



FAIRFAX COUNTY PARK AUTHORITY



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For Immediate Release

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PSA-132

Explore Nature at Camp By Day and By Night

The Fairfax County Park Authority has camps for the early bird, the evening explorer, and the night owl. Explore your community parks, learn about nature, and have fun! During the day, learn about art and science. Next, tell stories around a campfire. Then, learn how to survive in the woods at night.

At Scientists and Artists Camp, you can be an artist and a scientist! Experiment with light, color, and sound, and explore the world through a microscope. Play games, tell stories, shape paper mache, and build your own naturalist journal for a keepsake. Choose either Hidden Oaks Nature Center or Huntley Meadows Park to explore forests, meadows, and Fairfax County's largest non-tidal wetland. There are camps for 6-to-9 year-olds and for 7-to-12 year-olds, and you can choose from among weekly camps that run either in mornings or all day. Scientists and Artists Camp weeks begin on June 27, July 11 and 18, and August 8. Prices range from \$190 to \$295.

Gather 'round an evening blaze with Hidden Oaks Nature Center's Camp by Campfire. Observe bats and other wildlife while enjoying woodland hikes, astronomy activities, stream stomps, crafts, puppet shows and a snack cooked at the campfire, including s'mores, baked banana treats, and one dinner. Make your own campfire cooking tools! Dissect owl pellets, learn about nocturnal animals, and net insects in the field and critters in the stream. Camps are for 7-to-10 year-olds, and the cost is \$190 per camper plus a \$10 supply fee. Choose from two weeks in August, beginning either August 22 or 29.

Finally, at night, take on the challenge of Hidden Pond Nature Center's Nocturnal Survival Camp. This camp for the 8-12 year-old group runs from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. starting on July 25. For \$190, learn skills needed to survive in the woods at night as well as how plants and animals survive after dark.

Register for these or any of the other Park Authority nature camps, running from day to night, in Parktakes magazine at www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/parktakes/.

Hidden Oaks Nature Center is at 7701 Royce Street in Annandale, Va. The phone number is 703-941-1065. Huntley Meadows is at 3701 Lockheed Blvd. in Alexandria, Va. The park's number is 703-768-2525. And Hidden Pond is located at 8511 Greeley Blvd. in Springfield, Va. That park's phone number is 703-451-9588.

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If accommodations and/or alternative formats are needed, please call (703) 324-8563, at least 10 working days in advance of the registration deadline or event. TTY (703) 803-3354.