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## “It’s Hard To Be Me.....a Tree”

By Jeff Ormiston, Allen County Parks Naturalist

Whew! I need a rest! As usual, since last spring it has been a struggle to survive but I made it. I’ve grown stronger over the summer and have been a valuable member of my community. I’ve sheltered the small and fed the hungry. When the strong winds blew I was there to offer support to my neighbors whose crowns were forced against mine and mine against theirs. I was able to bend without breaking and I stood tall as my roots supported me in the rain drenched soil and supplied my leaves with the required nutrients and water. Because I am strong I can support my ever increasing load of leaves and push them upwards to the sun. Squirrels usually chew my small branches, in late summer, and use the leaves to construct their winter lodging. I take this opportunity to increase the number of branches and thus increase the leaves that satisfy my need for the carbohydrates I need to grow and produce the seeds that will become my next generation.



When I was still a seed, lying on the forest floor, a large tree next to me was blown down in a summer storm. The next day I could feel the sun’s warmth and light that I had never felt before. Within a couple of days my roots emerged and began pushing into the rich soil I was laying on. A green shoot emerged and pushed towards the new found sunlight and I felt really alive for the first time. From the very beginning I could feel “The Force”. “The Force” held me to the soil and made it a challenge to continue my growth to the sunlight. “The Force” made the leaves of other trees fall on top of me, in the autumn, but I persevered and in the spring I once again continued my upward struggle as I grew through the leaf blanket. “The Force” is something I will need to overcome my entire life in order to stay healthy and continue to push and pull the liquids from my roots to the leaves of my crown. In the end it will bring me back to the soil that gave me life and there I will give back to the soil the nutrients that I used and stored that made me tall and strong. I will bring to earth the sun’s energy, stored in my trunk and roots that my leaves used to feed those important parts that make me who I am.

Sometimes visitors to my forest community injure my neighbors by cutting into their bark simply because the bark is smooth and gray. It’s as if they need to leave some mark that they were in my forest with no concern for the health of that forest community that they so much enjoy. My protective bark is thick and rough but the bark of our beech and some red maple trees is thin and smooth. Beech bark is thin enough that the tree can actually produce food for the tree in the winter time just as if it continued to have green leaves.



My forest community is a community of support and cooperation. My roots, as well as the roots of most of my plant neighbors, are attached and connected to fungi that form an underground mat that brings nutrients and water to our roots. The plants in turn, supply the fungi with their necessary carbohydrates by our pro-

### ON THE WEB

Allen County Parks  
[www.allencountyparks.org](http://www.allencountyparks.org)

Fox Island Alliance  
[www.foxislandalliance.org](http://www.foxislandalliance.org)

Friends of Metea  
[www.friendsofmetea.org](http://www.friendsofmetea.org)

Allen County Parks is proud to be a partner in the Nistem network



We Want Snow!

If there is more than 4 inches of snow, come out to Fox Island and Metea for cross-country skiing! We have skis available for rent. The sled hill at Metea County Park will also be open from 9 am - 6 pm every day when there’s enough snow.

*“It’s Hard to be Me ... a Tree —continued from page 1”*

cess of photosynthesis and everything benefits and thrives. Though we cannot speak communication plays a large part in the health of our tree community. My roots are intertwined with the roots of my neighbor trees and the fungi connect us all. A tree in distress is communicated to neighboring trees by the release of chemicals by that distressed tree through its root system. These connected trees can then take action in order to protect themselves from the threat whether that is an increase in carbohydrates to the roots or the production of chemical defenses.

The trees provide food and shelter for many birds and the birds eat those insects that would harm the tree. We provide shelter to squirrels that in turn bury our seeds, in the soil, and then forget where they have planted many of them. By their forgetfulness the next generation of plants will have start they need. The growing season is a busy time in the forest and as the autumn days grow shorter we can feel the internal pressures gradually decrease. The leaves on our branches have fallen and are beginning to break down and provide nutrients to the soil. Although our leaves are gone the buds at our branch tips are formed and ready to greet the warm winds of spring. Our neighbors who have fallen to earth are already providing shelter for our animal friends that will help them through the winter and once again I rest. Once again I rest to face the struggle ahead.

