

October 2023

SENECA CREEK STATE PARK

11950 Clopper Road | Gaithersburg, Maryland 20878
301-924-2127 | scspnaturalist@gmail.com

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2	3 Nature Crafts: Climbing Spider Craft 10:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.	4	5	6 Mad Hatter Day Hike 4:30 p.m.	7
8	9	10 Nature Crafts: Bat Craft 10:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.	11	12	13 Friday the 13 th Hike 4:30 p.m.	14
15	16	17 Nature Crafts: Scented Fall Play Dough 10:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.	18	19	20 Information Overload Day Hike 4:30 p.m.	21
22	23 Autumn Photography Session 7:15 a.m.	24 Nature Crafts: Harvest Decorations 10:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.	25	26	27	28
29 Blair Witch Heritage Hike 1 – 3 p.m. Afternoon Hike & Paint 4 p.m.	30	31 Spooky Scavenger Hunt 9 a.m. – 5 p.m. Nature Crafts: Halloween Masks 10:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.	<p>Dress for the weather and activity, wear sunscreen and insect repellent, bring plenty of water and snacks, and remember to check for ticks.</p> <p>For photos & more, visit: Friends of Seneca Creek State Park or Maryland State Parks Facebook page.</p>			

All events are held rain or shine, free and fun for all ages unless otherwise noted. Be advised some programs have applicable entrance fees.

Nature Crafts: Climbing Spider Craft

10:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. at the Nature Shack by the Tire Playground

Starting off our fall season is an exploration of local spiders. Orb weaver spiders are out and making their beautiful and impressive webs. Come learn about them and make your own climbing spider.

Mad Hatter Day Hike

4:30 p.m. at the Park Office

Wear your maddest hat, or just your usual thinking cap while we take a stroll on natural surface trails to learn some local and natural history. We will start with a peek inside the Grusendorf cabin. All ages welcome.

Nature Crafts: Bat Craft

10:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. at the Nature Shack by the Tire Playground

Bats are often associated with fall. This is the time of year that they are packing on fat to last through the winter. Come learn about local bats and then make your own bat craft.

Friday the 13th Hike

4:30 p.m. at the Park Office

Come on an easy hike that busts the myth of Friday the 13th being unlucky. We guarantee that you will be lucky enough to discover at least one new wild and crazy fact about something in the natural world!

Nature Crafts: Scented Fall Play Dough

10:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. at the Nature Shack by the Tire Playground

This week we will explore the smells of spices associated with fall. Come make your own homemade play dough including fall colors and spices.

Information Overload Day Hike

4:30 p.m. at the Park Office

Trade your usual social media, work, and time sensitive information overload for a whole lot of trivia about the plants and animals who live in the park.

Autumn Photography Session

7:15 a.m. at Black Rock Mill

16500 Black Rock Rd Germantown, MD 20874

Bring your cameras and come out to the Mill for this special photography session to enjoy and capture the beautiful fall colors on display during sunrise! We will meet at the Black Rock Mill parking lot. Branch out on your own or take a guided hike. Please RSVP using this link: <https://forms.gle/M3CijBEzr1Ci911c7>

Nature Crafts: Harvest Decorations

10:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. at the Nature Shack by the Tire Playground

Halloween is just around the corner and celebrating the fall harvest is at hand. Come learn how Native Americans grew and harvested the "Three Sisters:" maize, beans, and squash. Paint some miniature gourds to decorate your home.

Afternoon Hike & Paint

4 p.m. at Nuthatch Pavilion

Come join Ranger Kehrman for a hike and golden hour painting session around the lovely Seneca Creek trails. Each program will explore a different area of the park, include a small painting lesson followed by a longer freeform painting session of the surrounding wildlife. Supplies will be provided. We will meet up at Nuthatch pavilion, then hike a 1-hour loop through the Mink Hollow, Lakeshore, and Long Draught trails. Shine only, rain cancels program. RSVP is required by visiting this link: <https://forms.gle/bQ5Nhf8pL2kvscBW6>. \$5 suggested donation to Friends of Seneca Creek State Park for supplies.

Blair Witch Heritage Hike

1 – 3 p.m. at Button Farm Living History Center

16820 Black Rock Rd Germantown, MD 20874

Nearly 25 years ago, two young filmmakers made cinema history. "The Blair Witch Project" was a worldwide sensation and is still one of the most profitable movies in Hollywood history. Join Ranger Ledbetter to learn how this horror classic came to be filmed here in Maryland at Seneca Creek State Park and visit actual shooting locations from the film. Hosted in cooperation with Button Farm Living History Center. RSVP recommended by visiting this link: <https://forms.gle/EUUeVRkNT9uyPqyN9>.

Spooky Scavenger Hunt

9 a.m. – 5 p.m. at the Park Office

Happy Halloween! Pick up a scavenger hunt card, then embark on a self-guided journey to see what spooky nature items you can find.

Nature Crafts: Halloween Masks

10:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. at the Nature Center

Wearing masks is part of the Halloween tradition. We'll make one of several animal masks to celebrate!