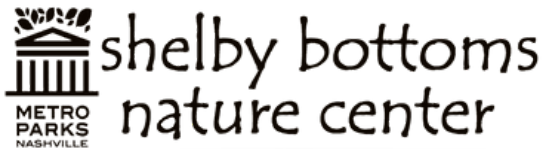




Spring Programs 2024



1900 Davidson Street
 Nashville, TN 37206
 (615) 862-8539
 shelbybottoms@nashville.gov
 sbnc.nashville.gov

Things to look for this season:

Full Ponds: It's our wet season! See who's enjoying the water.

Spring Amphibians: Various frogs are beginning to sing for the sake of courtship! Listen for the Upland Chorus frogs, Spring Peepers and Wood frogs around pockets of water.



Shelby Bottoms Nature Center
 Tues/Thurs/Sat: 9 am - 4 pm
 Wed/Fri: 12 - 4 pm

Shelby Bottoms Greenway and Trails
 Dawn to dusk, 365 days a year!

On Repeat

Contact the Nature Center for ADA accommodations 

<p>Afternoon Tea</p> 	<p>1st Friday of the month 2 - 3 pm All Ages No Registration Required</p>	<p>Come close out the week and warm up with a selection of teas from <u>High Garden Tea</u>, featuring the Shelby Bottoms Blend! Sip some tea while enjoying the Nature Center, or take some to go in the park.</p> 
<p>Early Bird Coffee Social</p>	<p>1st Saturday of the month 9 am - 12 pm All Ages No Registration Required</p>	<p>Enjoy Shelby Bottoms with a hot cup of our "For the Birds" <u>Bird Friendly</u>® certified coffee. Stay and learn about the connection between bird habitat, coffee, and native wildflowers, or take a cup to go into the park.</p> 
<p>Early Morning Bird Hike</p>	<p>2nd Saturday of the month 8 - 9:30 am Ages 15+ Registration Required</p>	<p>Join us on a guided bird hike on the Greenway and trails around the Nature Center. Binoculars are available to borrow, and all levels of experience are welcome. Leader: Lena Friedman</p>
<p>Ask a Master Gardener</p> 	<p>1st Saturday of Every Month 10 am - 12 pm All Ages No Registration Required</p>	<p>Drop in with your questions and curiosity! Members from the University of Tennessee Extension, Master Gardeners of Davidson County will be available to share their knowledge. Leader: <u>Master Gardeners of Davidson County</u></p>
<p>Young Birder's 4-H Club</p>	<p>3rd Saturday of the month 9:30 - 11:30 am Ages 10 - 18 No Registration Required</p>	<p>Youth interested in birds will love this monthly meeting. Each gathering may include guest speakers, community service and of course, birding. Equipment is available to borrow, and we'll register you as a 4-H member for free! Leader: Andy Lantz, UT-TSU Extension Agent</p>
<p>Nature Story & Song</p> 	<p>1st Wednesday of the month 10 am No Registration Required</p>	<p>Join us as we read nature-themed books and share a few songs in between. All ages welcome! Leader: Volunteers Amanda Healan (3/6 & 5/1) & Jodie Mowrey (4/3)</p>

To register, email us at shelbybottoms@nashville.gov or call (615) 862-8539

March

Celebrating Seuss Tea Party



Friday, March 1
2 - 4 pm
All Ages
No Registration Required

March 2nd is the birthday of the one and only Dr. Seuss! Swing by the nature center for an open house afternoon tea party. We will have a small array of activities, books, a craft, and light snacks.
Leader: Christie Wiser & Staff

Two Perspectives of Shelby: Images of Wildlife & Landscapes

Saturday, March 2
1 - 5 pm
All Ages
No Registration Required

Please welcome these two unique photo collections by local photographers, Jilah Kalil and Tommy Williams.
Exhibit will run until the end of Aril 2024.
Host: Christie Wiser

