

Nature Encounter
February 2016



Our 44th Year of EcoWeekend Nature FUN

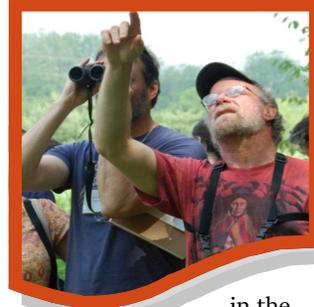


COLUMBUS AUDUBON EcoWeekend April 29—May 1, 2016

Note the date everyone!
We are actually starting
the weekend in April this
year.

This is an opportunity to
have an affordable and
enjoyable weekend
experiencing nature's
beauty and learning about
nature from experienced
program leaders who
share their knowledge. We

believe EcoWeekend is
unlike any other offering



in the
United States.

Five activity sessions are
scheduled from Friday
evening until noon on
Sunday. You design your
weekend by selecting ses-
sion activities from up to
50 different options.
Participants always
experience growth and
leave on Sunday with a
serene smile. All Eco-
Weekend needs is YOU!
Be sure to invite a friend.

Youth 2016

*Look! Look! Look deep into
nature and you will under-
stand everything.*

Albert Einstein



The youth of the 2016 Eco
weekend retreat will be
doing a lot of looking,
sensing, and doing during

the Saturday youth
program. The youngest
group, Pre-K, K, and 1st
graders will be studying
forest water life, bees,
geology, and reptiles and
completing a nature craft.
The 2nd to 5th graders will
spend their morning play-
ing field games and
building bat houses. They
will spend their afternoons
enjoying a nature scavenger
hunt, learning orienteering
skills, and studying reptiles.
The oldest group, 6th to 8th
grade will spend their

morning learning
wilderness first aid skills
and then studying insects.
They will spend their after-
noon building a birdhouse,
challenging themselves on
the ropes course, and learn-
ing orienteering skills.

*Time in nature is not leisure
time; it's an essential
investment in our children's
health.*

*(and also, by the way, in
our own.) Richard Lou,
Last Child in the Woods:
Saving Our Children from
Nature-Deficit Disorder*

Welcoming the Turtle Lady Saturday Evening!



The Turtle Lady,
alias Nancy
Lockard, believes
that sharing her
turtles and rep-
tiles with everyone and
teaching them about lov-
ing and respecting all liv-

ing creatures will help
change the world we all
share. She will bring lots
of creatures for us to learn
about and touch in her
program at EcoWeekend
this year, including
snakes, bearded dragons,



toads,
and, of course, TURTLES!

Where? At Camp Oty'Okwa in the Hocking Hills

Member Benefits

Camp Oty'Okwa is located between S. Bloomingville and Conkles Hollow in the Hocking Hills. It takes just a little over an hour to travel the approximately 55 miles from downtown Columbus. Detailed driving directions will be included in your registration packet.



Audubon members and their households receive a preferred rate for EcoWeekend. If you are not yet an Audubon Member Household, a \$30 fee will be added to your registration. You become a card carrying first year member in both the National Audubon and the Columbus Audubon Chapter. New member benefits include 4 issues of *Audubon Magazine* plus six issues per year of the Columbus Audubon Chapter's newsletter, *Song Sparrow*.

About Registration

Registrations will be filled as received until our limit has been reached. If you want to be scheduled with a friend or family member, please note this clearly on your registration form. We cannot make any promises, but we will really do our best to accommodate you. Registrations must be received by **April 8, 2016**. If you must cancel, refunds will be made—less the registration fee but only if you cancel prior to **April 17, 2016**. No refunds will be made for cancellations made **after April 17**.

We have an EcoWeekend web site, **www.ecoweekend.org**. You can register and pay online. We use PayPal to process our payments. You may still pay your registration fees and submit your registration by mail as an alternative to web registration. Choose from the following options:

1. Register online and pay using a PayPal account, electronic check

or credit card.

2. Register online and mail your check as soon as you complete your online registration form.
3. Register by mail by enclosing your registration form from this brochure and your check made out to **Columbus Audubon**.

