

James Clarkson

# Environmental Discovery Center Winter 2012 Public Programs Call (248) 625-7280 to register

NOTE: Adult chaperones must attend with their children  
Please plan to arrive 15 minutes before the program begins for check-in  
and to enjoy the pond dome!



## December

### **Tot-time: Winter Wonderland**

*Saturday, December 3, 10:00 am*

Bring your sense of wonder as we explore everything winter has to offer. Be prepared to venture outdoors in search of snowflakes.

Ages: 2-5 years old      Costs: \$3.00 per child

### **Snacks 'n' Crafts with Santa**

*Saturday, December 10, 10 am and 1 pm*

Listen to a story in front of the tree, decorate a cookie, make some festive crafts and visit Santa, too! Pre-registration required.

Ages: All      Costs: \$5.00 per child

### **"Uncovering the Invisible" Hike**

*Sunday, December 18, 1 pm*

When the leaves fall and snow blankets the earth, so much of nature seems hidden. But join us to discover just how many mysteries are revealed! With winter just around the corner, keep your senses sharp on this special hike where we'll "uncover the invisible!"

Ages: All      Costs: \$3.00 per person

## January

### **Tot-time: Animals in Winter**

*Saturday, January 7, 10:00 am*

How do animals survive all winter long? Come discover how these amazing animals live through the winter. Be prepared to look for animal tracks outdoors.

Ages: 2-5 years old      Costs: \$3.00 per child

### **Design Your Own Animal Track Stamps**

*Sunday, January 8, 1:00 pm*

Learn how to make your own track stamps! You can use them with acrylic fabric paints or stamp pads. Decorate a card for a loved one, use them on a t-shirt, or design a science project for school. Participants will make several Michigan mammal tracks to take home.

Ages: 6 and up      Costs: \$5.00 per person

### **Everything You Need to "Snow"**

*Sunday, January 14, 1:00 pm*

Besides the cold weather and the snow, what makes the winter...well, winter?! Join us as we explore the wonders of this beautiful season!

Ages: 7 and up      Costs: \$3.00 per person

### **Tracking Winter Wildlife**

*Sunday, January 29, 1:00 pm*

Have you ever wanted to get into the mind of a raccoon? Or stalk the woods like an elusive fox? Or maybe scurry up a tree and leap from branch to branch like a squirrel? Then join us for this exciting program! We'll learn about the "six arts of tracking" and participate in some animal form games. Then we'll head outside to put our new skills to the test as we track winter wildlife!

Ages: all      Costs: \$3.00 per person

## February

### **Tot-time: “Bearily” Yours**

*Saturday, February 4, 10:00 am*

Grrrr! Let’s learn about one of Michigan’s largest mammals, bears! Children will experience some “beary” special activities.

Ages: 2-5 years old      Cost: \$3.00 per child

### **Owls by Moonlight**

*Saturday, February 4, 6:00 pm*

Winter birding has special challenges but also special rewards. Bring your binoculars and join us on a hike in search of our winter and year-round feathered friends. No prior birding experience necessary.

Ages: 6 and up      Costs: \$3.00 per person

### **Fun Science Experiments**

*Sunday, February 5, 1:00 pm*

Youngsters will have fun discovering how common materials work. Make homemade paper, “maple seed whirlies”, age a tree, see how a compass works, make invisible ink, and more. Indoor program.

Ages: 1<sup>st</sup> grade and up      Cost: \$3.00 per child

### **Science of Sledding**

*Saturday, February 11, 1:00 pm*

Learn about the physics of sledding by performing experiments on a model prototype in the lab before joining in the ultimate experiment, testing what we learned on the sledding hill itself! Families will meet at the EDC for the first half of the program and then head over to the sledding hill. Be sure to dress warm and to bring your sled!

Ages: all      Costs: \$5.00 per person

## **Snowshoe Hike**

*Sunday, February 12, 1:00 pm*

Get your snowshoes ready! We will hike the Woodland Trail and explore the woods in winter. Please bring a pair of snowshoes for this program.

Ages: 10 and up      Cost: \$4.00

## **Labtabulous Science**

*Saturday, February 25, 10:00 - 2:00 pm*

Come to the science laboratory and conduct several fun and educational science experiments for kids. Learn the why and how of each experiment as you, the kids, become the scientists for the day! This program has an open house forum so come on in.

Ages: 7 and up.      Costs: \$3.00 per person

## March

### **Maple Sugaring**

*Every Saturday and Sunday in March*

March is Maple Sugaring month! With Spring not too far off, the warm days and freezing nights encourage sap flow in maple trees.

This is the ideal time to collect the sugary sap and boil it down into maple syrup.

Participants will learn how the local American Indians discovered the sugaring process and how they shared this treat with the settlers. Then, we’ll hike out to the Sugarbush where we’ll guide your group in the proper tapping of a maple tree. After you have tapped a tree, check out our evaporator to see how the maple sap is boiled down into syrup. Of course, no one leaves without a taste of pure maple syrup!

Ages: all      Cost: \$3.00 per person

Check out our blog at [www.metroparks.com](http://www.metroparks.com) !



**James Clarkson**

## **Environmental Discovery Center** *at Indian Springs Metropark*

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