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**Upcoming Programs for Winter & Spring**

Program fees are usually \$2.00 per person unless otherwise stated, and are used to provide operating funds (which are not supported by tax revenue) for Allen County Parks. Most programs require pre-registration to allow resource and staff allocation planning. There may be requirements for a minimum number registered to offer the program. You will be notified at least 1 day before the program if it has been cancelled due to minimum registrations not being met. For chronological listings of programs see below. The page number the program can be found on, follows the date and program name.

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*Programs Chronologically - Name, Location, and page number (HS = Home School Program)*

**January**

- 10 Fox Kit Club Tracks - Fox Island 4
- 10 Preschool Discovery Hour Animal Tracks —Fox Island 4
- 11 Family Mystery Mornings—Metea 4
- 14 Cross Country Ski Clinic - Metea 5
- 15 Feeding Winter Birds - Fox Island 5
- 18 Night Hike —Metea 5
- 20 Scrapbooking/Craft Night - Fox Island 5
- 22 Leopold Education Workshop - Fox Island 3

**February**

- 2 World Wetland Day Walk - Fox Island 5
- 2 Groundhog Day — Metea 6
- 4 Cross Country Ski Clinic - Metea 6
- 6 Earthworm Dissection Class (HS) - Metea 8
- 7 Fox Kit Club “Winter”- Fox Island 4
- 8 Family Mystery Mornings Metea 4
- 10 Microscopes for Adults - Fox Island 6
- 11 Snow Moon Coyote Howl - Fox Island 6
- 13 Crayfish Dissection Class (HS) - Metea 8
- 14 Preschool Discovery Hour Valenturtle Day —Fox Island 4
- 16 Night Hike - Payton 6
- 15 Preschool Discovery Hour/Animal Home Hike - Fox Island 4
- 17 Great Backyard Bird Count - Fox Island 3
- 17 Scrapbooking/Craft Night - Fox Island 5
- 20 Fish Dissection Class (HS) - Metea 9
- 27 Frog Dissection Class (HS) - Metea 9

**March**

- 2 Home & Garden Show - Memorial Coliseum 3
- 3 Home & Garden Show - Memorial Coliseum 3
- 3 Scrapbooking/Craft Night - Fox Island 5
- 4 Home & Garden Show - Memorial Coliseum 3

**March continued**

- 5 Home & Garden Show - Memorial Coliseum 3
- 5 Making Tracks - Fox Island 7
- 6 Winter Tree Identification - Metea 7
- 7 Fox Kit Club “Owl Nest” - Fox Island 4
- 8 Family Mystery Mornings—Metea 4
- 11 Winter Mushrooms - Fox Island 7
- 11 Worm Moon Walk - Fox Island 7
- 13 Energy 1 Chemistry of Life (HS) - Metea 9
- 14 Preschool Discovery Hour Squirrels —Fox Island 4
- 16 Night Hike - Metea North 7
- 20 Energy 2 Photosynthesis (HS) - Metea 9
- 26 Skunk Cabbage Hike - Metea 8
- 27 Energy 3 Organic Compounds (HS) - Metea 9

**April**

- 1 Timberdoodle Sky Dance - Fox Island 8
- 3 Energy 4 Nucleic Acids (HS) - Metea 9
- 22 Metea’s EARTH Night - Metea 8

**May**

- 6 Sol Fest - Fox Island 3
- 7 Sol Fest - Fox Island 3

## Special Events

### Leopold Education Project Mini-Workshop Metea County Park

January 22, Sunday 2:00 PM - 5:00 PM

Join Naturalist Natalie Haley in a mini-workshop dedicated to loving our lands and developing a land ethic in our communities. The workshop fees include a Leopold Education Project curriculum as well as classroom materials, snacks and refreshments. This curriculum may be used by school teachers, naturalists, scout leaders, or anyone interested in teaching others to appreciate the land. A minimum of five participants is required to have this class.

