



# Oregon Ridge Nature Center

## Fall/Winter Calendar 2021

### Celebrate the Season!

#### Tricks and Treats on the Ridge

Saturday, October 30; 1 - 2:30 p.m.

Sign up for your arrival time slot...

1:00, 1:10, 1:20, 1:30, 1:40, 1:50 or 2:00 p.m.

Dress up in your best costume and stroll through the woods and meadow to learn about the tricks plants and animals have up their "leaves". Participants will get a treat at each stop so bring a bag. Hike is approximately 1/2 mile.

All ages

\$5 per child (maximum 2 adult chaperones per child)

Everyone in attendance must be registered and on our roster with a COVID Waiver on file.

#### Animals in Autumn

Saturday, November 13 or Sunday, November 14  
1 - 3 p.m.

What do animals at Oregon Ridge do in Autumn to get ready for winter? Hibernate? Migrate? Join us as we get up-close with some of our resident animals then go on an exploration in the park to see what animals are doing this time of year.

Adults and children 6+

\$3 per person (FREE for ORNCC Members)

#### Holiday Wreath Making

Saturday, December 4 or  
Sunday, December 5  
10 a.m. - 12 p.m.

Welcome the holidays with a fresh evergreen wreath. Cost includes all materials required to make a wreath.

Adults and children 16+

\$16 per person

(\$10 for ORNCC Members)

#### Natural Ornaments

Saturday, December 11 or Sunday, December 12  
1 - 3 p.m.

Decorate for the holidays the natural way. We'll have the examples and natural material on hand for participants to choose from to create their own natural ornaments to take home!

Adults and children 5+

\$3 per person (2 ornaments)



#### Winter Solstice Hike and Campfire

Saturday, December 18; 5 - 7 p.m.

Listen to tales of winter around the campfire then take a short night hike on the darkest day of the year as we celebrate the start of the winter season.

Adults and children 6+

\$6 per person (\$4 for ORNCC Members)

#### Holiday Hike

Sunday, December 19; 10 - 11 a.m.

Feeling the drag of those extra holiday calories?

Join a naturalist for a moderate nature hike over varied terrain to get fresh air, exercise and enjoy the signs of the season.

All ages

\$3 per person

(FREE for ORNCC Members)



### Registration Procedures!

Registration is taken **only by email** and a Baltimore County COVID Waiver must be attached to your request to register.  
[info@OregonRidgeNatureCenter.org](mailto:info@OregonRidgeNatureCenter.org)

You can download the waiver at...

[www.OregonRidgeNatureCenter.org/pdf/COVIDWaiver.pdf](http://www.OregonRidgeNatureCenter.org/pdf/COVIDWaiver.pdf)

In addition to the COVID Waiver please provide:

- Names of everyone attending
- Ages of children, if applicable
- Phone number
- Program name, date and time

Payment is due within one week of registration or prior to closing of program registration. We accept cash or check.

Checks should be made payable to ORNCC and mailed to 13555 Beaver Dam Road, Cockeysville, MD 21030 ...and of course, you are always welcome to stop by with your payment.

Current status of programs  
(Registration closed, full, waitlisting, etc.)  
can be found on our Facebook Events Tab.

## ADVANCE REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED FOR ALL PROGRAMS

### Reoccurring Programs for Kids

#### Shoots and Letters

Thursdays; 10 - 11 a.m.

Come plant the seeds of knowledge while learning basic skills and playing in the dirt with your little ones. We'll have a different nature related theme each week. Stories, crafts and adventures are all part of the fun!

#### Upcoming Themes

October 28 – What Animals Wear

November 4 – Pumpkins and Gourds

November 18 – Leaves

December 2 – Sticks

December 9 – Squirrels

December 16 – Hibernation

December 23 – Horns and Antlers

December 30 – Earth

Adults and children 2+

\$2 per child

Parent must be an active participant. Everyone in attendance must be registered and on our roster.



