



# The Wild Grapevine

The Wild Grapevine

Vol. 16 No. 1 January 2020

The Wild Grapevine will provide you with nature-related articles and upcoming event information four times per year. All annual pass holders will receive this newsletter free as part of their benefits. Send your email address to [metea@allencountyparks.org](mailto:metea@allencountyparks.org) for free e-mailed copies.

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

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

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

### Your Allen County Parks

**Fox Island County Park**, 7324 Yohne Road, southwest Fort Wayne (260) 449-3180

**Metea County Park**, 8401 Union Chapel Road, at State Route 1, Leo-Cedarville (260) 449-3777

**Payton County Park**, 13928 Dunton Rd. just east of Hometown between Gump and Hathaway Roads

**Cook's Landing County Park**, corner of Shoaff and Coldwater Roads

**Deer Run Wilderness Area** – access by permission only



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

Allen County Parks is 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 to 6 PM every day when there's enough snow.

## Cellar Spiders - Guarding Your Basement from Insects Since Forever

By Bob Dispenza, Park & Education Manager, Metea County Park

My basement workshop is infested. Nearly every corner or sheltered area around the workbench is covered with tangled, random webs. Sometimes I see them – small, gray animals with very long, thin legs. When I touch the webs, they occupants seem to vanish. Creepy.

But I guess it's appropriate for a creature sometimes called the carpenter spider to live in a workshop.



Pholcid spider

Also known as daddy-long-legs, granddaddy long-legs spider, carpenter spider, daddy long-legger, vibrating spider and skull spider, *Pholcus phalangioides* (longbodied cellar spider) may be the most common indoor spider worldwide. It is common in our area, and can be found year-round indoors. The arachnid family Pholcidae has over 1800 species worldwide, with 34 in the US and Canada.



Pholcid spider body

Don't confuse it with the Opilionid daddy-long-legs (harvestman), which is not a spider, does not make silk, and has only one body part and two eyes (as opposed to two body parts and six to eight eyes in true spiders).



Opilionid (harvestman)



Opilionid body

Pholcid spiders, when disturbed, will often swing their bodies in rapid circles on their web. Because they are so thin, this can make them almost disappear. It also makes it more difficult for their main enemies (wasps) to capture them. They will shed legs if that helps them escape from danger.

Just to be clear, spiders are venomous, not poisonous. Since venom is injected and poison is ingested, you would have to eat them to find out if they were poisonous. Neither the cellar spider nor the Opilionid harvestman are “the most venomous spiders in the world, but their fangs are too short to bite people.” That is Internet gibberish. Pholcids can bite people, but rarely do - the venom is weak and the reaction is mild.

Cellar spiders eat other spiders that may be much larger or more venomous than themselves (including other cellar spiders), insects and centipedes, using their long legs to wrap their prey up in silk before biting. They will sometimes invade other spiders' webs to steal their catches.

Cellar spiders live in cellars (!), basements, caves, storage areas, closets, debris piles and under rock overhangs. They are doing good work helping control indoor insect infestations, and though they may look creepy and scary, you might consider watching them instead of whacking them.

## **Fox Island Monarchs**

By Jeff Ormiston, Naturalist, Fox Island County Park.

Fox Island County Park staff and volunteers again stepped up to the plate in the effort to support the cause of Monarch Butterfly population increase. Approximately 650 Monarchs were raised and 550 were tagged and released through the “Monarch Watch Program” administered by the University of Kansas. The Monarch caterpillars were raised entirely in the newly re-purposed seed shed but the chrysalises had to be moved out of the shed when the Fox Island mice starting using the chrysalises as a food source. Many thanks to the volunteers who donated their time to the feeding of our Monarch friends!

A new milkweed patch was discovered in the Fox Island “Oak Tree Prairie” and efforts are underway to re-establish the butterfly garden as a lepidoptera friendly part of our park. Other lepidoptera raised this year at Fox Island were Io Moths, Luna Moths, Polyphemus Moths and Black Swallowtail butterflies.

## Upcoming Programs for Winter

*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.*

### Scrapbooking/Crafting

**January 3, Friday**

This program was developed for adults who appreciate an evening to socialize with other adults while crafting or scrapbooking. We provide some refreshments and will order pizza together (optional) and share snacks.