Cost: \$30.00

Pre-register by: 1/8 Min. 5 Max. 30

To register or for more information: Email: [nhaley@allencountyparks.org](mailto:nhaley@allencountyparks.org) Call: 449-3778 Natalie Haley



### Great Backyard Bird Count Fox Island County Park February 17, Friday 10:00 AM -12:00 PM



Join birders across the country as we observe the variety of bird species found in Allen County and across the United States. Scientists, called Ornithologists, use our data to compare bird survival rates from one year to the next. For more information on the Great Backyard Bird Count, view their website [www.birdsource.org/gbbc/](http://www.birdsource.org/gbbc/)

Cost: \$2.00 park entry and bird seed/suet donation.

Pre-register by: 2/12 Min. 5 Max. 30

To register or for more information: Email: [nhaley@allencountyparks.org](mailto:nhaley@allencountyparks.org) Call: 449-3246 Natalie Haley

### Allen County Parks at the Home and Garden Show

#### Memorial Coliseum

March 2, Thursday, March 3, Friday, March 4, Saturday, March 5, Sunday Hours vary daily

Come out and see our exhibit in the Family Fun Area, make a craft, learn about native wildlife, and find your nearest Allen County Park. Volunteers needed to help out!

For more information: Email: [bdispensa@allencountyparks.org](mailto:bdispensa@allencountyparks.org) Call: 449-8619 Bob Dispenza



### Sol Fest 2017 Fox Island County Park May 6 & 7, Saturday 12:00 PM - 7:00 PM



Sol Fest is a two day music festival at Fox Island County Park usually held the first weekend of May each year. It is a celebration of the Sun (solstice)! It's cold now but remember Spring and Summer and the sun, they are right around the corner and so is Sol Fest! The most exciting thing about Sol Fest is that it benefits the KIDS!!! Proceeds from the festival are designated for scholarships for schools that can't afford to visit Allen County Parks on field trips, kids that can't afford to attend our day camps and to provide environmental educational programming to organizations that assist disadvantaged kids.

Cost: \$5.00 per person

**(Sorry park annual passes NOT honored this weekend due to fundraiser!)**

To register or for more information: Email: [rzartman@allencountyparks.org](mailto:rzartman@allencountyparks.org) Call: 449-3186 Ron Zartman

*Pre-School Discovery Hours — Fox Island*

**Preschool Discovery Hour Fox Island County Park**

**January 10, Tuesday 1:00 PM – 2:00 PM Animal Tracks**

Gather outdoors to cast a plaster animal footprint to take home, Wear mud shoes and dress for the weather to take a hike looking for tracks and other animal signs.

**February 14, Tuesday 1:00 PM – 2:00 PM Valenturtle’s Day**

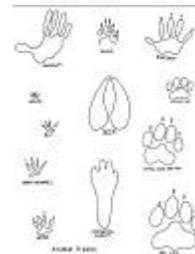
We love our exhibit turtles and you will too! We have arranged a date for you to meet our most eligible baskers. Let’s cozy up indoors, get to know each other better and see if we can coax them out of their shell.

**March 14, Tuesday 1:00 PM – 2:00 PM Squirrels**

Young birders will visit our feeding area, help put seed out, and then watch to see who comes to eat it. We’ll enjoy a little snack ourselves and take home a craft that is “for the birds”.

Cost: \$ 3.00/child \$ 2.00/adult Pre-register by: 1/5 (Jan), 2/9 (Feb) & 3/9 (Mar) Min: 5 Max: 20

To register or for more information: Email: rzartman at allencountyparks.org Call: 449-3186 Ron Zartman



*Fox Kit Club Adventures*



**Fox Kit Club Adventures**

**Fox Island County Park**

**January 10, Tuesday 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM Tracks**

Meet a naturalist at the Fox Island Nature Center to learn about the animal tracks found at Fox Island.

