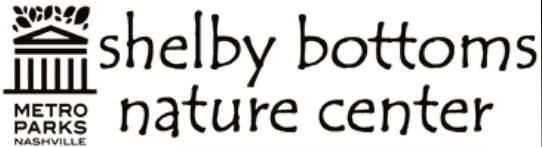


Fall Programs 2024



1900 Davidson Street
Nashville, TN 37206
(615) 862-8539

shelbybottoms@nashville.gov
sbnc.nashville.gov

Don't miss this year's Chestnut Group art show, *The Colors of Shelby!* Find details in the program entry.

Oct. 31 - Nov 3.



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 

Afternoon Tea



1st Friday of the month
2 - 3 pm
All Ages
No Registration Required

Come close out the week and enjoy the fall sights with a selection of teas from High Garden Tea, featuring the Shelby Bottoms Blend!
Leader: SBNC Staff



Early Bird Coffee Social

1st Saturday of the month
9 am - 12 pm
All Ages
No Registration Required

Enjoy Shelby Bottoms with a hot cup of our "For the Birds" Bird Friendly® certified coffee. Stay and learn about the connection between bird habitat, coffee, and native wildflowers, or take a cup to go into the park.
Leader: SBNC Staff



Early Morning Bird Hike

1st Saturday of the month
8 - 9:30 am
Ages 15+
Registration Required

New Time!

Join us on a guided bird hike! Binoculars are available to borrow, and all levels of experience are welcome. The **September hike** will meet at Forrest Green Trailhead in Shelby Bottoms; all others will meet at the Nature Center.
Leader: Lena Friedman

Ask a Master Gardener



1st Saturday of the month
10 am - 12 pm
All Ages
No Registration Required

Drop in with your questions and curiosity! Members from the University of Tennessee Extension, Master Gardeners of Davidson County will be available at a table to share their knowledge.
Leader: Master Gardeners of Davidson County

Nature Story & Song



1st Wednesday of the month
10 am
No Registration Required

Join us as we read nature-themed books and share a few songs in between. All ages welcome!
Leader: SBNC Staff & Volunteers

Young Birder's 4-H Club

2nd Saturday of the month
9:30 - 11:30 am
Ages 10 - 18
No Registration Required

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: 4-H Volunteers

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

September

The Nature Center will be CLOSED 9/3 for Labor Day (Observed)

Read a Book Day



Friday, September 6
1 - 3 pm
All Ages
No Registration Required

It's Read a Book Day! We welcome you to our "in-house use" library located inside the Nature Center to read during this 2-hour window. We will have lemonade to make your reading even sweeter.
Leader: Christie Wiser & Hazel Miller

Dance with Nature

Saturday, September 7
1 - 2 pm
Ages 12+
Registration Required

Come take a dance class open to all levels. You will learn warm-up techniques and a dance set to nature's music - the rhythmic sounds you hear in Shelby Park!

Leader: Jodie Mowrey ([Mowrey Creative Arts](#))



Exhibit Closing: Collected Works by Emily Stanley

Saturday, September 7
3 - 4:30 pm
All Ages
No Registration Required

Emily is a local artist who uses oil paints, flower-based pigments, and inks to create landscape and floral scenes.

Host: Christie Wiser & Artist Emily Stanley

Bats in the Belfry... and Cornelia Fort!



Friday, September 13
7:30 - 8:30 pm
All Ages
Registration Required

The Cornelia Fort Airpark Trailhead in Shelby Bottoms is great for spotting all sorts of nocturnal animals - especially bats! Come join us for this bat-themed night hike as we walk the old runways and see who's flying about in the dark.

Leader: Hazel Miller

Bird Banding Station Public Observation

Saturday, September 14
9 am - 12 pm
All Ages
No Registration Required

Come observe the work of the Shelby Bottoms Banding Station team as our federally licensed bird banders work to gather information about avian populations in the park. See wild birds in the hand as they get a small metal leg band and learn about this ongoing research. Banding sessions are subject to cancellation due to weather.

Farewell Summer Full Moon Hike

Tuesday, September 17
8 - 9 pm
All Ages
Registration Required

Moonwalk around the 1-mile Greenway loop with us! May be cancelled due to weather. Please do not bring flashlights.

