

October 2023

Patapsco Valley State Park Soldiers Delight NEA

Register [here](#) or by contacting us at 410 461 5005. patapsco.statepark@maryland.gov

Accommodations for individuals with disabilities will be provided upon request. 2 weeks advance notice is requested.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2	3 5- Mushroom Hike - McKeldin	4 1- Fall Colors Hike - Avalon	5	6 2- Vulture Feeding	7 6:30- Bat Watch - SDNEA
8 1- Fall Colors Hike - Avalon	9	10 5- Mushroom Hike - Avalon	11	12 1- Fall Colors Hike - McKeldin	13 10- Bigfoot Hike	14 5- Sunset Wildlife Canoe 6:30- Owl Prowl - Avalon
15 1- Fall Colors Hike - McKeldin	16	17 5- Mushroom Hike - Hilton	18	19 1- Welcome Winter Hike - McKeldin	20	21 8- International Observe the Moon Night
22 1- Welcome Winter Hike - Avalon 2- Folk Medicine and Lore	23	24 2- Vulture Feeding	25	26 4:30- Folk Medicine and Lore	27	28 6 - Campfire Stories
29 2- Family Fun: Mining Hike 5- Folk Medicine and Lore	30 6- Evening in Red Dog Lodge	31 6 - Owl Prowl -SDNEA	<p>Are you interested in setting up a private program for your family or friends? https://forms.gle/JkypVLag99Dsm8mu7 Unless otherwise noted, events are held rain or shine, free and fun for all ages; donations are always welcome. Children under 10 must be accompanied by an adult. Dress for the weather/activity, wear sunscreen and insect repellent, bring plenty of water and snacks, and remember to check for ticks.</p>			

Center Hours

Soldiers Delight NEA Visitor Center: Daily, 11 - 3 p.m.

5100 Deer Park Road, Owings Mills, MD 21117

October 3: Mushroom Hike - McKeldin

5-6:30 pm at McKeldin Area, Shelter 576

11676 Marriottsville Rd, Marriottsville, MD 21104

Join Park Staff in a search for mushrooms in the park. This event is part of a series in which we will look for and try to identify mushrooms within the park as well as talk about their role in the ecosystem. Be prepared for a moderate to rigorous hike on variable terrain. [Sign up encouraged.](#) Groups larger than 5 must sign up in advance. Spots for 20 total participants.

October 4: Fall Colors Hike - Avalon

1 - 3 p.m. at Lost Lake Parking Lot in Avalon Area

5120 South St, Halethorpe, MD 21227

Join us to enjoy the colors of autumn! Meet at the Lost Lake Parking Lot in the Avalon Area to hike the Grist Mill Trail. View the foliage and enjoy the beauty nature has to offer! Trail is flat and partially paved- good for beginners! Shine only. [Sign up encouraged.](#) Groups larger than 5 must sign up in advance.

October 6: Vulture Feeding

2 - 2:45 p.m. at Soldiers Delight NEA Visitor Center

5100 Deer Park Road, Owings Mills, MD 21117

Bald is beautiful! Join us at our Soldiers Delight NEA Visitor Center to see just how gorgeous turkey vultures really are! Learn how they rid the planet of carrion, neutralizing disease along the way. Meet two of our feathered friends as we demonstrate their daily weigh in and flaunt their intelligence! Rain or shine. Free event, though donations welcome! [Sign up encouraged.](#) Great for homeschool groups!

October 7: Bat Watch - SDNEA

6:30 - 7:30 p.m. at Soldiers Delight Natural Environment Area Visitor Center

5100 Deer Park Road, Owings Mills, MD 21117

Follow a Bat Conservation International certified naturalist through the woods to spot bats while learning about their biology, diet, and conservation! Open for families and individuals of all ages. Wear closed-toed shoes and bring a flashlight. Shine only. [Sign up required.](#)

October 8: Fall Colors Hike - Avalon

1 - 3 p.m. at Lost Lake Parking Lot in Avalon Area
5120 South St, Halethorpe, MD 21227

Join us to enjoy the colors of autumn! Meet at the Lost Lake Parking Lot in the Avalon Area to hike the Grist Mill Trail. View the foliage and enjoy the beauty nature has to offer! Trail is flat and partially paved- good for beginners! Shine only. [Sign up encouraged](#). Groups larger than 5 must sign up in advance.

