

May 2023 Park Programs

Venture Parks Education Team

The Venture Park Education Team is stationed throughout our parks to provide learning opportunities for guests. It is our goal to inspire appreciation & knowledge of natural & cultural resources while promoting greater understanding, support for & participation in conservation & outdoor recreation.

**** Programs are subject to cancellation due to inclement weather or other unforeseen circumstances. Youth must be accompanied by an adult. Please dress appropriately for the activity & the weather. Programs are free unless a fee is noted.*



Free Fishing & Park Entry Day is Saturday, May 20, 2023

No need for a vehicle entry or fishing permit on May 20th.
This is a great way to explore our parks and try out fishing.

Beginner Fishing Program—Two Locations!

Join our naturalists at the lake to give fishing a try. Bait a hook, cast a line and catch a fish. Equipment Provided.

Platte River State Park: 9 am to 11 am

Meet at Owen Landing

Mahoney State Park: 1 pm to 3 pm

Meet at Century Link Lake

FUN with Fishing Program—

Schramm Education Center at 11 am

Meet at our NEW Park Shelter

Make a fish print, design your own fishing lure and play fish-themed games. We will meet in the park across from the lower trailhead at the shelter with a green roof.

Nebraska Bird Month Activities

Birding Basics Chat: Platte River State Park

Saturday, May 6th at 9 am, 11 am, 1 pm and 3 pm

Learn about what it takes to be a birder and ways to identify birds that you see. Explore resources that you may want to have in your backpack as a birder. Meet at the Nature Center below Mallet Lodge for this free program and other bird themed activities.

Birding Basics Chat: Schramm Education Center

Sunday, May 7th 11 am, 1 pm and 3 pm

Learn about what it takes to be a birder and ways to identify birds that you see. Explore resources that you may want to have in your backpack as a birder. Meet in the lobby of Schramm Education Center for this free program.

Make a Recycled Bird Feeder: Mahoney State Park

Saturday, May 13th at 10 am

Learn about different kinds of bird seeds and feeders, then create one using recycled materials. Guests are encouraged to bring a few items to recycle such as an empty soup can or a plastic bottle. We will provide other materials. Meet at the picnic tables in the grassy area in front of Owen Marina.

Wise & Wild Birding for Seniors (Program for 55+ only)

Platte River State Park, Thursday, May 11th at 1 pm

Wise and Wild is a program for seniors that rotates through Venture Park locations and happens on Thursdays from 1 pm to 2 pm. To celebrate Bird Month, we'll be exploring everything from birding basics, to bird identification and types of bird feeders to use in your yard. Chat with others about birding opportunities and experiences as we visit the feeders and go on a hike. Meet at the Nature Center below Mallet Lodge.



Memorial Day Weekend Programs

Saturday, May 27, 2023

E.T. MAHONEY STATE PARK

BEGINNER YOUTH FISHING 9 am to 12 pm *At Century Link Lake*

MAMMALS & MORE 1 pm to 3 pm *Meet at Owen Marina*

PLATTE RIVER STATE PARK

BEGINNER YOUTH FISHING 9 am to 12 pm *Meet at Owen Landing*

NATURE CENTER OPEN 10 am to 3 pm *Below Mallet Lodge*

LIFE AROUND THE LAKE 1 pm to 2 pm *Meet at Owen Landing*

SCHRAMM EDUCATION CENTER

ANIMAL FEEDING & REPTILE CHAT 11 am *Meet in lobby of SEC*

****This program requires admission fees to the center.**

Sunday, May 28, 2023

PLATTE RIVER STATE PARK

BREAKFAST & BIRDING 9 am to 11 am *Near Restaurant/Tall Tower*

NATURE CENTER OPEN 12 pm to 4 pm *Below Mallet Lodge*

SCHRAMM PARK STATE RECREATION AREA

ANIMAL FEEDING & REPTILE CHAT 11 am *Meet in lobby of SEC*

****This program requires admission fees to the center.**

TWO RIVERS STATE RECREATION AREA

MAMMALS & MORE 10 am to Noon *Look for our Orange, Nature Program Flag near the day use area by Lake #5.*

LOUISVILLE STATE RECREATION AREA

MAMMALS & MORE 1 pm to 3 pm *Look for our Orange, Nature Program Flag near the playground and concessions area.*

Monday, May 29, 2023

PLATTE RIVER STATE PARK

LIFE AROUND THE LAKE 10 am to 11 am *Meet at Owen Landing*

NATURE CENTER OPEN 12 am to 4 pm *Below Mallet Lodge*

SCHRAMM PARK STATE RECREATION AREA

ANIMAL FEEDING & REPTILE CHAT 11 am *Meet in lobby of SEC*

****This program requires admission fees to the center.**

Visit a Nature Center

SCHRAMM EDUCATION CENTER is located at Schramm Park State Recreation Area & is a state-of-the-art facility featuring over 60 species of fish, reptiles & amphibians, along with interactive exhibits, a maker space, reading nook, birding area & pollinator gardens.

Fees: Adults \$10, Seniors/Youth (ages 4-12) \$7, 3 & under free

Hours: Daily 10am-5pm, Open regular hours Memorial Day Weekend

PLATTE RIVER STATE PARK NATURE CENTER is located below Mallet Lodge near the Wooden Tower & features a classic nature-nook feel with live reptiles & amphibians & hands-on exhibits to explore. During Nature Center hours, a naturalist is available to greet guests & share their knowledge about nature & the outdoors. No admission fee.

Saturday, May 6th from 9 am to 4 pm

Saturday, May 13th from 12 pm to 4 pm

Saturday, May 20th from 12 pm to 4 pm

Saturday, May 27th from 9 am to 3 pm

Sunday, May 28th from 12 pm to 4 pm

Monday, May 29th from 12 pm to 4 pm

Try something new this month!
Geocaching with the Adventure Lab app

VISIT FOUR VENTURE PARKS IN A DAY!

The Venture Park Adventure is a virtual geocache program that will lead you on a mission through four parks in the region. Simply download the Adventure Lab app, then use your phone's native QR code scanner to open the "NGPC Venture Adventure" and start exploring park destinations. Each GPS location will give you a clue to solve and enter in the app to complete the challenge.



Picnic in a Park

Plan a picnic! Picnics are a great way to get outdoors and enjoy some fresh air, listen to the birds singing and have a restful and relaxing lunch break. Bring a blanket or find one of our many picnic tables around the parks.