Leader: Christie Wiser

Homeschool Day: Pollinator Power

Thursday, September 19
10 am - 2 pm
Grades K - 8

Join us for a day of activities and learning about pollinators! Enjoy self-guided activities set up by the Nature Center and its educational partners that are available throughout the day and do not require registration, or sign up for a staff-guided activity session (or both!). Additional details, guided activity timing, and more will be available on our social media pages, in-person at the Nature Center, or by email or phone inquiry.

Registration Required for Some Activities

Nuts for Squirrels



Saturday, September 21
10 - 11 am
All Ages
No Registration Required



Squirrels are one of the wildlife species in Tennessee that are active year-round. Come learn about the different species of squirrels in our state and what they are doing this time of year while we take a walk in the park to identify nests and squirrel activity. The event is hosted by squirrel enthusiast and wildlife rehabilitator Devon from [Lillie Birds Wildlife Rehabilitation](#) in East Nashville. Feel free to bring your donations of wild hickory nuts, walnuts, and acorns for the rehab animals in care.

Leader: Devon Blackburn ([Lillie Birds Wildlife Rehabilitation](#))

Last of Summer Flora Walk

Saturday, September 21
12 - 2 pm
All Ages
No Registration Required

Our destination will be the many open prairies, wet meadows, and wooded edges of Shelby Park & Bottoms. Many late season wildflowers are abuzz with various pollinators. We also hope to hear and see a mix of fall migratory birds.

Leader: John Michael Cassidy

Ecology Board Game Café

Saturday, September 21
1 - 3:30 pm
Ages 6+
No Registration Required

Come sip some coffee or tea and enjoy our pop-up ecology-themed board game café. Play a game we own or bring one with you; come with friends or make some new ones over a game! Snacks, drinks, and board game instruction provided.

Leader: Lena Friedman & Hazel Miller

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

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| Relaxing Sound Bath | Saturday, September 21 4 - 5 pm Ages 13+ | Interested in a relaxing and restorative sound experience? Join certified sound healing facilitator and professional upright bass player John Paul for a vibey sound bath in the Nature Center featuring crystal singing bowls, upright bass, chimes, ukulele and more. Donations appreciated. Leader: Volunteer John Paul |
| To register, visit https://rebrand.ly/SBNCsound | | |

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| Hands in the Dirt: Taking Science Exploration Outdoors | Teacher In-Service Friday, September 27 9 am - 3 pm Registration Required | Authentic science investigations are waiting just outside your classroom! Join us for this free professional development opportunity. The experiences provided will help you use wonder, curiosity, and exploration to guide students as they make accurate observations, ask meaningful questions, and engage in evidence-based explanations. A certificate for 5 hours of Professional Development will be provided. Leader: Lena Friedman & Rachel Anderson |
| To register, email lena.friedman@nashville.gov | | |

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| Jr. Naturalist: Nature Journaling | Saturday, September 28 10 - 11:30 am Ages 6+ Registration Required | A nature journal is an important tool in any Jr. Naturalist's backpack. It can help you create, observe, and be mindful in nature. Come learn the basics and try it out for yourself as we hike through the park. No artistic experience needed! Leader: Lena Friedman |
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| The River Will Be a Part of Us | Saturday, September 28 1 - 2 pm All Ages Registration Required | Join us for this one-of-a-kind presentation by Justus Wayne Thomas as he recounts his journey taken with several friends down the Missouri and Mississippi Rivers in 1981. Come learn what it was like to experience these rivers from a handmade raft constructed from cottonwood, assorted lumber, a telephone pole, and 32 oil drums! Leader: Justus Wayne Thomas |
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| Exhibit Opening: "Some Relatively Minor Features" | Saturday, September 28 2 - 3 pm All Ages No Registration Required | Following the presentation by Justus Wayne Thomas, we welcome you to enjoy a display of photographs that will be exhibited in our classroom until the middle of October 2024. Host: Christie Wiser |
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October

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| Autumn Porch Jam | Saturday, October 5 1 - 3 pm All Ages No Registration Required | Everyone is welcome at our Nature Center jams! Weather permitting, we'll be pickin' out on the back porch (otherwise in the classroom). Bring your voice, instruments, and/or a song to share. All levels and all listeners welcome. Leader: Volunteer Amanda Healan |
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MNPS Fall Break Week at the Nature Center: October 8-12

