

Winter Calendar

Registration required for some events.
Please call **(315) 482-2479** to register.
*Denotes registration requirements.



Scan to see the calendar of events on our website.

All programs meet at the Nature Center and are free unless otherwise stated. Our calendar of events can also be found on our [website](#) and [Facebook page](#).

RECURRING EVENTS

FULL MOON HIKES*

Sunday, January 12 // 2:45 p.m. *Wolf Moon: RSVP by 1/10*

Wednesday, February 12 // 5:30 p.m. *Snow Moon: RSVP by 2/10*

Thursday, March 13 // 6:30 p.m. *Worm Moon: RSVP by 3/11*

Join us on the trails for our monthly full-moon hikes! Please wear sturdy hiking shoes, layered clothing for warmth, and bring your own headlamp and/or flashlight. We'll leave the Nature Center with plenty of time in hopes of catching a view of the moonrise. Following the hike, we'll host a campfire and snacks! Program subject to weather. Limited space, please RSVP no later than two days prior to event.

PACK BASKET WORKSHOPS*

Saturday, January 11 // 9:00 a.m. (approx. duration 8 hours) *Full-size Pack Basket*

Sunday, February 16 // 10:00 a.m. (approx. duration 5 hours) *Mini Pack Basket*

Saturday, March 15 // 9:00 a.m. (approx. duration 8 hours) *Full-size Pack Basket*

Come learn how to set up and weave a traditional pack basket out of reeds! This heritage craft of the Thousand Islands and Adirondack regions can be learned in a day – we provide the materials and instruction for the class. Recommended for ages 10 and up. Full-size basket workshops are \$100. Mini pack basket workshops are \$50. Payment is due at event. Bring a lunch and water bottle and prepare for a fun day! *Class size is limited, so please RSVP early.*

NATURE FUN DAY (drop-ins welcome)

Saturday, January 4 // 10:30 a.m.–3:00 p.m. *The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe*

Saturday, February 1 // 10:30 a.m.–3:00 p.m. *A Ballerina's Tale*

Saturday, March 1 // 10:30 a.m.–3:00 p.m. *Hidden Figures*

10:30 a.m. HIKE // 12:00 p.m. CRAFT // 1:00 p.m. NATURE MOVIE

Bring the family to the Nature Center and enjoy a fun-filled day! We'll be taking a hike in nature, having lunch, doing a craft, and watching a great nature movie for all ages. Just bring yourself (and maybe a friend), a lunch and water bottle, and layers for the outdoors. We'll supply the rest! Please RSVP so we have enough popcorn!



New York State
Parks, Recreation and
Historic Preservation



Minna Anthony Common Nature Center
Wellesley Island State Park | Thousand Islands Region

JANUARY *Also see recurring events listed above.*

FIRST DAY HIKE

Wednesday, January 1 // 9:00 a.m.–2:00 p.m. *Guided Hikes at 9:30 a.m. & 1:00 p.m.*

Kick off the New Year in nature! Join us for this annual event held across New York State. Hikes are self-guided all day (choose your own adventure on over 9 miles of nature trails) or join us on one of our easy, guided hikes at 9:30 a.m. or 1:00 p.m. Please dress for the weather. Snowshoes will be provided if necessary. Stop in the Nature Center for free giveaways!

NATIONAL BIRD DAY: LEARN TO BIRDWATCH

Sunday, January 5 // 10:00 a.m.

Come celebrate National Bird Day at the Nature Center! Have you ever wanted to learn to birdwatch using a field guide and binoculars? We'll guide you on how to identify birds using these tools, then we'll hit the trails to practice! Binoculars and field guides will be provided. All ages welcome.

TRACK IT!

Saturday, January 18 // 1:00 p.m.

Come join us to learn the tracks of our local animals! We will have an activity and a craft. Dress for the weather; we will go for a hike to look for tracks!

NATURE LOVES INCLUSION

Sunday, January 19 // 11:00 a.m.

Join us on a walk-and-talk about diversity in nature. We'll go out on our nature trails to discuss and discover diversity in harmony. Dress for the weather; snowshoes will be provided if needed.

5TH ANNUAL ICE FISHING CLINIC *at Eel Bay boat launch in Wellesley Island State Park*

Saturday, January 25 // 10:00 a.m.–2:00 p.m. (drop-in)

Join the Nature Center and outdoorsman Patrick Dove at our annual ice fishing clinic. Learn about ice augers, setting and baiting tip-ups, ice conditions, and more! Extra tip-ups will be set for those who'd like to try their luck at landing the "big one!" Grilled hotdog lunch provided. Meet at Eel Bay boat launch, near H Area Campground. No restrooms on-site, the Nature Center is a 2-minute drive away. Fishing license required for ages 16 and up (available at Thousand Islands Bait Store). Dress warmly, bring ice cleats, face-coverings, and extra gloves for the kids!

BARN QUILT WORKSHOP: SNOWFLAKE

Sunday, January 26 // 9:00 a.m. (approx. duration 6 hours)

This barn workshop will help you embrace winter! We'll be creating a larger 2'x2' "Snowflake" barn quilt that will make your winter porch sparkle with the season. Recommended for ages 12+. RSVP by 1/20. \$40 fee. Please bring a lunch and water bottle.

FEBRUARY *Also see recurring events listed above.*

GROUNDHOG DAY

Sunday, February 2 // 1:00 p.m.

