

Fall 2011 Programs at the Robinson Nature Center

Discovery Days

3-7 yrs / 1st and 3rd Sat, starting Sep 17 / 10-10:30 AM /

Free with paid admission

Every weekend holds a new natural discovery for your little one with the Robinson Nature Center's "Discovery Days" program. This is a half-hour, drop-in activity (no preregistration required) that introduces your child to Maryland plants and animals through stories, puppet shows, games or craft activities. Themes and activities vary by week. Program is available on a first-come, first-served basis to the first 12 children each Saturday. Programs will be held on the following Saturdays in the fall season: Sep 17, Oct 1, Oct 15, Nov 5 and Nov 19.

Backyard Bird Feeding for Beginners

5 yrs+ / Oct 1 / \$6

This family program is designed to engage young and old alike in one of the most popular outdoor hobbies ever, backyard bird feeding. Come out to the nature center to discover basic bird identification (ID), proper foods for birds during the year, how to distribute food and various feeders to use. Walk outside on the trail and to our wildlife viewing station for bird ID. Each family will receive a bird feeder to take home.

RP4805.501 9-10:30 AM Sa

Hooked on Herpetology

8 yrs+ / Oct 7 / \$5

Turn over a rock and you never know what you might find. Join Sue Muller to learn how you and your family can contribute to a statewide search for amphibians and reptiles that will help create the Maryland "Herp Atlas." Sue will cover search techniques, herp identification and a sneak peak at what has already been found in the first year of the project, including two new species for the County.

RP4807.501 7-10 PM F

Full Moon Walk at Robinson

7 yrs+ / Oct 8 / \$8

You've never experienced the dark like this before! Learn about the senses that nocturnal animals use, and see how well your own senses compare as you wind your way through the woods at Robinson Nature Center. Dress warmly. Children must be accompanied by an adult.

RP4804.501 7:45-9:15 PM Sa

Nature Sketching for Beginners

10-14 yrs / 3 wks, session dates below / \$65

View nature in a new artistic way with the experience of Holly Highfill, the highly talented artist who painted the murals throughout the nature center. This class includes sketching lessons using natural objects from both the nature center's collection and those found by participants outside. A variety of mediums are used, including pencil, charcoal and color. All materials are provided. Class runs for three Saturday sessions.

RP4806.501 Oct 8, 15, 22 10-11:30 AM Sa



Fall Nature Walk at Robinson

All ages / Oct 16 / \$6

Fall is a transition time for wildlife; birds are migrating south and leaves are turning colors. Join us on the trail to learn how flora and fauna at the Robinson Nature Center change with the seasons. Water and juice are provided. Children must be accompanied by an adult. Dress appropriately for the weather and wear shoes for hiking.

RP4808.501 1-3 PM Su

The Universe through Little Eyes

3-5 yrs / 2nd and 4th Sat, starting Oct 22 / \$3 with paid admission

Give your young one a night time experience during the day! From the comfort of the Robinson Nature Center's NatureSphere, a digital planetarium and dome-style movie theater, your child is introduced to planets, constellations and more. Children must be accompanied by an adult.

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|-------------------|---------------|--------------------|-----------|
| RP4802.501 | Oct 22 | 10-10:30 AM | Sa |
| RP4802.502 | Nov 12 | 10-10:30 AM | Sa |
| RP4802.503 | Nov 26 | 10-10:30 AM | Sa |

Space – the Final Frontier

5 yrs+ / 2nd and 4th Sat, starting Oct 22 / \$3 with paid admission

Space holds many mysteries that you can access right here in Howard County. From the comfort of the Robinson Nature Center's NatureSphere, a digital planetarium and dome-style movie theater, see the night sky without the interference of street lights and discover planets and constellations with which we share the final frontier.

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|-------------------|---------------|---------------|-----------|
| RP4801.501 | Oct 22 | 1-2 PM | Sa |
| RP4801.502 | Nov 12 | 1-2 PM | Sa |
| RP4801.503 | Nov 26 | 1-2 PM | Sa |

First Friday NatureSphere Nights

5 yrs+ / Nov 4 / \$6

Experience the wonders of space in the comfort of Robinson Nature Center's NatureSphere, a digital planetarium and dome-style movie theater. On the first Friday of each month, join us as we explore our universe – from planets, to constellations, to black holes.

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|-------------------|---------------------|----------|
| RP4800.501 | 6:30-7:30 PM | F |
| RP4800.502 | 8-9 PM | F |



Call, Click or Come In

(410) 313-0400

<http://www.howardcountymd.gov/RobinsonNatureCenter.htm>

6692 Cedar Lane, Columbia, MD 21044



What Else Does Robinson Nature Center Offer?

Scout and School Programs

In addition to developing public programs for all ages and abilities, in its first year Robinson Nature Center is developing programs for scout troops, school groups and homeschoolers. For further information on programs at the Robinson Nature Center, please contact Program Manager, Meagan Leatherbury at (410) 313-0400.

Facility Rentals

The Robinson Nature Center facilities, including an auditorium, two classroom spaces, an outdoor patio and the NatureSphere planetarium are available for private and corporate events. For more information, please contact Facility Leader, Marisa Olszewski at (410) 313-0400.

Volunteer Opportunities

The Nature Center offers a variety of volunteer opportunities including, but not limited to, trail and garden maintenance, children's programs, exhibit docents, photography, gift shop, front desk and wildlife monitoring. You can choose a one day special event or work on a continuing basis. If you are interested, please contact Volunteer Coordinator, Brian Campbell at (410) 313-0400.

LEED Tours

LEED is an internationally-recognized, green building certification system. Robinson Nature Center (RNC) meets the requirements for a Platinum LEED rating - the highest rating possible. Robinson offers behind-the-scenes tours of its green technologies. From a geothermal heating and cooling system and a porous concrete parking lot to rain gardens, solar panels and a green roof - RNC models architectural features that reduce environmental impact and increase energy efficiency. For further information, please contact Program Manager, Meagan Leatherbury at (410) 313-0400.



Howard County
RECREATION & PARKS

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JAMES & ANNE
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Fall 2011 Program Guide