Fossil Frenzy
Evidence of life from millions of years ago can be found throughout Indiana's streams. Join us on an expedition to search for prehistory beneath our feet. Expect a short introduction on what to look for followed by a hike (about two miles round trip) to Griffy Creek to scour the fossil beds. Bring drinking water and wear comfortable, water-resistant footwear.
F 8/9 • 6–7:30 p.m. • Register by 8/5 • 240008-A
Sa 8/10 • 1–2:30 p.m. • Register by 8/5 • 240008-B
$4/in-city, $5/non-city • For all ages.
Griffy Lake Nature Preserve, 3300 N. Headley Rd.

Nature Sounds
The Nature Sounds series combines a live, acoustic performance by local musicians with an educational nature presentation about the sounds made and found in all of our outdoor spaces.

Fridays, 6:30–7:30 p.m.
FREE • Bring your own seating.

April 12 • Lower Cascades Park
Nature topic: Good Vibrations
Musical guest: Janiece Jaffe
Be immersed in the reverberations of nature as we dip into the use of vibrations, pitch, cadence and crescendo to communicate and to survive. From the smallest mosquito to the largest whale, the animal kingdom sings to us every day. Janiece Jaffe will demonstrate sound meditations using crystal and Tibetan bowls, and her voice.

May 17 • Rev. Ernest D. Butler Park
Nature topic: From Music to Medicine
Musical guest: Lara Weaver
Follow along from the trees to the flowers, knowledge of their healing powers, oral histories passed over hours and hours. Experience the healing properties of the natural world, from the medicinal properties of leaves and bark to the healing power of music, rhythm and sound. We will learn of the healing properties of rhythm with percussionist, Lara Weaver.

For more information, contact Crystal Ritter at 349-3725 or ritter@bloomington.in.gov.
For weather-related updates, call the Community Events Hotline at 812-349-3754.

Roving Naturalist
Visit one of our naturalists at the Bloomington Community Farmers’ Market on the first and third Saturdays of each month of the Market season. We cover a variety of topics and have information and activities for all ages. Stop by to ask a question, observe a critter, or gather information. Our Roving Naturalists are also available for private natural resource programs.
For more information, contact Elizabeth Tompkins at 812-349-3759 or tompkine@bloomington.in.gov.

Volunteer to Maintain our Natural Spaces
Many volunteer projects are available for individuals and groups to help maintain and restore some of Bloomington’s most scenic natural areas. Visit bloomington.in.gov/parksvol.

Griffy Lake Nature Preserve
Scenic woodlands teeming with wild flora and fauna surround the 109-acre Griffy Lake at this 1,200-acre nature preserve. Swimming is prohibited. The Indiana Department of Natural Resources has stocked the lake with bluegill, redear sunfish, largemouth bass, channel catfish, and crappie. Rowboat, kayak, canoe, and stand up paddleboard rentals are available seasonally at the Griffy Lake boathouse.
To protect wildlife and visitors, all dogs must remain leashed while in the preserve. Nearby Ferguson Dog Park accommodates dogs off-leash. For more information, call 349-3700.

Griffy Lake Rental Fees
Canoe/Kayak/Rowboat/SUP Rental
(Two-hour limit on holidays/weekends) $8/hour
10-Rental Pass $70
Available for purchase at the boathouse during normal business hours.

Groups wishing to make boat rental reservations Monday through Friday may do so by calling Elizabeth Tompkins at 349-3759. We do not reserve boats on weekends or holidays.

Privately owned boat launch fees: $70/season, $7/day
Boat motors are limited to electric trolling motors only.
Boathouse hours: April and October: Saturday and Sunday only, 9 a.m.–6 p.m.
May–August: Daily, 8 a.m.–8 p.m.
September: Daily, 9 a.m.–6 p.m.
November–March: Closed

812-349-3732

Griffy Lake Trails:
Boathouse phone:
Eco Outpost:
Volunteer Opportunity
Night Paddle
Experience an evening of peace and serenity on Griffy Lake during the full moon. Navigate the lake, take deep breaths of fresh air, and watch the night sky light up the water. Each participant must register. Watercraft, paddles and life jackets are provided. Children age 14 yrs. and younger must be accompanied by a registered adult. Bring a flashlight to help you navigate back to your vehicle once you return to dry land.

Su 5/18 • 8:30–10 p.m. • Register by 5/16 • 240002-A
M 6/17 • 9–10:30 p.m. • Register by 6/16 • 240002-B
Tu 7/16 • 9–10:30 p.m. • Register by 7/15 • 240002-C
Th 8/15 • 8:30–10 p.m. • Register by 8/14 • 240002-D
Sa 9/14 • 7:30–9 p.m. • Register by 9/12 • 240002-E
Su 10/13 • 7–8:30 p.m. • Register by 10/10 • 240002-F
$8/in-city, $9/non-city • For all ages.
Griffy Lake Nature Preserve, 3300 N. Headley Rd.

