

WASHTENAW COUNTY PARKS

MAY 2016 INTERPRETIVE PROGRAMS

Programs and park entry are free, unless noted otherwise.



Volunteer Orientations

Thursday, May 5th – 6:00 p.m. or Saturday, May 7th – 10:00 a.m.

County Farm Park Field Operations Building

Do you enjoy working outdoors? Are you interested in nature, gardens, and natural areas preservation? Wish to learn and share knowledge with others about healthy landscape practices? If so, you may be interested in Volunteering for Washtenaw County Parks! **Pre-registration is required.** For more information, or to register, please leave your name, phone number, email and the day you plan to attend by calling Kathy at (734) 971-6337 ext. 336 or emailing to squiersk@ewashtenaw.org

Tours of Sharon Mills

Two Sundays, May 8th & May 22nd – 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Sharon Mills

The mill is open all afternoon for visitors, with docent Sharon Craig present to share info and answer questions. The tour will cover the mill's varied uses over time, with a focus on Henry Ford's influence. The hydroelectric generator is in working order and will be operating for folks to see!

Weedy Lawn & Garden Salad

Saturday, May 7th – 10:00 a.m. to Noon

County Farm Park – Platt Road Pavilion

Have you been throwing *Chenopodium album* onto the compost heap all this time?! That's lambsquarters - spinach's wildly nutritious cousin. Weeding the garden becomes a delight when you realize that so many "weeds" are actually superfoods! Join Shawn Severance and the wild food foragers to learn about all sorts of garden weeds that can impart delicious flavor and nutrition to your spring salads. Gardeners, please bring your herbs and greens! We will forage the wild greens and make a Gardener meets Forager salad for all to share. In partnership with Project Grow and Will Forage for Food.



Garlic Mustard Pull at the Weatherbee Woods Preserve

Saturday, May 7th – 10:00 a.m. to Noon

Weatherbee Woods Preserve, Warren Rd., Superior Twp.

Come and join park staff in the woods of this lovely eastern Washtenaw County preserve to pull garlic mustard. All ages welcome; stay for as long or as short a time that works for you! Bring your own gloves if you can, but we will have some to share as well. **If you would like to stay for the Wildflower Walk at 1:00, feel free to arrive a little later and bring a picnic lunch!**

Spring Botany Hike!

Saturday, May 7th – 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Weatherbee Woods Preserve, Warren Rd., Superior Twp.

Join Faye Stoner for this hike to look at wildflowers in bloom and past bloom, woodland ferns, trees, shrubs and more. If you would like to come early, bring a lunch and join us for a little picnic before the walk!

Junior Naturalist: Woodland Earth Care

For youth 8-12 years old

Saturday, May 14th – 10:30 a.m. to Noon

Scio Woods Preserve, Scio Church Rd., Scio Twp.

Spend some time learning about the woods from a different point of view. In this program of discovery we will put on our gloves and lend a hand with one of nature's greatest challenges – invasive species. We will explore what it means to part of the balance of diversity by taking care of the forest to make it a better home for wildlife. Shawn Severance leads this program. **Pre-registration is required. Email severances@ewashtenaw.org or call 734-971-6337 x 335**



Color and Design with Annuals at Sharon Mills

May 17th & 18th – 9:00 a.m. and/or 1:00 p.m.

Color and Design with Annuals at County Farm

May 24th, 25th & 26th – 9:00 a.m. and/or 1:00 p.m.

Please, always call Kathy at (734) 385-6560, 7:00 a.m. – 9:00 a.m., before each date to confirm.

Mid-May is the time to plant annuals and we plant thousands of annuals almost all at once!! You will learn about a variety of annuals and color, design and lay-out tips, and your planting assistance will be much appreciated! Kathy Squiers will lead these work days.

Rouge Rescue: Planting the Pollinator Garden & Weeding the Woods

Saturday, May 21st – 9:30 a.m. - Noon

Kosch Headwaters

Each spring, the Rouge Rescue event brings together community volunteers from across the Rouge Watershed to improve the Rouge River for generations to come. Join us in an ongoing effort to create a pollinator demonstration garden around the parking lot, then hike to a beautiful Beech-Maple wood to remove invasive garlic mustard.

Woody Plant Walk

Sunday May 22nd – 2 p.m. to 4 p.m.

Baker Woods Preserve, Trinkle Rd., Dexter Twp.

On this walk we will learn how to identify several trees and shrubs found in many of the wooded areas of Washtenaw County. Leaves typically are great help with identification, but we will also focus on traits such as basic form, bark, and habitat preferences. Faye Stoner leads this hike.



Garlic Mustard Hike to Harvest

Sunday, May 22nd – 1:00-4:00 p.m.

Park Lyndon South – west parking lot

Garlic Mustard! Nutritious potherb and notorious invasive species - if you can't beat it, go ahead and eat it. We will hike through the hilly terrain of Park Lyndon South collecting fresh spring garlic mustard. We'll end our hike at the Park Lyndon Cabin, learning (and tasting!) garlic mustard recipes - they might include: Spring Greens Vichyssoise, and the classic Garlic Mustard Pesto. This hike is led by Shawn Severance. Please bring a bag for harvesting, and a cup and plate for eating.



Toddler Hike: Dandelion Adventures

For children 1-4 years old with a caregiver

Tuesday, May 24th and Thursday, May 26th – 10:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.

County Farm Park – Medford Road Lot

Dandelions offer a world of play, from braiding to blowing the seeds and making wishes to pressing and watching the bees visit them. Enjoy a morning of spring time fun with a most extraordinary flower. Program is limited to 15 children, pre-registration is required. Shawn Severance leads this walk. Email severances@ewashtenaw.org or call 734-971-6337 x 335