Jr. Naturalist: Wetlands & Waterways

Saturday, March 9
1 - 2:30 pm
Ages 6+
Registration Required

As a wetlands, Shelby Bottoms has many water features that are home to a wide diversity of life. We will hike out to investigate these aquatic habitats with a variety of naturalist tools, including chemical tests and macroinvertebrate surveys.
Leader: Lena Friedman

MNPS Spring Break Week at the Nature Center: March 11-15

Makerspace: Biomimicry



Tuesday, March 12
1 - 3 pm
Ages 6+
No Registration Required

Many amazing innovations have been modeled after animals and nature in a process called biomimicry. Stop by anytime between 1 and 3 pm to take on some engineering challenges, create some nature-inspired inventions of your own, and test them out in our pop-up makerspace.
Leader: Lena Friedman

Nature Play: Migrate

Wednesday, March 13
10 - 11:30 am
Ages 3+
Registration Required

We will be on the move through Nature Play, learning about area wildlife and how they move, survive, and thrive. We'll also explore why it's important to be a friend to the park and wildlife as we tell an interactive story together.
Leader: John Michael Cassidy

Tracks



Thursday, March 14
10 am - 12 pm
All Ages
No Registration Required

Come learn about animals tracks, why tracking is a good skill, and some of the basics of tracking. From an urban environment to a natural environment, we will look at different track prints from animals and how to differentiate them from each other.
Leader: Isaiah Francescon

Mushroom Mania



Thursday, March 14th
2 - 3:30 pm
All Ages
Registration Required

Spring rains bring spring fungi! We'll take a short nature walk in the woods around our StoryWalk® Trail and organic teaching garden to see what kinds of mushrooms we can find! If any catch our eye, we'll take a look at them underneath the microscope. We'll learn all about mushrooms: what they are, where they grow, and more fun-gi facts!
Leader: Hazel Miller

Spring Break Puppet Show

Friday, March 15
10 - 10:30 am
All ages
Registration Required

Spring on in for this fun seasonally-themed puppet show!
After the show stick around to make your very own stick puppet.
Leader: Christie Wiser & Volunteer Taylor Ezell



Ecology Board Game Night

Friday, March 15
6 - 9 pm
Ages 10+
Registration Required

Board game enthusiasts and nature lovers alike are welcome at our ecology-themed game night! Come play one we own, or bring an ecology game you'd like to share.
Snacks and drinks provided.
Leader: Lena Friedman & Hazel Miller

Family Nature Slow Stroll


Saturday, March 16
10 - 11:30 am
Ages 3+
Registration Required

We are moving slow and low to the ground for this nature stroll, so be prepared to get wet, muddy, and investigate different habitats around the Nature Center campus.
Adults: come in early for a cup of "For The Birds" Bird Friendly Coffee!
Leader: John Michael Cassidy & Staff