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| Nature Play Adventure | Tuesday, October 8 11 am - 12:30 pm Ages 3+ Registration Required | We will provide some ideas and materials for our group to go on an adventure, which might include stuffed animal characters, conflict, and being creative as a group. Leader: John Michael Cassidy |
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| Woodpecker Workshop | Wednesday, October 9 1 - 3 pm All Ages No Registration Required | We have lots of woodpeckers who call Shelby Bottoms home. Stop by to learn how to identify them by sight and sound, where to look in the park, and make an easy woodpecker feeder out of pinecones to take home. Leader: SBNC Staff |
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| Fall Break Puppet Show | Friday, October 11 10 - 10:30 am All Ages No Registration Required | Breeze 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 |
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| Makerspace: Biomimicry | Friday, October 11 1 - 3 pm Ages 6+ No Registration Required | Many amazing innovations have been modeled after animals and nature in a process called biomimicry. Stop in to take on some engineering challenges, create nature-inspired inventions of your own, and test them out in our pop-up makerspace. Leader: Lena Friedman |
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To register, email us at shelbybottoms@nashville.gov or call (615) 862-8539

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| Fall Break Afternoon Ice Cream Social | Friday, October 11 3 - 4 pm All Ages Registration Required | Fall Break is in full effect and we want to share the joys of it with you by this simple offering. After reserving your scoop, drop in anytime this hour to enjoy the nature center and learn about what fantastic things are happening this fall. Leader: Christie Wiser |
| Jr. Naturalist: A Fungus Among-Us | Saturday, October 12 10 - 11:30 am Ages 6 - 12 Registration Required | Come learn all about the fungus kingdom! We'll go for a mushroom hike, break out the microscopes, and delve into the mycological world. What makes a mushroom a mushroom? Let's find out! All Jr. Naturalists should be accompanied by an adult. Leader: Hazel Miller |
| Ecology Board Game Café | Saturday, October 12 1 - 3:30 pm Ages 6+ No Registration Required | Come sip some coffee or tea and enjoy our pop-up ecology-themed board game café. Play a game we own or bring one with you; come with friends or make some new ones over a game! Snacks, drinks, and board game instruction provided. Leader: Lena Friedman & Hazel Miller |
| Nashville Neighbors for Native Plants Co-Op Pick-Up | Sunday, October 13 Cornelia Fort Airpark in Shelby Bottoms | Create pollinator pathways across town one yard at a time! Support native pollinators and wildlife with the <u>Nashville Neighbors for Native Plants</u> by participating in this fall plant pick-up at Cornelia Fort Airpark Trailhead. <p style="text-align: center;">Learn more at https://www.neighbors4nativeplants.org/</p> |
| Full "Thriller" Moon Hike | Thursday, October 17 7 - 8 pm All Ages Registration Required | Don't miss this fun spin on our popular full moon hikes with special guest, volunteer naturalist Jackie Shea. Meet up at the Nature Center, and then head out on the paved path with us for a short hike around the 1-mile Greenway loop. Leader: Volunteer Naturalist Jackie Shea & Christie Wiser |
| Trees in Transition | Saturday, October 19 12 - 1:30 pm All Ages No Registration Required | Take a walk down the Greenway to discover how the forest begins to change around us this time of year. We will observe all kinds of dazzling colors while we find out how and why the trees and plants transform as the weather cools. Meet at the Nature Center. Leader: Volunteer Naturalist Jackie Shea & Christie Wiser |
| Bats! Bats! Bats!  | Friday, October 25 5 - 6:30 pm Ages 16+ Registration Required | Join one of Tennessee's permitted bat rehabilitators and guests as Bat Appreciation Week kicks off to learn about the species of bats in our state and how to coexist with them. Bats are a beneficial species of native wildlife that are commonly misunderstood. We will be doing activities, learning how to attract and host bats to your property, what to do if you encounter a bat, and taking a low-impact sunset walk to hopefully see bats before their hibernation for the fall and winter seasons begins. Leader: Devon Blackburn (<u>Lillie Birds Wildlife Rehabilitation</u>) & Guests |
| Relaxing Sound Bath | Saturday, October 26 4 - 5 pm Ages 13+ | Interested in a relaxing and restorative sound experience? Join certified sound healing facilitator and professional upright bass player John Paul for a vibey sound bath in the Nature Center featuring crystal singing bowls, upright bass, chimes, ukulele and more. Donations appreciated. Leader: Volunteer John Paul |
| Shelby Bottoms Ghostbusters  | Saturday, October 26 7:30 - 8:30 pm Ages 12+ Registration Required | Join us for a SpOoOoOoOky evening! We'll learn all about the history and folklore of Shelby Bottoms Park and Greenway that could lead to some spectral goings-on. Join us for this naturalist's spin on ghost hunting! Leaders: Hazel Miller & Volunteer Naturalist Briana Wilson |
| ART SHOW & SALE "The Colors of Shelby" |  <p style="text-align: center;">Oct 31-Nov 3 9 am-5:30 pm</p> | Benefiting the <u>Friends of Shelby Park and Bottoms</u> ! The <u>Chestnut Group</u> , Friends of Shelby Park & Bottoms, and the Nature Center will collaborate on the second annual Colors of Shelby art sale. This partnership and its proceeds improve our local nature spaces. |