**February 7, Tuesday 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM Winter**

Meet a naturalist at the Fox Island Nature Center to learn about winter at Fox Island.

**March 7, Tuesday 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM Owl Nests**

Meet a naturalist at the Fox Island Nature Center to learn about owl nests.

This program has been developed for pre-school children and their families or teachers. Meet a naturalist at the Fox Island Nature Center Fees include a snack and drink for the children. Pre-school teachers of paid attending students are free. Fees include free gate entrance for the day!

Cost: \$3.00 per child, \$2.00 per parent

Pre-register by: 1/5, 2/5 and 3/3 respectively Min. 5 Max. 25

To register or for more information: Email: nhaley at allencountyparks.org Call: 449-3246 Natalie Haley

*Misc. Multi Date Programs*

**Family Mystery Mornings at Metea**

**Metea County Park**

**January 11, February 8, March 8, Wednesdays 10:00 AM-11:00 AM**

These once-per-month family nature programs are designed for families of all ages, sizes and abilities. Children two and under (who are free) must be able to maintain a certain degree of quiet during the programs. Note that families are welcome to stay in the park as long as all adults pay at least the minimal \$2.00 park entry fee. One parent must stay with the other remaining children who are participating in the program due to state-required child supervisory laws. We also believe that this will allow the park naturalist the freedom to teach and not supervise children during the program. All children three and up are charged the same \$5.00 fee as the adults. Some of these programs are actively held outdoors and do require moderate hiking. All registrations need to be received five days prior to each program in order to plan for program materials. Please arrive on time as we will begin promptly at 10:00AM and may be venturing outdoors right away.

Cost: \$5.00 per person (Adults and all children 3 and above)

Pre-register by: 5 days prior to each date Min. 5 Max. 22



*Misc. Multi Date Programs - continued*

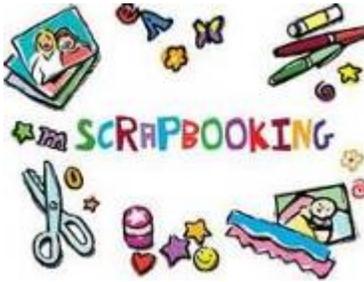
**Scrapbooking/Craft Nights**

**Fox Island County Park**

**January 20, Friday 6:00 PM - Midnight**

**February 17, Friday 6:00 PM - Midnight**

**March 3, Friday 6:00 PM - Midnight**



Christmas and vacation pictures are beckoning! Join us in scrapbooking memories to last a lifetime. We provide hot tea and cocoa to ward off the chill. Pizza can be ordered for an additional \$5.00. Bring an optional snack to share (not required). Crafters may spend their time sewing, crafting or socializing for the same fees. Paid pre-registration is required five days in advance. Just send a check made out to Allen County Parks, with a note letting me know to reserve your spot!

Cost: \$10.00 per class Pre-register by 1/10, 2/14 & 3/13 respectively Min. 6 Max. 22

To register or for more information: Email:nhaley at allencountyparks.org Call: 449-3246 Natalie Haley

*Nature Hikes and Programs*

**Cross Country Ski Clinic**

**Metea County Park**

**January 14, Saturday 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM**

Learn: how equipment works, waxing vs. no-wax, purchasing, ski prep and maintenance, how to dress and receive basic instruction and practice on technique (weather permitting). Leave phone number and shoe size when registering in order to reserve equipment.

Cost: \$8.00 includes one hour rental (weather permitting) or voucher for future ski rental. \$3.00 if bringing your own equipment.

