



Thacher Park and Nature Center Program Calendar



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

Saturday, July 3, at 10am: Indian Ladder Trail Guided Walk at Thacher Park

Take a walk back in time on the famous Indian Ladder Trail. Learn about the geologic and cultural history of the Helderbergs as you descend the cliff to discover underground streams, caves, and fossils hundreds of millions of years old. Wear sturdy shoes and meet at the Indian Ladder picnic area. Parking fee is \$6 per vehicle. Call 872-0800 to register.

Saturday, July 3, 17, 31, at 9pm: Stargazing at Thacher Nature Center

View objects in the night sky through a powerful telescope with amateur astronomer Ken Dubois. Meet in the field near the parking area. Cloudy skies will cancel program. Call 872-0800 for more information.

Wednesday, July 7 at 10am: Preschool Program at Thacher Nature Center

Are snakes slimy? Do frogs have teeth? What's the difference between salamanders and lizards? Find out about all this and more in this fun program about reptiles and amphibians! Meet some of the creatures in our care and observe them up close. A simple craft project will be included. Program is appropriate for ages 3-5. Please register by calling 872-0800.

Thursdays, July 8, 15, 22, 29, at 9am: Walks in the Woods at Thacher Park

Enjoy meeting old and new friends on these mild to moderate walks through woods and meadows and around creeks and streams. Walks will be held on Thursdays through the summer and fall. Meet at the Paint Mine picnic area. All walks will begin at 9 am and will be approximately 1 ½ - 2 hours. Call 872-1237 for more information.

Saturday, July 10, at 10am: Fossils Rock! at Thacher Nature Center

The rocks in the Helderbergs are rich with fossils of ancient life. These fossils tell a story of what it was like here hundreds of millions of years ago. Find out how fossils are formed and what they tell us about life in the past. Make your own fossil replica to take home. Call 872-0800 to register.

Saturday, July 10, 9am – 3pm: Adirondack Pack Basket Workshop at Thacher Park

Weave your own genuine and useful Adirondack Pack Basket with instructor Pat Lightbody. This is a smaller version of the classic pack basket, measuring about 12" tall x 10" wide x 6" deep. Participants should bring towels, sharp scissors, measuring tape, awl or nutpick and plastic clothespins if available. Fee of \$50 includes materials. Space is limited and participants must pre-register by calling 872-1237.

Sunday, July 11, at 12pm: Native Plant Gardens Tour at Thacher Nature Center

Tour our wildlife, bee, butterfly, and "pocket prairie" gardens. Learn about these wonderful, easy to grow perennials, trees, and shrubs. For more information call 872-0800.

Wednesday, July 14 at 10am: Family Birding Basics at Thacher Nature Center

This program is for the beginning birders in your brood! We'll learn how to hold, focus and use binoculars to view birds. Practice these skills watching our bird feeders, then head outside to explore the field and forest habitats around the Nature Center. Look for birds soaring, flying and nesting, and listen for songs and calls of some familiar flying friends. This program is appropriate for all ages, so bring the family! Please call 872-0800 to register.

Saturday, July 17, 10am – 1pm: Dream Catcher Workshop at Thacher Nature Center

Hear the legend of the dream catcher and learn how to create your own with instructor Laura Bartell. Participants will make an authentic dream catcher from materials found in the natural world and decorate it with beads, stones, feathers, and other found objects. Fee of \$5 includes materials. Appropriate for ages 8 and up. Call 872-1237 to register.

Saturday, July 17, at 10am: Indian Ladder Trail Guided Walk at Thacher Park See July 3 description.

Sunday, July 18, 1:00pm: Butterflies and the Native Plants They Need

This presentation is for butterfly and plant lovers. Find out how to attract these jewels on the wing, easy native plants to grow and interesting facts about our local species of Lepidoptera. Call 872-0800 to register for this free program.

Saturday, July 24, at 10am: Herps Alive! at Thacher Nature Center

Lots of amphibians and reptiles live around us, but we rarely see them. Come and meet some of our native turtles, snakes, and salamanders up close with Dee Strnisa, Wildlife Rehabilitator. Find out where and how these cool critters live. Call 872-0800 for more information.

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Check www.nysparks.com for updates.