October 10: Mushroom Hike - Avalon

5 - 6:30 pm at at Avalon, Shelter 66
5120 South St, Halethorpe, MD 21227

Join Park Staff in a search for mushrooms in the park. This event is part of a series in which we will look for and try to identify mushrooms within the park as well as talk about their role in the ecosystem. Be prepared for a moderate to rigorous hike on variable terrain. [Sign up required](#). Groups larger than 5 must sign up in advance. Spots for 20 total participants.

October 12: Fall Colors Hike - McKeldin

1 - 3 p.m. at McKeldin Area Basketball Courts
11676 Marriottsville Rd, Marriottsville, MD 21104

Join us to enjoy the colors of autumn! Meet at the McKeldin Basketball Courts to hike the Tall Poplar Trail. View the foliage and enjoy the beauty nature has to offer! Be prepared for a moderate to rigorous hike on variable terrain - not a hike for beginners! Shine only. [Sign up encouraged](#). Groups larger than 5 must sign up in advance.

October 13: Bigfoot Hike

10 - noon at McKeldin Area Basketball Courts
11676 Marriottsville Rd, Marriottsville, MD 21104

Have you ever heard of the Snallygaster? Would you like to? Join a naturalist on an informative hike through the McKeldin woods along the Plantation and Switchback Trails. We will talk about local cryptids, how these stories can relate to Leave No Trace, and the importance of habitat conservation. This hike is a tribute to the Bigfoot Hikes at Patapsco in 1984. Shine only, [Sign up encouraged](#). Groups of 5 or more must sign up in advance.

October 14: Sunset Wildlife Canoe

5 - 7 p.m. in Daniels Area

Join Volunteer Rangers on a dusk canoe trip up the Patapsco River to see wildlife that comes out in the evening. [Sign up required](#). Spots for 16 participants only. Shine only, combined air and water temperatures must be above 120°F.

October 14: Owl Prowl

6:30 - 7:30 p.m. at Avalon Area, Shelter 92
5120 South St, Halethorpe, MD 21227

Follow a naturalist on a short hike to listen for and try to call out to owls! We will discuss the biology, habitat, diet, and conservation of Maryland owls. Suitable for families and individual adult patrons alike. Come ready to walk! Bring a flashlight and wear shoes appropriate for hiking on variable terrain. Clear skies only- program canceled in case of rain. [Sign up required in advance](#), spots for 20 total participants.

October 15: Fall Colors Hike - McKeldin

1 - 3 p.m. at McKeldin Area Basketball Courts
11676 Marriottsville Rd, Marriottsville, MD 21104

Join us to enjoy the colors of autumn! Meet at the McKeldin Basketball Courts to hike the Tall Poplar Trail. View the foliage and enjoy the beauty nature has to offer! Be prepared for a moderate to rigorous hike on variable terrain - not a hike for beginners! Shine only. [Sign up encouraged](#). Groups larger than 5 must sign up in advance.

October 17: Mushroom Hike - Hilton

5 - 6:30 pm at Hilton Area, Shelter 201
1101 Hilton Ave, Catonsville, MD 21228

Join Park Staff in a search for mushrooms in the park. This event is part of a series in which we will look for and try to identify mushrooms within the park as well as talk about their role in the ecosystem. [Sign up encouraged](#). Groups larger than 5 must sign up in advance. Spots for 20 total participants.

October 19: Welcome Winter Hike - McKeldin

1 - 3 p.m. at McKeldin Area Basketball Courts
11676 Marriottsville Rd, Marriottsville, MD 21104

Join us to bid goodbye to fall and welcome winter! Meet at the McKeldin Basketball Courts to hike the Tall Poplar Trail. Observe the changing of the seasons and enjoy the beauty nature has to offer! Be prepared for a moderate to rigorous hike on variable terrain - not a hike for beginners! Shine only. [Sign up encouraged](#). Groups larger than 5 must sign up in advance.

October 21: International Observe the Moon Night

8 - 10 p.m. at Soldiers Delight NEA Visitor Center
5100 Deer Park Road, Owings Mills, MD 21117

Join us for the final program of the year as we celebrate International Observe the Moon Night (IOMN)! IOMN is a worldwide public event that encourages observation, appreciation and understanding of our Moon and its connection to space science, exploration and human culture. Time machines (telescopes) will be provided by the Westminster Astronomy Club. [Sign up encouraged](#).

