

# Cincinnati Parks' 2017 Summer Nature Day Camps



## Camp Basics and Types

We'll hike through forests and fields, explore creeks, make crafts, and play games to learn more about the plants and animals that live right here in Cincinnati. Our award winning camps are run by Explore Nature! staff and summer counselors. These camps vary in topic and age range but all children participate in active fun centered around local nature topics. Themes and activities vary each summer, so camp is "new" for your child each year!

**Your Preschool child (preKdg) can enjoy more than one Parks' camp this summer!** Register for one Discovery Morning Camp in the Parks (page 3), GRAND! Camp (page 4), one of the Preschool camps at California Woods (page 4) and both at Trailside Nature Center (page 6).

**Children ages 5 (entering 1<sup>st</sup> grade in Fall) - 12 have many more opportunities for camps!** They can attend up to two "NatureCamps in Parks " (page 3) and for as many different age-appropriate theme camps at California Woods, LaBoiteaux Woods and Trailside Nature Center as you wish (page 4 - 6).

**Teen youth, ages 13 - 14 have a few specialized camps** available to them such as Outdoor Skills at California (page 4) or LaBoiteaux Woods plus ART-rageous Camp" at LaBoiteaux Woods (page 5). **Also starting at age 13 is our Counselors in Training (CIT) program** which allows participants to receive service learning credit for school by volunteering at our summer camps. Additional information and details are on page 6.



**BEST OF PARENTING  
2016 *Finalist***

# Camp Info. and Policies

## **Who May Attend:**

Camps vary by age, but cover the range of 3 - 14 years old. The age range per camp is clearly stated on the website and printed material. Parents should pay close attention and review this before registering campers.

**For example, a child must be 5 and entering 1<sup>st</sup> grade this Fall to be registered for all day camps.**

**If a child of the wrong age is registered for a camp, you will be notified by our main office and we will try to accommodate you in another camp but we cannot provide a refund.** Please call 513-321-6208 with questions.

## **Expectations of Campers:**

Campers should be able to:

- Stay with their assigned group with minimum reminders.
- Explore the natural world and move themselves along trails, over uneven ground, up and down hills, and across bridges and streams.
- Interact with their peers in group games and activities and maintain appropriate self-control in social situations.

Cincinnati Parks has a zero tolerance on drugs and violence. Parents with questions regarding the staffing needed to meet your child's needs should contact us at 513-321-6208. We are happy to make reasonable accommodations.

## **Placement:**

Campers are divided into groups of similarly-aged children for the week's activities. Camp provides an excellent opportunity to make new friends in a fun-filled environment. If your child would like to be placed with one special friend, please name that child on the registration form. **We can place children with the requested friend only if both children request to be placed together, the children are close in age and space is available.**

## **Confirmation:**

**Confirmations are sent via email within minutes after registering online.**

Review for accuracy and contact us at 513-321-6208 if corrections are needed. You will receive a camp reminder the week before your chosen camp.

## **Transportation and Hours:**

Parents or other family-approved adults are responsible for transporting campers. They should remain with the child until they are settled with their counselor on the first morning. Campers should be dropped off and picked up at designated areas determined on the first day of camp. Please do not leave your child in the park unattended before or after camp hours.

## **Clothing:**

Campers should dress to be outdoors, whatever the weather. Old clothes and sturdy tennis shoes or boots are essential. No open-toed shoes, crocs or sandals are allowed. Bring rain coats or ponchos if the weather looks threatening. Other items that campers may need to "wear" are sunscreen and insect repellent.

## **Lunch:**

Unless noted otherwise, children need to bring a bag lunch with drink and a water bottle to camp every day. We recommend that campers pack their lunches in insulated bags with a cooling pack. Refrigeration is not available.

