

HOCKING HILLS STATE PARK NATURALIST PROGRAMS



Mar, Apr, May 2025

All programs are subject to change. Notify the naturalist if special accommodations are needed for your participation.
Children must be accompanied by an adult at all times

Saturday, March 1st

10 am Bird Bingo - Don't try any cheep tricks! Come play a game of bingo where we will identify common backyard birds in the area! Meet in the Visitor Center.

2 pm Creature Feature - Learn about one or more of our native Ohio creatures and how they can relate to us! Meet at Hocking Hills State Park Lodge.

Sunday, March 2nd

2 pm Sneaky Snakes - Come learn about the 26 different species of snakes in Ohio. Find out how they survive and get a chance to meet one in person! Meet at the Visitor Center.

Friday, March 14th

10 am Positively Perfect Pollinators - Bee here or bee square! Meet a naturalist at the Visitor Center where you will venture outside to our pollinator patch and learn more about these amazing critters.

2 pm Critter Chat - Join one of our naturalists at the Historic Cabin behind the Visitor Center to learn more about some critters in the area!

Saturday, March 15th

10 am Painting Flowerpots - Join the naturalist and paint your own little flower pot to take home. Meet in the Visitor Center.

2 pm Radical Reptiles - Learn about defining characteristics of a reptile. Get the chance to see an example up close! Meet at the Hocking Hills Lodge Lobby.

Maple Sugaring in the Hills

Saturday, March 8

Sunday, March 9

12 pm - 4pm

Join us at the Historic Cabin behind the Old Man's Cave Visitor Center. Take a step back in time to see how maple sugar has been processed over the years. We will have a local producer on site selling their delicious goods.



Recreation programs and activities can be inherently dangerous. Participants accept and acknowledge that any injury or property damage that occurs during a program or activity is not the responsibility of ODNR or its naturalist educators.

Friday, March 21st

10 am Flower Dissection - Have you ever wondered what's inside a flower? Join us to dissect your own and find out yourself! Meet in the Visitor Center.

2 pm Resident Raptors - Come meet our rescued raptor friends and learn about what makes these birds a top predator. Meet in the Visitor Center.

Saturday, March 22nd

10 am Bug Catching- Come catch some bugs with nets and we'll see if we can ID them and let them go! Meet at Old Man's Cave Visitor Center.

2 pm Nature Journals - Come start your own nature journal that you can take home with you! Meet in the Visitor Center.

Sunday, March 23rd

2 pm Radical Reptiles - Learn about defining characteristics of a reptile. Get the chance to see an example up close! Meet at the Hocking Hills Lodge Lobby.

Friday, March 28th

10 am Flower Dissection - Have you ever wondered what's inside a flower? Join us to dissect your own and find out yourself! Meet in the Visitor Center.

2 pm Critter Chat - Join one of our naturalists at the Historic Cabin behind the Visitor Center to learn more about some critters in the area!

Saturday, March 29th

10 am Insect scavenger hunt - Come help the naturalist search for cool insects out on the trail! Meet at the Visitor Center.

2 pm Awesome Amphibians - Find out what makes something an amphibian. Get the chance to see an example up close! Meet at the Hocking Hills Lodge Lobby.

Sunday, March 30th

10 am Creature Feature- Learn about one or more of our native Ohio creatures and how they can relate to us! Meet in the Visitor Center.

Visitor Center

Hours: 10 am to 4 pm, Daily
19988 SR 664 Logan, OH 43138

Contact a Naturalist with
questions: (740) 279-4927



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Friday, April 4th

10 am Positively Perfect Pollinators - Bee here or bee square! Meet a naturalist at the Visitor Center where you will venture outside to our pollinator patch and learn more about these amazing critters.

2 pm Resident Raptors - Come meet our rescued raptor friends and learn about what makes these birds a top predator. Meet in the Visitor Center.

Saturday, April 5th

10 am Bird Bingo - Don't try any cheep tricks! Come play a game of bingo where we will identify common backyard birds in the area! Meet in the Visitor Center.

2 pm Creature Feature - Learn about one or more of our native Ohio creatures and how they can relate to us! Meet at Hocking Hills State Park Lodge.

Sunday, April 6th

10 am Tree ID - Walk with a naturalist and learn some tips and tricks for identifying common trees of the Midwest. Meet at the Visitor Center.

Friday, April 11th

10 am Bird Bingo - Don't try any cheep tricks! Come play a game of bingo where we will identify common backyard birds in the area! Meet in the Visitor Center.

2 pm Resident Raptors - Come meet our rescued raptor friends and learn about what makes these birds a top predator. Meet in the Visitor Center.

Saturday, April 12th

10 am Nature Journals - Come start your own nature journal that you can take home with you! Meet in the Visitor Center.

2 pm Awesome Amphibians - Find out what makes something an amphibian. Get the chance to see an example up close! Meet at Hocking Hills State Park Lodge.

Rotary Club Annual Fishing Derby at Rose Lake

Friday, April 18th

9 am

Join the Rotary Club for our annual fishing derby at Rose Lake. Kids will get the chance to fish first. Adults will need their fishing license to fish. Meet us at the Rose Lake Dam. Please be prepared for the weather and don't forget your fishing license.



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Sunday, April 13th

10 am Powerful Pollinators - Come learn about the different pollinators in Ohio, which are native and which we brought in, and learn about what to keep in your garden to support them. Meet at Old Man's Cave Visitor Center.

Saturday, April 19th

10 am Earth Day - What makes Earth Day so special? Come learn a little history and celebrate with one of the naturalists. Meet in the Visitor Center.

2 pm Resident Raptors - Come see one of our rescued raptor friends and learn about what makes these birds a top predator. Meet inside of the Hocking Hills State Park Lodge.

