



The Prairie Oak Nature Center



Unleash the "nature bug" in you with a visit to the Prairie Oak Nature Center! The center houses nature exhibits such as mounted animals, live reptiles and amphibians, and a large fish aquarium. Our library is filled with reference books on plants, animals and includes a section of children's nature books. Grab a book and relax in our library for an afternoon. Admission is free!

We offer fun environmental education programs for all ages. Look in the program guide for our scheduled activities. In addition to scheduled programs, our staff will work with your group to provide a personal program to meet your needs.

**Fall/Winter Hours
Through September 30**
Tuesday - Saturday 10:00 am - 5:00 pm
Sunday 1:00 pm - 5:00 pm
Closed Mondays
**Beginning October 1st through
March 31, 2007**
Wednesday - Saturday 10:00 am - 4:00 pm
Sunday 1:00 pm - 4:00 pm
Closed Mondays and Tuesday



These kids are enjoying the fun as they planted a tree in honor of Arbor Day in conjunction with Take Your Child to Work Day.

IRONWOODS CABINS

Ironwoods Cabins make a great overnight adventure for scout groups, children's birthday parties or other organized youth groups. Each of the four rustic cabins will accommodate 14 people in the main sleeping area and 2 people in the attached side room. Kids love the bunk beds!



Each cabin has a grill, picnic tables, and groups share the campfire for an evening of roasting marshmallows. Groups can plan their own activities or let our staff put together a nature program, hike or challenge course activity. Cabins are available for rent beginning April 1st. Call 913.681.0902 for your reservation.

Rates: Resident \$95, Non-Resident \$110, Civic \$90, and Corporate \$150

Season Runs April – October

NOW ACCEPTING RESERVATIONS!

Scout Programs

Many different scout programs are being offered at the Prairie Oak Nature Center to assist leaders in earning merit badges.

Please call 913.681.0902 for details. Ironwoods Park has been accredited by the National Association of Boy Scouts as an approved facility.



Birthday Parties

at Prairie Oak Nature Center

Rent the activity room for a great party!

Parties include up to 90 minutes of nature programming that entertains and educates children on nature topics (trees, water, recycling, mammals, reptiles, amphibians, birds and insects). Activities may include a bug hunt, birdwatching or nature hike, bug bingo and a craft.



Tuesday through Saturday

Cost listed is for up to 15 children.

\$5.00 each additional child up to 20 children.

Ages: 5 years and up

Resident \$130-\$150 / Non-Resident \$145-\$165

Two options to choose from:

1½ hour party with up to 60 minutes of staff programming

or 2 hour party with up to 90 minutes of staff programming

All Parties Include:

- Nature Center Staff to Run the Party
- Nature Programming, Activities, and a Craft
- Paper Goods
- Goody Bags

You Provide:

- Cake or Food
- Drinks

Call 913.681.0902 to reserve your special date!



All classes will be held at the

PRAIRIE OAK NATURE CENTER

Ironwoods Park, 14701 Mission Road

To register call: (913) 681-0902

Astronomy for Beginners

All Ages

This beginning level astronomy class will teach basic concepts of our moon, solar system and galaxy. Members of the Astronomy Society of KC will be on hand with a 9' tall, 20" mirror telescope. This fun and educational class will spark interest and questions about the vast sky above. This class is dependant on a clear sky and may be cancelled if clouds prevail. One - 90 minute session.

Instructor: Members of the Astronomy Society of Kansas City

Location: Prairie Oak Nature Center

Cost: Resident \$6 / Non-Resident \$7 **Min:** 5 **Max:** 15

Session I	Sat	8:00-9:30pm	Sept 9
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Animals of Ironwoods

Ages 5 to 9 years

Learn about many of the animals that call Ironwoods Park home. Topics of discussion will include the requirements of wildlife including food chains and habits. Some of these animals include deer, fox, bobcat, hawks, rabbits, snakes and many more. This class will include a hike so dress appropriately for the weather (up to one adult may accompany each child). One - 90 minute class.