Join the Nature Center for a movie and discussion. Learn about why we celebrate this holiday and stay to watch the cinematic classic *Groundhog Day*. All ages welcome.

EDIBLE & MEDICINAL PLANTS: WINTER EDITION

Saturday, February 8 // 1:00 p.m.

Winter marks the end of the growing season in the Northern Hemisphere, but that doesn't mean you cannot still find fresh produce on the market. Seasonal eating in February centers around robust root vegetables and hearty greens that can withstand the colder weather. Join us as we explore humans' relationship with our land, and the food it produces. We will focus this talk on the limited yet nutritious selection of seasonal produce in New York.

ANIMAL VALENTINE'S DAY CRAFT

Sunday, February 9 // 1:00 p.m.

Do not forget your pets on Valentine's Day! Come on by and make cards for your pets, the animals at the Nature Center, or any other critters in your life! All materials provided.

DOG SLED DEMONSTRATION with RIVER FEVER MUSHING *at H-Area Campground in Wellesley Island State Park*

Saturday, February 15 // 10:00 a.m.

Ever wonder what it takes to run a dog sled team? Come meet local dog sled team River Fever Mushing! Watch the dogs in action with a live mushing demonstration outdoors (weather permitting) followed by a meet-and-greet. Please leave your dogs at home for this program to avoid any potentially distracting socialization with the team dogs. Join us at the H-Area Campground on Nature Center Road in Wellesley Island State Park. No restrooms on-site, the Nature Center is a 2-minute drive away. This is an outdoor event so dress warmly.

KIDS' WEEK: MAMMALIAN MAYHEM

Thursday, February 20 // 2:00 p.m.

Discover clues and become nature detectives! Learn about what mammals live on Wellesley Island and how they hunt, adapt, and survive in our local environment. This fun indoor activity is great for elementary-aged children and up.

KIDS' WEEK: SNOW FAIRY HOUSES

Friday, February 21 // 2:00 p.m.

Do you believe in fairies? Come join us for a reading of *Fairy Houses* by Tracy Kane followed by a short hike! Dress for the weather and be ready for building fairy houses in the cold.

BIRD FEST

Saturday, February 22 // 10:00 a.m.–2:00 p.m. (drop-in)

In recognition of Bird Feeding Month, fly with us into all things birds! We'll have a number of crafts, educational opportunities, and birding time out on the trail to learn about and enjoy the variety of birds in our area. Please dress for weather. Snowshoes will be provided if needed.

TERRIFIC TURTLES

Sunday, February 23 // 1:00 p.m.

Did you know a group of turtles is called a bale? Come by and learn more fun facts, enjoy a craft, and watch a turtle race.

MARCH *Also see recurring events listed above.*

WORLD WILDLIFE DAY

Sunday, March 2 // 1:00 p.m.

Join us in celebrating World Wildlife Day! We will have a craft, activity, and show! Please dress for the weather; we will be going on a short hike.

WOMEN IN SCIENCE

Saturday, March 8 // 10:00 a.m.

Join us in celebrating International Women's Day! We will be celebrating with make-and-take crafts and games like Jeopardy. Learn about influential women in science, including our very own Minna Anthony Common.

JEOPARDY: WINTER IN THE NORTH COUNTRY

Sunday, March 9 // 1:00 p.m.

Answer: A hidden gem where you experience nature and beauty, where people love to be year-round! Question: "What is the MAC Nature Center?" Join us for a fun game of winter-themed Jeopardy, test your knowledge on various winter happenings from animals to the history of snowshoes, cross-country skis, North Country lore, and more!

PRIMITIVE SKILLS: BOW & ARROW MAKING *with bushcrafter Jack Downing*

Sunday, March 16 // 1:00 p.m.

Have you ever wondered how some of the first bows and arrows were made? Join woodsman and bushcraft enthusiast Jack Downing as he demonstrates the primitive skill of carving a bow and arrow. This lost art was once a survival skill and way of life for Indigenous people. You won't want to miss this!

SUGARING DURING THE THAW *with local sugarmaker David Neuroth*

Saturday, March 22 // 10:00 a.m.

Journey through the "sugar bush" with a hands-on presentation by sugarmaker David Neuroth to discover how sap transforms into syrup. We'll top this event off with some sweet maple syrup!

WORLD PLANTING DAY

Sunday, March 23 // 1:00 p.m.

Happy World Planting Day! Express your appreciation for these green oxygen machines by learning about the myriad benefits they provide. Furthermore, this day occurs in spring, which is prime tree-and-plant-growing season! We'll be giving away native plant seeds to take home so you can join the 66% of U.S. households who already have at least one houseplant!

EARTH HOUR

Saturday, March 29 // 10:00 a.m.

Visit the Nature Center to get ready for Earth Hour! Learn about the Earth Hour worldwide movement, sustainability, "going green," and how to participate and join the cause.

PRIMITIVE SKILLS: SUGARING OF MAPLE SAP *with bushcrafter Jack Downing*

Sunday, March 30 // 1:00 p.m.

Go back in time to experience a way of life reliant on nature and what it could provide. Join woodsman and bushcrafter Jack Downing in preparing maple syrup the primitive way – from tapping a tree, harvesting the sap, then sugaring. The sugaring process begins over a campfire where Jack will boil the sap in a cast-iron cauldron. Dress warm for an outdoor experience you won't want to miss!



Scan to see the
calendar of events
on our website:
macnaturecenter.com/calendar

We'll see you out there