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Saturday, July 31, 11am – 5pm: Picnic and Pickin' in Thacher Park

Bring your picnic lunch and enjoy a day of music at Thacher Park! Sample the musical stylings of acoustic folk guitarist George Robinson, the Knox Traditional Strings, original folk and blues tunes by Kyle Miller, and a Rock and Roll mix by Home Brewed. After the performances musicians are invited to join a jam session. We'll have a Celtic/Irish session, a Swing session, and maybe an old time music jam if we can fit it in. Food, beverages and ice cream cones will be available, too! Parking fee is \$6 per vehicle. Please call 872-1237 for more information.

Wednesday, August 4 at 10am: The Buzz on Honeybees at Thacher Nature Center

Summer is in full swing and the honeybees are BUSY! Come and observe our unique live honeybee observation hive. Find out where they are finding food and see many different types of activity. Learn all about the lifecycle of the colony's three types of bees; workers, drones and the queen! Program is appropriate for adults and children of all ages, so bring the family! Please register by calling 872-0800.

Thursdays, August 5, 12, 19, 26, at 9am: Walks in the Woods at Thacher Park

Enjoy meeting old and new friends on these mild to moderate walks through woods and meadows and around creeks and streams. Walks will be held on Thursdays through the summer and fall. Meet at the Paint Mine picnic area. All walks will begin at 9 am and will be approximately 1.5 - 2 hours. Call 872-1237 for more information.

Saturday, August 7 at 10am: Salamander Search at Thacher Park

Flowing streams are a great location to find several species of salamanders. Learn about the life cycle of these unique creatures, and search for adults, larva and eggs. Find out how some salamanders are adapted to the fast-paced life in a stream. Wear waterproof boots or old sneakers, you might get wet! Program is appropriate for ages 8 and up. Please call 872-0800 to register and for meeting place.

Saturday, August 7, at 2pm: Indian Ladder Trail Guided Walk at Thacher Park See July 3 description.

Saturday, August 14, 10am – 2 pm: Stained Glass Mosaic Workshop at Thacher Nature Center

Create your own stained glass mosaic masterpiece in this two-part workshop by JoElla Casse. Learn the technique of mosaic using stained glass on glass to create a framed piece of artwork. Part two will be on Sunday, August 22, 10am – 12:30pm and participants should attend both sessions. Appropriate for ages 16 and up. Fee is \$35 for small framed piece or \$50 for large window sized piece and includes all materials. Pre-registration is required by calling 872-1237. Class will be conducted outdoors if possible.

Saturday, August 14, 28, at 9pm: Stargazing at Thacher Nature Center See July 3 description.



Saturday, August 21, at 9am: Adopt-a-Highway Cleanup at Thacher Park

Join the Friends of Thacher Park in cleaning up litter along Thacher Park Road. Meet at the Hop Field parking area. Volunteers get free admission to the park for the day. Call 872-0800 for more information.

Friday, August 27, at 5:30pm: Spider Search at Thacher Park

Look for and learn about several species of spiders found along the Indian Ladder Trail with spider enthusiast Tony Scalise. Meet at the Indian Ladder picnic area near the Park Office. Call 872-0800 for more information.

Saturday, August 28th at 10am: Summer Insects at Thacher Nature Center

Join us for a fun and easy walk in field and shoreline habitats that are alive with insect activity. Find out what types of insects, spiders and other small invertebrates inhabit each unique place. Collection equipment will be provided. Please, no nets! Bring sun protection and drinking water. Program is appropriate for all ages. Please call 872-0800 to register.

Saturday, September 4, at 6:30pm: Campfire Storytelling at Thacher Nature Center

Join us around the campfire for 'end of summer' tales with our favorite storyteller, Claire Nolan. S'mores fixins will be provided. Suggested donation is \$1 per person. Please register by calling 872-0800.

Saturday, September 4, at 8:30pm: Stargazing at Thacher Nature Center See July 3 description.

Sunday, September 5 at 2pm: Wildlife Program at Thacher Nature Center

Living close to wildlife is exciting for us humans, but it is often dangerous for the animals. Licensed Wildlife Rehabilitators like Kelly Martin rescue and care for injured or abandoned wildlife. Learn about the animals Kelly is taking care of and see them up close. Find out what you can do to help prevent wildlife injuries and what to do if you find an animal in distress. Call 872-0800 for more information.

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