#### Bookworm Story Time

Fridays, November 5 and December 3; 11 - 11:45 a.m.

Enjoy a nature story with the storyteller's choice of an activity such as an animal encounter, puppets or a craft. This program is in partnership with the Baltimore County Public Library.

Toddler to age 6

**FREE** (donations appreciated)

Due to lowered capacities we are not able to accommodate younger siblings (infants) at this program. Everyone in attendance must be on the roster.



#### Graveyard Hike

Sunday, October 31; 10 - 11:30 a.m.

Walk through the ruins of the old Oregon Ridge mining town and discover the graveyard. We will make rubbings of the gravestones to preserve them for the future.

Adults and children 8+

\$4 per person (\$2 for ORNCC Members)

#### Creepy, Crawly Critters

Sunday, October 31; 1 - 2 p.m.

Snakes, toads, spiders and bugs... do these critters give you the jitters? Celebrate Halloween by meeting some creepy crawlers and making a craft to take home.

Adults and children 4+

\$4 per person (\$2 for ORNCC Members)



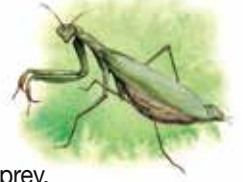
#### In Search of P.R. Mantis

Saturday, November 6; 1 - 2:30 p.m.

Let's wander through the meadows of Oregon Ridge Park searching for Praying Mantis and Mantis egg cases. We'll learn about the life cycle and stalking personality of this insect of prey.

Adults and children 4+

\$4 per person (\$2 for ORNCC Members)



#### Leaf Man

Sunday, November 7; 10 - 11:30 a.m.

Listen to the story of Leaf Man by Lois Ehlert before we take to the woods to look for the mysterious Leaf Man. We'll make a collage with collected leaves and seedpods from the walk.

Adults and children 3+

\$3 per person (**FREE** for ORNCC Members)

#### Morning Bird Walk

Friday, November 12; 8 - 9:30 a.m.

The early bird gets the most sightings. Join a naturalist for this early morning bird walk to find and identify birds in the park. Bring your binoculars and wear comfortable shoes for hiking.

Adults

**FREE** (donations appreciated)



### Scout and Group Programs

#### Yes, we are doing School Field Trips, Scout Workshops and Group Programs!

Weather permitting, these programs are held outside in one of our pavilions. Check out this partial list of offerings and call for details.

#### School Field Trips

Animals and their Habitats • Creek to Stream to Bay  
Native Americans • Insects and their Kin  
Maple Sugaring • Reptiles and Amphibians  
Predator and Prey

Now booking for Fall; Winter and Spring Dates  
will start booking on December 1st.

#### Scout Workshops

##### Girl Scouts

Daisy - Clover Petal • Brownie - Bugs • Brownie - Hiker  
Junior - Animal Habitats • Junior - Citizen Science Journey  
Cadette - Trees

##### Cub Scouts

Tiger - Backyard Jungle • Bear - Fur, Feather and Ferns

##### All Scouts

Make Your Own Hiking Stick  
Owl Encounter with Pellet Dissection

Others workshops available upon request.

For more information call 410-887-1815 during  
regular business hours, Tuesday thru Friday 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.  
or email us at [info@OregonRidgeNatureCenter.org](mailto:info@OregonRidgeNatureCenter.org)



## ADVANCE REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED FOR ALL PROGRAMS

### Deer Night Hike and Campfire

Friday, November 19; 6 - 8 p.m.

November is rutting season for white-tailed deer, which makes them more visible than other times of the year. Take a night hike with one of our Naturalists to see if you can find any deer, then enjoy the campfire on this crisp late Autumn evening.

Adults and children 6+

\$5 per person (\$3 for ORNCC Members)



### Senior Stroll

Saturday, November 20, 10:30 a.m.

