

# Environmental Programs



Photo by Pam Peterson

## July

### Summer Nature Drawing Series: Drawing Basics

Local artist, Mark Daniels, will help students learn to draw the flora and fauna surrounding Bonneyville Mills with easy to understand exercises and techniques. Program fee includes basic supplies (drawing pencil, eraser, & paper). A supplemental supply list will be provided on the first day. Five student minimum

**Dates:** Mondays, July 2,9,16,23,30.  
**Time:** 6 – 9 p.m.  
**Age:** 16+  
**Cost:** \$122.00 before June 22.  
\$140.00 after June 22

**Preregister:** Contact Mark at 574-596-4407

**Location:** Baldwin Schoolhouse,  
Bonneyville Mill County Park.

### Nature Nuts: Turtles

Learn about turtles of all shapes and sizes, what they eat and where they live. There will be LIVE turtles to see and touch. Space is limited.

**Date:** Tuesday, July 3  
**Time:** 9:30 – 11 a.m.  
**Age:** 3 – 5 years old  
**Cost:** \$4/child, \$3/additional sibling

**Preregister by:** Tuesday, June 26  
Call 574-535-6458

**Location:** Ox Bow Haus Shelter,  
Ox Bow County Park

### Science Sleuths: Dandelions

Discover the benefits of dandelions as food, medicine and pollinators in your yard. We will be outside for much of the program, so please dress accordingly. Space is limited.

**Date:** Monday, July 9  
**Time:** 1:30 – 3 p.m. or 4 – 5:30 p.m.  
**Age:** 6 – 9 years old  
**Cost:** \$4/child, \$3/additional sibling

**Preregister by:** Monday, July 2

Call 574-535-6458

**Location:** Ox Bow Haus Shelter,  
Ox Bow County Park

### Ox Bow Rain Garden Maintenance Day

Lend a helping hand as we renew and revive our newly planted rain gardens at the main entrance by weeding and mulching. Please bring gloves and a water bottle.

**Date:** Wednesday, July 11  
**Time:** 9 a.m. – 12 p.m.

**Location:** Ox Bow Gatehouse,  
Ox Bow County Park

### Archery Classes

Sign up for archery lessons with certified instructor, Gerrod Hampel. Learn archery safety, basic shooting form, choosing and maintaining equipment, and improve your shooting skills in these hands-on classes. All equipment will be provided. Fee includes gate fee, range use and equipment usage.

**Date:** July 9 - 13, July 16 - 20,  
July 30 - August 3  
**Time:** 9:30 - 11 a.m. Introduction  
to Archery  
1 - 2:30 p.m. Intermediate  
Archery

**Age:** 8 yrs - Adult  
**Cost:** Children: \$50 for the first  
child, \$20 per additional child  
Adults: \$60 for the first adult,  
\$30 per additional adult  
Family: \$150 for a family of 4  
(Additional refers to immediate  
family only)

**Preregister by:** Thursday before each  
session by 4 p.m.

**Location:** Ox Bow County Park, Archery  
Range.

### Fun N' Easy Watercolor Course I

Learn to manipulate watercolor and create bright cheerful images on postcards with local artist Mark Daniels. Learn how to use color, develop and refine your own style, and work alongside other beginners in this stress-free series. A supply list will be provided at the first class! Five student minimum

**Dates:** Wednesdays: July 11, 18, 25,  
August 1, & 8.

**Time:** 9 a.m. – 12 p.m.

**Age:** 16+

**Cost:** \$122.00 before July 6,  
\$140.00 after July 6

**Preregister:** Contact Mark at 574-596-4407

**Location:** Elkhart County Historical Museum

### Buffalo Ranch

Join us as we experience the nostalgia of the old west at Cooks Bison Ranch in LaGrange County IN. Hand feed free roaming buffalo from a covered wagon. Learn the history of this magnificent animal and visit the buffalo nature center. We will end the tour with a buffalo burger meal (included).

**Date:** Saturday, July 14

**Time:** 9 a.m. - 1 p.m.

**Cost:** \$12/person

**Preregister by:** Thursday, July 12  
Call 574-535-6458

**Location:** Ox Bow Haus Shelter,  
Ox Bow County Park

### Reptiles and Amphibians at the 4-H Fair

Join us at the Elkhart County 4 H Fair for an informative program featuring live reptiles and amphibians of Elkhart County. This will be a fun, hands on program. The program is part of many other environmental activities on Green Earth Education Day.

Also visit our fair booth next to Young McDonalds Farm July 20-28

**Date:** Friday, July 27

**Time:** See our web site for exact time

**Cost:** Fair gate fee in effect

**Location:** Park Stage,  
Elkhart County 4-H Fair Grounds

## August

### Autumn Nature Drawing Series: Drawing Basics

Learn to draw the flora and fauna in Ox Bow County Park with easy to understand exercises and techniques. Instructor - Mark Daniels. For more information see Spring Nature Drawing Series.