Pre-register by: 1/10 Min: 5 Max: 20

To register or for more information: Email: bdispenza at allencountyparks.org Call: 449-8619 Bob Dispenza



**Feeding Winter Birds**

**Fox Island County Park - Dulin Observation Bldg.**

**January 15, Sunday 1:30 PM - 3:00 PM**

Learn what, how and why to feed your feathered feeder friends. Take home a suet feeder of your own.

Cost \$2.00 regular park admission

Pre-register by: 1/8 Min. 5 Max. 20

To register or for more information: Email:ljormiston at allencountyparks.org Call: 449-3180 Jeff Ormiston



**Night Hike**

**Metea County Park**

**January 18, Wednesday 7:00 PM**

Let's try this on a Wednesday night and see what turns up. Dress for cold and snow as we track animal activity and see how owl nesting season is going.

Cost: \$2.00

Pre-register by: 1/15 Min: 5 Max: 35

To register or for more information: Email:bdispenza at allencountyparks.org Call: 449-8619 Bob Dispenza



**World Wetlands Day Walk**

**Fox Island County Park**

**February 2, Thursday 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM**

Commemorate World Wetlands Day with a walk to Fox Island's vernal pools, swamps and marshes. Celebrate the benefits of these special habitats for plants, wildlife and people.

Cost: \$2.00 admission or free with annual pass

Pre-register by: 1/27 Min:5 Max: 20

To register or for more information: Email rzartman at allencountyparks.org Call: 449-3186 Ron Zartman



## *Nature Hikes and Programs—continued*

### **Groundhog Day**

**Metea County Park Nature Center**

**February 2, Thursday 5:00 PM**

As the weather continues cold, we all wonder when spring warmth will be arriving. One of our native animals has a reputation for being able to tell when – the groundhog. We are going to encourage him with a little celebration held in his honor. Learn about hibernation, the history of woodchuck weathermen, sing some Groundhog Day songs, and go looking for our own Metea Park Marvin. Will he see his shadow? Or will he just hibernate through his special day?

Cost: \$2.00

Pre-register by: 1/30 Min: 5 Max: 35

To register or for more information: Email: [bdispenza at allencountyparks.org](mailto:bdispenza@allencountyparks.org) Call: 449-8619 Bob Dispenza



### **Cross Country Ski Clinic**

**Metea County Park Nature Center**

**February 4, Saturday 10:00 AM – 12:00 PM**

Learn how equipment works, waxing vs. no-wax, purchasing, ski prep and maintenance, how to dress and receive basic instruction and practice on technique, weather permitting. Leave phone number and shoe size when registering in order to reserve equipment.

Cost: \$8.00 includes one hour rental or voucher for future ski rental. \$3.00 with your own equipment.

Pre-register by: 2/2 Min: 5 Max: 25

To register or for more information: Email: [bdispenza at allencountyparks.org](mailto:bdispenza@allencountyparks.org) Call: 449-8619 Bob Dispenza



### **Microscopes for Adults**

**Fox Island Nature Center**

**February 10, Friday 10:00 AM – 12:00 PM**

This is a class for adults only who are interested in learning the basics of using a compound microscope.

We will prepare slides and look at plant and animal cells as well as other natural specimens.

Cost: \$2.00 Free to park pass holders

Pre-register by: 2/3 Min:5 Max: 10

To register or for more information: Email: [jormiston at allencountyparks.org](mailto:jormiston@allencountyparks.org) Call: 449-3180 Jeff Ormiston

### **Snow Moon Coyote Howl**

**Fox Island County Park**

**February 11, Saturday 6:30 PM – 8:00 PM**

Join us for a hike under a rising full moon to search for signs of and listen for calls from these wily canines. Dress for the weather and for trails.

Cost: \$ 2.00

Pre-register by: 2/6 Min: 5 Max: 15

To register or for more information: Email: [rzartman at allencountyparks.org](mailto:rzartman@allencountyparks.org) Call: 449-3186 Ron Zartman



### **Night Hike - Payton**

**Payton County Park**

**February 16, Thursday 7:00 PM**

Tracks of winter wildlife will be our objective as we make our own winter tracks in one of our least disturbed county parks. In case of a thaw be ready for mud.

