

May 2024

PATUXENT RIVER STATE PARK

23222 Georgia Avenue | Brookeville, Maryland 20833
 patuxentriver.statepark@maryland.gov

(443) 962-0216

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Dress for the weather and activity, wear sunscreen and insect repellent, bring plenty of water and snacks, and remember to check for ticks. For photos & more, visit: Friends of Seneca Creek State Park or Maryland State Parks Facebook page.			1	2	3	4 Spring Volunteer Kickoff* 10 a.m. - 12 Noon
5 Dazzling Dragonflies 11 a.m. – 3 p.m. <i>Nature Center Open 11 a.m.– 3 p.m.</i>	6 Nature Crafts – Bluebirds & Bird Kites 10:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.	7	8	9	10	11 Reptile Encounter 11 a.m. – 3 p.m. <i>Nature Center Open 11 a.m.– 3 p.m.</i>
12 Take Your Mother For a Hike! 11 a.m. <i>Nature Center Open 1–3 p.m.</i>	13	14	15	16	17	18 History of the Upper Patuxent River Valley 10 a.m. – 1 p.m. Reptile Encounter 11 a.m. – 3 p.m. <i>Nature Center Open 10 a.m.– 3 p.m.</i>
19 Nature Journaling 11 a.m. – 3 p.m. <i>Nature Center Open 11 a.m.– 3 p.m.</i>	20	21	22	23	24	25 Nature Scavenger Hunt 10 a.m. – 2 p.m. <i>Nature Center Open 10 a.m.– 2 p.m.</i>
26 Otter-ly Fabulous! 11 a.m. – 3 p.m. <i>Nature Center Open 11 a.m.– 3 p.m.</i>	27 Nature Crafts – Pipe Cleaner Butterfly Rings 10:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.	28	29	30	31	Programs with a * are volunteer opportunities with the park.

All events are held rain or shine, free and fun for all ages unless otherwise noted.

Children under 10 must be accompanied by an adult.

Spring Volunteer Kickoff*

10 a.m. – 12 Noon at the Nature Center

Join us to kick off the 2024 volunteer season at Patuxent River State Park! Tools will be provided by the park and a small cooler of water will be available for refills. Please bring a refillable water bottle, work gloves, and wear clothes that you don't mind getting a little dirty. *Participants must register in advance to volunteer at

<https://ec.samaritan.com/custom/1528/>

Dazzling Dragonflies

11 a.m. – 3 p.m. at the Nature Center

Dragonflies, and their close relative damselflies, are fun to watch, fascinating to learn about, and are a good clue that local waterways are healthy. Join a Volunteer Ranger to learn about and observe these creatures and make a dragonfly craft.

Nature Crafts – Bluebirds & Bird Kites

10:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. at the Nature Center

Spring is the time for flying kites. May is the time that bluebirds raise their babies. Come learn about bluebirds, and then make your own bluebird kite. Even get some exercise running to get it flying!

Reptile Encounter

11 a.m. – 3 p.m. at the Nature Center

Reptiles play a vital role in the ecology of our natural world. Learn more about this interesting group of animals and get the chance to see a live corn snake.

Take Your Mother For a Hike!

11 a.m. at the Nature Center

Join a Volunteer Naturalist and take your mom on a hike along park trails. Distance will be adjusted to meet the interest and ability of the group (up to 3.5 miles). Wear comfortable walking shoes and bring water. Meet at the Nature Center.

History of the Upper Patuxent River Valley

10 a.m. – 1 p.m. at the Nature Center

The history of the upper Patuxent River valley has been determined by its geology as well as its colonial and post-colonial settlements. Learn about the geology and history of the area near the Nature Center. At 10 a.m., a hike will be led to view some earlier settlement areas, including the former Freedmen's community.

Nature Scavenger Hunt

10 a.m. – 2 p.m. at the Nature Center

Stop by the Nature Center to pick up a scavenger hunt guide. Then, look for signs of nature as you walk through the park! Several levels of difficulty are available.

Nature Journaling

11 a.m. – 3 p.m. at the Nature Center

Deepen your appreciation of the natural world by practicing nature journaling. Journaling can help sharpen your curiosity and observation skills and bring a new perspective to the world around you. Join a Volunteer Ranger and make a nature journal (or bring your own) to keep a record of the things you see in nature. We'll talk about the different ways you can keep a nature journal and then spend some time observing nature in the park.

Otter-ly Fabulous

11 a.m. – 3 p.m. at the Nature Center

Drop into the Nature Center to learn about river otters! These playful aquatic mammals are native to Maryland and can be found in rivers across the state!

Nature Crafts – Pipe Cleaner Butterfly Rings

10:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. at the Nature Center

One of the most eye-catching pollinators is the butterfly. Come learn about butterflies, their lives, and how they help plants make seeds. Make your own butterfly ring to wear while looking for butterflies here at the park.