To register, email us at shelbybottoms@nashville.gov or call (615) 862-8539

<p>Sound Healing</p>	<p>Saturday, March 16 12 - 1 pm Ages 5+ Registration Required</p> <p>To register, visit https://rebrand.ly/SBNCsound</p>	<p>Embark on a sonic journey of sound healing in the Nature Center! This sound bath is designed for relaxation and/or meditation and will feature crystal and Himalayan singing bowls, chimes, and string instruments. No experience necessary! Please bring a yoga mat/towel to lie on and a water bottle. Leader: Volunteer John Paul, Certified Sound Healer by Sound Healing Academy</p>
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<p>Spring Peeper Porch Jam</p> 	<p>Saturday, March 16 1:30 - 3:30 pm All Ages No Registration Required</p>	<p>Everyone is welcome at our Nature Center jams! We'll be pickin' out on the back porch (or in the classroom if the weather's bad), making music amid a chorus of spring frogs. Bring your voice, acoustic instrument, and/or a song to share. All levels welcome. Leader: Volunteer Amanda Healan & Friends</p>
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<p>Craft Night: Nature Bookbinding</p>	<p>Friday, March 22 6:30 - 8 pm Age 13+ Registration Required</p>	<p>Join us to learn a simple style of book binding and create a nature journal in your own style! At the end, you'll have a new journal you can use to explore, observe, and be mindful in nature - or however else you'd like to use it. No artistic experience needed! Leader: Lena Friedman & Hazel Miller</p>
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<p>Shelby Recreation Open House</p> 	<p>Saturday, March 23 10 am - 2 pm All Ages</p> <p>This event is held at the Shelby Park Community Center and is hosted by Friends of Shelby</p>	<p>The Shelby Recreation Open House celebrates all things that get us active, indoors and out. Shelby Park and Bottoms hosts many different pastimes from running to rowing, baseball to bird watching, tennis to trail hiking, and soccer to skating.</p> 
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<p>Spring Moonlight Hike</p> 	<p>Tuesday, March 26 8:30 - 9:30 pm All Ages Registration Required</p>	<p>Hike around the one-mile Greenway loop under a moonlit sky while we observe nocturnal nature sounds and movements. This hike is mostly along the paved path, but we do take the short primitive trail to the pond for a brief part of the program. Leader: Christie Wiser</p>
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<p>2024 Total Solar Eclipse Prep Course</p>	<p>Saturday, March 30 2 - 3 pm All Ages Registration Required</p>	<p>Coming to a town (probably not so) near you, the 2024 Total Solar Eclipse will cross the United States on April 8. Whether you're planning to road trip or just want to learn, drop by for some knowledge and a free pair of viewers (while supplies last). Leader: Christie Wiser</p>
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April








<p>No-Mow Lawns with Ivan Chester</p>	<p>Saturday, April 6 10 - 11:30 am Ages 18+ Registration Required</p>	<p>Forget the Fescue! Ivan Chester of Habitat Landscapes will share Metro Nashville's intentional guidelines on no-mow lawns and describe best plants and practices to make it a success and not a weed patch. Leader: Ivan Chester (Habitat Landscapes)</p>
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<p>1st Annual New Moon Crawdad Plucking Party</p> 	<p>Saturday, April 6 11am - 1pm Ages 6+ Registration Required</p>	<p>For this investigation we will stake a claim amid the merry mounds of a crawfish colony in the shadow of Cornelia Fort. Instructors will discuss the diversity of crayfish in Tennessee and the different habitats they choose before digging in for some old school mudbug excavations! Will we find the same species or something different? Maybe something new to science! Reach out and touch our own inland lobsters! Leader: State Biologist David Withers & Hazel Miller</p>
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<p>Sound Healing</p>	<p>Saturday, April 13 2 - 3 pm Ages 5+ Registration Required</p> <p>To register, visit https://rebrand.ly/SBNCsound</p>	<p>Embark on a sonic journey of sound healing in the Nature Center! This sound bath is designed for relaxation and/or meditation and will feature crystal and Himalayan singing bowls, chimes, and string instruments. No experience necessary! Please bring a yoga mat/towel to lie on and a water bottle. Leader: Volunteer John Paul, Certified Sound Healer by Sound Healing Academy</p>
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<p>Recycled Art Week</p> 	<p>Tuesday, April 16 - Saturday, April 20 Drop in anytime, 12 - 3:30 pm</p>	<p>Earth Day is near - we're ready to get a bit trashy in an creative way! We will have an "on your own" creation station set up throughout the week for visitors. Please check out the other events that we have lined up this week (look for the recycling symbol)! Leader: Christie Wiser</p> 
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To register, email us at shelbybottoms@nashville.gov or call (615) 862-8539

