



# WINTER 2021 PROGRAMS



## Calvert Nature Society and Calvert County Natural Resources Division

See a full listing of all the upcoming programs at [www.calvertparks.org](http://www.calvertparks.org). Online registration is recommended.

The schedule of events is subject to change based on the status of the coronavirus response, weather, staffing, and other situations that may arise. If Calvert Nature Society or Calvert County Natural Resources Division cancels a program, a full refund will be issued.

## Programs for Families

Families experience the fascinating natural world found in our area. These programs incorporate activities for learners of all ages.

Most programs spend time outdoors: dress for the weather and wear appropriate footwear.

Reservations required, [www.calvertparks.org](http://www.calvertparks.org).

Adult participation required unless noted. Children must be the age indicated for each program.

Fees unless noted: Free for society members. Nonmembers pay \$8 per family.

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### Colorful Day: Full, Waitlist Available

Ages 3-5

Thursday, November 19, 10:00-11:00 a.m.

Kings Landing Park

Let's go out for a walk and see what colors nature has to offer us. How many colors can we find? What is the most colorful thing we can find. We will have a story, craft, and a short walk.

### Leaf Crafts

All Ages

Saturday, November 21, 10:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.

Flag Ponds Nature Park

Explore common leaf types and learn why leaves fall. We will collect freshly fallen leaves and use them to create a variety of craft projects. Drop in any time between 10-12 and stay for as long as you'd like. All materials will be provided

## NATURE AT HOME

You don't have to travel to exotic parks to study nature-you have plenty of plants and animals close to home. Whether it is right in your yard or a short walk away, adventure awaits.

[CHECK OUT OUR ONLINE PROGRAMS](http://www.calvertparks.org/Online-Programs)

<https://www.calvertparks.org/Online-Programs>

### Toddler Hikes

Ages 18 months to 5 years

Wednesday, November 25

Wednesday, December 30

AM Session: 10:00-11:00 a.m.

PM Session: 1:00-2:00 p.m.

Location varies by date

Hiking with toddlers is always an adventure! Join us as we flip over rocks, pick up sticks, and hike through the woods at a toddler's pace.

### Animals In Winter

Ages 3-5

Wednesday, December 2, 10:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.

Flag Ponds Nature Park

Explore the park looking for evidence of winter animal life. Dress for a seasonal walk outdoors, and be prepared to use your senses as we explore!

### Owl Night Hike

All Ages

Friday, December 4 at Ward Farm Nature Park

Tuesday, December 8 at Ward Farm Nature Park

Wednesday, January 6 at Biscoe Gray Heritage Farm

Friday, January 8 at Biscoe Gray Heritage Farm

It's the beginning of owl nesting season, and owls are especially vocal this time of year. Programs are held from 6:00-7:30 p.m.

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### The Christmas Possum

Ages 18 months to 5

Monday, December 7, 10:00-11:00 a.m.

Kings Landing Park

The Christmas Possum has hidden candy canes in the park. After some possum-themed indoor activities, the naturalist will lead your children on a hike to find them.

### Compass Skills: Candy Cane Hunt: Full

Ages 6-9

Saturday, December 12, 10:00-11:30 a.m.

Ward Farm Recreation and Nature Park

Children will learn some basic compass skills and will use what they have learned to find candy canes hidden in the park.

### Winter Solstice Celebration: Full, Waitlist Available

Ages 3-5

Thursday, December 17, 10:00-11:00 a.m.

Flag Ponds Nature Play

The days are short and the animals and plants have been getting ready for winter.

### First Saturday Hike

All Ages

Saturday, January 2, 10:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.

Saturday, January 2, 2:00-4:00 p.m.

Flag Ponds Nature Park

Celebrate the first Saturday of 2021 while exploring the trails at Flag Ponds Nature Park.

### The Magic of Owls

Ages 8-12

Saturday, January 23, 9:00-11:00 a.m.

Battle Creek Cypress Swamp

Calling all young witches and wizards! Come learn about the owls that live in both the magic and muggle worlds and discover what makes them so magical. You will also meet the owls that live at our nature center and make a snowy owl of your own!

### Maple Sugarin' Time

All Ages

Saturday, January 30, 1:00-2:30 p.m.

Sunday, January 31, 1:00-2:30 p.m.

Kings Landing Park

Join the Naturalist to learn the process of tapping Maple trees to collect sap that can be boiled into delicious syrup.

### Great Backyard Bird Count

All Ages

Friday, February 12 at Flag Ponds Nature Park

Saturday, February 13 at Ward Farm Nature Park

Sunday, February 14 at Kings Landing Park

Monday, February 15 at Gatewood Preserve

The 24th Annual Great Backyard Bird Count is this weekend.

Whether you are a novice or an expert birder, volunteers of all ages are welcome to help identify and count birds. There are two sessions each day, 8:00-10:00 a.m. and 10:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.

### Constellations over the Chesapeake

All Ages

Saturday, February 13, 7:00-9:00 p.m.

