



# Thacher Park and Nature Center Program Calendar

*\* Please call to confirm all programs and to check locations.\**

## **Saturday, March 5, 1pm – 4pm: Nature Art Show Opening at Thacher Nature Center**

Come and be inspired by the works of local artists at our 13<sup>th</sup> annual art show. Meet the artists and support your local art community. This year's exhibit features the work of more than 50 artists, in a variety of media from watercolors, oils, and photography, to fiber and wood. The festivities include live music and refreshments. The Nature Art Exhibit will be on display until March 25, Tuesday through Sunday, 9am – 5pm. Call 872-1237 or 872-0800 for more information.

## **Sunday, March 6 at 1pm: "Last Chance Snowshoe Walk" at Thacher Nature Center**

Seize the chance at a snowshoe walk on the last snow of the season. Winter has been mild, but the threat of a late winter snowstorm is still real! Embrace the late winter weather and join us for an easy jaunt on the Nature Center's trails. Walk will last about 1.5 hours. Snowshoes are available to rent for \$5 per pair. Please call 872-0800 to register and reserve your snowshoes.

## **Saturday, March 12, 10am–12pm: "Yellow Tree" Painting Class at Thacher Nature Center**

Enjoy painting this beautiful yellow tree in the relaxed atmosphere of Thacher Nature Center. You will be guided through the process by instructor Noreen Powell. No experience is necessary and all materials will be provided. Pre-registration is required and fee of \$35 is due at the beginning of the class. Call 872-1237 to register.

## **Saturday, March 12, at 5:30pm: Hootin' and Howlin' at Thacher Park**

Join us for an evening walk to search for and learn more about Thacher Park's nocturnal wildlife. We will call for owls and coyotes, so Hooters and Howlers are welcome! Appropriate for adults and children ages 12 and up. Conditions will determine our meeting place. Please call 872-0800 to register.

## **Sunday, March 13, 9:30am – 12pm: Painting on Feathers at Thacher Nature Center**

Back by popular demand! Create your own beautiful design or wildlife image on a feather! Instructor Ida Pagano will provide an overview on feather preparation and painting directly on a feather. Each participant will receive 2 feathers and paint will be supplied. Wildlife images will be available for inspiration. Participants should bring fine tip small size brushes. Appropriate for ages 15 and up. Fee of \$15 includes materials. Pre-registration is required. Call 872-1237 to register.

## **Saturday, March 19, 10am – 3:30pm: Pastoral Oil Landscape at Thacher Nature Center**

Create a beautiful oil landscape painting on a 16 x 20 canvas in one class. Instructor Karen Woodin will demonstrate how to effectively apply, blend, and smooth your oil paints on a prepared canvas. Learn techniques for creating background mist, livestock, and textural pastoral landscape. Class is geared to beginner to intermediate levels. Fee of \$54 includes all materials. Advance registration is required. Please bring a bag lunch, light refreshments will be provided. Please call 872-1237 to register.

## **Saturday, March 26, at 10am: The Great Salamander Migration at Thacher Nature Center**

Spring has arrived, which means the amphibians of Thacher Park will soon be coming out of hibernation and searching for woodland pools! Come learn about salamander migrations, the importance of wetland habitats, and what you can do to help the amphibians. Please call 872-0800 to register.

## **Sunday, April 3, at 2pm: Build a Nest Box at Thacher Nature Center**

Invite beautiful Bluebirds or mosquito-eating Tree Swallows into your yard! Build a nest box and learn how and where to place it to attract cavity nesters. Our kits are pre-cut and pre-drilled, all hardware included. Bring a cordless drill and join the fun! Materials fee is \$8. Each child registered must be accompanied by an adult. Registration is required by calling 872-0800.





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## **Wednesday, April 6, at 10am: Preschool Amphibians program at Thacher Nature Center**

Spring is a special time to see and learn about the unique lives of amphibians! We will learn about the lifecycle of salamanders and frogs, whose lives depend on clean water. We'll see eggs and adults, and compare and contrast them with our resident reptiles! This hands-on program is appropriate for ages 3-5. Please call 872-0800 to register.

## **Saturday, April 16, at 10am: Cliff-top Walk at Thacher Park**

Take in the views from the cliff edge on this early spring walk. We'll take the Long Path out to Hailes Cave and walk the escarpment trail back, stopping to take in a cliff top perspective of the Indian Ladder Trail and the rushing waters of Outlet and Mine Lot Falls. Walk is about 1.5 miles in length and is over fairly level terrain. Participants should dress for cool, damp weather and muddy trails. Please call 872-0800 to register.

## **Saturday, April 23 at 10am and Sunday, April 24 at 2pm: Wetlands Walk at Thacher Park**

Explore dynamic wetland environments along one of Thacher Park's most popular trails. On this 1.5 mile walk we will observe a vernal pool and a large swamp ecosystem and talk about the greater importance of wetlands both for humans and the local fauna. Participants should dress for cool, damp weather and muddy trails. Program is appropriate for adults and children. Please call 872-0800 to register for Saturday or Sunday walk and for meeting place.

## **Wednesday, April 27, at 10am: "Robins Abound!" at Thacher Nature Center**

Fondly thought of as the first sign of spring, the American Robin is actually a year round resident. Learn their songs, look at nests and learn what makes great Robin habitat. Construct a Robin Nesting Shelf to take home. Materials fee is \$8. Please call 872-0800 to register.

## **Thursday, April 28, at 10am: "Who's Hoots for You?" at Thacher Nature Center**

Come and find out who's whooo and who gives a hoot in the owl world! Examine the Nature Center's mounted specimens to learn about the amazing features of these night-flying birds of prey. Listen to some familiar owl calls, learn what types of habitats they prefer, and find out where they like to hide! Examine an owl pellet to investigate their diet. This hands-on program is appropriate for all ages. Please call 872-0800 to register.

## **Saturday, April 30, at 10am: Woodland Wildflowers at Thacher Park**

There are just a few weeks in early spring when the sun shines through leafless trees to bring forth blooms on the forest floor. These woodland wildflowers have begun to bloom and soon will disappear. Come look for trillium, jack-in-the-pulpit, trout lily, hepatica, spring beauties, and other spring ephemerals. Meet at Paint Mine picnic area. Call 872-0800 to register.

## **Saturday, May 7, 9am – 1pm: "I Love My Park Day" at Thacher Park**

Thacher Park is a natural treasure in the capital region, picturesque and historical. This is a day to show your appreciation for our beautiful park by helping out on some park improvement projects. There are a variety of projects for different ages and abilities. Lunch will be provided for volunteers by the Friends of Thacher Park. Please call 872-1237 or go to [www.ptny.org/events/i-love-my-park-day](http://www.ptny.org/events/i-love-my-park-day) to register and for more information.

**I LOVE  
MY PARK  
days**



**Parks, Recreation  
and Historic Preservation**