**5:00PM-11:00PM**

Cost: \$10.00

Pre-register by:

12/30/19

Min. 5

Max. 22

### Fox Island County Park

**Nature Center**

To register or for more information:

Email: [foxisland@allencountyparks.org](mailto:foxisland@allencountyparks.org)

Call: 449-3246

Natalie Haley

### Young Naturalist Home School

**January 9, Thursday**

Geology and History of the Little River Valley  
Designed for kids 6-12 yrs.

**1:00PM-3:00PM**

Cost: \$2:00

Pre-register by: 1/02

Min. 5

Max. 10

### Fox Island County Park

**Nature Center**

To register or for more information:

Email: [jormiston@allencountyparks.org](mailto:jormiston@allencountyparks.org)

Call: 449-3184

Jeff Ormiston

### Cross Country Ski Clinic

**January 11, Saturday**

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.

**10:00 AM - Noon**

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: 1/7

Min: 5

Max: 15

### Metea County Park Nature Center

To register or for more information:

Email: [metea@allencountyparks.org](mailto:metea@allencountyparks.org)

Call: 449-8619

Bob Dispenza

### Young Explorers

**January 11, Saturday**

Designed for nature loving kids 5-10 yrs.

**2:30PM-3:30PM**

Cost: \$2:00

Pre-register by: 1/03

Min. 5

Max. 10

### Fox Island County Park

**Nature Center**

To register or for more information:

Email: [jormiston@allencountyparks.org](mailto:jormiston@allencountyparks.org)

Call: 449-3184

Jeff Ormiston

### Winter Bird Feeding

**January 13, Monday**

Our winter birds are bulking up their energy reserves at the Vera Dulin Wildlife Observation building. Come learn how to feed winter birds in your own backyard!

**2:00PM-3:30PM**

Cost: \$3.00

Pre-register by: 1/8

Min. 5

Max. 25

### Fox Island County Park

**Nature Center**

To register or for more information:

Email: [foxisland@allencountyparks.org](mailto:foxisland@allencountyparks.org)

Call: 449-3246

Natalie Haley

### Fox Kit Club – January Tracks

**January 14, Tuesday**

Lets get crackin' and do some trackin'! The Fox Kit Club program is developed for preschool children and their families or teachers (Teachers are free). Meet a naturalist at the Fox Island Nature Center. Fee includes free gate entrance for the day and all class materials.

**10:00AM-11:00AM**

Cost: \$3.00 per child,

\$2.00 per adult

Pre-register by: 1/9

Min. 5

Max. 25

### Fox Island County Park

**Nature Center**

To register or for more information:

Email: [foxisland@allencountyparks.org](mailto:foxisland@allencountyparks.org)

Call: 449-3246

Natalie Haley

### Cell Energy – Photosynthesis & Respiration

**January 14, Tuesday**

Option 1 – the student will learn how living things build energy, store energy and release energy.

**10:00 AM**

Cost: \$5.00

Pre-register by: 1/7

### Metea County Park

**Nature Center**

To register or for more information:

Email: [rdivelbiss@allencountyparks.org](mailto:rdivelbiss@allencountyparks.org)

**Prerequisite:**

Students must have taken **Learning About the Microscope**.

Min. 5  
Max. 9

Call: 449-3778  
Ron Divelbiss

**Cell Energy – Photosynthesis & Respiration**

**January 16, Thursday**

Option 2 – Same as above.

**Prerequisite:**

Students must have taken **Learning About the Microscope**.

**10:00 AM**  
Cost: \$5.00  
Pre-register by: 1/7  
Min. 5  
Max. 9

**Metea County Park Nature Center**

To register or for more information:  
Email: [rdivelbiss@allencountyparks.org](mailto:rdivelbiss@allencountyparks.org)  
Call: 449-3778  
Ron Divelbiss

**Full Moon Walk**

**January 21, Tuesday**

Hike under the full Wolf moon, which we might even have a chance to see if the clouds don't interfere. Expect trails to be possibly muddy, but no mosquitoes!

**7:30 PM**  
Cost: \$2.00  
Pre-register by: 1/17  
Min. 5  
Max. 45

**Metea County Park Nature Center**

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

**Nucleic Acids and Protein Synthesis**

**January 21, Tuesday**

Option 1 - It's important to study Nucleic Acids because our nucleic acids make us what we are.

**Prerequisite:**

Students must have taken **Learning About the Microscope**.