Sunday, April 20th

10 am Sneaky Snakes - Come learn about the 26 different species of snakes in Ohio. Find out how they survive and get a chance to meet one in person! Meet in the Visitor Center.

Monday, April 21 10 am: Fire Tower to Ash Cave Hike

Join us for an approximately 2-mile round trip hike from the Ash Cave Fire Tower to Ash Cave and back. Meet us at the Ash Cave Fire Tower Parking lot on 374 S for a meander over rolling hills to find a variety of native wildflowers! Be prepared for a possibly muddy hike.

Tuesday, April 22 10 am: Rose Lake Hike

Join us for an approximately 2.5-mile round trip hike around Rose Lake. Meet us at the Rose Lake Fisherman's Parking Lot on 374 S for a hike along the edge of Rose Lake. We will have to look out for roots and rocks along the edge of the lake.

Wednesday, April 23 10 am: Whispering Cave Hike

Join us for an approximately 2-mile round trip hike down past Whispering Cave to the Hemlock Bridge and back. Meet us at the Hiker's Pavilion at the Hocking Hills Lodge. This hike will be rugged and rocky. Be prepared for inclines up and down the hill.

Thursday, April 24 10 am: Cedar Falls Hike

Join us for a 1-mile round trip hike around Cedar Falls. Meet us at Trailhead H at the Cedar Falls parking lot. This hike will contain stairs and rocks that we will have to navigate over.

Wildflower Week!

Join us for a week of wildflower hikes throughout the park. They all start at 10 am and will be a variety of difficulties and lengths. Join us to celebrate the start of spring with these jewels of the forest! All Wildflower Hikes will be written in purple.



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Friday, April 25 10 am: [Conkle's Hollow Gorge Hike](#)

Join us for a 1-mile round trip through the gorge at nearby Conkle's Hollow State Nature Preserve. Meet us at Conkle's Hollow parking lot. This will be a paved trail with steps at the far end. Pets are not allowed on this hike.

Saturday, April 26 10 am: [Ash Cave Hike](#)

Join us for a ½ mile round trip hike to Ash Cave and back. Meet us at Trail O at the Ash Cave parking lot. One half of this hike will be paved and the second half of this hike will include stairs and roots.

Sunday, April 27th

2 pm [Tree ID](#) - Walk with a naturalist and learn some tips and tricks for identifying common trees of the Midwest. Meet in the Visitor Center.

Weekly Hikes

Beginning May 1st, you may join the naturalists for a new hike every day of the week! All hikes begin at 10 AM.

Monday 10 AM [Cedar Falls Hike](#) - Join us for a moderate, 1-mile round trip hike to Cedar Falls, our heaviest flowing waterfall in the park. Will the water be rushing, or will it be a trickle? Tag along to find out. Join us at Trailhead H at the Cedar Falls main parking lot. Be prepared for the weather and steps.

Tuesday 10 AM [Old Man's Cave Hike](#) - Join us for a one-mile hike through Old Man's Cave. This moderate, one mile hike begins in front of the Old Man's Cave Visitor Center.



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Wednesday 10 AM Ash Cave Hike - Join us for a ½ mile round trip hike to Ash Cave and back. Meet us at Trail O at the Ash Cave parking lot. One half of this hike will be paved, and the second half of this hike will include stairs and roots.

Thursday 10 AM Rock House Hike - Join us for a moderate, one-mile round trip hike to Rock House cave and learn about the critters that call our caves home. From bats to rock doves and everything in between. Join us at the shelter house at Rock House. Be prepared for the weather and steps.

Friday 10 AM Whispering Cave Hike - Join us for a moderate, 1-mile round trip hike to Whispering Cave from the Hocking Hills Lodge. Learn about the second largest recess cave in the park and listen to the whispers that give the cave its name. Join us at the Hocking Hills Lodge Hiker's Pavilion to the right of the front door. Be prepared for the

Saturday, May 3rd

10 am Nature Journals - Come start your own nature journal that you can take home with you! Meet in the Visitor Center.

2 pm Resident Raptors - Come see one of our rescued raptor friends and learn about what makes these birds a top predator. Meet inside of the Hocking Hills State Park Lodge.

Sunday, May 4th

10 am Sneaky Snakes - Come learn about the 26 different species of snakes in Ohio. Find out how they survive and get a chance to meet one in person! Meet in the Visitor Center.

Saturday, May 10th

10 am Painting Flowerpots - Join the naturalist and paint your own little flower pot to take home. Meet in the Visitor Center.

2 pm Radical Reptiles - Learn about defining characteristics of a reptile. Get the chance to see an example up close! Meet at the Hocking Hills Lodge Lobby.



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Sunday, May 11th

2 pm Creature Feature- Learn about one or more of our native Ohio creatures and how they can relate to us! Meet in the Visitor Center.

Saturday, May 17th

10 am Insect scavenger hunt - Come help the naturalist search for cool insects out on the trail! Meet at the Visitor Center.

2 pm Resident Raptors - Come see one of our rescued raptor friends and learn about what makes these birds a top predator. Meet inside of the Hocking Hills State Park Lodge.

Sunday, May 18th

2 pm Tree ID - Walk with a naturalist and learn some tips and tricks for identifying common trees of the Midwest. Meet in the Visitor Center.

Saturday, May 24th

10 am Positively Perfect Pollinators - Bee here or bee square! Meet a naturalist at the Visitor Center where you will venture outside to our pollinator patch and learn more about these amazing critters.

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Sunday, May 25th

10 am Bug Catching- Come catch some bugs with nets and we'll see if we can ID them and let them go! Meet at Old Man's Cave Visitor Center.

Saturday, May 31st

10 am Bird Bingo - Don't try any cheep tricks! Come play a game of bingo where we will identify common backyard birds in the area! Meet in the Visitor Center.

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