



## Nature Programs

### Gardening with Native Plants

#### Workshop

Saturday, May 2 from 2-5pm

Anita Purves Nature Center

Age 15 and up

Prices are per person

Gardening with native plants reduces water and fertilizer use and attracts beneficial pollinators like butterflies and hummingbirds. Whatever your landscaping needs or preferences, native plants are striking and hardy alternatives to traditional ornamentals. Learn about an array of flowering natives and tour the nature center's habitat gardens. Take home a starter kit with select seeds/plants, local resource list and information packet.

EB Cost	Deadline	Cost	Deadline	Code
\$15R/\$23NR	Apr 18	\$17R/\$26NR	Apr 25	2367

### Stories with Roots

Friday, May 15

Rain Date: Saturday, May 16

7:30-8:30pm

Fire Ring, Anita Purves Nature Center

All ages (under 15 with adult)

Prices are per person

After the Roots Walk at Crystal Lake Park, have a seat around the campfire with professional storyteller Linda Dust. Enjoy refreshments and roast marshmallows as you are entertained with folk tales! Pre-registration is required as space is limited. (See page 9 for more information about the Roots Walk.)

EB Cost	Deadline	Cost	Deadline	Code
\$4R/\$6NR	May 1	\$5R/\$7NR	May 8	2809

*"I LEARN SOMETHING NEW EVERY TIME I GO TO THE GARDENS. THERE ARE SOME LONG-TIME GARDENERS—SOME OF THEM HAVE BEEN THERE FOR OVER 30 YEARS—WHO REALLY KNOW A LOT ABOUT ORGANIC GARDENING."*

**-Lisa Luckett,**

Meadowbrook Park Organic Gardener for 4 years

### FREE! Gardening Through the Seasons—A 40th Anniversary Celebration

Meadowbrook Garden Pavilion

All Ages (under 15 with adult)

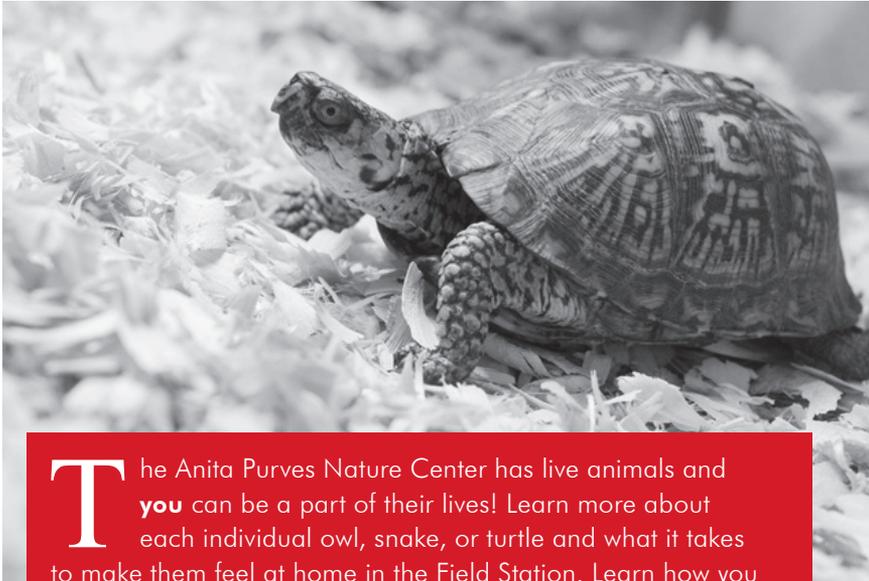
Celebrate the Meadowbrook Organic Garden's 40th Anniversary at these monthly meet-and-greets! Specific gardens will be featured on each date, and gardeners and park district staff will be on hand to share their experience and advice. On each date you attend, you will be entered in a raffle drawing for a free half-plot in 2016 and other prizes! Drawing will take place on Oct. 10; you do not need to be present to win. Call 217-384-4062 for more information.

Day	Date	Time
Saturday	May 30	3-5pm
Saturday	June 20*	4-6pm
Sunday	July 19	2-4pm
Saturday	August 15	9-11am
Sunday	September 20	2-4pm
Saturday	October 10	1-3pm

