

CAESAR CREEK STATE PARK NATURALIST PROGRAMS



All programs are subject to change. Notify the naturalist if special accommodations are needed for your participation. Children must be always accompanied by an adult. Check the 'Caesar Creek State Park' Facebook page for details and updates, *including weather cancellations*.

June, July, August 2024

- **First week of June - vacation leave, brother's away wedding**
- **June 6th and 7th - Great Council Tours**

June

Saturday June 8

Kayak / Canoe Wildlife Excursion in the Campground

- 9:00 am
- Learn the basics of canoeing and kayaking.
- Meet at the Yak Shack near the Campground Boat Ramp.
- Wear water shoes (not flip-flops) and clothes that can get wet.
- Length of excursions will vary.
- Equipment and instruction provided. Equipment is limited. First come, first serve.
- Weather dependent.
- Free.

Stand-Up Paddle Board in the Campground



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.

ohiodnr.gov

www.facebook.com/CaesarCreekStatePark/

Nature Center

4006 Pioneer Village Road
Waynesville, OH 45068

Hours:

Wednesday - 12pm-4pm

Thursdays-10am-12pm

Fridays-1pm-3pm

Saturdays - 10am-4pm

Naturalist Erin Shaw

erin.shaw@dnr.ohio.gov

Park Office: 513-897-3055

Caesar Creek State Park Naturalist Programs

- 11:00 am
- Learn the basics of stand-up paddle boarding.
- Meet at the SUP Hut near the Campground Boat Ramp.
- Wear water shoes (not flip-flops) and clothes that can get wet.
- Length of excursions will vary.
- Equipment and instruction provided. Equipment is limited.
- First come, first serve.
- Weather dependent.
- Free.

Furs, Feathers and Campground Funnybones

- 2:00 pm
- Meet the Naturalist to learn about animal fur, feathers and other interesting things you may see in the park.
- Meet at the campground shelter house.

Lion Hunt in the Campground

- 3:00 pm
- What are ant lions? Learn why they are important during an ant lion hunt with the park naturalist.
- Meet at campground shelter house.

Thursday June 13

Bushcrafting for Kids - Navigating with Nature

- 3:00 pm
- Discover ways to navigate using clues from nature.
- Meet the naturalist at the campground shelter house.

Friday June 14

Smores and Campground Fish Tales

- 7:00 pm
- Bring your fish tales, smiles and smores (kits available in the camp store).
- Share your favorite nature stories and hear some of ours.
- Learn about the lake and wildlife in the park.

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- Meet the park naturalist at the campground shelter house.

The Colors of Sunset Over the Campground Beach

- 8:00 pm
- Why are sunsets colorful?
- Learn more about this awe-inspiring phenomenon as we watch the sunset from the best view in the park.
- Bring a beach chair or towel to sit on.
- Sunglasses, hat and bug spray recommended.
- Meet at the campground beach.

Stars, Galaxies and Legends of the Night Sky

- 9:00 pm
- Learn about the wonders of the night sky.
- Bring your binoculars or telescope, or look through ones provided by the park naturalist and local astronomers.
- Meet at the campground shelter house.

Saturday June 15

Kayak / Canoe Wildlife Excursion

- 9:00 am
- Learn the basics of canoeing and kayaking.
- Meet at the Yak Shack near the Campground Boat Ramp.
- Wear water shoes (not flip-flops) and clothes that can get wet.
- Length of excursions will vary.
- Equipment and instruction will be provided. Equipment is limited. First come, first serve.
- Weather dependent.
- Free.

Stand-Up Paddle Board

- 11:00 am
- Learn the basics of stand-up paddle boarding.
- Meet at the SUP Hut near the Campground Boat Ramp.
- Wear water shoes (not flip-flops) and clothes that can get wet.

Caesar Creek State Park Naturalist Programs

- Length of excursions will vary.
- Equipment and instruction will be provided. Equipment is limited. First come, first serve.
- Weather dependent.
- Free.

Dad Jokes for Campers

- 2:00 pm
- Celebrate Father's Day Weekend! Bring your sense of humor and your best (or worst) nature-based dad jokes appropriate for families.
- Meet the naturalist at the campground shelter house.

Campground Wildlife Discovery Hike

- 3:00 pm
- Join the Naturalist for a wildlife discovery hike along the Lakeview Trail. Learn about plants and animals in the park.
- Wear sturdy shoes and dress for the weather. Trails can be muddy.
- Meet at the campground shelter house.

Thursday June 20

Caesar Creek State Park History, Wildlife and Recreation

- 3:00 pm
- Meet the naturalist to get wildlife identification booklets, maps, fishing info and more as we discuss park history and recreation opportunities at Caesar Creek State Park.
- Ask us questions and tell us your stories.
- Meet at the campground shelter house.

