

May 2024

SENECA CREEK STATE PARK

11950 Clopper Road | Gaithersburg, Maryland 20878
301-924-2127 scspnaturalist@gmail.com

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Dress for the weather and activity, wear sunscreen and insect repellent, bring plenty of water and snacks, and remember to check for ticks. Please call (301) 924-2127 or email scspnaturalist@gmail.com for more info.			1	2	3 Evening Peony Talks 6 p.m. Peony Season Hike 6 p.m.	4 Peony Talks 2 p.m.
5 Peony Talks 2 p.m.	6	7 Nature Crafts – Bluebirds & Bird Kites 10:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.	8	9	10 Evening Peony Talks 6 p.m. Peony Season Hike 6 p.m.	11 Migratory Bird Walk 9 a.m. Peony Talks 2 p.m.
12 Treat Your Mother to a Hike! 11 a.m. Peony Talks 2 p.m.	13	14	15	16	17 Endangered Species Day Hike 6 p.m.	18
19	20	21	22	23	24 Spring Scavenger Hunt Hike 6 p.m.	25 Pontoon Tours 2 p.m.
26 Pontoon Tours 2 p.m.	27 Pontoon Tours 2 p.m.	28 Nature Crafts – Pipe Cleaner Butterfly Rings 10:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.	29	30	31	For photos & more, visit: Friends of Seneca Creek State Park Facebook Page.

All events are held rain or shine, free and fun for all ages unless otherwise noted.

Be advised some programs have applicable entrance fees.

Evening Peony Talks

6 p.m. at the Peony Garden

Join Ranger Erik for talks about the history of the Schwartz-Gloyd Peony Garden. Talks will take place every 15 minutes. Learn about the significance of the peony to the local community, then take a walk through the fields to enjoy the beautiful flowers.

Peony Season Hike

6 p.m. at the Peony Garden

May's Friday hikes will start at the Peony Garden to see the progression of the stunning blooms in waves of color and scent. Please dress for the weather and bring bug spray and water. Severe inclement weather cancels, but a light drizzle won't stop us from exploring!

Peony Talks

2 p.m. at the Peony Garden

Join Ranger Dylan for talks about the Schwartz-Gloyd Peony Garden. Talks will take place every 15 minutes. Learn about the significance of the peony to the local community, then take a walk through the fields to enjoy the beautiful flowers.

Nature Crafts – Bluebirds and Bird Kites

10:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. at the Nature Shack by the Tire Playground

Spring is the time for flying kites. May is the time that bluebirds raise their babies. Come learn about bluebirds, and then make your own bluebird kite. Even get some exercise running to get it flying!

Migratory Bird Walk

9 a.m. at Riley's Lock

13015 Riley's Lock Road, Poolesville, MD 20837

Join us for a beginner's bird walk with a Volunteer Ranger -- and fellow beginning birder! The stretch of the C&O Canal between Riley's Lock and Violette's Lock is one of the best places for birdwatching in the country, with over 275 species reported. Please bring binoculars if you have them; we will have a limited number available to borrow. Please dress for the weather and bring bug spray and water. Severe inclement weather cancels the hike, but a light drizzle won't stop us from exploring! Please note: there are port-a-potties on site, but no drinking water is available.

Treat Your Mother to a Hike!

11 a.m. at the Park Office

Join a Volunteer Naturalist and take your mother for a 1.3-mile loop hike on natural surface trails in the park. Views include Great Seneca Creek, rock outcroppings, trees, insect galls, and more. Wear comfortable walking shoes and bring bug spray and water, and wear sturdy shoes that you don't mind getting a bit muddy.

Endangered Species Day Hike

6 p.m. at the Peony Garden

On today's hike learn about some of the threatened and endangered species in Maryland. Starting at the Peony Garden, we will follow a loop on trails and roads to take in other views in the park. Please dress for the weather and bring bug spray and water. Severe inclement weather cancels the hike but a light drizzle won't stop us from exploring.

Spring Scavenger Hunt Hike

6 p.m. at the Peony Garden

In honor of National Scavenger Hunt Day, we will go on the hunt for signs of spring. Extra points for finding salamanders! Starting at the Peony Garden, we will follow a loop on trails and roads to take in other views of the parks. Please dress for the weather and bring bug spray and water. Severe inclement weather cancels program, but a light drizzle won't stop us from exploring!

Pontoon Tours

2 p.m. at the Boat Center

\$4/per person in addition to park entrance fees
Take a relaxing 45-minute boat ride on the "Blue Heron." Learn about history of the area and search for wildlife that call Clopper Lake home. Space is limited to 20 guests. Please visit the Boat Center to reserve tickets.

Nature Crafts – Pipe Cleaner Butterfly Rings

10:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. at the Nature Shack by the Tire Playground

One of the most eye-catching pollinators is the butterfly. Come learn about butterflies, their lives, and how they help plants make seeds. Make your own butterfly ring to wear while looking for butterflies here at the park.