Instructor: Nature Center Staff

Location: Prairie Oak Nature Center

Cost: Resident \$6 / Non-Resident \$7

Min: 5 **Max:** 15

Session I	Sat	10:00-11:30am	Sept 16
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Falling Leaves

Ages 6 to 10 years

This class will focus on why leaves change color and fall from trees. Leaves, acorns, other seeds as well as the growth of trees will be discussed. A nature hike will include identifying many trees of Ironwoods Park. Please dress for the weather. A craft will also be included. One - 90 minute class.

Instructor: Nature Center Staff

Location: Prairie Oak Nature Center

Cost: Resident \$6 / Non-Resident \$7

Min: 5 **Max:** 15

Session I	Sat	10:30am-12:00pm	Oct 7
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Weather and The Water Cycle

Ages 7 to 12 years

This educational class is for all the little weather buffs who like to look up at the clouds. We will explain basic weather concepts and include the water cycle. A hike will be included to view the sky and water sources in Ironwoods Park so dress for the weather. One - 90 minute class.

Instructor: Nature Center Staff

Location: Prairie Oak Nature Center

Cost: Resident \$6 / Non-Resident \$7

Min: 5 **Max:** 15

Session I	Sat	10:30am-12:00pm	Oct 21
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Winter Birds and Migration

Ages 6 to 10 years

Learn about our many feathered friends and their requirements for survival in the wild. Why do some stay all winter and others leave? We'll try to attract and identify many different types of birds. Different types of bird seed and feeding will also be discussed. This class will include a craft and a short hike, so dress for the weather. One - 90 minute class.

Instructor: Nature Center Staff

Location: Prairie Oak Nature Center

Cost: Resident \$6 / Non-Resident \$7

Min: 5 **Max:** 15

Session I	Sat	10:30am-12:00pm	Nov 18
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DONATIONS BEING ACCEPTED



The Prairie Oak Nature Center is expanding its interactive educational opportunities and we need your help. If you have collections that are no longer wanted and would like to give back to the community, the nature center would enjoy receiving your contribution to educate the public about nature.

We will gladly accept the following items:

- Mounted native animals in good condition (taxidermy)
- Insect collections
- Arrowhead or other rock/mineral collections
- Books relating to plants, animals and our natural resources
- Interpretive nature exhibits, pictures or posters
- Display Cases
- Perennial butterfly loving plants for the garden

Orienteering

Ages 10 to 14 years

This informative class will teach the basics about using maps and compasses. Concepts such as magnetic north, contour lines on a topographic map, degrees, scale, bearing, declination and other related terms will be discussed. The class will consist of indoor instruction as well as practicing skills with a compass outdoors, so dressing for the weather is recommended. One - 2 hour class.

Instructor: Nature Center Staff

Location: Prairie Oak Nature Center

Cost: Resident \$7 / Non-Resident \$8

Min: 5 **Max:** 15

Session I	Sat	1:00-3:00pm	Dec 2
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Recycling and Earth Saving Ideas

Ages 5 years and up

This class will focus on how you can recycle and conserve to use less energy, water and various materials to save money. Learn tips on recycling, reducing and saving our earth at the same time. An adult must accompany each child under the age of 10. One - 60 minute class.

Instructor: Nature Center Staff

Location: Prairie Oak Nature Center

Cost: Resident \$6 / Non-Resident \$7

Min: 5 **Max:** 15

Session I	Sat	10:30-11:30am	Jan 20 '07
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VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Volunteers are an important and valued part of any successful community. Please check out the following volunteer opportunities waiting for you at the Prairie Oak Nature Center:

Librarian to inventory, arrange and keep all books and periodicals organized (3-4 hours per week).

Gardener for the butterfly gardens to assist with weeding, watering and caring for all plants around the nature center (5-6 hours per week during seasons).

Program Assistant to help staff with interpretive programs at the nature center (3-4 hours per week).

Photographer to take plant, animal and program pictures (2 hours bi-weekly).

Contact Jeff Peterson, Outdoor Education Supervisor,
Prairie Oak Nature Center at 913.681.0902 ext 11