Friday June 21

The Longest Day Hike

- 10:00 AM – 4:00 pm
- Join the Park Naturalist for a guided 13-mile hike around the Perimeter Trail during the summer solstice, the longest day of the year. 'The Longest Day Hike' is a nationwide event for Alzheimer's awareness.
- Meet at the Nature Center.

Saturday June 22

Youth Fishing Derby

- 8:00 am - Registration

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- 9:00 am – The Youth Fishing Derby Begins!
- Check out our learning stations set up around the pond to practice fishing techniques, casting, pole rigging, knot tying and more.
- Children must be accompanied by an adult. Children do not need a fishing license; however, adults do.
- Bring a lawn chair, umbrella for shade, sunglasses, hat, sunscreen, and water. Wear sturdy shoes and dress for the weather. Bring a youth fishing pole and tackle box. We have a few “loaner” fishing poles (limited supply) and are welcome to borrow one of ours if you do not have one.
- The Youth Pond is a special place designated for kids ages 15 and younger.
- Meet at the Caesar Creek Youth Pond located near the Marina.

Campground Scavenger Hunt

- 2:00 pm
- Discover the A, B, C’s of nature during a fun scavenger hunt with the park naturalist.
- Meet at the campground shelter house.

How to Identify Trees and Plants

- 3:00 pm
- Discover different ways to identify trees and plants as we take a closer look at what’s growing nearby.
- Learn why trees and plants are important to humans and wildlife.
- Meet the naturalist at the campground shelter house to learn more.

Thursday June 27

Dragons in the Sky

- 3:00 pm
- What’s the best way to control mosquitoes? Dragons in the sky!
- Learn about dragonflies, their lifecycle and where to find them.
- Learn why these insects are important and ways you can help.
- Meet the naturalist as we search identification booklets and the shoreline to see these speedy and colorful creatures.
- Meet at the campground shelter house.

Friday June 28

Ribbon cutting for the Lasley Legacy Project

Nature Art at the Campground

- 6:30 pm
- Join the naturalist as we tune into nature using our senses through artistic perspectives.
- See patterns and colors in nature you may not have noticed before.
- Get creative with an easy art piece from materials provided by the naturalist.
- Meet at the campground shelter house.

Saturday June 29

Kayak / Canoe Wildlife Excursion in the Campground

- 9:00 am
- Learn the basics of canoeing and kayaking.
- Meet at the Yak Shack near the Campground Boat Ramp.
- Wear water shoes (not flip-flops) and clothes that can get wet. Length of excursions will vary. Equipment and instruction will be provided. Equipment is limited. First come, first serve. Weather dependent. Free.

Stand-Up Paddle Board in the Campground

- 11:00 am
- Learn the basics of stand-up paddle boarding.
- Meet at the SUP Hut near the Campground Boat Ramp.
- Wear water shoes (not flip-flops) and clothes that can get wet. Length of excursions will vary. Equipment and instruction will be provided. Equipment is limited. First come, first serve. Weather dependent. Free.

Bluebirds and Bird Boxes

- 2:00 pm
- Meet the naturalist to see a variety of bird boxes that are helpful to have in your yard.
- Learn where to put your birdbox, how to monitor them and how to attract the birds you want.
- Understand why invasive birds can be harmful to the environment and how to control them.
- Contact the NCACC if you'd like to stay afterwards for a workshop where you can 'make and take' your own birdbox that's pre-cut and ready to assemble.

Caesarnaturecenter@gmail.com

- Meet at the campground shelter house.

Camping with Owls

- 3:00 pm
- Join the Naturalist to learn about owls that live in the park. Understand why they are important and how you can help.
- Meet at the Campground Shelter House.

July

Thursday July 4

Campground Holiday Hike

- 2:00 pm
- Meet the Naturalist for a one-mile guided hike to discover hidden views of the lake on our Lakeview Trail.
- Hiking shoes recommended.
- Trails can be muddy.
- Meet at the campground shelter house.

Bald Eagles

- 3:00 pm
- Celebrate the 4th of July through nature. Learn about the majestic and symbolic bald eagle.
- Talk with the naturalist as we discuss where and how to see them in the park.
- Meet at the campground shelter house.

Geology and Fossils of Caesar Creek

- 4:00 pm
- Learn about Ordovician fossils.
- Touch and see fossils as you learn how to identify them in our kits.
- Learn how to get a free fossil collecting permit and where to find them.
- Meet at the campground shelter house.

Friday July 5

Lightning Bugs, Morse Code and Flashlight Tag

- 8:00 pm
- Did you know there are 24 species of lightning bugs in Ohio?

