

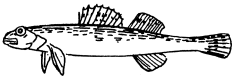


Volunteer Workshop Schedule – Fall 2010

All workshops are from 10:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m. in the Rowe Visitor Center except where indicated. These workshops are open to all current or prospective CNC volunteers. Certification workshops are intended for school group educators, but all volunteers are welcome to participate. Please bring a bag lunch and dress for the outdoors as most workshops are hosted indoors but involve outdoor exploration.

Aug 30

Listening to the Fishes in Avey's Run OK, so we will not actually be hearing from the fish living in our stream at Rowe Woods, but they do have a message for us. The presence of fish in a stream is driven by many factors. At the regional level the primary factor for fish diversity in a stream is Drainage Area. However, the health of a stream has the biggest impact on the presence and diversity of fish at the local level. No matter how large the drainage area may be; if the water is polluted fish diversity will be low. Assessing fish diversity and abundance is one way to measure stream health. So please join staff from **ODNR Division of Wildlife** as we survey fish in a section of Avey's Run and learn about healthy streams at Rowe Woods. (Jason Brown)



Sept 20

Fabulous Fungi For many years, Fungi were placed in the plant Kingdom, but now they have a Kingdom of their own. Learn why, along with other fascinating facts such as the different forms of fungi, how they reproduce and their many uses in our lives. Join **Karen M. Mathis, Ph.D.**, Visiting Assistant Professor at UC's Clermont College as she delves deep into the lives of fungi. After lunch, we'll hike the trails to see what evidence of fungi we can find.



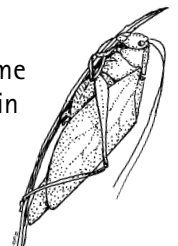
Sept 27

Making Learning Fun **David Stokes** is well-known in the nature center world and has inspired countless naturalists throughout the years. The Wisconsin Association for Environmental Education named him "Teacher of the Year;" he has earned an "Aldo Leopold" award, certification with the National Association for Interpretation, and been recognized for educational excellence by the The Northshore United Educators (WEAC). David has a solid educational background in the natural sciences, holding a Masters of Science in Conservation Education from Michigan State University. He has been creating exciting learning situations since 1974. Prior to 2001 David worked for 18 years at the Schlitz Audubon Nature Center (National Audubon Society) in Milwaukee as Education Specialist and Director of Education. David will demonstrate how to engage audiences of all ages in nature study using live creatures and animal artifacts, songs and short stories, movement, riddles, audio/visual and hands-on materials. After lunch, David will take us outdoors to demonstrate techniques that work well along the trails.

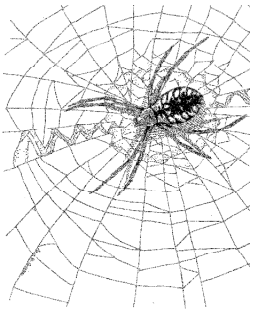


Oct 4

Insect Song Join **Dr. Harvey Ballard**, entomologist from Ohio University, as he takes into the world of darkness and the songs of insects. This last frontier will be demystified as we learn the various ways insects make "songs" and just who is making them. Many of us can identify ten birds by their songs, but can we identify ten insects by their songs as well? This will be a fun way to expand an audiophile's audio file as we see insect images coordinated with sounds and sonograms. Insects are everywhere, and learning about some of the less familiar creatures of the night sheds new light on the amazing natural world in our own backyards.



Oct 11



The World of Spiders "Oh, what a tangled web we weave, when first we practice to deceive". Sir Walter Scott coined these words, but **Dr. George Uetz**, Professor of Biological Sciences from the University of Cincinnati, will bring them to life with examples of the spider groups found around Cincinnati. Many spiders are born to deceive -- some brown spiders mimic part of the forest floor, others are brightly colored like flower blossoms, and some act like a piece of debris in a line of dead carcasses. In this engaging program you'll learn about their diverse forms and other amazing facts and fallacies, such as how baby spiders "fly", how the black widow got her name, and how you can get spider silk from a goat! This visual tour of spiders is presented by Dr. Uetz in his relaxed style which makes him a valued guest speaker at CNC. Whether you just want to learn more about the world outside your backdoor, or are trying to reduce your fear of eight-legged beasties, this is an enjoyable program you don't want to miss!

Oct 25

Recent Findings in Skunk Research Most people are aware of skunks only when they see a dead one in the road or smell their unmistakable scent in the air. That's because these gentle mammals are nocturnal and spend most of their time quietly minding their own business. **Dr Stanley Gehrt**, OSU Professor and Wildlife Extension Specialist, will provide an in-depth look at these mammals based on a long-term research project monitoring a skunk population for 6 years. We'll learn about their movements, family life, threats to their survival, relationships with people, and of course, their spray mechanism. Following an indoor lecture, join Dr Gehrt on an afternoon hike from 1:00- 2:00 to look for signs of skunk activity such as scat and places where they've dug for insects.



Nov 1



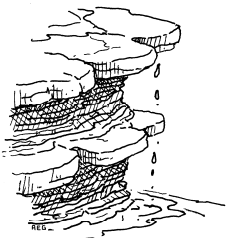
Storytelling For Trail Guides Join professional storyteller **Eric James Wolf** as he demonstrates techniques you can use to deepen relationships, build trust, and inspire discovery with children while leading them on nature hikes. Eric hosts The Art of Storytelling Show, an incredible worldwide resource on storytelling for which he has received an Oracle Award for Distinguished National Service by the National Storytelling Network. Learn more at his website: www.ericwolf.org. An important component of mentoring children is capturing their attention and imagination with stories. This is an effective way to convey facts and information without being didactic. During the workshop, we will discuss ways to apply what we learn and explore ways to support one another in on-going efforts to incorporate storytelling into our teaching.

Nov 8

Adaptation and Sexual Selection Explore adaptation in the natural world with **Michal Polak**, UC Associate Professor of Biology. Adaptation can have very different meanings to different people, and our discussion will clarify some of the different ideas on this topic. We will learn about sexual selection, and how it produces adaptations specific to the challenges of acquiring mates. The discussion will take us into a world that even Charles Darwin himself did not contemplate, of sexual competition occurring after mating to produce some of the most bizarre and fascinating adaptations of animals.



Nov 29



Igneous is Bliss: Under Our Feet Lesson Certification This is an easy way to learn everything you need to know to teach Under Our Feet. We'll begin with background material to build your confidence about soils, land formations, and fossils, then practice using the activities related to the lesson, all while developing our teaching techniques and questioning skills. An indoor/outdoor format will be used, and you'll receive useful take-home tips. At the end of the day, you may take your certification quiz (open book) before you leave, or take it home with you to return later. Experienced volunteers and newbies alike will benefit from this workshop! (Jason Neumann and the fabulous education interns)

Questions about a workshop? Contact **Sarah Holland** (513) 831-1711 x128 or sholland@cincynature.org