



MAY-AUGUST

FROM THE TRAILS

PIONEERS PARK NATURE CENTER NEWSLETTER

TUESDAYS WE'RE OPEN LATE

Enjoy extended hours at the Nature Center this summer. The Chet Ager Building will stay open till 7:30 pm. Trail gates close at 8 pm. The prairie trails remain open till sundown.

May 29 -	TUES	Open till
Aug 28		8 pm

FRIENDS OF PIONEERS PARK NATURE CENTER:

Upcoming Events



Bites, Bikes, & Bison

- Food trucks
- Beer garden
- Hayrack tours of bison and prairie
- Yard games and bison chip toss
- Bike routes for everyone
- 4 mile flat route
- 10 mile one or more breweries
- 18 mile loop of breweries and coffee shops with free/ discounted drinks

June 30	SAT	9 am-2 pm
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Herb Festival - Celebrating Herb of the year: Hops

Presentations and workshop topics will include hops wreath making, fermentation science, beer brewing, and more.

Exclusive beer pairing dinner will follow presentations/workshops.

Aug 11	SAT	3-5:30 pm
Dinner at 6:30 pm		

More info and tickets:

LNKNATURECENTER.ORG



NEW FOR GIRL SCOUTS

GIRL SCOUT PROGRAMS

In partnership with the Girl Scouts Spirit of Nebraska we will be offering three different Girl Scout badge programs in 2018.

\$13/scout. Fees include materials and badge.

Register at girlscoutsnebraska.org.

Speak for the Trees

Discover the hidden story of trees. We'll take a close look at trees to uncover benefits of trees, identify native trees at the Nature Center, and explore the connection between trees and people. Participants will also learn about the emerald ash borer, an invasive species that is a threat to the ash trees in Nebraska. This program is designed for Cadettes, grades 6-8.

May 5	SAT	2-4 pm
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Incredible Insects

Investigate the micro world of insects. Learn about bugs, beetles, bees, and more to earn your Brownie Bug badge! We'll use tools and resources to search for insects at the Pioneers Park Nature Center. After observing these tiny creatures we'll use field guides to learn more about them, then get artsy during indoor craft time. Come prepared to explore outside. This program is designed for Brownies, grades 2-3.

June 23	SAT	10 am-12 pm
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Wildflower Wonders

Explore some of Nebraska's native wildflowers, discover the importance of native plants, have fun with flowers, and create a wildflower seed bouquet to share with others so they can start their own patch of prairie. This program is designed for Junior Girl Scouts, grades 4-5.

Sept 8	SAT	10 am-12 pm
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PROGRAMS & EVENTS

PIONEERS PARK NATURE CENTER



MOTHER'S DAY: Bird Walk & Brunch

Enjoy a day to celebrate mothers by joining us on an early morning bird walk followed by breakfast at the Nature Center. A guide for your walk plus a continental breakfast will be provided. Binoculars are also available for those who need them. *Register by May 9.*

May 13	SUN	8-10 am
Prairie Bldg.	\$16/person	

SATURDAY WITH OUR NATURALIST

Join us for a guided hike with the Nature Center's Naturalist. We'll go for a guided hike on the Nature Center trails to observe what's blooming, the wildlife that is around, and enjoy the current season. Hikes will have various themes and cover different areas of the Nature Center. *Register by May 16.*

May 19	SAT	2 -3 pm
Prairie Bldg.	\$5/person	

COMPOSTING WORKSHOP

Learn how to be successful with composting by attending a free demonstration workshop sponsored by Nebraska Extension in Lancaster County and the City of Lincoln Recycling Office. Demonstrations are presented by Extension Master Gardeners and include three types of composting bins and how to use them. This workshop takes place at the composting demonstration area just across the road from the Prairie Building.

May 19	SAT	10-11 am
June 16	SAT	10-11 am
Sept 15	SAT	10-11 am
Compost Demo Area	Free	

NATURE'S TREASURE TREK

Join us each week for a treasure trek around the Nature Center. A special theme each week will give us clues to what to search for on our trails. This program is geared towards young children and their families. *Register the Wednesday before each trek.*

Our Forest Friends		
June 8	FRI	9:30-10:30 am
Can You Dig It?		
June 15	FRI	9:30-10:30 am
Trees, Seeds, and Bees		
June 22	FRI	9:30-10:30 am
Where the Bison Roam		
June 29	FRI	9:30-10:30 am
Prairie Bldg.	\$3/person	

FATHER'S DAY:

Frogs and Floats

Spend the afternoon celebrating Dads with frog catching, tadpole chasing, and exploring the wetlands at the Nature Center. We'll have nets to dip in the water, buckets to collect critters, magnifiers to get a closer look, and field guides to identify what is found. After all the mud is cleaned up we'll relax with a cool treat of rootbeer floats! *Old shoes and clothes are encouraged. Insect repellent is also recommended. Register by June 13.*

June 17	SUN	1-3 pm
Prairie Bldg.	\$10/person \$20/family	

RAIN BARREL WORKSHOP

This build-your-own rain barrel workshop will teach you the basics of rainwater harvesting and how to use a rain barrel for your lawn or garden. All participants will take home a rain barrel, valued at \$110. Rain barrels must be transported, by the participant, off-site the day of the workshop. Workshop is geared towards adults, kids can attend with an accompanying adult. This workshop is partially funded by the Nebraska Environmental Trust and hosted by the City of Lincoln Watershed Management. *Register by June 8.*