These choices make registration and payment quick and easy. **Register today!**

Columbus Audubon strives to provide excellent programs at the lowest cost possible. Overnight accommodations and meal prices are based on Camp Oty'Okwa's pricing structure. The cost for overnight accommodations is the same whether you sleep in a lodge, cabin, platform tent or your own tent. Registration fees cover

our printing, publicity, postage, supplies and equipment costs that we incur specifically for EcoWeekend. The registration fees also help to cover the cost of meals and accommodations for our outstanding leaders who do not charge for their programs, time and hard work.

Donations: EcoWeekend makes every effort to be an affordable event for everyone. That's why we ask for additional voluntary donations by those who want to support this outstanding event. (See your registration form to add a voluntary donation). Your generous contribution will be greatly appreciated!

If you have any questions, you may call Columbus Audubon's EcoWeekend Committee Chair Maura Rawn at 740/653-8574.

**REGISTRATION
DEADLINE:
April 8, 2016!**

Important Things to Know

◆ *Bring your own bedding and towels; they are not provided.*

◆ *The weekend will be held regardless of weather so plan accordingly—bring sturdy shoes, rain gear, warm clothes.*

◆ *Meals are served in the dining hall. Simple but healthy camp*

food—it's not fancy, but it's plentiful!

◆ *Babysitting is NOT provided, and we cannot accept children younger than 4 years old.*

◆ *We accommodate vegetarians. If you have other special dietary needs, please bring your own*

items to supplement what is available.

◆ *Please note that NO meal is served on Friday evening.*

◆ *Smoking is prohibited in and around all buildings, trails, and during programs.*

Program Descriptions for EcoWeekend
Friday Evening, 9-10pm

- A1 Pollinator Beekeeping** The world of pollinators is remarkable and interesting! Learn how our food pollinators and other insects are critical to human life. **(starts at 8pm!)**



- A2 Game Night!** Join us for game night. Learn and play Wildcraft! for family fun while learning about edible and medicinal plants and basic botany. An Herbal Adventure / Cooperative board game
- A3 "How about those Bats"** Learn the importance of having bats on or near your property and how to create a bat garden for them. Program best enjoyed by 4th grade and older.
- A4 New Discoveries in Ancient Ohio** Have you ever wondered if that weird hump of dirt was an ancient mound? It just might have been! Join us as we explore newly discovered ancient earthwork sites in the Scioto and Hocking valleys.
- A5 Astronomy With Kent** Tour the Solar System and the Milky Way galaxy. Telescopes provided for viewing planets, double stars and star clusters. Specialties: Venus, Mars, Saturn and our Moon.
- A6 Owl Walk** After a short introduction we will take a walk in the woods and, hopefully, hear and see owls.
- A7 Stained Glass Stepping Stones** Using an indirect mosaic method, we'll make a stepping stone of glass and concrete. **Cost :\$5.**
- A8 Monarch Mania** This is a fun presentation on the monarch lifecycle and monarch gardening. Child-friendly activities with free milkweed seeds and interactive games.
- A9 Campfire with S'mores** What's camping without a campfire? Enjoy the blaze and the marshmallow toasting.
- A10 Landscaping for Backyard Biodiversity** Let's make our backyards a PARADISE for birds, bugs, and other wildlife by using eco-friendly native trees, shrubs, and perennials. We can reduce lawn care and restore "nature" to our suburban environment!



Saturday Morning, 9-11:30am

- B1 Birding at Conkles Hollow SNP** Beginning to moderate birders will enjoy exploring Conkles Hollow as we search for migrating warblers, vireos, orioles and other avian beauties. Bring binoculars. **(starts at 8am!) Out of camp car-pooling.**
- B2 Exploring Amphibians at Deep Wood Farms** Carpool to Deep Woods Farm to search out and identify fascinating and secretive amphibians. They like water—you might get your feet wet! **Out of camp car-pooling.**