Craft Night: Plastic Yarn 	Wednesday, April 17 6:30 - 8 pm Ages 13+ Registration Required	It's Recycled Art Week! Learn how to upcycle your pile of grocery bags into plastic yarn that can become sturdy reusable bags, baskets, and more! All levels of experience welcome - we will also have beginner crochet instruction for those interested. Leader: Lena Friedman & Hazel Miller 
Birdwatching Stroll at Cornelia Fort Trailhead	Thursday, April 18 6 pm - Dark Ages 10+ Registration Required	Join us in the grasslands, meadows, and wetlands of the Cornelia Fort Airpark trailhead in Shelby Bottoms. We will do a slow stroll focused on grassland and wetland-dependent resident and migratory birds that frequent this special area. Leader: John Michael Cassidy & Volunteers
Board Book Making 	Friday, April 19 10 - 11:30 am All Ages Registration Required	Small hands require sturdy books. Join us to create a short board book for the little explorer in your life. We'll each pick our concept, head outside to collect materials, then assemble our books back at the Nature Center with provided supplies. Little assistants are welcome with adult supervision. Leader: Volunteer Amanda Healan 
Basics Of Nature Photography	Saturday, April 20 10 am - 12 pm Ages 16+ Registration Required	Meet up with these talented photographers from Nashville to chat about some helpful tips and tricks to achieving desired images in nature photography. Leader: Volunteer Jilah Kalil & Isaiah Francescon
Jr. Naturalist: Ready to Hike 	Saturday, April 20 1 - 3 pm Ages 6+ Registration Required	There are lots of parks and trails in Nashville where a Jr. Naturalist can get outside, but the first step is preparation! Come learn how to plan a hike, pack a backpack, and other important outdoor skills for anyone ready to explore in nature. Leader: Lena Friedman
Nashville Neighbors for Native Plants Co-Op Pick-Up	Sunday, April 21 Cornelia Fort Airpark at Shelby Bottoms	Create pollinator pathways across town one yard at a time! Support native pollinators and wildlife in the <u>Nashville Neighbors for Native Plants</u> by participating in this spring plant pick-up at Cornelia Fort Airpark Trailhead. 
Learn more at https://www.neighbors4nativeplants.org/		
Sunset- Moonrise Hike 	Tuesday, April 23 7:30 - 8:30 pm All Ages Registration Required	Join us for this special hike around the 1-mile paved Nature Center greenway loop. With hopes that timing and cloud cover cooperate, we plan to get a double feature of seeing the last few moments of sunset and the rise of the full Wolf Moon. Leader: Christie Wiser

The Nature Center will be CLOSED Saturday, April 27 for the Rock 'n' Roll Marathon

May

Ecology Board Game Night 	Friday, May 3 6 - 9 pm Ages 10+ Registration Required	Board game enthusiasts and nature lovers alike are welcome at our ecology-themed game night! Come play one we own, or bring an ecology game you'd like to share. Snacks and drinks provided. Leader: Lena Friedman & Hazel Miller
TaiChi Workshop	Saturday, May 4 10 - 11 am All Ages Registration Required	CAAN is hosting a series of free workshops throughout the city in May as part of AAPI Heritage Month. Come enjoy the morning with some peaceful guided Tai Chi/Qi Gong practice at the Nature Center. No experience necessary. Leader: <u>Chinese Arts Alliance Nashville (CAAN)</u> Instructor Cindy Hui-Lio, Ed.D
To register, please visit https://rebrand.ly/SBNCfloral		
May the Forest be With You: Awe Walk 	Saturday, May 4 12 - 1 pm Ages 16+ Registration Required	During this Awe Walk we direct our focus on, connect to, and appreciate things we may not have noticed in the past. While being present in the moment, we will take notice of our surroundings. Leader: Christie Wiser