Canoe It Find It!
For boating and nature enthusiasts alike! Learn basic boater safety and tips before heading onto the water. Practice paddling techniques before beginning a leisurely scavenger hunt that highlights various points of interest around Griffy Lake. Collect points for a chance to win prizes! Please bring a water bottle and dress for the weather as we explore this popular nature preserve from the water. Boats, paddles, and pfds will be provided. Children under age 14 yrs. must be accompanied by a registered adult. Instructor: Becky Jania
Su 5/19 • noon–2 p.m. • Register by 5/13 • 240003-A
$10/in-city, $12/non-city • For all ages.
Griffy Lake Nature Preserve, 3300 N. Headley Rd.

Build-a-Greenhouse
Get a jump on your own home gardening! Learn how to start germinating seeds indoors and constructing your own mini greenhouse out of recycled materials. This is a way to observe firsthand the life cycle of a plant, and to explore the importance of sun, soil, water, and space for garden growth. Everyone will leave with at least one completed greenhouse and some seed packets to take home and watch grow. Instructor: Becky Jania
Sa 5/25 • Noon–1 p.m. • Register by 5/20 • 240001-A
$5/in-city, $6/non-city • For all ages.
Bryan Park, 1001 S. Henderson St.—North Shelter

Hoosier Riverwatch Certification Workshop
Learn to help monitor and maintain water quality in the streams that run through our communities. This workshop, brought to you in partnership with Monroe County Parks and Recreation and City of Bloomington Utilities, teaches water quality monitoring techniques that include physical assessment, biological sampling, and chemical testing. Participants will be certified to perform simple tests and contribute to a statewide water quality database. No previous experience with water quality monitoring is needed. Bring a sack lunch and drinking water. To register, contact Monroe County Parks and Recreation at 812-349-2800 or 301 N. Morton St., Suite 100. Participants must attend both sessions to obtain certification.
M 6/3 and 6/10 • 6–9 p.m.
FREE • For ages 16 yrs. and up.
Karst Farm Park, 5200 W. Airport Rd.

Get Outdoors Day
Stop by the Plaza in front of City Hall during the Bloomington Community Farmers’ Market to learn about opportunities to get outdoors. Give outdoor equipment a test run, play games, and pick up maps for the area’s best hiking spots.
Hoosier National Forest
Su 6/15 • 9 a.m.–noon
FREE • For all ages.
City Hall, 401 N. Morton St.

Bug Fest
Learn all about amazing insects at Bloomington’s seventh annual Bug Fest! Handle cool insects, make a craft, and participate in a salmonid races. There will be speakers and information booths on a variety of buggy topics. This event is a collaboration of Bloomington Parks and Recreation, Monroe County Parks and Recreation, The WonderLab Museum, Purdue Extension office, and Hilltop Gardens at Indiana University.
Sa 6/22 • 10 a.m.–2 p.m.
FREE • For all ages.
Hilltop Gardens at Indiana University, 2367 E. 10th St.

Nature Hike
Take a hike through the fields and forests in our city parks. An experienced naturalist will guide you on hikes in parks throughout the city. We’ll explore unique features and identify what’s green and growing. Sign up for one or for all sessions.
Dress for the weather and prepare for a moderate hike.
Windsor Woods Park, 2120 S. Highland Ave.
Su 6/30 • 11 a.m.–noon • Register by 6/24 • 240005-A
RCA Community Park, 1400 W. RCA Park Dr.
Su 7/28 • 11 a.m.–noon • Register by 7/22 • 240005-B
Miller-Shoars Park, 1500 N. College Ave.
Su 8/25 • 11 a.m.–noon • Register by 8/19 • 240005-C
$3/in-city, $4/non-city • For all ages.
Griffy Lake Nature Preserve, 3300 N. Headley Rd.—Meet at boathouse.

Bushcraft Basics
Whether you are headed out for a day hike or a week-long expedition, you’ll find many things you can use to survive in the wilderness. Learn the four WS to consider when selecting a campsite, and tips to survive in the wild including packing, trapping, and foraging techniques. Come prepared to get your hands dirty during this hands-on workshop hike on the Griffy Lake trails. Wear comfortable shoes and bring a water bottle.
Instructor: Becky Jania
Sa 7/20 • 10 a.m.–noon • Register by 7/13 • 240006-A
$8/in-city, $9/non-city • For all ages.
Griffy Lake Nature Preserve, 3300 N. Headley Rd.—Meet at boathouse.

Mushroom Foray
Mushroom season does not end with morels! Learn the important role played by wild fungi, as well as how to identify and harvest different mushroom species. Find out where to look for and how to prepare the many edible wild mushrooms our environment provides.
The program begins with a brief introduction to common and easy-to-identify edible mushrooms, followed by a hike to search for edible fungi. Dress for the weather, and prepare for moderate hiking.
Instructor: Becky Jania
Su 7/21 • 1–2:30 p.m. • Register by 7/15 • 240007-A
$4/in-city, $5/non-city • For all ages.
Griffy Lake Nature Preserve, 3300 N. Headley Rd.