



FROM THE TRAILS

OF THE PIONEERS PARK NATURE CENTER

MAY-AUGUST

PROGRAMS & CAMP

Mother's Day Bird Walk & Brunch

Sunday, May 14

8 - 10 am

\$16/person



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 rolls, fruit, and beverages will be provided. Binoculars are also available for those who need them.

Register by May 10.



Leadership Camp

Monday - Friday, June 5-9

8:30 am - 5 pm

Ages 14-17

\$140/camper

Learn outdoor and leadership skills while making new friends at Leadership Camp. This camp, held at Wilderness Park, 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.

OPEN LATE

Evenings this summer.

The Nature Center will be open until 8 pm on Tuesdays, May 30 - August 29.

Saturday with our Naturalist

Saturday, May 20 & June 17

2 - 3 pm

\$5/person

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. Dress comfortably for the weather. Register by the Wednesday before each hike.



Wilderness Nature Camp

Monday - Friday, June 12-Aug. 4

8:30 am - 5 pm

Ages 6-13

\$180/camper/week

Spend the summer immersed in nature, hiking, exploring, and going on adventures with your friends. Wilderness Nature Camp at Wilderness Park is a day camp experience 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. Extended hours are available, 7:45 - 8:30 am, and 5-5:30 pm. A camp t-shirt is included with registration. All registration forms and waivers must be received the Monday prior to camp starting. There is no camp the week of July 3-7.



Nature Trekkers

Wednesdays in June

10 - 11 am

\$3/person



Children and their families can explore our trails, visit various locations around the Nature Center, and learn about the natural world. Hikes are planned for young children, all ages are welcome. Children must be supervised: min. one adult for every six children. Register by June 5.



Camp Discovery

Monday - Thursday, June 5-July 20

9 - 11:30 am

Pioneers Park Nature Center

\$80/camper/week

This is a half day camp designed for young explorers, ages 3-6. 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 world around them. Registration must be received the Monday prior to camp starting. There is no camp the week of July 3-6.

Camp info, registration, and waiver forms:

lincoln.ne.gov (keyword: nature camp)

MORE PROGRAMS & EVENTS

Composting Workshop

Saturday, May 20 & June 24 10 am Free

Learn how to be successful with composting by attending a free composting 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.

Rain Barrel Workshop: Recycling Rainwater

Sunday, June 11 2 - 4 pm \$35/person

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. The workshop is geared towards adults, kids may attend with an accompanying adult. *Register by June 7.*



Frogs and Floats

Sunday, June 18
1 - 3 pm \$10/person
\$18/family

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 animals are released and the mud is cleaned up we'll sit back and relax with a cool treat of root beer floats! Old shoes and clothes are encouraged. Insect repellent is also recommended. *Register by June 14.*

Butterfly Count

Saturday, July 8 9 am - Noon \$5/person

Enjoy the morning with a leisurely hike while counting butterflies. The count will begin with a presentation and introductory slide show. Participants will then disperse with a butterfly guide to the count areas, Pioneers Park Nature Center and Spring Creek Prairie Audubon Center. No need to know butterfly identification, you'll learn from your expert during the count. This program involves walking about 2 hours, covering 2-3 miles on uneven trails and prairie. Children must be accompanied by an adult.

Register by July 5.

Nature's Origami Class

Saturday, Aug. 5 10 - 11:30 am \$8/person

Learn origami at the Nature Center. Learn origami from instructor, Andy Lewicki, certified by the Japanese Origami Association. Andy has taught classes at Southeast Community College, the YMCA, and First Plymouth Church. This class is open to adults only. Space is limited. *Register by Aug. 3.*

Herb Class

Container Gardens

Tuesday, June 15

6 - 8 pm

\$14/person

Do you want to grow your own herbs?



Luann Finke (Finke Gardens) will lead a make and take herb class at the Nature Center. Learn about easy to grow herbs and how to use them in simple meals. Each participant will take home a pot with four different herbs. Included in cost: container, soil, plants, and instruction. Space is limited. *Register by June 12.*

VOLUNTEER

The Nature Center is looking for volunteers to help care for the

Louise Evans Doole Herb Garden. Herb Garden volunteers meet every other Thursday morning, from 9-11 am, throughout the summer. Contact the Nature Center at 402-441-7895 for more information.



Friends of the Pioneers Park Nature Center

Join the Friends in fundraising at these events to support the Nature Center.

2017 Friends Events Include:

June 10 [Beer, Brats, & Bikes](#)
Aug. 26 [Mystery on the Prairie](#)
Sept. 22 [Wild Fall Festival](#)



For more information about these events visit lnknaturecenter.org.

Memberships start at \$25. Benefits to becoming a Friend include special access to Friends programming, 10% off all Nature Center gift shop items, free or reduced admission to other centers nationwide, and the satisfaction of supporting a valuable community resource.

BIRTHDAY PARTIES

Spend your birthday at the Nature Center!

Available times:

- Saturdays: 10:00 am - noon or 1:30 - 3:30 pm
- Sundays: 1:30 - 3:30 pm

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 you to have your own activities and refreshments. Call 402-441-7895 to schedule your party, at least two weeks in advance, or for more information.