October 22: Welcome Winter Hike - Avalon

1 - 3 p.m. at Lost Lake Parking Lot in Avalon Area

5120 South St, Halethorpe, MD 21227

Join us to bid goodbye to fall and welcome winter! Meet at the Lost Lake Parking Lot in the Avalon Area to hike the Grist Mill Trail. Observe the changing of the seasons and enjoy the beauty nature has to offer! Trail is flat and partially paved- good for beginners! Shine only. [Sign up encouraged.](#) Groups larger than 5 must sign up in advance.

October 22: Folk Medicine and Lore

2 - 3 p.m at McKeldin Area, Shelter 576

11676 Marriottsville Rd, Marriottsville, MD 21104

Sit down for a spell and learn about the history of folk medicine and magic in Colonial America!

We'll discuss the ways that Marylanders of yore used folk magic to protect themselves from the dangers they believed were all around them, and make our own traditional poppets out of spare fabric and dried plants. [Sign up encouraged.](#) Groups larger than 5 must sign up in advance.

October 24: Vulture Feeding

2 - 2:45 p.m. at Soldiers Delight Natural Environment Area Visitor Center

5100 Deer Park Road, Owings Mills, MD 21117

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October 26: Folk Medicine and Lore

4:30 - 5:30 p.m at Avalon, Shelter 1

5120 South St, Halethorpe, MD 21227

Sit down for a spell and learn about the history of folk medicine and magic in Colonial America!

We'll discuss the ways that Marylanders of yore used folk magic to protect themselves from the dangers they believed were all around them, and make our own traditional poppets out of spare fabric and dried plants. [Sign up encouraged.](#) Groups larger than 5 must sign up in advance.

October 28: Campfire Stories

6 - 7 p.m. at Avalon Area, Shelter 106

5120 South St, Halethorpe, MD 21227

Join a naturalist for spooky stories around the campfire! Bring your own s'mores ingredients and dress for the weather! Shine only. [Sign up encouraged.](#)

Groups larger than 5 must sign up in advance. Spots for 20 total participants.

October 29: Mining Hike

2 - 4:30 p.m. at Soldiers Delight Natural Environment Area Visitor Center

5100 Deer Park Road, Owings Mills, MD 21117

Join Volunteer Ranger and mining historian Johnny Johnsson on a two mile Mining History Hike to the historic Choate chromium mine. The history of mining in Soldiers Delight will be supplemented by demonstration of mining artifacts. Participants will have the opportunity to pan and buddle chrome sands (kind of like panning for gold). This program is a great family program for the ages of 10 and up, parents are welcome. For those who can only walk a short distance, they can drive part of the way, park, and then make a short walk over uneven terrain to the Choate Mine area where most of the program is conducted. This event is free, though donations are welcome.

October 29: Folk Medicine and Lore

5 - 6 p.m. at Hollofield, Shelter 350

8020 Baltimore National Pike, Ellicott City MD 21043

Sit down for a spell and learn about the history of folk medicine and magic in Colonial America!

We'll discuss the ways that Marylanders of yore used folk magic to protect themselves from the dangers they believed were all around them, and make our own traditional poppets out of spare fabric and dried plants. [Sign up encouraged](#). Groups larger than 5 must sign up in advance.

October 30: An Evening in Red Dog Lodge

6 - 7:30 p.m. at Soldiers Delight Natural Environment Area Visitor Center

5100 Deer Park Road, Owings Mills, MD 21117

Join a park Naturalist for an evening in the historical Red Dog Lodge. Sit by the fireplace and play a multiplayer survival board game based in local history. [Sign up encouraged](#). Limited to 6 participants. BYO snacks and beverages, alcohol is not permitted.

October 31: Owl Prowl - SDNEA

6 - 7 p.m. at Soldiers Delight Natural Environment Area Visitor Center

5100 Deer Park Road, Owings Mills, MD 21117

Follow a naturalist on a short hike and listen for and try to call out to owls! We will discuss the biology, habitat, diet, and conservation of Maryland owls. Suitable for families and individual adult patrons alike. Come ready to walk! Bring a flashlight and wear shoes appropriate for hiking on variable terrain. Clear skies only- program canceled in case of rain. [Sign up required in advance](#), spots for 20 total participants.