**10:00 AM**  
Cost: \$5.00  
Pre-register by: 1/15  
Min. 5  
Max. 9

**Metea County Park Nature Center**

To register or for more information:  
Email: [rdivelbiss@allencountyparks.org](mailto:rdivelbiss@allencountyparks.org)  
Call: 449-3778  
Ron Divelbiss

**Nucleic Acids**

**January 23, Thursday**

Option 2 – same as above.

**Prerequisite:**

Students must have taken **Learning About the Microscope**.

**10:00 AM**  
Cost: \$5.00  
Pre-register by: 1/18  
Min. 5  
Max. 9

**Metea County Park Nature Center**

To register or for more information:  
Email: [rdivelbiss@allencountyparks.org](mailto:rdivelbiss@allencountyparks.org)  
Call: 449-3778  
Ron Divelbiss

**Young Naturalist Home School**

**January 23, Thursday**

Eggs- nature's perfect invention  
Designed for kids 6-12 yrs.

**1:00PM-3:00PM**  
Cost: \$2:00  
Pre-register by: 1/16  
Min. 5  
Max. 10

**Fox Island County Park Nature Center**

To register or for more information:  
Email: [jormiston@allencountyparks.org](mailto:jormiston@allencountyparks.org)  
Call: 449-3184  
Jeff Ormiston

**Tracks Saunter**

**January 26, Sunday**

Take a hike at Fox Island and follow the tracks of animals as they survive our cold mid-western winter. Fee includes a track craft and park entry!

**Noon-1:00PM**  
Cost: \$3.00  
Pre-register by: 1/21  
Min. 5  
Max. 25

**Fox Island County Park Nature Center**

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

**World Wetland Day**

**February 1, Saturday**

We will meet in the Vera Dulin Wildlife Observation Building for a wetland winter feederwatch bird count. Next, we will learn how to gather and store wetland prairie seeds. Finally, we will hike to our prairie restoration site ('ye ole gun club) and fling some prairie seeds. Hopefully we will get 1-2 inches of snow soon after to cool our seeds for germination.

**3:30PM**  
Cost: \$2.00  
Pre-register by: 1/27  
Min. 5  
Max. 40

**Fox Island County Park VDWOB**

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

**Groundhog Day**

**February 2, Sunday**

As the weather continues cold, we all wonder when spring warmth will be arriving. One of our native

**1 PM**  
Cost: \$2  
Pre-register by: 1/29

**Metea County Park Nature Center**

To register or for more information:  
Email: [metea@allencountyparks.org](mailto:metea@allencountyparks.org)

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?

Min. 5  
Max. 30

Call: 449-8619  
Bob Dispenza

**Whittling with Jeff  
February 4, Tuesday**

Whittle a heart for your loved one.

6 people max.

12 yrs. min age if accompanied by an adult.

**5:00PM-7:00PM**  
Cost: \$4:00  
Pre-register by: 1/27  
Min1  
Max. 6

**Fox Island County Park  
Nature Center**

To register or for more information:

Email:[jormiston@allencountyparks.org](mailto:jormiston@allencountyparks.org)

Call: 449-3184

Jeff Ormiston

**Cell Division - Mitosis**

**February 4, Tuesday**

We will be studying how we got from 1 cell to the trillions of cells we are now.

**Prerequisite:**

Students must have taken **Learning About the Microscope**.

**10:00 AM**  
Cost: \$5.00  
Pre-register by: 1/29  
Min. 5  
Max. 9

**Metea County Park**

**Nature Center**

To register or for more information:

Email:[rdivelbiss@allencountyparks.org](mailto:rdivelbiss@allencountyparks.org)

Call: 449-3778

Ron Divelbiss

**Cell Division - Mitosis**

**February 6, Thursday**

Option 1 – same as above.

**Prerequisite:**

Students must have taken **Learning About the Microscope**.

**10:00 AM**  
Cost: \$5.00  
Pre-register by: 1/29  
Min. 5  
Max. 9

**Metea County Park**

**Nature Center**

To register or for more information:

Email:[rdivelbiss@allencountyparks.org](mailto:rdivelbiss@allencountyparks.org)

Call: 449-3778

Ron Divelbiss

**Young Naturalist Home School**

**February 6, Thursday**

Mammals, our furry friends and relatives

Designed for kids 6-12 yrs

**1:00PM-3:00PM**  
Cost: \$2:00  
Pre-register by: 2/02  
Min. 5  
Max. 10

**Fox Island County Park**

**Nature Center**

To register or for more information:

Email:[jormiston@allencountyparks.org](mailto:jormiston@allencountyparks.org)

Call: 449-3184

Jeff Ormiston

**Explore the Universe - Beginning Astronomy**

**February 6, 13 and 20, Thursdays**

If you want to learn about astronomy and space first hand (rather than from a TV show or podcast), this is for you. We will use telescopes and various optics, have close encounters with outer space objects, explore our solar system, and venture outside our galaxy.