**Dates:** Wednesdays, August 1, 8, 15, 22, & 29.

**Time:** 6 p.m. – 9 p.m.

**Age:** 16+

**Cost:** \$115.00 call before July 20, \$132.00 after July 20

**Preregister:** Contact Mark at 574-596-4407

**Location:** Ox Bow Haus Shelter, Ox Bow County Parks

### Kit Day Camp

The week's adventures will include a zip line ride at Bair Lake Camp in Michigan, the giant water slide, swimming, mini-golf and picnic at Ideal Beach, canoeing the scenic Pigeon River and visiting the area's largest water park at Deep River in Crown Point IN. We will finish the week with an overnight camp out at Bonneyville Mill County Park complete with a roaring campfire. Space is limited to 15 youth.

**Date:** Mon. – Fri., August 6 - 10

**Time:** Mon - Wed. 9 a.m. - 3 p.m.  
Thurs. 10 a.m. - Fri. 9 a.m.

**Age:** 10 – 13 years old

**Cost:** \$60/person

**Preregister by:** Thursday, August 2  
Call 574-535-6458

**Location:** Ox Bow Haus Shelter, Ox Bow County Park

### Nature Nuts: Shadows

Have fun with shadows as we play, read and discover through hands-on activities and craft projects. Everyone will get a shadow puppet to make and take. Space is limited.

**Date:** Tuesday, August 21

**Time:** 9:30 – 11 a.m.

**Age:** 3 – 5 years old

**Cost:** \$4/child, \$3/additional sibling

**Preregister by:** Tuesday, August 14  
Call 574-535-6458

**Location:** Ox Bow Haus Shelter, Ox Bow County Park

### Fun N' Easy Watercolor Course II

Learn to manipulate watercolor and create bright cheerful images on larger paper!

Learn how to use color, develop and refine your own style. Instructor - Mark Daniels.

For more information see Course #1

**Dates:** Wednesdays: August 15, 22, 29, September 5, & 12.

**Time:** 9 a.m. – 12 p.m.

**Age:** 16+

**Cost:** \$122.00 call before August 1, \$140.00 after August 1

**Preregister:** Contact Mark at 574-596-4407

**Location:** Elkhart County Historical Museum

### Science Sleuths: Pollination

Explore the amazing world of pollen and pollination at this hands-on class. We will spend much of our time outdoors, as we look for pollination in progress and find out its role in the natural world. Space is limited.

**Date:** Monday, August 27

**Time:** 1:30 – 3 p.m. or 4 – 5:30 p.m.

**Age:** 6 – 9 years old

**Cost:** \$4/child, \$3/additional sibling

**Preregister by:** Monday, August 20  
Call 574-535-6458

**Location:** Ox Bow Haus Shelter, Ox Bow County Park

### Cast Iron Cooking Tips Program And DOG (Dutch Oven Gathering) PUBLIC WELCOME

We're inviting all Dutch Oven enthusiasts to attend Elkhart County Parks' second annual DOG. A DOG is basically a come and cook Dutch Oven pitch in meal. This is not a competition but rather a friendly gathering of Dutch Oven cooks. There will be a 45 minute cast iron cooking tips on technique program followed by the DOG. Preregistration and payment required. Please designate if you will be cooking or just observing.

**Date:** Saturday, August 25

**Time:** 6 p.m.

**Cost:** \$3 per OBSERVING attendee (Kettle Corn & Cinnamon Rolls Provided)

**Preregister by:** Friday, August 24, by 4 p.m.  
Call: (574) 535-6458

**Location:** Briar Patch Shelter, Bonneyville Mill County Park

### Intermediate Drawing Course

Bring your favorite drawing pencils, sketchbook, and tools to draw inspiration from the Elkhart County Historical Museum's collection. This Intermediate series is specifically designed for beginner's who want to learn advanced techniques. Discover how to convey a sense of space or depth, refine your shading, create believable textures, and become more confident as you draw from observation. Program fee includes basic supplies (drawing pencil, eraser, & paper). A supplemental supply list will be provided on the first day. Five student minimum. Instructor - Mark Daniels.

**Dates:** Thursdays, August 30, September 6, 13, 20, 27.

**Time:** 9 a.m. – 12 p.m.

**Age:** 16+

**Cost:** \$122.00 before August 17, \$140.00 after August 17

**Location:** Elkhart County Historical Museum

**Preregister:** Contact Mark at 574-596-4407

### Leaf Prints

Immortalize the season on almost any fabric with leaf prints. By using a leaf from a tree or shrub, laying out your design, choosing your color and applying the leaf to fabric you can create a beautiful work of art. This technique works on clothes, smooth lamp shades, pillow cases and almost any porous material.

**Date:** Friday, August 31

**Time:** 6 – 8 p.m.

**Cost:** \$3/person or \$10/family

**Preregister by:** Thursday, August 30  
Call (574) 535-6458

**Location:** Ox Bow Haus Shelter, Ox Bow County Park



# Environmental Programs

## September

### Nature Nuts: Leaves

Discover unique shapes, sizes and colors as we look at different leaves from within the park. We will also have a "leafy" snack as part of our exploration. Space is limited.