- Learn why these fascinating creatures are important.
- Learn why they are disappearing and how you can help.
- Learn how they communicate.
- Try your skills through a creative game of flashlight tag inspired by the Morse Code.
- Bring a flashlight or borrow one of ours.
- Meet at the campground shelter house.

Stars, Galaxies and Legends of the Night Sky

- 9:00 pm
- Learn about the wonders of the dark night sky.
- No flashlights needed, otherwise flashlights with a red filter are preferred.
- Bring your binoculars or telescope, or look through ones provided by the park naturalist and local astronomers.
- Meet at the campground shelter house.

Saturday July 6

Kayak / Canoe Wildlife Excursion in the Campground

- 9:00 am
- Learn the basics of canoeing and kayaking.
- Meet at the Yak Shack near the Campground Boat Ramp.
- Wear water shoes (not flip-flops) and clothes that can get wet.
- Length of excursions will vary.
- Equipment and instruction will be provided. Equipment is limited. First come, first serve.
- Weather dependent.
- Free.

Stand-Up Paddle Board in the Campground

- 11:00 am
- Learn the basics of stand-up paddle boarding.
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Furs, Feathers and Campground Funnybones

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- 2:00 pm
- Meet the Naturalist to learn about animal fur, feathers and other interesting things you may see in the park.
- Meet at the campground shelter house.

Campground Wildlife Discovery Hike

- 3:00 pm
- Join the Naturalist for a wildlife discovery hike along the Lakeview Trail. Learn about plants and animals in the park.
- Wear sturdy shoes and dress for the weather. Trails can be muddy.
- Meet at the campground shelter house.

Vacation leave – July 9-13

Thursday July 18

Snipe Hunt

- 3:00 pm
- Did you know snipe are real? See one for yourself.
- Bring your binoculars in hopes we can find another one!
- Meet the naturalist at the campground shelter house

Friday July 19

Full Moon Canoe / Kayak in the Campground

- 8:00 pm
- Join the Naturalist as we watch the sunset and full moon rise over the lake from a boat.
- Learn the basics of canoeing and kayaking.
- (Required) Bring a flashlight or headlamp.
- Dress in layers. Bug spray recommended.
- Wear water shoes (not flip-flops) and clothes that can get wet.
- Equipment and instruction will be provided. Equipment is limited.
- Pre-registration required. Email erin.shaw@dnr.ohio.gov for more information.
- Weather dependent. Free.
- Meet at the Yak Shack near the Campground Boat Ramp.

Saturday July 20

Canoe/kayak special evening program offered the night before

Guided Biodiversity Hike

- 9:00 am
- Join the Naturalist for a moderate one-mile guided hike.
- Dress for the weather. Wear sturdy shoes. Trails can be muddy.
- Meet at the campground shelter house.

Stand-Up Paddle Board in the Campground

- 11:00 am
- Learn the basics of stand-up paddle boarding.
- Meet at the SUP Hut near the Campground Boat Ramp.
- Wear water shoes (not flip-flops) and clothes that can get wet. Length of excursions will vary. Equipment and instruction will be provided. Equipment is limited. First come, first serve. Weather dependent. Free.

Sensory Saturday in the Campground

- 2:00 pm
- This program is designed for people of all ages and abilities. Learn how animals use their senses to navigate the wild.
- Meet at the Campground Shelter House.

The Bee's Knees

- 3:00 pm
- Do you know how to identify honeybees, bumblebees, mason bees, carpenter bees and more? Do you know how they are different and why they are important?
- Meet the naturalist to learn more about these fascinating and important insects.
- Meet at the campground shelter house.

Thursday July 25

Land Management Techniques

- 10:00 am
- Join us for a PowerPoint presentation and discussion to learn how and why to manage natural areas in your backyard.
- Meet at the Nature Center.

Native / Invasive Plants in the Campground

- 3:00 pm
- Learn different ways to identify plants. Which ones are native to Ohio? Why are invasive plants bad?
- Meet the naturalist at the campground shelter house to see what's growing nearby.

Friday July 26

Archery

- 1:00 pm (Session 1)
- Equipment and instruction provided. Free.
- Must be on-site before 1pm to register and participate. Fun for the whole family.
- Meet at the Nature Center

Archery

- 2:00 pm (Session 2)
- Equipment and instruction provided. Free.
- Must be on-site before 1pm to register and participate. Fun for the whole family.
- Meet at the Nature Center

Poisonous Plants

- 6:30 pm
- Poison hemlock, poison ivy and particular mushrooms, oh my!
- Meet the naturalist to learn about the most poisonous plants in the park.
- Learn how to co-exist or remove poisonous plants safely.
- Meet at the campground shelter house.

