

Nature Notes



Winter-Early Spring 2018

Family Programs at George Owens Nature Park

Go hiking under a Blue Moon.

Full Moon Hikes



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|---------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| <i>*Jan 31, Wed, 6 pm</i> | <i>Blue Moon rises at 6:04 pm</i> |
| <i>* Mar 2, Fri, 7 pm</i> | <i>Crow Moon rises at 7:09 pm</i> |
| <i>Mar 3, Sat, 8 pm</i> | <i>Crow Moon rises at 8:16 pm</i> |
| <i>*Mar 30, Sat, 8 pm</i> | <i>Blue Moon rises at 6:57 pm</i> |
| <i>*Mar 31, Sun, 8 pm</i> | <i>Blue Moon rises at 8:02 pm</i> |
| <i>*Apr 27, Fri, 8 pm</i> | <i>Pink Moon rises at 5:48 pm</i> |
| <i>Apr 28, Sat, 8 pm</i> | <i>Pink Moon rises at 6:52 pm</i> |

All hikes take place at George Owens Nature Park. Reserve your place by 5 pm on the day before the hike at (816) 325-7115. Each hike is limited to 15 participants.

**These hikes are for those who prefer even terrain. They will be on paved trails and are stroller and wheelchair accessible.*

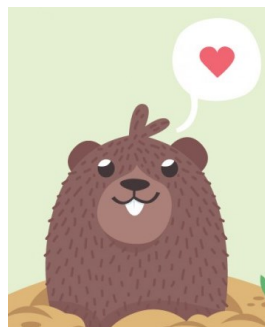
For the other hikes, you must be able to hike on uneven surfaces. No baby strollers or light-up shoes, please.

A Special Nature Story Time

Valentines for Groundhogs

February 10, Saturday

11 am-Noon



Listen to stories around the fire, make groundhog valentines, give a Happy Valentine's Day present to the groundhog in the backyard and warm up with hot chocolate.



All Our Winter Birds

With the Missouri River Bird Observatory

February 28, Wednesday 3-5 pm

If you'd like to know more about the birds coming to your feeders, join us for winter bird banding. This is a rare chance to see the birds up close and talk with the professionals. Bird banding is for all ages; but children get first dibs on releasing the birds.

Note: *If the weather is too severe or windy for the safety of the birds, the program may be cancelled or rescheduled. Please call us if in doubt, (816) 325-7115.*

It's getting green on the Rock Creek Trail.



St. Paddy's Day Hike

March 17, Saturday 1-2:30 pm

Signs that spring is looming are abundant along the Rock Creek Trail. Hike from Country Club Park to Rotary Park, a little less than 2 miles. The trail is easy, level and gravel-paved. The pace is casual and we frequently pause to explore.

Meet at the Country Club Park entrance, 2930 S. Norton.

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Hike Fairmount Park

Wildflower Hikes

April 7, Saturday
11 am-Noon

April 14, Saturday
11 am-Noon



In April, wildflowers blanket this park. Our hikes follow the sidewalk but also go into the woods. This is not a strenuous hike, but the park is hilly and some trails might be muddy.

Meet at the Fairmount Park playground at N. Home and Norledge. Take Sterling north to Norledge in Sugar Creek. Go west on Norledge to Home: 300 N. Home in north Independence.



Coming This Summer

Nature Story Time

Every Thursday morning in June,
July and August at 10 + 11 am

Dragonfly Daze

Saturday, July 21

Hummingbird Festival

Saturday, September 8



Robert E. Tindall Scholarship

Art Show + Sale

March 7 - 29

Tue - Sat

8:30 am-5 pm

Reception on March 10, Saturday 1-4 pm



Robert Tindall (1913-1983) was a native of Independence and student of Thomas Hart Benton. Several of his paintings will be displayed at the show along with artwork by members of the Independence Art Association.

Commemorative giclee prints and postcards will be available for purchase. Artists over 18 years old are encouraged to exhibit.

For more information:

www.independenceartassociation.org or call (816) 325 -7115

George Owens Nature Park

www.georgeowensnaturepark.org

816 325 7115

Park Hours Oct 1 - Apr 30

Tue - Sat: 8:30 am-5 pm

Sun & Mon Closed

Park Hours May 1 - Sep 30

Tue - Fri: 8:30 am-8 pm

Sat: 8:30 am-5 pm

Sun: Noon-5 pm

Closed Monday

George Owens Nature Park is located

at 1601 S. Speck Rd. in Independence.

From the intersection of M291 and 23rd St., go east on 23rd. Turn left (north) at the 3rd stoplight/Speck Rd.

The park is across from Pioneer Ridge Middle School on your right.

To have each issue of Nature Notes emailed directly to you, send an email to:

Mel Haney, Parks Naturalist mhaney@indepmo.org

Put Nature Notes in the subject line.