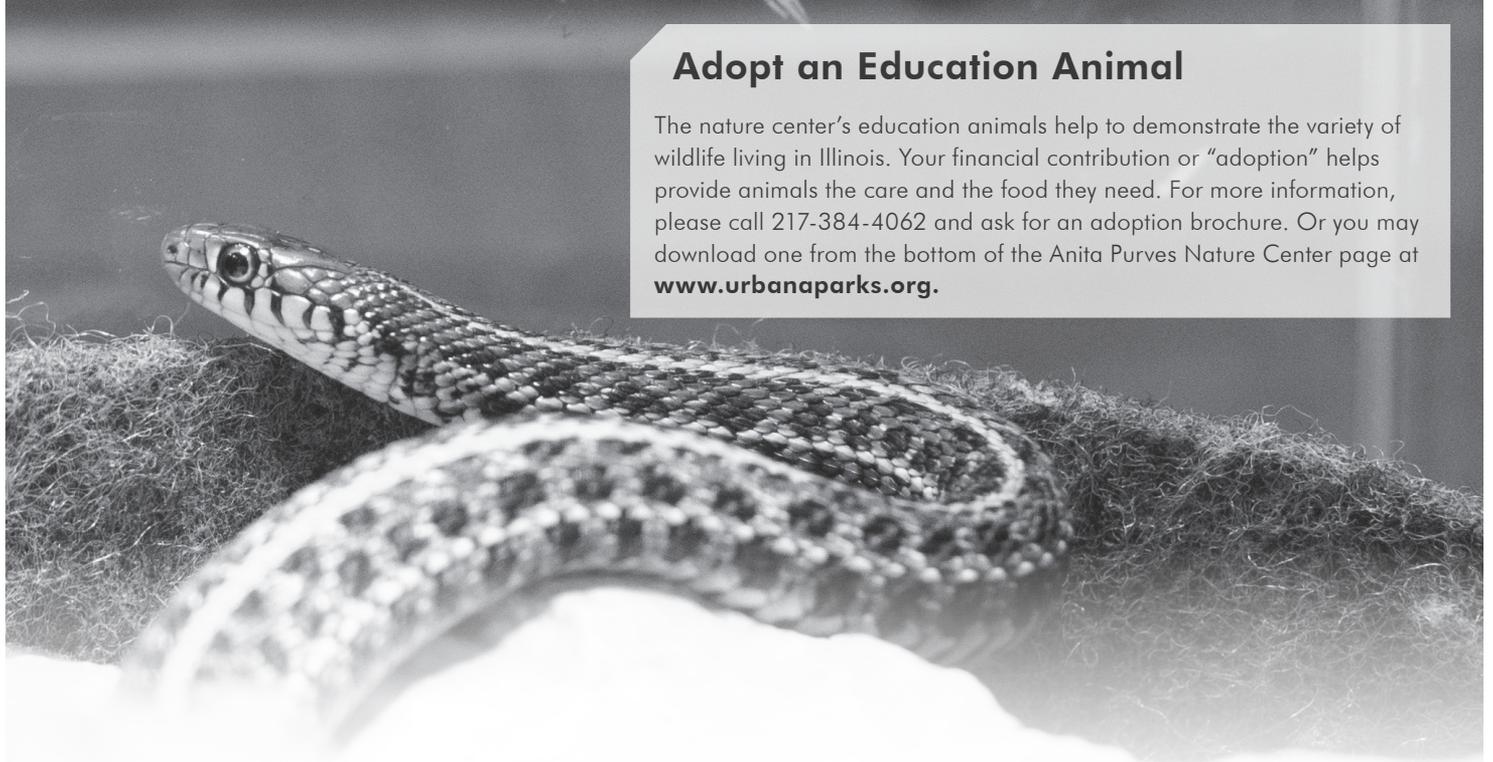
\*During Strawberry Jam, see page 10.



## Come Visit Live Animals!



**T**he Anita Purves Nature Center has live animals and **you** can be a part of their lives! Learn more about each individual owl, snake, or turtle and what it takes to make them feel at home in the Field Station. Learn how you can "Adopt an Educational Animal" at our website: [www.urbanaparks.org](http://www.urbanaparks.org). With your adoption, you will get the satisfaction of knowing that all proceeds go directly to the animals' care. You can also help increase the visibility of wild birds outdoors in our natural habitat area by donating bird seed!



### Adopt an Education Animal

The nature center's education animals help to demonstrate the variety of wildlife living in Illinois. Your financial contribution or "adoption" helps provide animals the care and the food they need. For more information, please call 217-384-4062 and ask for an adoption brochure. Or you may download one from the bottom of the Anita Purves Nature Center page at [www.urbanaparks.org](http://www.urbanaparks.org).



# Free Nature Programs!

Nature Programs

## Sunday Morning Bird Walks

Sundays, now-May 31 from 7:30-9am  
 Meet in Anita Purves Nature Center parking lot  
 All ages (under 15 with adult)

Birding can be an adventure for the whole family. Join us early on Sunday mornings to search for birds in Busey Woods and Crystal Lake Park. A leader from the Champaign County Audubon Society will help you learn basic bird watching and identification techniques. Bring a pair of binoculars if you have them or borrow some from the Anita Purves Nature Center with a deposit (pick up M-Sa, 9am-4pm).

## Outdoor Games We Used to Play

Wednesday, June 3 from 5:30-6:30pm  
 Busey Friendship Grove, Anita Purves Nature Center  
 All ages (under 15 with adult)

Remember playing Kick-the-Can, Spud, or Red Rover? Bring your family and friends of all ages to play some old-school outdoor games together before the Neighborhood Nights free outdoor concert begins at 6:30pm (see page 11). All ages are welcome, and adults are encouraged to play! No registration necessary. Call 217-384-4062 for more information.