Saturday July 27

Kayak / Canoe Wildlife Excursion in the Campground

- 9:00 am
- Learn the basics of canoeing and kayaking.
- Meet at the Yak Shack near the Campground Boat Ramp.
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Stand-Up Paddle Board in the Campground

- 11:00 am
- Learn the basics of stand-up paddle boarding.
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Campground Nature Scavenger Hunt

- 2:00 pm
- Discover the A, B, C's of nature during a fun scavenger hunt with the park naturalist.
- Meet at the campground shelter house.

Dad Jokes for Campers

- 3:00 pm
- Meet the Naturalist. Bring your best (or worst) nature-based dad jokes appropriate for families.
- Meet at the Campground Shelter House.

August

Thursday August 1

Plants, Trees and Their Uses

- 3:00 pm
- Learn ways to identify plants and trees nearby.
- Learn ways they are helpful to humans and wildlife.
- Meet the naturalist at the campground shelter house.

Friday August 2

Archery

- 1:00 pm (Session 1)
- Equipment and instruction provided. Free.
- Must be on-site before 1pm to register and participate. Fun for the whole family.
- Meet at the Nature Center

Archery

- 2:00 pm (Session 2)
- Equipment and instruction provided. Free.
- Must be on-site before 1pm to register and participate. Fun for the whole family.
- Meet at the Nature Center

Nature Art

- 6:30 pm
- Join the naturalist as we tune into nature using our senses through artistic perspectives.
- See patterns and colors in nature you may not have noticed before.
- Get creative with an easy art piece from materials provided by the naturalist.
- Meet at the campground shelter house.

Saturday August 3

Kayak / Canoe Wildlife Excursion in the Campground

- 9:00 am
- Learn the basics of canoeing and kayaking.
- Meet at the Yak Shack near the Campground Boat Ramp.
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Stand-Up Paddle Board in the Campground

- 11:00 am
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Do you Like Lichens?

- 2:00 pm
- Do you know what lichens are? You can probably see one now.
- Lichens are one of the most widely distributed, and most commonly overlooked of all organisms.

- Meet the naturalist to learn more about this colorful, important and interesting organism hidden all around in plain sight.

Thursday August 8

Fossils

- 2:00 pm
- Learn about Ordovician fossils.
- Touch and see fossils as you learn how to identify them in our kits.
- Learn how to get a free fossil collecting permit and where to find them.
- Meet at the campground shelter house.

Friday August 9

Campground Wildlife Discovery Hike

- 6:30 pm
- Join the Naturalist for a wildlife discovery hike along the Lakeview Trail. Learn about plants and animals in the park.
- Wear sturdy shoes and dress for the weather. Trails can be muddy.
- Meet at the campground shelter house.

Saturday August 10

Meteor Shower Campout

- 4:00 pm - 10:00 am
- Watch the peak of the Perseid Meteor Shower with us on the beach. Enjoy stargazing, family games, a bonfire, and more! Fun for the whole family.
- Meet partner astronomy organizations, such as the Warren County Astronomical Society, The Miami Vally Astronomical Society and the Wright State Astronomical Collaboration.
- Food and drinks will be available through the NCACC. All funds raised support our park, programs, and trails.
- Free. Pre-registration though Eventbrite is suggested and appreciated. Overnight camping is not required to participate.
- Details will be available on the Caesar Creek State Park Facebook page and Eventbrite as the event gets closer.
- Meet at the Public Beach.

Vacation leave Aug 13-17

Thursday Aug 22

Worms, Frogs, Bugs and Other Things Fun to Find

- 3:00 pm
- Bring your bug nets, jars and curiosity. Learn about common creatures that are fun to find.
- Learn ways to catch and release these creatures safely.
- Understand why these creatures are important to the ecosystem and what we can do to help.
- Meet the naturalist at the campground shelter house.

Friday Aug 23

Archery

- 1:00 pm (Session 1)
- Equipment and instruction provided. Free.
- Must be on-site before 1pm to register and participate. Fun for the whole family.
- Meet at the Nature Center

Archery

- 2:00 pm (Session 2)
- Equipment and instruction provided. Free.
- Must be on-site before 1pm to register and participate. Fun for the whole family.
- Meet at the Nature Center

Birding 101

- 6:30 pm
- Why is birding important and fun?
- Learn ways to become a better birder.
- Bring your birding gear stories and questions to share with others.
- Meet the naturalist at the campground shelter house.

Saturday Aug 24

Kayak / Canoe Wildlife Excursion in the Campground

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Stand-Up Paddle Board in the Campground

- 11:00 am
- Learn the basics of stand-up paddle boarding.
- Meet at the SUP Hut near the Campground Boat Ramp.
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Sensory Saturday in the Campground

- 2:00 pm
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- Meet at the Campground Shelter House.

Aug. 29, 30, 31? PWC Safety Education Instructor Training ?