Themes Include:

- Reptiles Rock
- Amazing Birds
- Marvelous Mammals
- Nature's Scavenger Hunt
- Grow in the Garden (spring-summer)
- Insect Investigations (late summer-fall)

SCOUTS

COMING SOON

*New Girl Scout Programing:
Coming in Spring of 2018!*

One hour guided hikes: \$4.25/scout
Minimum 10 scouts or \$42.50

Schedule a guided hike for your scouts at the Nature Center. Explore trails, learn about plants and animals, and discover wild things while at the Nature Center. Hikes can be adapted for specific scout level requirements. Hikes must be arranged at least two weeks in advance. Two hour badge activities are also available. Call 402-441-7895 for information.

TIPS FOR YOUR VISIT

Wear good walking shoes. With over eight miles of hiking trails you'll want to be prepared to walk around. The trails by the buildings are paved, trails further out are mowed grass or wood chipped. Maps are available.

Bring water and a snack. Extend your stay and find a comfy spot to take a break. There are picnic tables by the parking lot, outside of the Chet Ager Building, and in the Children's Garden. You will also find many benches along our trails. Water and a few snack items are available from the gift shop in the Prairie Building. Please remember, pack it in and pack it out!

Come back often. You'll see changes in what's growing, different wildlife, new exhibits, and may explore different areas as the seasons change. In the spring, visit the woodland flowers that will be blooming, some of the first of the season. By mid-summer, make a stop in the low land prairie to watch the bison cool off in their wallow. Then, later in the summer and into the early fall, visit the prairie in all its glory. Stop in to visit with our knowledgeable staff in the interpretive centers, the Chet Ager Building and the Prairie Center.

For the safety of our visitors and wildlife...

- please leave pets at home
- leave bikes parked at the racks in the parking lot
- remember there is no collecting at the Nature Center

TOTAL SOLAR ECLIPSE

Witness a once in a life time experience, the 2017 total solar eclipse right here in Lincoln.

A total eclipse of the sun occurs when the moon passes between the Earth and the Sun, casting a shadow on the Earth's surface. This is a very rare event, the last time it happened in (what is now) Lincoln, Nebraska, was in the year 1442, 575 years ago. The next total eclipse of the sun (in Lincoln) will be 628 years from now, in 2645.

Starting about 11:37 am on August 21, 2017, the moon will begin to cover the sun. This is a partial eclipse. A little past 1:02 pm, the sun will totally disappear behind the moon, this is when the total eclipse occurs. During totality, it will get dark, and birds might begin to roost. In the sky, we will be able to see wispy structures around the moon, this is the solar corona, the sun's atmosphere, and is only visible during a total solar eclipse. The total eclipse will end around 1:04 pm, and the moon will completely leave the sun (the partial eclipse ends) at 2:30 pm.

Lincoln is on the northern edge of the path of totality. The farther south and west that you are located in the city, the longer the eclipse. At home, at a park, or on break from work, find a comfortable spot and enjoy!

To safely view the eclipse you MUST use protective eye wear, regular sunglasses WILL NOT protect your eyes. NEVER look directly at the sun. Eclipse viewing glasses can be purchased from the Nature Center gift shop. Limited quantities are available.

For more information about how to protect your eyes, proper viewing, where to view, and other facts, visit: www.hydeobservatory.info/eclipse/.

Hyde Memorial Observatory

Your window on the Universe. Enjoy free programs about astronomy, space exploration, and constellations. Call 402-441-7094 for timely astronomical information, programs change monthly.

Special programs for schools, scouts, or other groups of 20 or more may be arranged. To schedule a program please call 402-441-8708 at least two weeks in advance. More information: www.hydeobservatory.info. Donations are appreciated.

Free Programs Every Saturday

March (DST) - August	Sundown - 11 pm
September	8 - 11 pm
October-March (DST)	7 - 10 pm

Pioneers Park Nature Center

Lincoln Parks & Recreation
3140 N Street, Ste 300
Lincoln, NE 68510



402.441.7895

naturecenter@lincoln.ne.gov

parks.lincoln.ne.gov/naturecenter

3201 S. Coddington (west end of Pioneers 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



PRESCHOOL AT THE NATURE CENTER

The [Nature Center Preschool](#) began in 2000 with eleven children. Today, we offer morning and afternoon sessions for both preschool and pre-kindergarten. Early childhood is a time for discovery and a time to enjoy the many miracles of the natural world. Our philosophy at Nature Preschool is that children learn by doing: hiking, climbing, digging, building, and being in the great outdoors. For more information contact the Preschool Director, 402-441-8669.

Preschool (3-4 year olds)

Sept 7, 2017 - May 15, 2018 Tue/Thur 9:00 - 11:30 am

Sept 7, 2017 - May 15, 2018 Tue/Thur 12:30 - 2:30 pm

Pre-Kindergarten (4-5 year olds)

Sept 8, 2017 - May 16, 2018 Mon/Wed/Fri 9:00 - 11:30 am

Sept 8, 2017 - May 16, 2018 Mon/Wed/Fri 12:30 - 2:30 pm