- B3 Nature Applique** Create a critter or scene out of fabric using fusible appliqué quilting techniques to make a wall-hanging or pillow. Materials provided.
- B4 Entomology for Beginners** Up close and personal look at bugs! See an insect collection then go find some insects for yourself. Capture, identify, and attract good bugs to your garden. Bring a bug net (optional).
- B5 Exploring Crane Hollow SNP** Visit this nearby private reserve to enjoy an incredible variety of habitats; be prepared to cross streams. Strenuous hike off-trail with steep climbs. **Out of camp with carpooling.**
- B6 Let's Go Wild! With Wild Ones** We will learn about the four requirements for NWF Certification and create new habitat areas at Camp OTY'OKWA. Bring gloves, a shovel, bottle of water and hiking boots.
- B7 Archery** Learn the basics of using a compound bow and instinctive shooting while maintaining safety. **Out of camp with carpooling.**
- B8 Beginning Spidering** After a short introduction to the common spiders of Ohio, we will hit the trails to look for some of our eight-legged friends. Each participant will be given a copy of The Common Spiders of Ohio Field Guide.
- B9 The Compass & Orienteering** Learn the basics of reading a compass and



orienteering maps, symbols and terminology. Compasses provided.

- B10 Can You Be an Environmentalist and Still Eat Meat?** In what ways do agricultural practices stress our planet and what can just one person do to alleviate the stress? Bring paper and pencil. Best suited for teens and adults.
- B11 Mistaken Identity** Explore the impact of invasive species on the natural resources in the forest environment—water, soil, and biodiversity.

Saturday Afternoon, 1:30-4:30pm

- C1 Rhododendron Cove SNP** Enjoy exquisite rock formations, mountain laurel, rhododendron. Strenuous hike on dirt trails with steep grades. **Out of camp with carpooling.**
- C2 Wildflower Walk at Conkles Hollow** Identify and enjoy the wildflowers of Conkles Hollow. We'll walk the paved gorge trail but also climb some stairs to view Fire-Pink. Binoculars recommended. **Out of camp with carpooling.**
- C3 Make a Bamboo Wind Chime** Assemble pre-cut and drilled parts, and paint the bamboo with African-style designs or however you choose. **Cost: \$10**
- C4 Macroinvertebrate Mayhem at Mathias Grove** Explore the many homes of macroinvertebrates and ecological diversity of Mathias Grove. Mature forest, rock outcroppings, water fall, stream, wetlands, artesian spring, vernal pools along the Hocking River. **Out of Camp with carpooling.**
- C5 A Long Time Ago and Far Away – the Geologic History of Ohio** From tropical seas and steamy swamps to glaciers a mile high, the land we call Ohio has seen many changes during the last 500 million years. With Dale Gnidovec, Curator, OSU Orton Geological Museum
- C6 Wild Edibles** Basic plant identification and a search for wild edibles will end up in the kitchen trying some recipes.
- C7 Camp Oty'Okwa Trail Maintenance Service Project** We all love Camp Oty'Okwa. Here's an opportunity to leave your campsite better than how you found



it! Tools will be provided. Work clothes, gloves and boots recommended.

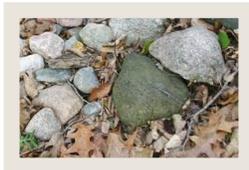
- C8 Wilderness First Aid** Learn from a certified Wilderness Paramedic how to treat and transport victims of falls or wounds in wilderness conditions—no cell phone or 911.
- C9 Make a Woven Basket** Learn the basics of basketry weaving while you create a basket. **Cost: \$15**
- C10 Hocking Cty Historical Tour** Discover Hocking Valley's environment, history, culture, and economy with a focus on early 19th century canal, railroad, Revolutionary War graves, and Haydenville – the last “company town.” Bring your camera! **Out of camp with carpooling.**

Saturday Evening, 9-10pm

- D1 Birding by Ear Part 1** An introduction to birding by ear, learn how to group and categorize song types and listen critically, How do birds make sounds and what do they mean?
- D2 Night Sensory Walk** Feel, hear, touch, see and smell the nighttime world. Share the experience. Bring a red-light flashlight if possible.
- D3 Birding in Ancient Ohio-10,000 years of Archaeological Evidence** Using archaeological data to explore the birds that were around and highlighted by Native peoples in Ohio through their art and the things that were for dinner.
- D4 Make a Gourd Birdhouse** Turn a gourd into a birdhouse with a variety of art media and natural elements. Family groups welcome. **Cost: \$5 per gourd.**



- D5 Rocks and Minerals** Learn how minerals are identified using their physical properties (shape, luster, color, hardness, etc.) and how rocks form (the rock cycle) with over 40 good samples to pass around. With Dale