June 16	SAT	2-4 pm
Prairie Bldg.	\$35/person	

BUTTERFLY COUNT

Enjoy the morning with a leisurely hike while counting butterflies. The Nature Center has been hosting this count for over 15 years. The data collected is sent to the North American Butterfly Association where it is recorded and archived. The count will begin with a presentation and introductory slide show. Participants will then disperse with a butterfly expert guide to the count areas. No need to know butterfly identification, you'll learn from your expert during the count. *Register by July 5.*

July 7	SAT	9 am-Noon
Prairie Bldg.	\$6/person	



CAMP

CAMP DISCOVERY (3-6 YEAR OLDS)

This is a half day camp designed for young explorers. Camp activities will be planned around each week's nature-based theme. From crafts to hikes your child will have a wonderful experience learning about the natural world around them. *Registration must be received the Monday prior to camp starting. A camp t-shirt is included in registration.*

June 4-7	Dig, Dig, Dig
June 11-14	Forest Builders
June 18-21	Outdoor Classroom
June 25-28	Splish-Splash
July 9-12	Animals, Head to Toe
July 16-19	Sticks, Stones, and Pinecones
MON-THUR	9-11:30 am
Pioneers Park Nature Center	\$90/session

WILDERNESS NATURE CAMP (6-13 YEAR OLDS)

Spend the summer immersed in nature, hiking, exploring, and going on adventures with your friends. Sound like fun? Come to Wilderness Nature Camp at Pioneers Park. This day camp experience is like no other camp around. Each week includes a field trip to a different location, time to explore the creek and build forts, and of course games such as capture the flag. Themes and activities change each week. A camp t-shirt is included with registration. *All registration, waiver forms and payment must be received the Monday prior to camp starting.*

June 11-15	Animal Architect
June 18-22	Marvelous Mud
June 25-29	Bull's Eye
July 9-13	Wildlife Helpers (Zoology)
July 16-20	Bike Week (ages 9-13)
July 16-20	Arts in Nature (ages 6-13)
July 23-27	Aquatic Adventures
July 30-Aug 3	Photography
MON-FRI	8:30 am-5:00 pm
Extended hours: 7:30 am-5:30 pm	
Pioneers Park	\$185/person

GET REGISTERED.
TO SIGN UP FOR ANY PROGRAM.

Call us at 402-441-7895 or [register online.](#)

WILDERNESS NATURE CAMP



"This is the best camp that my child has ever been to, we are already looking forward to next year."

~ Parent of Camper

LEADERSHIP CAMP (14-17 YEAR OLDS)

Learn outdoor and leadership skills while making new friends at Wilderness Nature Camp's Leadership Camp. This camp is designed for young adults looking to build skills and learn new talents, from team building to survival skills. Following Leadership Camp, attendees can assist at Wilderness Nature Camp over the summer as Junior Counselors. Space is limited. *All registration, waiver, and payments must be received by Monday, May 28.*

June 4-8	MON-FRI	8:30 am-5:00 pm
Extended hours: 7:30 am-5:30 pm		
Pioneers Park	\$150/person	

BIRTHDAYS

CELEBRATE YOUR BIRTHDAY AT THE NATURE CENTER

Each birthday party includes a guided hike or activity, a special gift for the guest of honor, party bags for each child, and time for your own activities and refreshments. Birthday party programming is recommended for ages 5-12. Choose from one of the following themes:

- Amazing Birds
- Reptiles Rock
- Nature's Scavenger Hunt
- Insect Investigation (*Offered late summer to fall*)
- Grow in the Garden (*Offered spring to mid-summer*)

Available times:	SAT	10 am-12 pm
<i>Schedule at least two weeks in advance.</i>	SAT	1:30-3:30 pm
	SUN	1:30-3:30 pm

\$110 for up to 10 children \$8 each add'l child

PRESCHOOL

PRESCHOOL REGISTRATION OPEN FOR 2018/19

Our philosophy is that children learn by doing: hiking, climbing, digging, building, and being outdoors. Preschool is offered for 3-4 year olds, and Pre-K is available for 4-5 year olds. Mornings and afternoon sessions are available for both Preschool and Pre-K. For more information please contact the Preschool Director at 402-441-8669. [Learn more.](#)

Ages 3-4	Start Date Sept 6	TUE/THUR	9-11:30 am
		TUE/THUR	12:30-2:30 pm
Ages 4-5	Start Date Sept 7	MON/WED/FRI	9-11:30 am
		MON/WED/FRI	12:30-2:30 pm



SCOUTS

GUIDED HIKES

Schedule a guided hike for your scout group at the Nature Center. Hikes can be adapted for specific scout level and requirements. Hikes must be arranged at least two weeks in advance. 1 or 2 hour programs are available.

\$4.25/scout/hour, 10 scout minimum



3201 S. Coddington (west end of Pioneer's Park) Lincoln, NE 68522

Hours: Monday - Saturday: 8:30 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. and Sunday: Noon - 5:00 p.m.

Admission: Donation - \$3/person \$5/family \$10/group

HYDE OBSERVATORY



YOUR WINDOW ON THE UNIVERSE

Observe the night sky through telescopes and learn about astronomy, space exploration, and constellations through educational programming and knowledgeable volunteers. Programs change monthly, call 402-441-7094 for more information or visit hydeobservatory.info.

April - August	SAT	Sundown-11 pm
September	SAT	8-11 pm
Oct. - March	SAT	7-10 pm

Hyde Observatory is located on the south side of Holmes Lake on South Shore Rd. Free



FOLLOW US: @LNKNATURECENTER

402.441.7895

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parks.lincoln.ne.gov/naturecenter