

BACKYARD STEWARDSHIP

Presentations designed to give program participants the information and tools necessary to create healthy ecosystems on their own property.

Gardening for Butterflies



Creating gardens to sustain butterflies and moths includes growing host plants for the caterpillars and nectar plants for the adult insects. During the process of designing, planting and maintaining your gardens, you will enjoy observing colorful insects that benefit from our help to survive.

Landscaping for Wildlife



The native plants growing on your property also function to attract wildlife. Learn which trees, shrubs and flowers provide food, and which offer suitable nesting sites. See how to add water sources to your yard, and additional landscaping features such as brush piles, rocks, snags and nest boxes.

Creating a Bird-Friendly Yard



Bird feeding is a popular activity for people of all ages. We will bust some bird-feeding myths, while discussing types of feeders, which seeds birds will eat and how to avoid window kills. Learn about natural foods growing on native trees, shrubs and flowers, and why shelter is important for bird survival. Observing bird behavior offers personal enjoyment and leads to scientific inquiry.

WORKSHOPS

Learning a new skill can help us appreciate the natural world in a whole new way.

Basket Making



People have been using natural materials to make containers for thousands of years. In this class, participants will receive materials and instruction to create their very own basket. Classes range from 2½ to 4 hours depending on the basket selected.

Birding Basics



People enjoy birdwatching at home, in parks, and natural areas. Learn to use your binoculars and look for field marks to identify different species. Observing how birds behave while flying, climbing trees, sitting, swimming or wading leads to further enjoyment. Participants will learn basic birding skills that will enhance your future outdoor experiences. A limited number of binoculars will be available for program participants to borrow. This presentation requires access to natural outdoor space.

Geocaching 101



Geocaching is the world's largest scavenger hunt where people search for small containers hidden in nature using GPS units and coordinates. Schedule this indoor presentation to get the details on how to

geocache, including where to sign up, what types of caches there are and tips and tricks to help you be as successful as possible.

Unlocking a Key to Wildflowers



Have you ever wondered what's blooming along the roadside or in your favorite park? Newcomb's Wildflower Guide

can unlock these mysteries once you learn to use it. A limited number of Newcomb's guides will be available for program participants to borrow. This presentation is enhanced by access to outdoor space with wildflowers.

Pricing

Most programs are 1 hour in length, but may be customized to accommodate a shorter program time if needed. The program fee reflects a single program on one day. Please call for pricing for repeated programs throughout a day (*such as during a festival*).

Programs greater than 20 miles from CNC will incur a mileage charge equal to the federal mileage rate.

Program Type	Fee
Nature	\$50
Backyard Stewardship	\$50
History	\$50
Live Reptile Presentations	\$100 (50 or fewer participants)
	\$150 (50-100 participants)
Workshops	Call for pricing

About CNC

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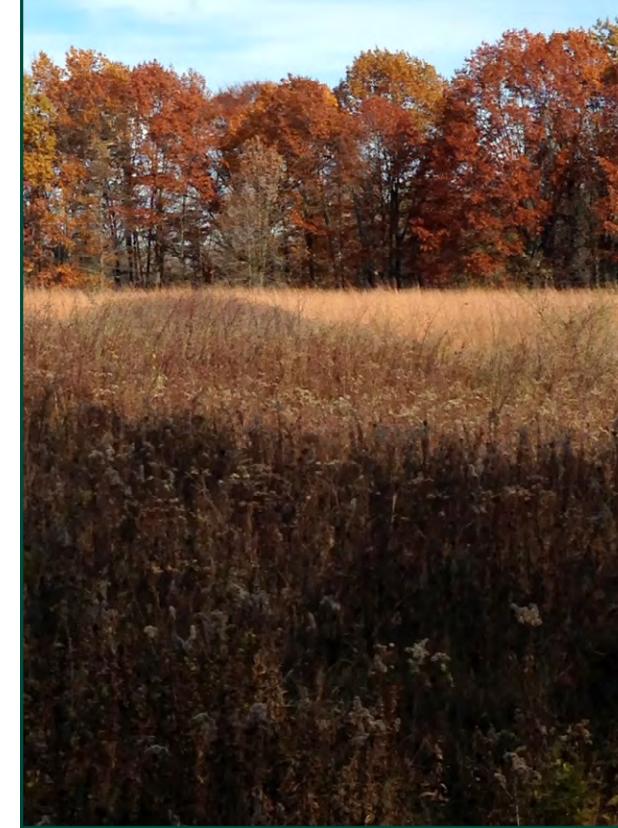
19+ miles of trails
 Open year-round, dawn-to-dark daily
 Visitor Center
 8-5 Mon-Sat • 12-5 Sun & select holidays

To request a program, visit our page on our website and scroll down to click on the



Midland, MI

Adult Outreach Programs



Adult Outreach Programs are designed for groups such as Audubon clubs, civic or social groups, library programs and other gatherings of interested adults. Programs can be tailored to meet your group's needs and interests.