Gnidovec, Curator, OSU Orton Geological Museum

- D6 Astronomy with Kent** See A5
- D7 Fracking - What's the Controversy?** Learn the facts and fictions from the lead expert at the Ohio Environmental Council on fracking. As the Director of Water Policy & Environmental Health, Melanie will share her knowledge and experience with the "controversy" that is fracking.
- D8 Writing Your Own Nature Poetry** Feel the words of nature: touch, smell, hear and taste those words, and then express your experience in your own poetry. Casual, fun, non-academic.
- D9 Campfire with S'mores** See A9
- D10 Landscaping for Backyard Biodiversity (6 grade and above)** See A10

Sunday Morning, 9-11:30am

- E1 Birding by Ear Part 2** We will walk around camp and track down birds by their sounds. We will talk about features in bird song that help us identify each species. Bring binoculars and field guides.



- E2 Beginning Birding** After a short intro on binoculars and field birding, we'll be on the trails observing birds and noting their songs. Lots of tips for new birders. Binoculars provided.
- E3 Stream Discovery at Deep Woods Farm** Travel to “Deep Woods” to study stream invertebrates using seine nets and other tools. Be prepared to get your feet wet. Out of camp with car-pooling. Best suited for age 8 and older.
- E4 Archery** See B7 **Out of camp with carpooling.**
- E5 What Mushrooms Do** Learn about the purpose of fungi in nature as well as tips for accurate identification of the edibles.



- E6 Tree ID 101** Learn the basics of tree identification from leaves and bark, and enjoy a walk around the camp.



- E7 Gardening for Native Pollinators** Explore how you can help the insects that keep our world going. Find out how to create pollinator habitat at home and in your community. We will take a short hike to see landscape features that help pollinators.



- E8 Bluebirds & More Workshop!** Learn what bluebirds and other cavity nesters need to take up residence on your property. Build a nest box for \$15 to keep or donate to a conservation project. Bring a cordless drill if you have one! **Cost: \$15**



- E9 Nature Photography with smartphones or cameras** Capture stunning nature photographs by considering the frame, the light, the composition, the action, no matter what type of camera you are using.
- E10 Snakes Near & Far** Join us for a wonderful chance to see live snakes from Ohio, the U.S. and around the world!



ECOWEEKEND REGISTRATION FORM - PAGE 1

REGISTRATION DEADLINE: APRIL 8, 2016!

Name: _____
 Address: _____
 City: _____ ST _____ ZIP _____

Best Contact Information _____ Phone _____
 for you: Email: _____

Registering an Audubon Member Household? (Circle 1): Yes No
 If the answer is NO, please include the \$30 first year Membership fee below. The fee provides you membership to both National Audubon and Columbus Audubon (\$45 value).

First Time registrant? How did you hear about EcoWeekend?

FEES:

(1) Non-Audubon Member Household Total Fee
 Special \$30 first year family membership in both National and Columbus Audubon (\$45 value) \$

(2) Registration Fees: Number of Participants Total Fee
 \$40/Adult \$
 \$25/Youth (Pre-K - Grade 8) \$

(3a) I WANT BOTH LODGING AND MEALS AT CAMP:
 Lodging and Meals: Number of Participants Total Fee
 \$90/Adult \$
 \$60/Youth (Age 6 - Grade 8) \$

(3b) I WANT MEALS ONLY AT CAMP. I AM STAYING OFF CAMPUS:
 Meals, No Lodging at Camp: Number of Participants Total Fee
 \$60/Adult \$
 \$40/Youth (Age 6 - Grade 8) \$

Please add items (1) + (2) + (3) above to calculate your total: \$
 OPTIONAL Donation \$
 Total Due \$

SELECT LODGING: 1st Choice 2nd Choice

		
Sebring Men's Dorm		
Sebring Women's Dorm		
Sebring Family Dorm		
Winterized Cabin		
Primitive Cabin		
Platform Tent 2-Person		
Platform Tent 8-Person		
Your own Personal Tent		

Total Number in Party: _____
 Total Number of Vegetarians: See Page 2. _____
 X in the vegetarian column beside the vegetarian's name.

Payment is due in full with Registration
 Make your check Payable to:
 Columbus Audubon

Mail your check with your two page registration form to:
 Maura Rawn
 540 Coonpath Rd NW
 Lancaster, OH 43130
 Call 740-653-8574 or email maurarawn@yahoo.com with questions!