## **Weather:**

**For NatureCamps and Discovery Mornings in the Parks – These camps are held completely outdoors. If severe weather (thunderstorms or heavy rain) is predicted at the beginning or near the end of camp, there may be a delay in starting or early dismissal. If severe weather is predicted for extended hours during camp, these camps may be canceled.** Outdoor activities will continue during a light rain. If the camp is canceled, parents will be notified by email at least an hour before the starting time. **No refund will be given for a canceled camp day.**

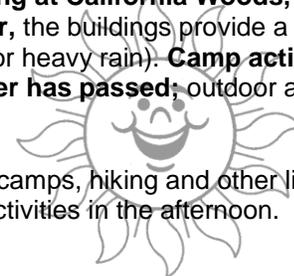
**For the camps occurring at California Woods, LaBoiteaux Woods and Trailside Nature Center, the buildings provide a safe haven during severe weather (thunderstorm or heavy rain). Camp activities will occur indoors until the severe weather has passed;** outdoor activities continue during a light rain.

During heat alerts at all camps, hiking and other lively activities occur earlier in the day and quieter activities in the afternoon.

## **Non-Refundable:**

Camp registrations are **NON-REFUNDABLE**. Due to the popularity of our camps, **we will provide a wait list.** Please recheck online weekly for openings that may occur in previously sold out camps.

**All transfers must be processed through our office at 321-6208;** children will not be able to attend without prior approval and proper paperwork completed. Please only register for the camp your child can attend and which do not conflict with other summer plans you may have. Camp fees may not be prorated for any days of camp missed due to weather cancellations (see below for more information), homesickness, voluntary withdrawal, behavior challenges, illness or injury.



# NatureCamps in Parks

Cincinnati Park Board Naturalists and summer counselors conduct a one-week daycamp session in a park near you this summer. The theme this year is **AMAZING ANIMALS & CLASSIFICATIONS!** **This camp is held entirely outdoors!**

Children who are **ages 5 and entering 1<sup>st</sup> grade in Fall** through 12 years old can participate in active fun centered around local nature topics. Children are divided into groups by age.

The Friday cookout is a popular activity at camp; children should bring hot dogs, buns and s'more fixins!

**NEW THIS YEAR:** Stanbery camp has been moved to the first week of camp and a new camp location added at Mt. Airy Forest.

Each session runs from **\*Monday – Friday, 9:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.**  
**Note: To ensure a fun time and room for everyone, children are limited to no more than 2 of the NatureCamp sessions listed below for the summer.**

**Fee: \$75.00** per camper per week

\*Week of July 3 is \$65.00 with no camp on Tues, July 4

## **Stanbery Park** (Mt. Washington)

June 12 - 16

Enter from Oxford Ave; meet at end of paved path

## **French Park** (Amberley Village) (3 sessions)

June 19 - 23, \*July 3 - 7 (no camp on 7/4) and July 17 - 21

Enter from Section Rd; meet at the circle-end of drive

## **Ault Park** (Hyde Park / Mt. Lookout) (3 sessions)

June 26 - 30, July 10 - 14 and July 24 - 28

Enter on Observatory Ave; meet at pavilion picnic area

## **Mt. Airy Forest, Stone Steps Shelter** (Mt. Airy)

July 31 - August 4

Enter from Colerain Ave; continue past oval and take first turn to left.



# Preschool Discovery Mornings in Parks

For Preschool children ages 3 1/2 to 5. A fun, hands-on way to explore nature's treasures right at their neighborhood park.

**Children must have turned 3 by January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2017 and must be toilet trained.** Each day features a different aspect of the theme this year: **COLORS IN NATURE!** Activities include hikes, games, crafts, songs, live animals, and more. Note: Children attending this camp should bring a refillable water bottle; no lunch is needed.

**NEW THIS YEAR:** Stanbery Camp has been moved to the first week of camp and a new camp location added at Mt. Airy Forest, Oak Ridge Lodge.

