

The Janet Huckabee Arkansas River Valley Nature Center offers recreational and educational programming for people of all ages. Along with daily, weekly and monthly events, the center offers specialized programs suitable for any nature enthusiast.

Keep this schedule handy when you plan your next trip to the nature center. One of our many fun and informative sessions is sure to interest you.

Daily

2 p.m. "Critter Crunch" Animal Feeding

Friday: snake feeding
Saturday: fish feeding in the large aquarium

For the rest of the week, stop by and see which surprise critter will be having lunch.



Weekly

Friday, 3:45 p.m.

Nature Break – Join the nature center staff for a 30-minute nature break activity designed for 3-7-year-olds.

Saturday, 10 a.m.

Guided Hike – A member of the education and information staff will lead a hike along one of our many trails. Dress for the weather and don't forget your camera.

Saturday, noon-2 p.m.

Canoe/Kayak Program – Staff members will assist boaters on Wells Lake. It's a great family activity. A parent or guardian must accompany children. Participants must wear life jackets, which will be provided. This activity is weather-permitting, and will not be available December–February.

Saturday, 3 p.m.

Laser Shot – Think you're a deadeye? Sharpen your hunting skills using a computer program like a video game, complete with laser gun. (This activity is dependent on the availability of the Multipurpose Room.)

Sunday, 2:30 p.m.

Archery – Everyone is encouraged to take part in this beginner's guide to archery. We provide the bows, arrows and safety instruction.

Nature Nights

Enjoy a wide variety of family friendly activities 'after hours' at the nature center.

Friday, Jan. 13, 6 p.m.

Becoming an Outdoors Woman Basics – BOW Basics is for the woman who wants to get outdoors but just doesn't know where to start. Assistant Education and Information Chief Arlene Green will offer a look at the annual Becoming an Outdoors-Woman (BOW) workshop held each September in Central Arkansas



as well as the Beyond BOW workshops offering advanced classes. Discussions will include: hunting as a tradition, where to hunt, and the basics of buying a shotgun, rifle and bow that actually fit a woman. Refreshments will be served, and door prizes given out.

Tuesday, Jan. 17, 7 p.m.

Introduction to Fly Tying – Fort Smith Flyfishers Association Members will be here to teach visitors how to correctly tie a fly. Watch an informative video about fly tying, followed by live demonstrations.

Tuesday, Feb. 7 and Thursday, Feb. 9, 6-9 p.m.

Boater Education Class – The Arkansas Boating Education Course teaches fundamentals of safe and responsible boating. Take the class and pass the test. Boat smart, boat safe. 6 p.m.-9 p.m. each night. Both evenings required.

Friday, Feb. 10, 6 p.m.

All About Bears – Master Naturalist Denis Dean will present a family oriented program all about the Arkansas Black Bear.

Friday, March 9, 7 p.m.

Star Party – The north side of Wells Lake will be transformed into an outdoor observatory. The Arkansas Oklahoma Astronomical Society will host an evening devoted to the evening sky.

Tuesday, March 13, 7 p.m.

Turkey, Turkey – C'mon out and learn how turkeys communicate with one another. Make your own turkey call so you can go home and begin to practice your calling skills.

Friday, April 13, 7 p.m.

Owl Prowl – Join a member of the education and information staff for an easy stroll along Wells Lake and the Beaver Creek Trail. We'll search for, and try to call in, owls – the most famous creatures of the night. Please bring a flashlight for the walk back

Tuesday, April 17 and Thursday, April 19, 6-9 p.m.

Boater Education Class – The Arkansas Boating Education Course teaches fundamentals of safe and responsible boating. Take the class and pass the test. Boat smart, boat safe. 6 p.m.-9 p.m. each night. Both evenings required.

Other Special Events

Saturday, Jan. 14, 1 p.m.

Trout Fishing 101 – With trout stocked in Wells Lake each winter, now is the time to try trout fishing. This beginning course, hosted by the AGFC's Aquatic Resources Education Program, teaches how to catch rainbow trout, including knots, rigs, bait selection, fish biology and casting.

Saturday, Feb. 4, 1-6 p.m.

Family Firsts: Basic Squirrel Hunting Workshop –

In Arkansas the opportunity to go squirrel hunting is nearly a year round opportunity, and doesn't require expensive equipment or gear. This workshop is for families with limited or no hunting experience. It's a wonderful sport to introduce kids and first time hunters to the great outdoors. It will concentrate on firearm safety in the field and at home, how to hunt squirrel with success, cooking savory dishes, where to go hunting, and habitat to look for. Sessions will be offered by AGFC staff. The workshop will include an easy squirrel dish, plus a fashion show to help you stay comfortable in the great outdoors. Registration is required. Call 479-452-3993 to register.

Saturday, March 10, 7:30 a.m.-6:30 p.m.

Hunter Education Safety Course – This course teaches the fundamentals of safe and responsible hunting. Anyone born on or after Jan. 1, 1969, must complete a hunter education course and carry a valid hunter education card to hunt in Arkansas.

Tuesday, March 20-Friday, March 23

Spring Break Special Programming – Call for more information on activities planned for this week.

Saturday, March 31, 10:30 a.m.

Dutch Oven Cooking – Join us as special guest Danny King demonstrates a variety of Dutch oven cooking recipes. Registration and a \$15 advance fee is required. Call 479-452-3993 to register.

Saturday, April 21, 10 a.m.-2 p.m.

Earth Fest – Join the nature center staff as we celebrate Earth Day with some Earth-friendly activities.

Hours of Operation

Tuesday-Saturday 8:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m.

Sunday 1-5 p.m.

Closed Mondays and major holidays

Admission is free



Janet Huckabee Arkansas River Valley Nature Center

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**Janet Huckabee
Arkansas River Valley
Nature Center**

**Program
Schedule**

January-April 2012