## C-U Outdoors Club Letterboxing Adventure

Friday, July 10 from 6:30-8pm  
 Meadowbrook Interpretive Center  
 Age 6 and up (under 15 with adult)

Secret treasures are hidden at Meadowbrook Park! Join our quest and Get Wild About Parks (see page 8) as we learn how to follow clues in search of letterboxes. A park naturalist will guide the adventure. Meet other families who like to get outdoors, and learn about the exciting family pastime of letterboxing. Everyone is welcome—just sign-in when you arrive. Call 217-384-4062 for more information.



## Bird-and-Breakfast

Saturday, May 9 from 7:30-9:30am  
 Anita Purves Nature Center & Busey Woods  
 All ages (under 15 with registered adult)  
 Prices are per person

Enjoy a guided bird hike through Busey Woods followed by a continental breakfast at the nature center where you will meet one of the nature center's owls up-close. This program is a great way to celebrate Mother's Day. Bring binoculars if you have them or borrow a pair. No birding experience necessary. Proceeds from this program help support bird feeding and owl care at the nature center. Please note any food allergies when you register.

EB Cost	Deadline	Cost	Deadline	Code
\$10R/\$15NR	Apr 25	\$13R/\$19NR	May 2	2811

## Salamander Meander

Saturday, August 29 from 1-2:30pm  
 Anita Purves Nature Center & Busey Woods  
 All ages (under 15 with registered adult)  
 Prices are per person

Join a park naturalist to search for salamanders and other wildlife in Busey Woods. We'll roll over logs and peek in the ponds as we hike along the Busey Woods boardwalk trail and dirt paths. Learn about the incredible life of salamanders as you enjoy this wooded wonderland in the heart of Urbana. At the end of the program, meet our special guest Sammy the Salamander and get a free pass to the Urbana Indoor Aquatic Center.

EB Cost	Deadline	Cost	Deadline	Code
\$8R/\$12NR	Aug 15	\$9R/\$14NR	Aug 22	2812

## Eat with the Animals

Saturday, September 5 from 2-3pm  
 Anita Purves Nature Center  
 All Ages (under 15 with registered adult; children 3 and under are free)  
 Prices are per person

Have a snack with the animals and know that your participation goes toward a good cause! You will get an exclusive behind-the-scenes look at the nature center's education wildlife during feeding time while we all chow-down. Snacks for humans will be provided—please note any food allergies when you register. Proceeds from this program help support the animals' ongoing care.

EB Cost	Deadline	Cost	Deadline	Code
\$7R/\$11NR	Aug 22	\$9R/\$14NR	Aug 29	2813



## Nature Tales & Trails

*Fridays from 10-10:45am*

*Anita Purves Nature Center (May 8)*

*Meadowbrook Garden Pavilion (Aug 14)*

*Ages 2-6 with adult; adults attend free with registered child*

Enjoy nature stories and activities with your child. Each time we investigate a current event in nature and bring it to life outdoors!

Drops-ins welcome; arrive by 9:45am to register.

**Drop-in fee is \$8R/\$12NR.**

Date	EB Cost	Deadline	Cost	Deadline	Code
May 8	\$6R/\$9NR	Apr 24	\$7R/\$11NR	May 1	2815
Aug 14	\$6R/\$9NR	July 31	\$7R/\$11NR	Aug 7	2816

## Babes in the Woods

*Tuesdays from 10-11am*

*Meadowbrook Garden Pavilion*

*Ages 2-6 with adult; adults attend free with registered child*

Explore and learn together with your preschooler. Drawing on imaginative themes and local ecology, we engage you and your child with the outdoors and encourage your curiosity. Our May programs will focus on gardening and get your garden babe digging in the soil, so dress for mess. Attend both programs to see how the seeds we planted have grown! Programs take place outdoors except in cases of severe weather; please come prepared.

Program	Date	EB Cost	Deadline	Cost	Deadline	Code
Garden Babes Part 1	May 5	\$9R/\$14NR	Apr 21	\$10R/\$15NR	Apr 28	2818
Garden Babes Part 2	May 19	\$9R/\$14NR	May 5	\$10R/\$15NR	May 12	2819



## **FREE!** Try It Out! Introduction to Babes in the Woods

*Tuesday, August 25 from 10-10:45am*

*Anita Purves Nature Center*

*Ages 2-6 with adult*

Enjoy this free introductory program to learn about bugs! No pre-registration necessary. Babes in the Woods draws on imaginative themes and local ecology to engage you and your child with the outdoors and encourage your curiosity. Programs take place outdoors except in cases of severe weather; please come prepared. After the program, participants will have the opportunity to register for the fall program series at **10% off** the regular price!