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

November

Craft Night: Plastic Yarn



Friday, November 8
5 - 6:30 pm
Age 13+
Registration Required

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

Book Club with the Master Gardeners of Davidson County

Saturday, November 9
2:30 - 3:30 pm
Ages 16+
Registration Required

All are welcome to join our book club co-hosted by the Master Gardeners! We meet once a season and read ecological or environmental books. This is a great way to meet with other readers and learn all about the Master Gardener program, too! This fall's choice is Nature's Best Hope by Doug Tallamy. We will be discussing it in its entirety.
Leader: Master Gardeners of Davidson County & Hazel Miller

The Nature Center will be CLOSED 11/12 for Veterans Day (Observed)

Autumn Sunset-Moonrise Hike

Thursday, November 14
5 - 6 pm
All Ages
Registration Required

Enjoy the wonders of autumn while we mosey along the paved 1-mile 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 beginning of moonrise.

Leader: Volunteer Naturalist Jackie Shea & Christie Wiser

Homeschool Educator Workshop

Friday, November 15
8:30 am - 12 pm
Ages 18+
Registration Required

This workshop will cover nature journaling, the BEETLES Project routine What Lives Here? and habitat hikes. These workshops provide tools and curriculum for use with individual students or larger co-op groups of all ages. We focus on the lessons and activities the Nature Center supplies for On-Your-Own field trips. Educators who have attended a workshop may request the use of certain additional materials and tools when scheduling On-Your-Own field trips to help enhance lessons.
Leader: Lena Friedman

To register, email lena.friedman@nashville.gov

Volunteer Call: Campus & Trail Improvements

Saturday, November 16
10 - 11:30 am
Ages 14+
Registration Required

Calling all volunteers to help with seasonal improvements to our Nature Center campus and local trails! Participants should be prepared for physical work on and off paved/natural trails.
Leader: John Michael Cassidy

Community Science Spotlight: Project FeederWatch

Saturday, November 16
1 - 2 pm
Ages 8+
Registration Required

Where do birds go in fall and winter? Project FeederWatch needs data from community scientists gathered from November to April. Come learn everything you need to know to set up your own feeder and observation site at home.
Leader: Lena Friedman

Relaxing Sound Bath

Saturday, November 16
4 - 5 pm
Ages 13+

Interested in a relaxing and restorative sound experience? Join certified sound healing facilitator and professional upright bass player John Paul for a vibey sound bath in the Nature Center featuring crystal singing bowls, upright bass, chimes, ukulele and more. Donations appreciated.

Leader: Volunteer John Paul

To register, visit <https://rebrand.ly/SBNCsound>

Seeds, Fruits, Pods & the Critters That Eat Them



Saturday, November 23
10 - 11 am
All Ages
No Registration Required

Take a leisurely hike with us to uncover the various plants and trees in the forest that sustain birds and other creatures and help them prepare for the winter. We will discover what plants critters eat in the fall as well as why they choose those foods.

Leader: Volunteer Naturalist Jackie Shea & Christie Wiser

Jr. Naturalist: Animal Signs



Saturday, November 23
1 - 2:30 pm
Ages 6+
Registration Required

We have some sneaky animals at Shelby Bottoms... from tracks to scat to burrows, come learn the signs we look for to identify who's walking around! We'll gather observations and then categorize our evidence to learn more about life in the park.
Leader: Lena Friedman

The Nature Center will be CLOSED 11/28-11/30 for Thanksgiving

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