

# EAGLE RIVER NATURE CENTER PROGRAMS

**MARCH 2024**



## BUILDING HOURS:

**October-April:  
Friday-Sunday  
10am-5pm  
Trails are always open!**

**Contact us at:  
907-694-2108 or  
info@ernc.org**

**Find out more about us  
@ [www.ernc.org](http://www.ernc.org)**

**Location:  
32750 Eagle River Rd.  
Eagle River, AK 99577**

## ERNC NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

**March has arrived! Are you  
prepared to try your luck?**

Participate in our PackRaffle for a chance to WIN a Gnarwhal Packraft and paddle from Alpaca Raft. Raffle ends March 31st. **Purchase raffle tickets at [www.ernc.org](http://www.ernc.org) or scan the QR code to the right.**



### Dick Griffith Challenge ends March 31

**We need a few more "lucky charms" to help us by supporting the Nature Center with a donation to the Dick Griffith Challenge! Amazing donors, Kevin and Doré Meyers, offered to match another \$5000, and we only have a little bit more to reach the goal!!!! *Donate today at [www.ernc.org](http://www.ernc.org) or scan the QR code above. Thank you to all those have donated, we truly appreciate it!***

**Don't forget to spring  
the clocks forward on  
March 10.**



### Nature Center Membership

**Did you know you can become a member of the Nature Center?** Your membership helps keep the trails maintained, the building open, and allows us to provide exceptional educational programming! As a member, you get year-round parking, special event perks, and a reduced rate for all our cabin/yurt rentals! **Join today at [www.ernc.org](http://www.ernc.org) or in person at your next visit to the Center. You can also renew your membership online or in person.** Thank you for your support!

**- NATURE CENTER PROGRAM SCHEDULE ON REVERSE -**

# MARCH 2024 PROGRAMS

## FRIDAY, MARCH 1, 6PM

### FIRST FRIDAY ASTRONOMY NIGHT

An evening of fun for the whole family! Join us for just part, or all of our monthly astronomy nights! Doors open at 6pm for a Mission2Mars activity for elementary school students. Join members of the Southcentral Alaska Astronomical Society for a presentation at 7pm, followed by star gazing (conditions permitting).

## SATURDAY, MARCH 2, 1PM-3PM

### JUNIOR NATURALIST | OPEN HOUSE

#### HOOT-ENANNY

Meet in the Ed Yurt and become a "know-it-owl" about owls! Discover what makes these birds such a hoot and dissect the leftovers from an owl's lunch. *Junior Naturalist programs are open to elementary school-aged students and their families—ask about earning your Junior Naturalist Badge. "Open House" means stop by anytime in that window*

## SATURDAY, MARCH 2, 6:30PM-9:30PM

### GUIDED HIKE | REGISTRATION REQUIRED

#### EVENING OWL-VENTURE

It's "owl" about owls tonight! Join experts Andrew Fisher & Enric Fernandez for a short presentation about the owls of the Eagle River Nature Center before going out on a hike to listen for owls on our trails! *Open to all ages, but participants must be able to remain still and quiet for extended periods and be comfortable navigating trails in the dark.* Register online at [www.ernc.org/public-programs](http://www.ernc.org/public-programs). Email [naturalist@ernc.org](mailto:naturalist@ernc.org) to be placed on waitlist

## SATURDAY, MARCH 9, 2PM

### JUNIOR NATURALIST | PRESENTATION

#### MEET A GREAT HORNED OWL

Whooooo's there? Join Ginamaria Smith and great horned owl Archimedes to discover some of the fascinating habits of owls. This is NOT an open house! Please arrive at the main building to settle in shortly before 2pm.

## SUNDAY, MARCH 10, 2PM

### ALL AGES LECTURE | NO REGISTRATION

#### LANDSCAPE PHOTOGRAPHY

Photo hobbyist Mike King presents a beginner's guide to landscape photography. Topics include useful gear, setting exposure, creating the composition, techniques for getting sharp images and much more. Geared toward DSLR and mirrorless camera users, mobile phone users will also take away useful tips.

## FRIDAY, MARCH 15, 22 & 29, 11AM

### GUIDED HIKE | NO REGISTRATION

#### LITTLE EXPLORERS RETURNS

Join in for an hour(ish) long hike on or near the Rodak trail at a toddler's pace! No registration necessary, just check in by 11am in the main ERNC building. The target audience for this program is babies & children up to age 6 accompanied by an adult. Older siblings are welcome to join in. Please leave furry friends at home.

## SATURDAY, MARCH 16, 1PM-3PM

### JR. NATURALIST | OPEN HOUSE

#### SPRING CYCLES

Phenology is all about noticing cycles in nature. Pick up your phenology worksheet at the front desk in the main building, then search the trails for inspiration to start your own phenology project. This is a self-guided adventure!

## SUNDAY, MARCH 17, 2PM

### ALL AGES LECTURE | NO REGISTRATION

#### IN SEARCH OF THE WATER OUZEL

The only truly aquatic songbird, the American dipper or water ouzel, often visits the viewing decks on the Rodak trail during the winter. Join Naturalist Samantha Blumenkönig on an investigation of these intrepid birds. After a 30-minute presentation, join us on an expedition (up to 2 miles) in search of this amazing bird.

## THURSDAY, MARCH 21, 5:30PM-7:30PM

### POTLUCK & LEARN | REGISTRATION RECOMMENDED

#### WINTRY WILD WOMXN

Adult womxn are invited to this community group seeking to empower women to thrive mentally & physically throughout the dark winter months. Enjoy good soup and conversation during this monthly meet up. Plan to bring a camp chair and email [naturalist@ernc.org](mailto:naturalist@ernc.org) to let us know you're coming!

## SATURDAY, MARCH 23, 1PM-3PM

### JUNIOR NATURALIST | OPEN HOUSE

#### JUST ANOTHER SCATURDAY AFTERNOON

Scat, dung, spore, droppings....whatever you want to call it, everybody poops. Scat can be a useful tool for scientists to discover which creatures are in a certain area and what they're eating. Try your hand at scat ID, learn about the bathroom habits of different creatures and more down in the ed yurt.

## SUNDAY, MARCH 24 2PM

### ALL AGES LECTURE | NO REGISTRATION

#### BACK COUNTRY BATHROOM

Volunteer naturalist Stacy Flagg is #1 at #2. Learn how to safely and ethically do your dood-y in the back country. Investigate products that can help ease your load and keep the wilderness pristine. Discover pro-tips for keeping your under carriage clean and the first 12 people through the door will receive a small kit to help along the way.

## SATURDAY, MARCH 30, 1PM-3PM

### JUNIOR NATURALIST | OPEN HOUSE

#### EGGS-PLORATION

Visit the Ed Yurt to explore which animals lay eggs, investigate the anatomy of a chicken egg, and practice the fine nuances of constructing a good nest.

## SATURDAY, MARCH 31

### NATURE CENTER BUILDING CLOSED FOR EASTER

Trails are always open!

**THANK YOU to TOTE Maritime Alaska for their continued sponsorship of the Jr Naturalist Program!**