Cost: \$2.00

Pre-register by: 2/12 Min: 5 Max: 35

To register or for more information: Email: [bdispenza at allencountyparks.org](mailto:bdispenza@allencountyparks.org) Call: 449-8619 Bob Dispenza

*Nature Hikes and Programs – cont.*

**Making Tracks**

**Fox Island Nature Center**

**March, 5, Sunday 1:30 PM – 3:30 PM**

Learn how to cast animal tracks in plaster and take a track home. Learn how to identify different tracks.

Take a short hike to find tracks on the trail

Cost: \$2.00 regular park admission. Free to park pass holders.

Pre-register by: 2/24 Min: 5 Max: 15

To register or for more information: Email: jormiston at allencountyparks.org Call: 449-3180 Jeff Ormiston



**Winter Tree Identification – Good for adults and older home school students.**

**Metea County Park Nature Center**

**March 6, Monday 1:00 PM – 3:00 PM**

This is a two hour class, the first hour will be inside learning some of the tricks of identifying trees in winter. The second hour will be spent in the field putting our skills into practice. Please come dressed for the weather. Students must be 13 or older to take this class. This is a preregister, prepay class.

Cost: \$5.00 students \$2.00 adults

Pre-register by: 2/27 Min: 5 Max: 15

To register or for more information: Email: rdivelbiss at allencountyparks.org Call: 449-3778 Ron Divelbiss



**Winter Mushrooms**

**Fox Island County Park**

**March 11, Saturday 1:00 PM – 2:30 PM**

Fungi add interest to the woods when plants are dead or dormant. Explore the important roles of mushrooms and their identification and lore.

Cost: \$2.00

Pre-register by: 3/6 Min:5 Max: 20

To register or for more information: Email: rzartman at allencountyparks.org Call: 449-3186 Ron Zartman



**Worm Moon Walk**

**Fox Island County Park**

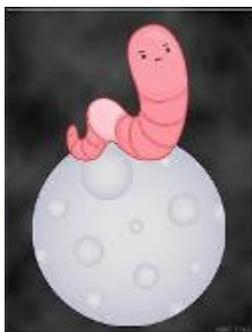
**March 11, Saturday 6:30 PM – 8:00 PM**

Head into the sunset, then walk under a waxing Worm Moon. We will look and listen for wildlife as the daylight fades and a moonlit night begins. Dress for the weather and for trails.

Cost: \$ 2.00

Pre-register by: 3/6 Min: 5 Max: 15

To register or for more information: Email: rzartman at allencountyparks.org Call: 449-3186 Ron Zartman



**Night Hike – Metea North**

**Metea County Park North**

**March 16, Thursday 8:00 PM**

Spring is only a few days away! We'll be listening for frog calls and owls defending their nesting territories, and looking for the first signs of a returning spring. Be prepared for wet and muddy trails.

Cost: \$2.00

Pre-register by: 3/12 Min: 5 Max: 35

To register or for more information: Email: bdispenza at allencountyparks.org Call: 449-8619 Bob Dispenza



*Nature Hikes and Programs – cont.*



**Skunk Cabbage Hike**  
**Metea County Park Nature Center**  
**March 26, Sunday 1:30 PM – 3:30 PM**

Learn about one of the most unusual plants in our parks and hike to see them growing in the wild.

Cost: \$ 2.00 Free to park pass holders

Pre-register by:3/19 Min: NA Max. 25

To register or for more information: Email: jormiston at allencountyparks.org Call: 449-3180 Jeff Ormiston

**Timberdoodle Sky Dance**  
**Fox Island County Park**  
**April 1, Saturday 8:00 PM – 9:30 PM**

Few things in nature are as predictable as the courtship flight of the Timberdoodle. Enjoy the last light of day, then settle in to observe the wacky mating ritual of this close relative of the snipe. Guaranteed. It's in the bag!