Includes handouts and star charts, along with instruction for using your own scopes. We will go outside to observe when weather permits, so prepare for cold weather.

**7:30 PM**  
Cost: \$20 for the series  
Pre-register by: 2/3  
Min. 5  
Max. 30

**Metea County Park Nature Center**

To register or for more information:

Email:[bdispenza@allencountyparks.org](mailto:bdispenza@allencountyparks.org)

Call: 449-8619

Bob Dispenza

**Scrapbooking/Craft Night**

**February 7, Friday**

This program was developed for adults who appreciate an evening to socialize with other adults while crafting or scrapbooking. We provide some refreshments and will order a pizza together (optional). Bring a snack to share!

**5:00PM-11:00PM**  
Cost: \$10.00  
Pre-register by: 2/2  
Min. 5  
Max. 22

**Fox Island County Park**

**Nature Center**

To register or for more information:

Email:[foxisland@allencountyparks.org](mailto:foxisland@allencountyparks.org)

Call: 449-3246

Natalie Haley

**Cross Country Ski Clinic**

**February 8, Saturday**

Learn: how equipment works, waxing vs. no-wax, purchasing, ski prep and maintenance, how to dress

**10:00 AM - Noon**  
Cost: \$8.00 includes one hour rental

**Metea County Park**

To register or for more information:

Email:[metea@allencountyparks.org](mailto:metea@allencountyparks.org)

and receive basic instruction and practice on technique (weather permitting). Leave phone number and shoe size when registering in order to reserve equipment.

(weather permitting) or voucher for future ski rental. \$3.00 if bringing your own equipment.  
Pre-register by: 2/4  
Min: 5  
Max: 15

Call: 449-8619  
Bob Dispenza

**Fox Kit Club – Seed Fling  
February 11, Tuesday**

We have dried seeds all winter just so your little ones can fling them - hopefully just before we get 1-2 inches of snow! The Fox Kit Club program is developed for preschool children and their families or teachers (Teachers are free). Meet a naturalist at the Fox Island Nature Center. Fee includes free gate entrance for the day and all class materials.

**10:00AM-11:00AM**  
Cost: \$3.00 per child,  
\$2.00 per adult  
Pre-register by: 2/6  
Min. 5  
Max. 25

**Fox Island County Park  
Nature Center**

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

**Genetics - Meiosis**

**February 11, Tuesday**

Option 1 - We will be learning about how we inherited our nucleic acids from our parents.

**Prerequisite:**

Students must have taken **Learning About the Microscope**.

**10:00 AM**  
Cost: \$5.00  
Pre-register by: 2/5  
Min. 5  
Max. 9

**Metea County Park**

**Nature Center**

To register or for more information:  
Email: [rdivelbiss@allencountyparks.org](mailto:rdivelbiss@allencountyparks.org)  
Call: 449-3778  
Ron Divelbiss

**Genetics - Meiosis**

**February 13, Thursday**

Option 2 - Same as above.

**Prerequisite:**

Students must have taken **Learning About the Microscope**.

**10:00 AM**  
Cost: \$5.00  
Pre-register by: 2/8  
Min. 5  
Max. 9

**Metea County Park**

**Nature Center**

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Email: [rdivelbiss@allencountyparks.org](mailto:rdivelbiss@allencountyparks.org)  
Call: 449-3778  
Ron Divelbiss

**Earthworm Dissection**

**February 18, Tuesday**

Option 1 – Dissections are important because they show us how different we are from other organisms and yet how alike we are. The earthworm is a basic invertebrate and we will be comparing it to other invertebrates and vertebrates.