To register, email us at shelbybottoms@nashville.gov or call (615) 862-8539

 <p>Back Porch Jam</p>	<p>Saturday, May 4 1 - 3 pm All Ages No Registration Required</p>	<p>All levels are welcome at our popular back porch jams. Bring your voice, acoustic instrument, a song to share, or just come to listen. We'll be out on the back porch (weather permitting) otherwise follow the music to the classroom. Leader: Volunteer Amanda Healan & Friends</p>
<p>Celebrating Spring & Migratory Birds</p> 	<p>Saturday, May 11 9 am - 12 pm All Ages No Registration Required</p>	<p>The theme on this Saturday will focus on World Migratory Bird Day. A Birdwatching Walk will be held in the morning (<u>registration required - see front page</u>). Come by for helpful information, a few activities, and to explore around the Nature Center campus. Leader: Volunteer Ariel Dunham, John Michael Cassidy, & Volunteers</p>
<p>Odds & Ends: A Photo Collection by James Fullerton</p>	<p>Saturday, May 11 10 am - 12 pm All Ages No Registration Required</p>	<p>Swing by to welcome in this exciting and unusual collection of abstract photography by longtime park enthusiast and photographer James Fullerton. Exhibit will run until the end of June 2024. Host: Christie Wiser</p>
<p>World Collage Day</p> 	<p>Saturday, May 11 1 - 3 pm All Ages Registration Required</p>	<p>World Collage Day is an annual, international celebration of collage on the Second Saturday of May. On Saturday, May 11 from 1 - 3 pm we welcome you to drop in for an informal collage activity to commemorate this fun day. Leader: Christie Wiser</p>
<p>Book Club with the Master Gardeners of Davidson County</p>	<p>Saturday, May 11 2:30 - 3:30 pm Ages 16+ Registration Required</p>	<p>All are welcome at our book club co-hosted by the Master Gardeners! We meet once a season, and this spring's choice is <i>The Comfort of Crows</i> by Margaret Renkl, a Nashville author. Meet with other readers and learn all about the Master Gardener program, too! Leader: Master Gardeners of Davidson County & Hazel Miller</p>
<p>Nest, Dens, and Other Comfy Places</p> 	<p>Wednesday, May 15 2 - 4 pm Ages 6+ Registration Required</p>	<p>Come learn about the comfy places that animals call home out in the wild. From dens and nests to burrows and lodges, see how they are made and the benefits of each dwelling. Leader: Isaiah Francescon</p>
<p>TSRA 3rd Saturday Paddle</p>		<p>PADDLE, PROTECT, PRESERVE. The Tennessee Scenic Rivers Association protects clean water and free flowing rivers in TN. Join our longtime partners TSRA on the third Saturday of the month (March 16, April 20, May 18) for a Flatwater to Class 1 paddle trip. Learn more and register at https://rebrand.ly/TSRAsat</p>
<p>Creative Floral Arrangement</p> <p>To register, please visit https://rebrand.ly/SBNCfloral</p>	<p>Saturday, May 18 10 - 11:30 am Ages 18+ Registration Required</p>	<p>Join us as instructor ShuMei shares her knowledge of flower arrangement throughout the seasons at this special workshop, hosted by CAAN as part of AAPI Heritage Month. Please bring your own vase, small basket or other small container to arrange flowers in. Leader: <u>Chinese Arts Alliance Nashville (CAAN)</u> Instructor ShuMei Lee</p>
<p>Moon Mosey</p> 	<p>Thursday, May 23 8 - 9 pm All Ages Registration Required</p>	<p>Hike around the one-mile Greenway loop under a moonlit sky while we observe nocturnal nature sounds and movements. This hike is mostly along the paved path, we do take the short primitive trail to the pond for a brief part of the program. Leader: Christie Wiser</p>
<p>Jr. Naturalist: Cicada Celebrations</p>	<p>Saturday, May 25 10 - 11:30 am Ages 6+ Registration Required</p>	<p>Brood XIII is here, but what does that mean, and what is the humming coming from all the trees? We'll investigate the cicada presence around the Nature Center and use our naturalist tools to learn more about these abundant insects. Leader: Lena Friedman</p> 
<p>The Nature Center will be CLOSED Tuesday, May 28 for Memorial Day (observed)</p>		
<p>Cloud in a Jar</p> 	<p>Thursday, May 30 12 - 2 pm All Ages Registration Required</p>	<p>Come learn how to make a cloud in a jar and how the atmosphere and weather interact with each other on our big blue marble. Leader: Isaiah Francescon</p>

To register, email us at shelbybottoms@nashville.gov or call (615) 862-8539