**PROGRAM REPEATS and is the same each week; please schedule your child for ONE session only.**

**Days:** Programs are held **\*Monday – Friday.**

**Times:** 9:45 - 11:45 a.m.

**Fee: \$55.00** per camper per week



Stanbery Park	June 12 - 16	(At Shelter; end of paved path)
French Park	June 19 - 23	(At shelter at top of hill)
3 sessions	July 3 - 7	(same as above)
	*Fee: \$50.00 with no camp on Tues., 7/4.	
	July 17 - 21	(same as above)
Ault Park	June 26 - 30	(At Principio Ave. picnic area)
3 sessions	July 10 - 14	(same as above)
	July 24 - 28	(same as above)
Mt. Airy Park	July 31 - August 4	
(Oak Ridge Lodge)		



# Grand! Camp

3400 Brookline Drive, 45220 in Burnet Woods / Clifton



## Grand! Camp at Trailside Nature Center, Burnet Woods

(grandparent or older adult with grandchild ages 3 - 4)

10:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. – July 5 - 7 (Wed. - Fri.)

The young and “young at heart” share in the fun. Learn about plants and animals, and look high and low on nature hikes. Create special crafts and join in activities that will encourage interaction and bonding between the ages. One grandparent (or older adult) and one grandchild attend for a single fee.

**Fee: \$75.00 (one fee for both grandparent and grandchild registration)**

# California Woods Nature Center

5400 Kellogg Avenue, 45228 in Mt. Washington/Anderson

## Preschool Nature Camp

(ages 4 - 5, **pre-Kindergarten and must be toilet trained**)

10:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m., Mon.- Fri.

**Choose only 1 session; activities repeat.**

**Session 1: June 26 - 30 OR Session 2: July 24 - 28**

Children use all 5 senses to experience and learn about nature. This year we explore SHAPES IN NATURE! Each day has its own theme and we discover aspects of that theme. Campers should pack a lunch daily.

**Fee: \$75.00** per camper

## Nature Detectives Camp (ages 6 - 8, post Kindergarten)

9:30 a.m.-3:00 p.m. (Mon. - Fri.) **Choose only 1 session- activities repeat.**

**Session 1: June 19 - 23 OR Session 2: July 17 - 21 (Mon. - Fri.)**

Campers investigate the amazing natural world. Unlock mysteries of nature with a new daily topic. Visit each of the distinctly different habitats: forest, creek, and meadow. Live animals make a visit too! A scavenger hunt and campfire cookout on Friday; pack a hot dog, bun and s'more fixings in place of a typical lunch. **Fee: \$80.00** per camper



# California Woods continued

## Creek Week! (ages 7- 9)

9:30 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

**Choose only 1 session - activities repeat.**

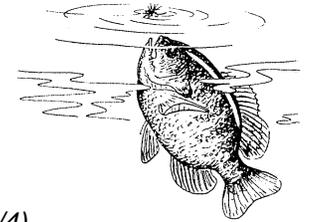
**Session 1: June 12 - 16 (Mon. - Fri.)**

**Fee: \$75.00** per camper

**Session 2: July 3 -7 (Mon. - Fri., no camp on 7/4)**

**Fee: \$65.00** per camper; reduced fee with no camp on 7/4.

Get wet and have fun! Enjoy water-based fun and education as we explore California Woods' Lick Run Creek. Learn about water quality and sampling, the water cycle, find fossils and play interactive games.



## Nature Art and Theater Camp (ages 7 - 9)

9:30 a.m. - \* 3:00 p.m. – July 10 - 14 (Mon. - Fri.)

Campers work together to create their own costumes and practice for the performance of their nature-themed drama. Each day is essential for attendance as activities build upon each other.

The week culminates in a Friday 1:00pm performance with light refreshments for family members and \*early camp dismissal.

**Fee: \$80.00** per camper



## Outdoor Skills Camp (ages 10 - 13)

July 31 - August 4

9:30 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. – July 31 - Aug. 2 (Mon. - Wed.)

**Overnight: Aug 3 - 4, 7:00 p.m.- 9:00 a.m.(Thurs. - Fri.) No camp Thurs am.**

Older campers become survivors as they learn fire building, foil cooking, basic shelter building and canoeing on the Little Miami River. Hiking, active games and more add to the fun! Test your new skills in the **overnight camp out from Thursday at 7pm to Friday at 9am.** A complete schedule of activities is provided by email the week before camp.