PROGRAMS

Through engaging images and informative commentary, participants will develop a greater understanding and appreciation for the nature that surrounds us here in Michigan. Many programs use items such as furs or stuffed mounts from CNC's natural history collection, and most include a PowerPoint presentation.

Busting Nature Myths



Have you ever wondered if a lizard can regrow its tail or if a black bear really hibernates through the winter? This

interactive presentation will engage the skeptical and share some amazing truths about the natural world.

Ferns – Fiddleheads and Fronds



Ferns grow from perennial rootstocks, emerging from the ground curled up like a fiddlehead.

They unfurl into lacy fronds that we identify by their leaflet patterns, in various shades of green. Participants will learn about these beautiful and unique plants that are found naturally in shady moist forests or along stream banks, as well as planted in home gardens.

Family Life of Feeder Birds



Birds may come and go from your feeders, but where do they spend the rest of their day? What is their family life like? Do both parents build the nest and feed the young, or does one parent shoulder the responsibility? Peer into the lives of some common Michigan birds. Nests and birds from CNC's natural history collection will be displayed.

How Birds Survive Winter



Birds use more than warm downy feathers to ward off cold temperatures and long winter nights. Discover the amazing adaptations many birds rely on to survive weather extremes, reduced food supplies, shorter days and competition.

How Do Animals Survive Winter?



Just how do animals survive Michigan's frigid winters? Migration, adaptation and hibernation are the keys to their survival against the long nights and cold winter temperatures. Experience the winter survival strategies of our Michigan wildlife during this PowerPoint program. Furs, skins, skulls and other items from CNC's natural history collection will provide hands-on experiences for participants.

Michigan Mammals



Check your knowledge with questions and answers of mammals both large and small! Which animals are nocturnal? What mammal is venomous? Examine and touch fur pelts and skulls while learning about the characteristics of Michigan mammals. This program may include a short PowerPoint presentation.

Nature Trivia



Are you intrigued by nature? How much do you know about Michigan animals, plants and the natural world? During this fun and interactive program, participants will form teams and test their nature knowledge during a game of nature trivia!

Nature's Untouchables



Learn how to identify Michigan's poisonous/venomous species and tell them apart from their harmless look-alikes. Participants will gain a better understanding of these misrepresented plants and animals by learning about amazing adaptations and the important roles they play in our ecosystems.

Owls of Michigan



Owls have some of the most interesting physical adaptations enabling them to survive. Learn about these special owl characteristics and the different owls found in Michigan. We'll practice "hooting it up" as we listen and learn the different owl calls for field identification. This program focuses on the 10 species found in Michigan with emphasis on the three most common.

Spring Wildflowers



Beautiful native wildflowers plants are important components of woodland habitats. Wildflowers form the basis of food webs, and offer shelter or nesting materials. Learn to identify some spring wildflowers blooming March through May. As the forerunners of some cultivated garden plants, they share a history of folklore stories and uses.

Summer Wildflowers



Native wildflowers blooming June through August grow in fields, woods, wetlands and along roadsides. You will notice the variety of colors, flower structures, heights and patterns as we focus on learning common species. We will also discuss the benefits of native plants to pollinators.

Wild Wonderful Wetlands



What makes wetlands different from other ecosystems? Learn about the types of wetlands that occur in Michigan and wetland functions that benefit people. Discover some of the plants and animals that live there, why we should care about them and how we can conserve these valuable resources.

Winter Shelters for Animals



Winter survival hangs in the balance as animals prepare their shelters for the harsh weather. View different structures animals use in an effort to survive during this interactive presentation!

LIVE SNAKE PROGRAMS

Participants' sense of wonder will ignite as they view and interact with live ambassador snakes. A PowerPoint presentation creates the context for meaningful interactions with some very special residents of CNC.



Discovering the Wonders of Snakes



Snakes may be one of the most feared and misunderstood animals, but after attending this program, you'll see how fascinating and beneficial these beautiful reptiles can be. This PowerPoint program is brought alive with CNC's live ambassador snakes.

Michigan's Snakes



Michigan has over 15 snake species. Participants will learn how to identify common snakes, where they're found, how they eat, the benefits these animals bring and other fun snake facts. Live snakes will be on hand to give visitors a chance to see these animals up close!