean Water, Healthy Lawn Workshop

Adults

Learn how to have a healthy lawn and yard without harming local rivers and streams. This workshop will cover lawn care and watering as well as how to incorporate features like rain barrels and rain gardens into your landscape. Practices covered in this workshop are not only friendly to our local lakes and rivers, but to our pets and children as well.

ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH DIVISION PROGRAMS

FREE programs available for your group!

School program guide also available for educators.

We'll come to you or bring your group to Retzer Nature Center!

Contact us today!

(262) 896-8300 • humaneofficer@waukeshacounty.gov

Animal Bite Prevention*

Ages 5 to 12

Duration: 50 minutes

Find out about animal awareness, animal body language, and making wise choices while interacting with animals.

Humane Animal Education*

Ages 8 to 16

Duration: 50 minutes

Learn the legal definitions of humane and cruel behavior as they relate to animals. Specific case studies show how humane officers apply the laws.

Humane Animal Careers*

Ages 8 to 16

Duration: 25 minutes

Explore various careers that involve animals and the preparation required for each career.

Food Safety

Ages 10 to 16

Duration: 30-60 minutes

Become aware of food safety and the consequences of mishandling food. Hand washing is emphasized and interactive activities are available.

Drinking Water

Ages 10 to 18

Duration: 30-60 minutes

Learn about where you get your water, what can be harmful in the water, and how to eliminate the dangers. Also find out what to search for at home to keep your water safe.

**Electricity and a clear wall for projection are required for this program.*

UW Extension

Waukesha County

515 W Moreland Blvd • Administration Center Room G22
Waukesha, WI 53188-3869

Contact us via: Phone: (262) 548-7770
Website: www.waukeshacounty.gov/uwex

Waukesha County UW-Extension is an outreach effort of the University of Wisconsin, putting university knowledge and research to work for the people of Waukesha County. In partnership with local residents and organizations, we develop innovative educational programs. We offer a number of environmentally-focused educational programs and services.

Have a Yard or Garden Question?

Call the Horticulture Helpline. This free phone service allows callers to speak with a trained UW-Extension Master Gardener volunteer regarding plant, bug, or soil questions. Call (262) 548-7779. Call for hours (hours vary) or e-mail your question to uwex1@waukeshacounty.gov

Diagnosing Plant Problems

Let UW-Extension Horticulture Educators identify your outdoor and indoor plant samples and indoor plant insects. Bring your plant sample or indoor plant insect to the UW-Extension office during business hours (8 am - 4:30 pm, Mon-Fri). There is a \$4 charge per sample. To be sure that you have a "good sample" please call (262) 548-7779 or email the Horticulture Helpline-uwex1@waukeshacounty.gov

Soil Testing

Having soil problems? Tired of guessing about additives for your lawn or garden? A soil test will tell you what nutrients your plants or lawn need and will recommend the amount of fertilizer (N-P-K) to add to your soil. It will also tell the current pH of your soil and an analysis of the amount of organic matter in your soil. Contact us for a soil test kit.

Rent a Garden Plot

UW-Extension manages a rental garden located just east of the intersection of Northview Road and Grandview Boulevard in the City of Waukesha. Garden plots are available for rental on a yearly basis to Waukesha County residents. Garden plot sizes are 20' by 20' and 30' by 30'. There is a waiting list for plot rental. For more information visit waukeshacounty.gov/uwex/hort/communitygardens or call (262) 548-7775.

Master Gardener Training

UW-Extension Master Gardeners volunteer their time to gardening projects and educational programs in return for receiving horticulture training. Waukesha County UW-Extension provides education, training, and volunteer opportunities for those who want to become a Master Gardener. For more information, visit the Southeast Wisconsin Master Gardeners website: <http://fyi.uwex.edu/sewmg>

UW Extension Waukesha County 4-H

Do you have six hours that you could give of your time to make a lasting impact on the youth in Waukesha County?

NEW to Waukesha County and Wisconsin! A 4-H SPIN Club is where five or more young people learn about a topic of interest. Topics vary and can include interests such as nature, science, sailing, outdoor adventures and much more. Retzer Nature Center also offers amazing opportunities in natural science for other SPIN Club topics.

We are looking for adults that have a talent or interest that they are willing to teach to young people in local communities. SPIN clubs are planned around the adult volunteer's availability. Each club meets six or more times for at least one hour per session.

A 4-H SPIN club continues the learning through interactive sessions that focus on a special interest. Youth involved in UW-Extension 4-H programs learn leadership and life skills that help prepare them to be our future community environmental advocates and leaders. 4-H is open to youth ages 5 to 18 years of age.

For more information, see the UW Extension Waukesha County 4-H website <http://www.waukeshacounty.gov/uwex/4H> or contact Cindy Sarkady, 4-H Youth Development Educator, cindy.sarkady@ces.uwex.edu

Like us on Facebook



Spring Sale & Workshop Event

May 7 ♦ 9 am - 1 pm
Rain or Shine

Native Plants

Pick-up your
pre-orders
or shop off
the rack



(Limited supply of plants available day of the event)

***Pre-order your plants at discounted rates.**

Order online by April 20 at waukeshacountyparks.com

Rain Barrel with Diverter Kit

Rain barrel
\$60

Tandem set
\$100

Compost Bins



Only \$50

FREE Workshops

Home Composting
Rain Gardens and Rain Barrels
Native Plant Landscaping
Native Wildflower Walk

Demonstration area featuring UW-Extension Master Gardeners: Talk with them about Spring topics related to your garden and yard.

**For more information:
(262) 896-8007 or
waukeshacountyparks.com**

Spring Sale & Workshop Event

May 7 ♦ 9 am - 1 pm

Rain or Shine

FREE Workshops:

Home Composting Workshop

9 - 9:30 am & 10:30 - 11 am

Learn how to create your own compost, how to use it, and about different bin styles to build or buy. Find out the Top 10 Reasons to compost! Discover the secrets of healthy soil for beautiful lawns & gardens and the role compost plays.

Native Plant Landscaping

9 - 9:30 am & 10:30 - 11 am

Discover the best way to bring natural planting to life on your property. We'll cover the pros and cons of different approaches to planting, what your plant should look like in one, two, or three years, if it is better to group plants or set them apart, if you can you just leave plants alone and let nature take its course, what kind of plants work with your soil, and we'll even touch on seedings. If time allows, we'll head outside to compare and contrast different transplant beds.

Rain Gardens and Rain Barrels

9:45 - 10:15 am & 11:15 - 11:45 am

Rain barrels have been used for many generations. Discover how they can actually help restore a more natural water flow while saving you money. Not only will we explore how to install rain barrels, we'll learn about rain gardens, too! Find out what rain gardens help accomplish and how. Rain gardens and rain barrels can be a beautiful solution to water pollution.

Native Wildflower Walk

9:45 - 10:15 am & 11:15 - 11:45 am

Join Retzer naturalist for a half-hour up-close-and-personal exploration of some of our native wildflowers in their native habitat. See newly-blooming wildflowers growing along the trail as we discuss these fascinating plants and how they live. Come away with an admiration for these hardy perennials as they make their way in the springtime forest ground-layer.

**One Day
Only!**