Your voluntary donation helps keep EcoWeekend affordable and accessible for everyone. Thank you for your generous donation!

(Helpful example: One single Audubon member adult registering for the full weekend of programs, lodging and meals: \$130)

Please list other families you would like to be lodged with (if applicable): _____
 We will make an effort to see that specified groups get lodged together if possible.

PLEASE CONTINUE TO PAGE 2

ECOWEEKEND REGISTRATION FORM - PAGE 2

PROGRAM CHOICES

Complete the Chart below with your Program Choices noting each person's first and second choice options for each session to ensure placement in a class.

A D U L T S													
A d u l t s	Participant Name	Vegetarian	Friday Evening		Saturday Morning		Saturday Afternoon		Saturday Evening		Sunday Morning		
			1st	2nd	1st	2nd	1st	2nd	1st	2nd	1st	2nd	

Returning participants: If you were "bumped" from your 1st choice in 2015 and the program is available again this year, please note that program here.

IMPORTANT NOTICE FOR YOUTH FOR FRIDAY EVENING, SATURDAY EVENING AND SUNDAY MORNING PROGRAMS:

An adult must be registered IN THE SAME PROGRAM with any youth pre-K - Grade 8 for FAMILY PROGRAMS

Y O U T H													
Y o u t h	Participant Name	Vegetarian	Grade	Friday Evening		Saturday Morning	Saturday Afternoon	Saturday Evening		Sunday Morning			
				1st	2nd			1st	2nd	1st	2nd		

Youth in Grades Pre-K through 8 will participate in special activities designed for their grade levels.

Columbus Audubon reserves the right to use photographs taken while at EcoWeekend for promotional materials unless designated otherwise in writing by the participant.

NOTE: EcoWeekend is a participatory event. In fairness to our leaders (and others who may have been turned away due to full classes), you are expected to take part in those activities for which you are registered. If you wish to schedule one period of free time, please do not sign up for anything in that time block.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR CONTINUED SUPPORT AND ENJOYMENT OF ECOWEEKEND!

LOOK US UP AT www.ecoweekend.org



Friday Evening, 8:00 pm - Gather in the Dining Hall to get acquainted with each other and Camp Oty'Okwa

Friday Evening Programs, 9:00pm - 10:00pm

Adults and/or Families Welcome

A1 Pollinator Beekeeping (starts at 8pm!)⊙	Clyde Gosnell/ Bob Noble
A2 Game Night! Learn and Play Wildcraft!⊙	Heather Dean
A3 "How about those Bats"⊙	Barbara Velez Barbosa
A4 New Discoveries in Ancient Ohio⊙	Jarrod Burks
A5 Astronomy with Kent	Kent Rothermel
A6 Owl Walk	Sarah Jane Rose
A7 Stained Glass Stepping Stones⊙\$	Patty DeMaria
A8 Monarch Mania⊙	Sarah Dalton
A9 Campfire with S'mores	Sue Gross
A10 Landscaping for Backyard Biodiversity (6 grade and above)⊙	Tisa Watts

Saturday Morning

8:00 am Breakfast Dining Hall

Saturday Morning Programs, 9:00am - 11:30am

Adult-Only Programs:

B1 Birding at Conkles Hollow SNP (starts at 8am!) ⇌	Tim Taylor
B2 Exploring Amphibians at Deep Wood Farms ⇌ ♦	Al and Lauren Blyth
B3 Nature Applique⊙	Susie Burks
B4 Entomology for Beginners	Emily Linkous-Frazen
B5 Exploring Crane Hollow SNP ⇌ 🏕️	Heather Stehle/Joe Moosbrugger
B6 Let's Go Wild! With Wild Ones	Barbara Velez Barbosa
B7 Archery ⇌	Heather Sheets
B8 Beginning Spidering	Sarah Jane Rose
B9 The Compass & Orienteering	Earl Reisinger
B10 Can You Be an Environmentalist and Still Eat Meat?⊙	Rick Kritzer
B11 Mistaken Identity	Jerry Greer

12 noon Lunch

Dining Hall

Saturday Afternoon Programs, 1:30pm - 4:30pm

Adult-Only Programs:

C1 Rhododendron Cove SNP ⇌	Jim Davidson
C2 Wildflower Walk at Conkles Hollow ⇌	Fred Steck
C3 Make a Bamboo Wind Chime ⊙\$	Barb White
C4 Macroinvertebrate Mayhem at Mathias Grove ⇌ ♦ 🏕️	Jacob Mulder
C5 A Long Time Ago and Far Away – the Geologic History of Ohio⊙	Dale Gnidovec
C6 Wild Edibles	Suzan Jervey
C7 Camp Oty'Okwa Trail Maintenance Service Project 🏕️	Matt Smith

C8 Wilderness First Aid	Alex Johnson
C9 Make a Woven Basket⊙\$	Ann Cornell
C10 Hocking Cty Historical Tour ⇌	Larry Koebel

5:30 pm Dinner

Dining Hall

Saturday Evening Program for Everyone, The Turtle Lady! 7:15 pm (Dining Hall)

**Saturday Evening Programs, 9:00pm - 10:00pm
Adult and/or Families Welcome**

D1 Birding by Ear Part 1⊙	Angelika Nelson
D2 Night Sensory Walk	Sharon Treaster
D3 Birding in Ancient Ohio-10,000 years of Archaeological Evidence⊙	Jarrod Burks
D4 Make a Gourd Birdhouse⊙\$	Patty DeMaria
D5 Rocks and Minerals ⊙	Dale Gnidovec
D6 Astronomy with Kent	Kent Rothermel
D7 Fracking - What's the Controversy?⊙	Melanie Houston
D8 Writing Your Own Nature Poetry⊙	Maura Rawn
D9 Campfire with S'mores	Megan DeLaurentis
D10 Landscaping for Backyard Biodiversity (6 grade and above)⊙	Tisa Watts

Sunday Morning Programs, 9:00am - 11:30am

Adults and/or Families Welcome:

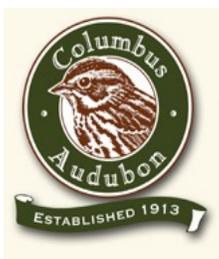
E1 Birding by Ear Part 2	Angelika Nelson
E2 Beginning Birding	Katryn Renard
E3 Stream Discovery at Deep Woods Farm ⇌ ♦	Kim Banks
E4 Archery ⇌	Heather Sheets
E5 What Mushrooms Do	Andrea Moore
E6 Tree ID 101	Sharon Treaster
E7 Gardening for Native Pollinators	Colleen Sharkey / Claire Beck
E8 Bluebirds & More Workshop! ⊙\$	Darlene Sillick
E9 Nature Photography with smartphones or cameras	Mike Flynn
E10 Snakes Near & Far⊙	David Sagan

12:00 noon Lunch

Dining Hall

Legend

- ⊙ Indoor activity
- ⇌ Out-of-camp activity; car-pooling necessary
- 🏕️ Strenuous activity
- ♦ You might get wet, so come prepared
- \$ Additional Cost – see program description



EcoWeekend

Accommodation Choices

Dormitory Style

Sebring Lodge—Four large dorm rooms with 16 bunk beds, bathroom shower and deck balcony. Two dorms for families; one for men; one for women.

Cabins and Platform tents

Five winterized cabins—Each cabin has five bunk beds with two-inch mattresses; Common bathroom/shower nearby.

Five primitive cabins—These do not have winterized windows; each cabin has five bunk beds with two-inch mattresses. A common bathroom/shower is nearby.

All the cabins have an overhead light and an electrical outlet for a reading light, air mattress or other use.

Platform tents—wooden floor with a large tent covering. Sleeps two or eight. Each tent comes with cots. A common bathroom/shower is nearby.

NOTE: Cabins and platform tents may be shared with other participants if preferences and attendance require it.

Your own Personal tent

Tent space is also available so that you can bring your own tent. There are no developed camp sites or tables.



Cabin

Scout Merit Badge Opportunities



Attention all scouts! A Boy Scout merit badge counselor and an Ohio Girl Scout Council representative will be on hand to document requirements completed toward merit badges. If your family has a Brownie, Cub Scout, Boy Scout, or Girl Scout, bring your Handbook and any other necessary paperwork to get credit for your activities.

Bring your handbook and any other necessary paperwork to get credit for your activities!