**10:00 AM**  
Cost: \$5.00  
Pre-register by: 2/8  
Min. 5  
Max. 9

**Metea County Park**

**Nature Center**

To register or for more information:  
Email: [rdivelbiss@allencountyparks.org](mailto:rdivelbiss@allencountyparks.org)  
Call: 449-3778  
Ron Divelbiss

**Full Moon Walk**

**February 19, Wednesday**

February in Indiana is highly variable – could be warm and wet or we could be in the deep freeze. Either way we are going out to hike under the full Snow moon. Prepare for possible muddy trails.

**7:30 PM**  
Cost: \$2.00  
Pre-register by: 2/14  
Min. 5  
Max. 45

**Metea County Park Nature Center**

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

**Earthworm Dissection**

**February 20, Thursday**

Option 2 – Same as February 18

**10:00 AM**  
Cost: \$5.00  
Pre-register by: 2/10  
Min. 5  
Max. 9

**Metea County Park**

**Nature Center**

To register or for more information:  
Email: [rdivelbiss@allencountyparks.org](mailto:rdivelbiss@allencountyparks.org)  
Call: 449-3778  
Ron Divelbiss

**Young Naturalist Home School**

**February 20, Thursday**

Animal tracks, identification, make your own  
Designed for kids 6-12 yrs

**1:00PM-3:00PM**  
Cost: \$2:00  
Pre-register by: 2/13  
Min. 5

**Fox Island County Park  
Nature Center**

To register or for more information:  
Email: [jormiston@allencountyparks.org](mailto:jormiston@allencountyparks.org)  
Call: 449-3184

Max. 10

Jeff Ormiston

### **Crayfish Dissection**

**February 25, Tuesday**

Option 1 – The crayfish is an invertebrate with an exoskeleton. It has other interesting body parts to learn about.

**10:00 AM**

Cost: \$5.00

Pre-register by: 2/20

Min. 5

Max. 9

### **Metea County Park**

#### **Nature Center**

To register or for more information:

Email: [rdivelbiss@allencountyparks.org](mailto:rdivelbiss@allencountyparks.org)

Call: 449-3778

Ron Divelbiss

### **Crayfish Dissection**

**February 27, Thursday**

Option 2 – Same as above.

**10:00 AM**

Cost: \$5.00

Pre-register by: 2/20

Min. 5

Max. 9

### **Metea County Park**

#### **Nature Center**

To register or for more information:

Email: [rdivelbiss@allencountyparks.org](mailto:rdivelbiss@allencountyparks.org)

Call: 449-3778

Ron Divelbiss

### **Fish Dissection**

**March 3, Tuesday**

We will be studying the external features and then open it up and study the interior structures.

**10:00 AM**

Cost: \$10.00

Pre-register by: 2/29

Min. 5

Max. 9

### **Metea County Park**

#### **Nature Center**

To register or for more information:

Email: [rdivelbiss@allencountyparks.org](mailto:rdivelbiss@allencountyparks.org)

Call: 449-3778

Ron Divelbiss

### **Fish Dissection**

**March 5, Thursday**

Option 2 – same as above.

**10:00 AM**

Cost: \$10.00

Pre-register by: 2/29

Min. 5

Max. 9

### **Metea County Park**

#### **Nature Center**

To register or for more information:

Email: [rdivelbiss@allencountyparks.org](mailto:rdivelbiss@allencountyparks.org)

Call: 449-3778

Ron Divelbiss

### **Young Naturalist Home School**

**March 5, Thursday**

Plants, how they grow.

Designed for kids 6-12 yrs.

**1:00PM-3:00PM**

Cost: \$2:00

Pre-register by: 2/28

Min. 5

Max. 10

### **Fox Island County Park**

#### **Nature Center**

To register or for more information:

Email: [jormiston@allencountyparks.org](mailto:jormiston@allencountyparks.org)

Call: 449-3184

Jeff Ormiston

### **Fox Kit Club – Search for the Greens (Scavenger Hunt) and Tree Folklore**

**March 10, Tuesday**

We will look for the first greens of spring – may it give us luck! The Fox Kit Club program is developed for preschool children and their families or teachers

(Teachers are free). Meet a naturalist at the Fox Island

Nature Center. Fee includes free gate entrance for the

day and all class materials.

**10:00AM-11:00AM**

Cost: \$3.00 per child,

\$2.00 per adult

Pre-register by: 3/5

Min. 5

Max. 25

### **Fox Island County Park**

#### **Nature Center**

To register or for more information:

Email: [foxisland@allencountyparks.org](mailto:foxisland@allencountyparks.org)

Call: 449-3246

Natalie Haley

### **Frog Dissections**

**March 10, Tuesday**

Option 1 - As we dissect a frog we will be studying the 10 vertebrate organ systems.