Flag Ponds Nature Park

Bundle up to gaze at the night sky on the bay. Bring a chair and flashlight. We'll look for constellations and planets on the peaceful beach.

### Dead or Alive? Winter in the Woods

All Ages

Wednesday, March 3, 10:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.

Battle Creek Cypress Swamp

The peaceful woods may seem lifeless in winter, but it's not. This program will explore plant, animal, and insect life in the quiet, but not dormant, woods in winter. Dress for an outdoor winter hike.

### Women in Science

All Ages

Saturday, March 6, 2:00-3:00 p.m.

Flag Ponds Nature Park

Celebrate Women's History Month by learning about some of the incredible contributions women have made in the field of science, and hear what is currently being done to close the gender gap within the field.

### Sand and Stars Stroll

Ages 6 and older

Saturday, March 20, 6:30-8:30 p.m.

Flag Ponds Park Nature Park

We will usher in the Spring Equinox with an evening stroll to the beach. We will look for signs of the emerging spring, enjoy the sunset, and do a little sky gazing as the stars begin to twinkle.

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## Homeschool First Fridays

Homeschool First Fridays is a series of environmental education programs developed especially for homeschoolers ages 4 to 12. These classes are a great way to get hands-on science and nature lessons, receive help on projects and research and network with other homeschooling families. Each two-hour program will consist of indoor and outdoor hands-on learning.

Water is important-in so many ways. During this homeschool series we will explore some of the properties that make water unique and think about how we use water. Zoom meetings will serve as a springboard for at-home, in-your-yard or kitchen experiments. Each month will feature a different watery theme.

Ages 4-12, with adult

Friday, November 6  
Friday, December 4  
Friday, January 8,  
Friday, February 12  
Friday, March 5

Session A: 10:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.

Session B: 1:30-3:30 p.m.

Online via Zoom

Reservations required.

Free for society members. Nonmembers pay \$8 per family.

## Owls of Maryland

Ages 10 and older, with adult

Saturday, November 7

7:00-11:00 p.m.

Flag Ponds Nature Park

Ever wondered what owls live in Maryland? Come to our owl banding station and learn about what owls could be living in your backyard as well as the migratory Saw-Whet Owls we are studying. We will have a live owl to see and maybe a chance to see a wild Saw-whet Owl.

Free for members

\$8 per person for nonmembers

## Teen Homeschool Days

### Trail School

*Ages 12-16*

Wednesday, January 13, 10:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.

Wednesday, February 10, 10:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.

Wednesday, March 10, 10:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.

Flag Ponds Nature Park

This winter we will start an exploration of the habitats present at Flag Ponds Nature Park. Teens will meet outside each month and spend the class out hiking the trails-we will explore the park, learn to identify the common plants and animals, build shelters, and whatever the season has to offer. Masks will be needed for all participants.

Adult participation not required.

Free for members; \$8 per teen for nonmembers.

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## Events for Adults

### The Animal Mating Game

Ages 21 and older

Saturday, February 13, 7:00-9:00 p.m.

Location TBD

Celebrate Valentine's Day this year in a new way! You'll see just how WILD nature can get at this fun trivia-style event. Teams of 2-5 people will work together to figure out which animals have the weirdest and wildest mating habits!

Registration fee per team: \$50

## Patuxent River Conference

We will be revisiting and discussing four topics which have been covered at prior conferences. We will reflect on the following:

- October 29 – Climate Change and the Patuxent
- November 5 - Importance of Wetlands in the Region
- November 12 – Stream Ecology and Restoration
- November 19- Outreach and Advocacy for River Health

Free online webinar

The Patuxent River, considered “Maryland’s River”, is the longest river entirely in the state of Maryland. Home to over 100 species of fish and a staggering variety of resident and migratory birds, the Patuxent River is a jewel of the Maryland natural world. Archaeological artifacts dating back to 7,205 B.C. suggests the River has been an essential lifeline for humans for thousands of years.

The Patuxent River Conference (PAXCON) is the premier forum uniting scientists, environmental educators, natural resource managers, and anyone passionate about the health and future of the Patuxent River. To know and understand the Patuxent River is to take one more step towards its protection.

For Additional Information: <http://www.paxcon.org/>

## Calvert Stewards

Explore our Calvert Steward web site

<https://calvertstewards.galaxydigital.com> to learn about our volunteer Programs and Opportunities.

### Hike to the Big Cypress

Ages 18 and older

Tuesday, January 12, 10:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.

Battle Creek Cypress Swamp

This is a special opportunity for current Calvert Stewards volunteers to get together with a park naturalist and explore a little-visited part of the Battle Creek Cypress Swamp property. We will trek thru the winter swamp to the county champion bald cypress tree – the biggest of its kind in the county.

### Nature Center Garden Work Day

Ages 13 and older, under 18 with an adult

Monday, March 22, 2:00-4:00 p.m.

Battle Creek Cypress Swamp

Volunteers are needed to help our staff with the maintenance and upkeep of the trails and gardens around Nature Center.