Cost: \$2.00

Pre-register by: 3/27 Min:5 Max: 20

To register or for more information: Email: rzartman at allencountyparks.org Call: 449-3186 Ron Zartman



**Metea's EARTH at Night**  
**Metea County Park**  
**April 22, Saturday 7:30 PM - 9:00 PM**

This event is to recognize the valuable resources provided by Meno-aki or "Mother Earth". Enjoy a relaxing evening walking amongst the stars. Maximum registration 40. Call 449-3778 to reserve your spot. Hiking in the dark will be highly encouraged.

Cost: \$2.00

Pre-register by: 4/18 Min. 5 Max. 40

To register or for more information: Email: nhaley at allencountyparks.org Call: 449-3778 Natalie Haley



*Home School Programs - All classes are pre-register and pre-pay!*

**Earthworm Dissection - Good for Home School Students taking biology**  
**Metea County Park**  
**February 6, Monday 1:00 PM - 3:00PM**

Join Grumpy for a session with an earthworm. We will observe a living earthworm and then dissect a preserved one. The earthworm is the simplest animal that we will observe, but the most difficult to dissect. Dissecting skills should be gained during this dissection. Skills gained during this dissection will be helpful in following dissections, but is not required. Students must be 13 years old or older to take this class. This is a preregister, prepay class. This Cost: Students \$ 5.00 Adults \$2.00

Pre-register by: 2/1 Min. 5 Max. 10

To get forms to register or for more information: Email: rdivebiss at allencountyparks.org Call: 449-3777 Ron Divebiss



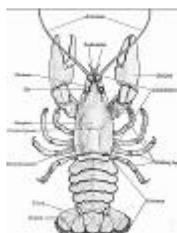
**Crayfish Dissection - Good for Home School Students taking biology**  
**Metea County Park**  
**February 13, Monday 1:00 PM - 3:00 PM**

Join Grumpy for a crayfish dissection. We will study the parts that are visible from the outside, then open it up & see what's on the inside. A student may do any or all the dissections. Students must be 13 or older to take this class. This is a preregister, prepay class. This session is very popular so sign up asap.

Cost: Students \$ 5.00 Adults \$2.00

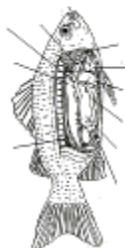
Pre-register by: 2/8 Min. 5 Max. 10

To get forms to register or more information:Email rdivebiss at allencountyparks.org Call: 449-3777 Ron Divebiss



*Home School Programs – cont. All classes are pre-register and pre-pay!*

**Fish Dissection- Good for Home School Students taking biology  
Metea County Park  
February 20, Monday 1:00 PM - 3:00PM**



Join Grumpy for a fish dissection. We will study the parts that a visible from the outside and then open it up and see what's on the inside. Skills gained during this dissection will be helpful in following dissections, but is not needed. A student may do any or all the dissections. Students must be 13 or older to take this class. This is a preregister, prepay class. This session is very popular so sign up asap.

Cost: Students \$ 10.00 Adults \$2.00

Pre-register by: 2/15 Min. 5 Max. 10

To register or for more information: Email: rdivelbiss at allencountyparks.org Call: 449-3777 Ron Divelbiss

**Frog Dissection- Good for Home School Students taking biology  
Metea County Park Nature Center  
February 27, Monday 1:00 PM - 3:00 PM**

Join Grumpy for a frog dissection. We will study the parts that a visible from the outside and then open it up and see what's on the inside. Students must be 13 or older to take this class. This is a preregister, prepay class.

Cost: Students \$ 10.00 Adults \$2.00

Pre-register by: 2/22 Min. 5 Max. 10

To register or for more information: Email: rdivelbiss at allencountyparks.org Call: 449-3777 Ron Divelbiss



**Energy 1 – Chemistry of Life. - Good for Homeschool Students taking biology or chemistry.  
Metea County Park Nature Center  
March 13, Monday 1:00 PM – 3:00PM**



The first part of the chemistry series. An introduction to the chemistry of life. This is a must for students taking Biology and a good review for chemistry students. Students must be 13 or older to take this class. This is a preregister, prepay class.