**10:00 AM**

Cost: 10.00

Pre-register by: 3/4

Min. 5

Max. 9

### **Metea County Park**

#### **Nature Center**

To register or for more information:

Email: [rdivelbiss@allencountyparks.org](mailto:rdivelbiss@allencountyparks.org)

Call: 449-3778

Ron Divelbiss

### **Frog Dissections**

**March 12, Tuesday**

Option 2 – Same as above

**10:00 AM**

Cost: 10.00

Pre-register by: 3/4

Min. 5

Max. 9

### **Metea County Park**

#### **Nature Center**

To register or for more information:

Email: [rdivelbiss@allencountyparks.org](mailto:rdivelbiss@allencountyparks.org)

Call: 449-3778

Ron Divelbiss

### **Caving Adventure**

**Metea County Park Nature Center**

**March 12, Thursday – Pre-caving class**

**March 21, Saturday – Cave trip**

Go underground with Allen County Parks. Bob Dispenza will be leading a trip to a cave in southern Indiana on Saturday, March 21. We'll be exploring a wild cave in the area and going off the beaten path, looking for cave wildlife and unusual formations. Mandatory pre-caving class is Thursday, March 12, 7:30 PM at the Metea Visitor Center. Class fee covers maps and caving instruction. Learn about geology, cave life, needed equipment and cave formation. This activity is somewhat strenuous, but suitable for beginners in good physical condition.

**7:30 PM**

**All day**

Cost: \$25.00

Pre-register by: 5/1

Min. 5

Max. 25

**and a cave in southern Indiana**

To register or for more information:

Email: [bispenza@allencountyparks.org](mailto:bispenza@allencountyparks.org)

Call: 449-8619

Bob Dispenza



**Scrapbooking/Craft Night**

**March 13, Friday**

This program was developed for adults who appreciate an evening to socialize with other adults while crafting or scrapbooking. We provide some refreshments and often we will order pizza together (optional) and share snacks.

**5:00PM-11:00PM**

Cost: \$10.00

Pre-register by: 3/8

Min. 5

Max. 22

**Fox Island County Park**

**Nature Center**

To register or for more information:

Email: [foxisland@allencountyparks.org](mailto:foxisland@allencountyparks.org)

Call: 449-3246

Natalie Haley

**Search for the Greens (Scavenger Hunt) Saunter**

**March 15, Sunday**

We will take a saunter into Fox Island's Nature Preserve looking for the first greens of spring. We hope it gives us luck and cross our fingers that we don't get "skunked"!

**2:00PM-3:30PM**

Cost: \$3.00

Pre-register by: 3/10

Min. 5

Max. 25

**Fox Island County Park**

**Nature Center**

To register or for more information:

Email: [foxisland@allencountyparks.org](mailto:foxisland@allencountyparks.org)

Call: 449-3246

Natalie Haley

**Search for the Greens (Scavenger Hunt) Saunter**

**March 16, Monday**

We will take a saunter into Fox Island's Nature Preserve looking for the first greens of spring. We hope it gives us luck and cross our fingers that we don't get "skunked"!

**2:00PM-3:30PM**

Cost: \$3.00

Pre-register by: 3/11

Min. 5

Max. 25

**Fox Island County Park**

**Nature Center**

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Call: 449-3246

Natalie Haley

**Search for the Greens (Scavenger Hunt) and Tree Folklore**

**March 17, Tuesday**

We will take a saunter into Fox Island's Nature Preserve looking for the first greens of spring. We hope it gives us luck and cross our fingers that we don't get "skunked"! In honor of St. Patrick's Day we will also share some tree folklore!

**2:00PM-3:30PM**

Cost: \$3.00

Pre-register by: 3/12

Min. 5

Max. 25

**Fox Island County Park**

**Nature Center**

To register or for more information:

Email: [foxisland@allencountyparks.org](mailto:foxisland@allencountyparks.org)

Call: 449-3246

Natalie Haley

**Young Naturalist Home School**

**March 19, Thursday**

Turtles, snakes and other Reptilia  
Designed for kids 6-12 yrs.