**Fee: \$75.00** per camper



# LaBoiteaux Woods Nature Center

5400 Lanius Lane, 45224 in College Hill / Northside

## **ART-topia Camp** ages 5 (entering 1<sup>st</sup> grade) - 8

9:30am - 3:00pm, July 3 - 7 (Mon. - Fri; no camp on Tues. 7/4.)

Young Georgia O'Keefes and Charley Harpers can explore their wild sides through art projects using a variety of media, nature hikes, animal encounters, games and more. Art and nature combine for an art projects show on Friday.

**Fee: \$70** per camper



## **Narnia: The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe Camp**

ages 6 (entering 1<sup>st</sup> grade) - 12

9:30am - 3:00pm, June 19 - 23 (Mon. - Fri.)

Visit Narnia for a week of discovery and excitement! Unleash your whimsical nature as we explore the magical reaches of the forest in search of our rightful thrones. Games, hikes and activities are focused on the first book of the Narnia series.

**Fee: \$80** per camper

## **\*NEW\* Narnia: Prince Caspian Camp** ages 6 (entering 1<sup>st</sup> grade) - 12

9:30am - 3:00pm, July 17 - 21 (Mon. - Fri.)

Return to Narnia! Build a ship, catch a dragon's tail, create lasting memories, encounter new animals and learn the meaning of friendship and trust. Hikes, games, animal encounters and more are part of the fun in this camp based on the second book in the series.

**Fee: \$80** per camper

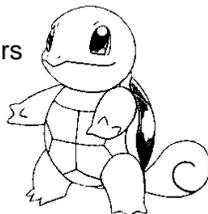
## **\*NEW\* Pokémon Camp** ages 6 (entering 1<sup>st</sup> grade) - 12

9:30am - 3:00pm, July 31 - August 4 (Mon. - Fri.)

Are you ready to catch 'em all? Creek hiking, water games, forest hikes, crafts, learning about caves and so much more help us learn about the habitats around us and the critters that can be found there!

Compete against other campers in games requiring speed, wit, and accuracy. Bring your cards and Pokémon characters on Friday for "Tournament Day" and become a Pokémon master!

**Fee: \$85** per camper



# LaBoiteaux Nature Center cont.

## **Harry Potter's Stone of a Sorcerer Camp** (ages 7 - 12)

9:30am - 3:00pm, June 13 - 17 (Mon. - Fri.)

Welcome to Wizard Camp! Get sorted into your camp house, play wizard games and meet fantastic beasts. Make new friends while learning the science of potions and the art of spell casting. Create your own unique wand, find your very own sorcerer's stone and more magical fun in this camp based on the 1<sup>st</sup> book.

**Fee: \$85** per camper



## **Harry Potter's Secret of the Chamber** (ages 7 - 12)

9:30am - 3:00pm, July 24 - 28 (Mon. - Fri.)

Unlock the mystery! Be sorted into your camp house, play wizard games and avoid the Forbidden Forest if you can! Potions, herbology, wands, care of magical creatures are just a few of the subjects "students" learn while experiencing this camp based on the second book in the Harry Potter series.

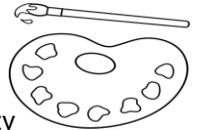
**Fee: \$85** per camper

## **ART-rageous Camp** (ages 9 - 13)

9:30am - 3:00pm, July 10 - 14 (Mon. - Fri.)

Ready to get creative? Older campers can let their creativity flourish while exploring the great outdoors. A mix of art projects, games, and outdoor fun create a truly unique way to make new friends and stretch your artistic abilities. Family members are invited to the Friday Art Show with light refreshments and \*early camp dismissal.

**Fee: \$80** per camper



## **Outdoor Skills Camp** (ages 10 - 14)

9:30am - 3:00pm, June 26 - 30 (Mon. - Fri.)