Cost: \$5.00 students \$2.00 adults

Pre-register by: 3/6 Min. 5 Max. 15

To register or for more information: Email: rdivelbiss at allencountyparks.org Call: 449-3778 Ron Divelbiss

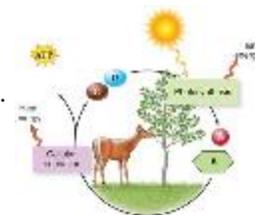
**Energy 2 – Photosynthesis - Cellular Respiration Good for Homeschool Students  
Metea County Park Nature Center  
March 20, Monday 1:00 PM - 3:00 PM**

Part 2 of the chemistry series. A detailed study of the chemistry of energy. Photosynthesis and Cellular Respiration.

Cost: \$5.00 students \$2.00 adults

Pre-register by: 3/13 Min. 5 Max. 15

To register or for more information: Email: : rdivelbiss at allencountyparks.org Call: 449-3778 Ron Divelbiss



**Energy 3 – Organic Compounds Good for Homeschool Students  
Metea County Park Nature Center  
March 27, Monday 1:00 PM - 3:00 PM**



A detailed study of the chemistry of organic compounds. Carbohydrates, proteins, lipids, and nucleic acids.

Cost: \$5.00 students \$2.00 adults

Pre-register by: 3/20 Min. 5 Max. 15

To register or for more information: Email: : rdivelbiss at allencountyparks.org Call: 449-3778 Ron Divelbiss

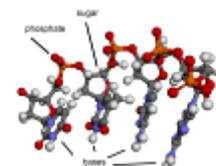
**Energy 4 – Nucleic Acids Good for Homeschool Students  
Metea County Park Nature Center  
April 3, Monday 1:00 PM - 3:00 PM**

Part 4 of chemistry series. A study of DNA and RNA and protein synthesis.

Cost: \$5.00 students \$2.00 adults

Pre-register by: 3/27 Min. 5 Max. 15

To register or for more information: Email: rdivelbiss at allencountyparks.org Call: 449-3778 Ron Divelbiss



TEACHERS .....

### Discovery Biobox on TREES!!!



Don't have the time for a field trip and not sure when in the next two weeks you would have time for a naturalist to visit your class. Check out this idea, borrow our Tree Bio Box and when time allows in a 2 week period do your program! **ITS FREE!!!** This box includes books and curriculum binder of activities with all the supplies in one box. All you need is one tree! Call 449-3180 to check the entire box out for 2 weeks FREE! This box is available for check out at Fox Island County Park ONLY! Complete with over 30 books, posters, tree cookies, leaf identification kit, magnifying glasses and much more. *A special thanks to one of our supporting organizations, the Fox Island Alliance for this awesome teaching tool!!*

#### Park Hours

November 7th thru March 12th 9:00 AM–6:00 PM  
 March 13th thru Memorial Day 9:00 AM– 7:00 PM  
 Fox Island & Metea County Parks Nature Centers are open  
 10:00 AM - 6:00 PM Mon–Fri  
 9:00 AM - 6:00 PM Sat. & Sun

#### Rental Facilities

Allen County Parks can provide an excellent alternative for your next special event, party, conference, retreat, meeting, wedding, reception or memorial service.  
 For more information check our website or contact  
[rentals@allencountyparks.org](mailto:rentals@allencountyparks.org)  
 or call us at 449.3180 or 449.3777



[www.allencountyparks.org](http://www.allencountyparks.org)

Our Mission: "To establish and manage a permanent park system incorporating conservation, education, outdoor values and nature preservation, and to provide recreational opportunities for the people of Allen County within this structure"