Experience the many wellness benefits of sharing time walking in nature together. Join us at the Nature Center then head out to the Marble Quarry Loop for a leisurely stroll along our .3 mile, paved interpretive trail. Afterwards, stay for a guided reflection activity.

Adults

FREE (donations appreciated)

### Edible Insects

Saturday, November 20 or Sunday, November 21; 1 - 3 p.m.

What's on the menu? Come learn to cook with insects and find out about the benefits of eating them.

Adults and children 8+

\$4 per person (\$2 for ORNCC Members)

### Pictures in the Park

Sundays; November 21 and December 12; 10 a.m. - 12 p.m.

Explore a different photographic theme each month. We start each session with a short presentation covering composition and camera setup, then head out into the park on a guided hike in search of the perfect picture. A camera is required – a DSLR is perfect, a quality point 'n shoot works great, too. Even a good smartphone will give shareable and memorable results.

Adults and children 16+

\$10 per person (\$8 for ORNCC Members)

Price includes both sessions.

### Gobble! Gobble!

Saturday, November 27;

11 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

Discover the real lives of wild turkeys!

Join a naturalist as we talk about all things turkeys – we'll meet a resident turkey, learn why they gobble and find out just what a snood is. Then we will take a walk in the park to see where wild turkeys may live and make a turkey caller to take home.

Adults and children 3+

\$4 per person (\$2 for ORNCC Members)



### Shelter from the Cold!

Sunday, November 28; 1 - 3 p.m.

Winter is coming! Learn from the animals of Oregon Ridge and build a shelter to stay warm and survive the winter!

Adults and children 8+

\$4 per person (\$2 for ORNCC Members)

## Nature Book Club

### Eager: The Surprising, Secret Life of Beavers and Why They Matter

Monday, December 6; 7 - 8 p.m. via Zoom

In *Eager*, environmental journalist Ben Goldfarb reveals that our idea of how a healthy landscape looks and how it functions is wrong, distorted by the fur trade that trapped out millions of beavers. The consequences of losing beavers were profound: streams eroded, wetlands dried up and species from salmon to swans lost habitat. Today, a growing coalition of "Beaver Believers" including scientists, ranchers and passionate citizens recognize that ecosystems with beavers are far healthier. *Eager* is a powerful story about one of the world's most influential species, how North America was colonized, how our landscapes changed over the centuries and how beavers can help fight drought, flooding, wildfire, extinction and the ravages of climate change.

### Pilgrim at Tinker Creek

Monday, January 24; 7 - 8 p.m. via Zoom

Annie Dillard's narrative highlights one year's exploration on foot in the Virginia region through which Tinker Creek runs. In the summer, she stalks muskrats in the creek and contemplates wave mechanics; in the fall, she watches a monarch butterfly migration and dreams of Arctic caribou. She tries to con a coot; she collects pond water and examines it under a microscope. She unties a snake skin, witnesses a flood, and plays King of the Meadow with a field of grasshoppers. The result is an exhilarating tale of nature and its seasons.

### World of Wonders Monday, March 7; 7 - 8 p.m.

Aimee Nezhukumatathil's *World of Wonders* is a mesmerizing work of essays and tender illustrations, meditations on nature, cumulative in effect; nature as memoir, nature as metaphor, nature as simply and joyously itself. Each chapter captures a moment, each centered around a different natural phenomenon and charts the reverberations of the lived experience it evokes, be it family, identity or the notion of belonging. She urges us to start small, to "start with what we loved as kids and see where that leads us." A centering book, delightful and unexpected.

### Lab Girl Monday, April 11; 7 - 8 p.m.

Geobiologist Hope Jahren has spent her life studying trees, flowers, seeds, and soil. *Lab Girl* is her revelatory treatise on plant life – but also a celebration of the lifelong curiosity, humility, and passion that drive every scientist. Hope takes us back to her Minnesota childhood, where she spent hours in unfettered play in her father's college laboratory. She tells us how she found a sanctuary in science, learning to perform lab work "with both the heart and the hands." She extends the mantle of scientist to each one of her readers, inviting us to join her in observing and protecting our environment. Warm, luminous, compulsively readable, *Lab Girl* demonstrates the mountains that we can move when love and work come together.