Can you survive? Older campers hone their skills by learning shelter & fire building, orienteering, knots, first aid, and lots of games. The eat-a-bug challenge and a lunchtime cookout on Friday proves your mettle. **This year's camp includes only daytime adventures and all activities take place entirely at LaBoiteaux Woods.**

**Fee: \$75** per camper



# Trailside Nature Center

3400 Brookline Drive, 45220 in Burnet Woods / Clifton

## Nature Preschool Camp 1 – Habitat Hunt

(ages 4 - 5, pre-Kindergarten and toilet trained)

10:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. – June 19 - 23 (Mon. - Fri.)

Find out who's living in the lake, wandering through the woods or feeding in the field as we go on a habitat hunt! Campers explore the park daily in search of the many different habitats that animals call home.

**Fee: \$75.00** per camper



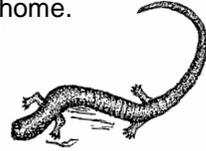
## Nature Preschool Camp 2 – Movers & Shakers

(ages 4 - 5, pre-Kindergarten and toilet trained)

10:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. – July 17 - 21 (Mon. - Fri.)

From fins to feathers, fast feet and more, let's explore the many different ways animals move. Campers get "loco" about locomotion and discover these differences with animals through stories, crafts, hikes and more!

**Fee: \$75.00** per camper



**Urban Safari Camp** (ages 6 post Kdg - 8), 9:30 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

**Choose only 1 session - activities repeat**

**Session 1:** June 12 - 16 (Mon. - Fri.)

**Session 2:** July 31 - Aug 4 (Mon. - Fri.)



Take an in-depth look at nature as we explore Burnet Woods in search of the many plants and animals that make their home here. Through the use of experiments, hikes, games, crafts and other hands-on activities, campers become Junior Naturalists as they discover the park's natural wonders..

**Fee: \$75.00** per camper



**\*NEW\* Star Wars: Going Rogue! Camp** (ages 9 - 12)

9:30 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. – July 10 - 14 (Mon. - Fri.)

Has the Force awakened in you? Themed crafts & games, singular-star solar system space knowledge, hikes in Endor forest, creating a Droid, working on your light saber skills, training as a Jedi and brushing up on your Wookiee language skills "Laugh it up, Furball!" are all part of this exciting camp.

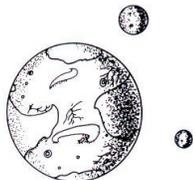
**Fee: \$85.00** per camper

**Mission to Mars Astronomy Camp** (ages 9 - 12)

9:30 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. – July 24 - 28 (Mon. - Fri.)

Ground Control, we're ready to launch! Based out of the Wolff Planetarium, campers embark on a journey to the Red Planet. Who knows what exciting discoveries await us... or what dangers we may face along the way.

**Fee: \$75.00** per camper



# Counselors-in-Training (CIT) Teen Volunteers

School credit hours for your teenager (13 and up) are available during our nature summer day camps. Our Counselors-in-Training assist our group leaders during games, give guidance during craft time, provide an additional watchful eye during hikes and other engaging activities. We also utilize our best volunteers as a "buddy" to a special needs child who requires more personal attention during camp activities.

Volunteers show respect for the environment, enjoy being outdoors in all weather conditions, have a desire to gain experience interacting with children and work the FULL WEEK of the chosen camp.

## FIRST YEAR VOLUNTEERS:

Begin the application process by creating an account on our volunteer website, filling out an application form & medical / waiver form and registering for ONLY ONE full week of camp. Our CIT Coordinator will contact candidates to confirm attendance at a group interview and if you successfully pass the interview, attend a training session to finalize the process.

## VETERAN VOLUNTEERS:

Are able to register for an unlimited number of camps. You will be confirmed for attendance by Park staff within 48 hours after submitting your choices. Complete a waiver /medical form after confirmation by Park staff.

If your teenager is interested in being a candidate, please email our CIT Coordinator, Erin Morris, at [erin.morris@cincinnati-oh.gov](mailto:erin.morris@cincinnati-oh.gov). She will send you information regarding our volunteer website, the interview process, and training. Call our main office at 513-321-6070 if you need additional information.