**1:00PM-3:00PM**

Cost: \$2:00

Pre-register by: 3/12

Min. 5

Max. 10

**Fox Island County Park**

**Nature Center**

To register or for more information:

Email: [jormiston@allencountyparks.org](mailto:jormiston@allencountyparks.org)

Call: 449-3184

Jeff Ormiston

**Spring Equinox and Full Moon Excursion**

**March 20, Friday**

While the weather may lag behind, spring officially arrives on this day. We will look into the mysticism and science behind this astronomical event, bust some myths, and go for a walk in the woods to look and listen for signs of spring under the full Worm moon.

**7:30 PM**

Cost: \$2.00

Pre-register by: 3/16

Min. 5

Max. 45

**Metea County Park Nature Center**

To register or more information:

Email: [bdispenza@allencountyparks.org](mailto:bdispenza@allencountyparks.org)

Call: 449-8619

Bob Dispenza



**Mid-week Hike**

**March 25, Thursday**

Hike for about 90 mins. on the trails of Fox Island and search for salamander eggs. Dress for the weather.

**11:00AM-1:00PM**

Cost: \$2:00  
Pre-register by: 3/18  
Min. 5  
Max. 10

**Fox Island County Park Nature Center**

To register or for more information:  
Email:[jormiston@allencountyparks.org](mailto:jormiston@allencountyparks.org)  
Call: 449-3184  
Jeff Ormiston

**Discovering Mosses**

**March 28, Saturday**

Some of the few green things in the woods this time of year are mosses. Most folks just pass them by without noticing, but they really stand out after the snow melts and before the wildflowers start up. Find out more about these tiny green “elfin” forests on this hike. Be prepared for muddy trails.

**2 PM**

Cost: \$2  
Pre-register by: 3/24  
Min. 5  
Max. 30

**Metea County Park Nature Center**

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

**Scrapbooking/Craft Night**

**April 3, Friday**

This program was developed for adults who appreciate an evening to socialize with other adults while crafting or scrapbooking. We provide some refreshments and often we will order pizza together (optional) and share snacks.

**5:00PM-11:00PM**

Cost: \$10.00  
Pre-register by: 3/30  
Min. 5  
Max. 22

**Fox Island County Park Nature Center**

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

**Bunnies and Eggs!!!**

**April 5, Sunday**

Come learn about Eastern Cottontail rabbits and why they leave us eggs??? Practice your egg dying skills as well!

**2:00PM-3:30PM**

Cost: \$3.00  
Pre-register by: 4/1  
Min. 5  
Max. 25

**Fox Island County Park Nature Center**

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

**Fox Kit Club – Pond Expedition**

**April 7, Tuesday**

Little tadpole. Little tadpole. Where are you? This Fox Kit Club program has been developed for preschool families and/or teachers (Teachers are free). Meet a Park Naturalist at the Fox Island Nature Center. Fee includes gate entry, parking and all class materials.

**10:00AM-11:00AM**

Cost: \$3.00  
Pre-register by: 4/2  
Min. 5  
Max. 25

**Fox Island County Park Nature Center**

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

**Jr. Indiana Master Naturalist Summer Series**

**June 23, 30, & July 7 and 14, Tuesdays**

Park Naturalists, natural resource professionals, professors, etc... want you to register your nature nut for a series of “children in nature” classes, AGES 9-11, at Fox Island. Children must attend all four days in order to receive their Jr. IMN patch and certificate. We are offering classes in zoology, botany, geology, soil, water and miscellaneous natural resource topics. This series includes three field guides and all classroom materials. Students must bring a lunch, sturdy reusable water bottle and change of clothes in a back pack. This a fully immersive experience into nature.

**9:30AM-3:30PM**

Cost: \$120.00 per person  
Pre-register by: 6/18  
Min. 10  
Max. 22

**Fox Island County Park Nature Center**

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

Allen County Parks  
7324 Yonne Road  
Fort Wayne IN 46809  
Phone: 260.449.3180  
Fax: 260.449.3181  
... provide recreational opportunities for the people of Allen County...  
... terminate because of disability in the admission to, treatment or employment in, its programs or activities. The Human Resources director has been designated to...  
... non-discrimination requirements contained in Section 35.107 of the Department of Justice regulations. Information concerning the provisions of the Americans with...  
... and Allen County's ADA Policy are available from the ADA Coordinator. Requests for assistance or suggestions on how the County can...  
... by telephone at 260-449-7217, TDD 260-449-7881.