Adults

FREE

*The Nature Book Club is an in-person program that will take place in one of our pavilions if the weather is agreeable, otherwise they will take place in our auditorium. A COVID Waiver is required with your registration.*

## ORNC Council Speaker Series

### Conservation and Management of Maryland's Rarest Turtle

**Dr. Richard Seigel, Professor Emeritus, Towson University**

**Monday, November 15; 7 - 8:30 p.m. – Online via Zoom**

Dr. Seigel is Professor Emeritus in the Department of Biological Sciences at Towson University. His major research interests are in the population ecology and conservation biology of amphibians and reptiles, especially snakes, turtles and frogs. He has published over 90 scientific papers and 5 books on the wildlife management and conservation ecology of amphibians. He has been the lead researcher on wildlife studies of the Northern Map Turtle for the past 13 years and will give us an overview of the current population status, management and behavior of the endangered Northern Map Turtle in Maryland.

Adults  
**FREE**

Advance Registration Required via email at [info@OregonRidgeNatureCenter.org](mailto:info@OregonRidgeNatureCenter.org) Please provide names of everyone attending and a phone number (if several people will be joining from one internet connection please provide all names for our participant count). Program registration will close when we reach capacity or at Noon on Friday, November 12th at which time log-in instructions will be sent to all registered participants.

## Group Gathering Permits

### Planning a group outing of 10 or more people?

Make sure to email us at [info@OregonRidgeNatureCenter.org](mailto:info@OregonRidgeNatureCenter.org) no less than one week in advance so we can process your Gathering Permit.

Groups of 10 - 25 people are required to have a Group Gathering Permit to be on park property. (There is no charge for a Gathering Permit.) This applies to any type of gathering including groups using the trails. Group of more than 25 are only permitted when renting a pavilion or attending a Nature Center sponsored program.

Find out more...

<https://oregonridgenaturecenter.org/pdf/pavilionrental.pdf>

Everyone who visits the park is expected to respect the park and follow all posted rules, including:

- No alcohol
- No crabs
- No glass
- No fires
- No amplified music
- No balloons
- No personal grills

### Planning a outing of less than 10 people?

Our pavilions are available for individuals and families of less than 10 when they are not being used for Nature Center programming or rentals.

All programs and events are rain or shine unless a rain date is specified. All payments are considered donations and are non-refundable unless Oregon Ridge Nature Center cancels the program. Children under 16 years of age must be accompanied by an adult. Programs are for individuals and their immediate families and are not intended for groups. **Groups may schedule programs by calling 410-887-1815.**

For special accommodations (i.e. language interpreter, large print, etc.) please give as much notice as possible by calling Oregon Ridge Nature Center at 410-887-1815, or the Therapeutic Office at 401-887-5370 (voice) 410-887-5319 (TTD/Deaf).

## Become a member of the Oregon Ridge Nature Center Council

A non-profit, volunteer organization dedicated to enhancing the enjoyment of nature.

Join online at [www.OregonRidgeNatureCenter.org](http://www.OregonRidgeNatureCenter.org)

Keep in touch!



## Become a member of the Oregon Ridge Nature Center Council

A non-profit, volunteer organization dedicated to enhancing the enjoyment of nature.

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

\$15 Individual/Senior    \$30 Family    \$75 Supporting    \$250 Sustaining    \$500 Lifetime

I would like to receive communications from Oregon Ridge Nature Center Council by

Email    US Mail    Both

Make checks payable to ORNCC

Mail to: Oregon Ridge Nature Center; 13555 Beaver Dam Road; Cockeysville, MD 21030

Join online at [OregonRidgeNatureCenter.org/membership](http://OregonRidgeNatureCenter.org/membership);

