

Come Discover Your Natural World!!!

At the

Gerald E. Eddy Discovery Center –Waterloo Recreation Area Public Programs for January to March, 2012

Sponsored by the Waterloo Natural History Association

WINTER ORIENTEERING: 2:00 – 4:00 p.m. Sunday, January 15. Challenge yourself to an afternoon adventure in the forest. Winter is a great time of year for learning how to find your way in the woods. Suitable for all ages and skill levels. Compasses will be provided or bring your own. Cost: \$2/person or \$5/family. Advance registration requested at 734-475-3170. Limited to 35.

I LOVE BOOBIES AND OTHER CREATURES OF THE GALAPAGOS: 2:00 – 3:00 p.m. Sunday, January 22. The unique animals of the Galapagos including blue-footed boobies, giant tortoises and marine iguanas are not the only things that make these islands fascinating. Join naturalist Carol Strahler to hear how ocean currents and geology influence the ecosystem, and how islanders are coping with tourism and limited resources. Cost: \$2/person or \$5/family. Advance registration requested at (734) 475-3170.

THE NIGHT CREW: 7:00 -8:30p.m. Saturday January 28. Live owl visitors from the Leslie Science Center will engage, educate and delight you. View these birds of prey up close and learn about their lives in the wild. Following the program, birder Lathe Claffin will lead a walk to search for owls near the Discovery Center. Bring your flashlight and warm clothing. Cost: \$2/person or \$5/family. Advance registration requested at 734-475-3170.

FISH, FROM HEAD TO TAIL! 2:00 – 3:00 p.m. Sunday, February 5. Fish biologist Kevin Wehrly and technician Brad Utrup will bring live, Michigan fish to tell their finny stories. Learn about fishy adaptations, behaviors and structures that help them survive in Michigan lakes and streams. Cost: \$2/person or \$5/family. Advance registration requested at (734) 475-3170.

CREATURE FEATURE: 2:00 – 3:00 p.m. Sunday, February 12. Get acquainted with an exciting variety of live exotic animals brought by Dan Briere of The Little Creatures Co. In this engaging program you will learn about global wildlife conservation and about the lives and characteristic of these animals. Cost: \$2/person or \$5/family. Advance registration requested at (734) 475-3170.

FAMILY ICE FISHING AND BONFIRE: 10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. Saturday, February 18. Watch an ice fishing demonstration and try it yourself as part of the DNR's Free Fishing Weekend. Make your own fishing pole and enjoy other winter games and activities. Part of the lake will be cleared for skating. Warm up afterwards around a bonfire while you roast marshmallows and drink hot chocolate. Bring your own hotdogs to cook for lunch. Park at the Mill Lake lot on McClure Road near Chelsea or hike/ski over from the Eddy Discovery Center. Contact DNRE staff at (734) 475-3170 or (734) 475-8307 for more information.

ANIMALS HAVE CLASS: 2:00 – 3:00 p.m. Sunday, March 4. What do mammals have in common with fish, amphibians, reptiles and birds? We all have backbones! Join us for this hands-on interactive program as Science Alive brings live animals from each of these groups. Learn about the characteristics they share and the differences that set them apart. Cost: \$2/person or \$5/family. Advance registration requested at (734) 475-3170.

MAPLE SYRUP MAKING: FROM THE TREE TO THE PANCAKE: 1:30 – 3:00 p.m. Sunday, March 11. It's time for that traditional rite of spring – tapping maple trees. Naturalist Tom Jameson will share his time-tested techniques for do-it-yourself maple syrup making. Following a viewing of the film "Maple Sugar Farmer," he will lead a short walk to show how to identify maple trees and to demonstrate proper tapping techniques. Cost: \$2/person or \$5/family. Advance registration requested at (734) 475-3170.

LATE GLACIAL HUNTERS – THE FIRST MICHIGANDERS: 2:00 – 3:00 p.m. Sunday, March 18. Michigan's earliest known inhabitants hunted in a world of spruce parklands and tundra grazed by herds of caribou, musk ox, and mastodon -- a world almost unimaginable to us. Dr. Henry Wright, renowned archeologist from the U-M, will tell the story of these people and their environment as discovered through extensive research. Bring your own Native American points for identification following the program. Cost: \$2/person or \$5/family. Advance registration requested at (734) 475-3170.

BUILD YOUR OWN TELESCOPE: 2:00 – 3:30 p.m. Sunday, March 25. The sky's the limit when you have a telescope to view our Milky Way galaxy and its millions of stars. Be a modern-day Galileo as you make your own working telescope with astronomy buff Meg Gower. Cost: program fee \$2/person or \$5/family; supplies \$6/telescope. Limited to 20 telescopes. Advance registration required at (734) 475-3170.

Advanced reservations are requested for all indoor programs. To make reservations call the Discovery Center at (734)475-3170. Programs are presented at the Eddy Discovery Center at 17030 Bush Road in the Waterloo Recreation Area. To reach the Discovery Center take I-94 to exit 157, go north and follow the signs. All Waterloo Natural History Association indoor programs are \$2.00 per person or \$5.00 per family with State Recreation Passport. WNHA members are admitted free, and all are invited to join.