



FAIRFAX COUNTY PARK AUTHORITY



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For Immediate Release

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Experience the House of Reptiles and a Night Ride

Halloween has almost arrived, and with the scariest of holidays comes fun-filled events for families, such as Ellanor C. Lawrence Park's House of Reptiles and Night Ride on Saturday, October 29, 2016. From 7 to 8:30 p.m., families are invited to test their courage and challenge their fears and phobias as they meet and touch creepy-crawly creatures. This campfire program concludes with a wagon ride through a moonlit meadow and s'mores. The cost is \$10 per person. Registration is available online or by calling 703-222-4664. For more information, call the park at 703-631-0013.

Participants will venture through the rooms of historic Walney House, where they'll feel the skin and shells of snakes, turtles, and salamanders -- if they dare. Built in 1768, Walney provides an eerie ambience for learning about local reptiles and amphibians. (There is no real danger to participants, and children under the age of four will not be permitted to touch these animals.)

While riding through the meadow on the 15-minute wagon ride, participants may catch a glimpse of some of the park's nocturnal hunters or see a reptile in the wild. The evening concludes around the warm glow of a bonfire while participants roast s'mores and calm their nerves. Historians will share stories about the animals who lived with Walney's original residents, as well as the history of captive reptiles in America.

Ellanor C. Lawrence Park is located at 5040 Walney Road in Chantilly, Va. For more information, visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/eclawrence or call 703-631-0013.

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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.