

Eagle River Nature Center
32750 Eagle River Road
Eagle River, AK 99577
(907) 694-2108 www.ernc.org

APRIL 2019 Programs

Building Hours:
Fridays-Sundays, 10am – 5pm
Groups by appointment



Guided Hike for Families with Preschoolers **LITTLE EXPLORERS**

Join us Fridays at 11am for a short walk to explore nature at a preschooler's pace. Bring a snack or lunch to eat with new friends after.

Saturday, April 6, 10:30am-2:30pm **Workshop (\$55, Registration required)** **MAKE A WOODEN SHRINK POT**

Shrink Pots are magic little vessels. Starting with a small log or tree branch, we will hollow, carve and strategically employ wood's natural processes to make a functional vessel to hold kitchen dry goods or other small items. First we hollow a small, fresh and moist tree trunk or branch and cut a notch towards one end. Next we fit a dry piece of wood loosely into our notch and as the wet wood dries, it will shrink to fit the dry bottom piece. Finally, we can fit a lid or cover to the pot. *Ages 13 and up (teens need to attend together with an adult). Register at www.ernc.org.*

Sunday, April 7, 2-4pm **Workshop (\$10; Registration required)** **SPRING POETRY WORKSHOP**

"A tiny poem filled with a love of nature"—that's how American haiku master George Marsh describes haiku. Every haiku contains a *kilo*, a reference to the season of the year, and in this Spring Poetry Workshop participants will read and write and share haikus referencing spring. **Poet Mar Ka**, author of the recently released collection *Be-hooved*, is currently working on a haiku and prose collection in haibun tradition. *Registration and details at www.ernc.org.*

Saturday, April 13, 2pm

All Ages Program

CRYPTOZOLOGY: In Search of Bigfoot

Stories of Bigfoot/Sasquatch abound, but what is the evidence? What do they look like? Artist and cryptid-enthusiast **Rob Roy Menzies** introduces cryptozoology: the search for creatures whose existence has not (yet?) been proven by science. You'll get to see portraits he drew from eyewitness accounts, as well as illustrations of Bigfoot for several children's books.

Sunday, April 14, 2pm

All Ages Program: LIVING WITH BEARS

Nature writer and author **Bill Sherwonit** discusses how humans can safely – and respectfully – coexist with black and brown bears, from the city to remote backcountry. Bill is the author of *Alaska's Bears* and many other writings about our ursine neighbors, Bill also explores some of the myths about the dangers bears present to humans, and will answer questions about the natural history and behavior of Alaska's bears.

Wednesday, April 17, 10:30am-12:30pm **Homeschool Class (\$15; Registration required)** **RECYCLING AND WASTE**

Calculate how much waste a typical family produces. What happens to our garbage after we put it in the bin? Could worms & microbes eat our trash? How does recycling even work? Try your hand at upcycling! *For students K-6th, accompanied by parent; details and registration at www.ernc.org.*

Saturday, April 20, 2-4pm “Open House”

Children’s Craft Program

SODA BOTTLE CRAFTAFTERNOON

Celebrate Earth Day by taking your soda bottle crafts to a new level. Transform empty soda bottles into amazing useful objects like a functional broom, insect trap, super strong rope, woven basket, self-watering planter and more. Stop by the classroom yurt anytime between 2-4pm where we’ll have stations set up showcasing final products as well as several “make & take” options. *All materials provided, but do bring plastic soda bottles if you have them. No registration needed – stop by the classroom yurt anytime between 2-4pm.*

Sunday, April 21 EASTER SUNDAY

Building is closed, but trails are always open.

Saturday, April 27, 2-4pm “Open House”

Jr. Naturalist Program (K-6th)

THE SCOOP ON POOP

Nature is full of yuckies, but there’s a reason: what comes around must go around. Come down to the classroom yurt to learn about animal scat (the scientific word for poop) and even make some “Scat snacks”.

GO PLOGGING

Have you heard of the fitness craze from Sweden that combines jogging with intermittent squatting or lunging to pick up litter?

Help us keep the Nature Center trails clean – pick up a doggie poop bag at the trailhead before you head out on your walk or jog!

Sunday, April 28, 2-4:30pm

All Ages Program (Registration required)

USING MAP AND COMPASS

Learn how to not get lost by properly using map and compass. You’ll have a chance to triangulate your location off nearby mountain features, and practice a point-to-point navigation exercise in the woods. Presented by **Dean Knapp**, a volunteer with **Alaska Mountain Search and Rescue**. *Limited to 12 people, ages 10 and up. Register at www.ernc.org.*

Tuesday, April 30, 1-3pm

Homeschool Class (\$15; Registration required)

CREEKSIDE EXPLORATION

Bring your rubber boots so we can capture such macroinvertebrates as the larvae of caddisflies, stoneflies and mayflies. What can these bioindicators tell us about the health of our creek? *For students K-6th, accompanied by parent; details & registration at www.ernc.org.*

HEADS UP:

Nature Center Building Hours

May: Wednesdays-Sundays, 10am-5pm

June-Aug: Tuesdays-Sundays, 10am-5pm

Saturday, May 18, 6-9pm

Special Event (\$45/ticket)

MUSIC IN THE MOUNTAINS

Join us for a great evening of music, food, beers and ciders from local breweries. Limited to 100 people, ages 21 and up.

June 1-2 or June 29 -30

BIRD PHOTOGRAPHY WORKSHOP (\$75)

Detail and registration at www.ernc.org

2019 HOMER LAND RAFFLE:

Chance to win 5 acres of land: Tickets are \$100 and only 100 tickets will be sold. Tickets can only be purchased in person or by phone. Do not need to be present to win. Drawing will be held on October 5, 2019 at 8pm at the Alaska Native Heritage Center during the Nature Center’s Annual Auction.

For details about the land & rules of the raffle, visit www.ernc.org

Thank you to TOTE Maritime Alaska, corporate sponsor of our Junior Naturalist Program