**Date:** Tuesday, September 11

**Time:** 9:30 – 11 a.m.

**Age:** 3 – 5 years old

**Cost:** \$4/child, \$3/additional sibling

**Preregister by:** Tuesday, September 4  
Call (574) 535-6458

**Location:** Ox Bow Haus Shelter,  
Ox Bow County Park

### Science Sleuths: Fall Fruits

Experience nature's bounty as we take to the trails in search of the many fall fruits available this time of year. We will learn about names, uses and importance of correctly identifying plants before tasting. Space is limited.

**Date:** Monday, September 17

**Time:** 1:30 – 3 p.m. or 4 – 5:30 p.m.

**Age:** 6 – 9 years old

**Cost:** \$4/child, \$3/additional sibling

**Preregister by:** Monday, September 10  
Call (574) 535-6458

**Location:** Ox Bow Haus Shelter,  
Ox Bow County Park

### Fun N' Easy Moody Watercolor Course III

In the third class in the ongoing series, learn to manipulate watercolor and create darker moodier images for reflection! A supply list will be provided at the first class! Five student minimum.

**Dates:** Wednesdays: September 19,  
26, October 3, 10, & 17

**Time:** 9 a.m. – 12 p.m.

**Age:** 16+

**Cost:** \$122.00 before September 1  
\$140.00 after September 1

**Preregister:** Contact Mark at 574-596-4407

**Location:** Elkhart Historical Museum

### Bug Day!

They're creepy, they're crawly and they're coming to Cobus Creek County Park! Look at a grasshopper through a lens, tromp through the weeds in search of a butterfly or taste your first mealworm. You're bound to have fun at this insect-enthusiasts event. There will be crafts and activities for all ages, so bring the entire family for a day of buggy fun.

**Date:** Sunday, September 23

**Time:** 2 – 4 p.m.

**Cost:** \$2/adult, \$1/12 years & under

**Location:** Cobus Creek County Park

### Tree Hike I.D.

Join a naturalist as we collect leaves in Ox Bow Park. This hike is great for projects in schools, scouts and other organizations or just for learning more about trees and shrubs. Please bring masking tape, a note pad and pen or marker to mark your leaves with. Bags will be provided.

**Date:** Friday, September 28

**Time:** 6 – 8 p.m.

**Preregister by:** Thursday, September 27  
Call (574) 535-6458

**Location:** Ox Bow Haus Shelter,  
Ox Bow County Park

### DeFries Gardens Fall Plant Exchange

Bring your excess plants and bulbs and trade them with other gardeners. Plants can include perennials, bulbs, seeds, shrubs and small trees. Plants must be in a container and in healthy condition.

**Date:** Saturday, September 29

**Time:** 1 p.m.

**Location:** DeFries Gardens, 17477 C.R. 46,  
1.25 miles east of New Paris, Indiana

## October

### Nature Nuts: Spiders

Find out more about our many 8-legged friends as we go for a spider walk, make our own web and have a yummy, spider snack. Space is limited.

**Date:** Tuesday, October 2

**Time:** 9:30 – 11 a.m.

**Age:** 3 – 5 years old

**Cost:** \$4/child, \$3/additional sibling

**Preregister by:** Tuesday, September 25  
Call (574) 535-6458

**Location:** Ox Bow Haus Shelter,  
Ox Bow County Park

### Bark in the Park Dog Walk and Festival

Celebrate man's best friend with food, fun and festivities. Enjoy a walk with your dog, visit with area pet product and service providers and enjoy fun contests. Prizes will be awarded for all contests. For more information visit our web page or call 574-535-6458.

**Date:** Saturday, October 6

**Time:** 9 a.m. – 2 p.m.

**Cost:** \$1 entry to park with a dog /  
\$5 dog walk / \$2 contests

**Location:** Upper athletic field,  
Ox Bow County Park

### Science Sleuths: Corn Husk Dolls

Fashion your very own doll from dried corn husks the way it was done in years past. A story and snack will also be presented. Space is limited.

**Date:** Monday, October 15

**Time:** 1:30 – 3 p.m. or 4 – 5:30 p.m.

**Age:** 6 – 9 years old

**Cost:** \$4/child, \$3/additional sibling

**Preregister by:** Monday, October 8  
Call (574) 535-6458

**Location:** Ox Bow Haus Shelter,  
Ox Bow County Park



*Two Australian Shepherds enjoy the day at last year's Bark in the Park festival.*



## July

### Pioneer Life Day Camp

Come and experience life long ago as you participate in pioneer era games, crafts, chores and other activities. Go to school in a one room school house and learn how grain is turned into flour using the power of water. Campers will visit the Elkhart County Historical Museum, Bonneyville Mill and the One Room School House.

**Date:** Monday - Tuesday, July 9 - 10

**Time:** 9 a.m. - 12 p.m.

**Age:** Youth entering 1st - 3rd grade

**Cost:** \$25/child

**Preregister by:** Friday, July 6  
Call 574-535-6458.

**Location:** Elkhart County Historical Museum and Bonneyville Mill County Park

### Bonneyville Millers Vintage Base Ball

Embrace the Pace in downtown Nappanee, Indiana. Enjoy a relaxing summer evening watching base ball as the Bonneyville Millers tangle with the Nappanee Embracers.

**Date:** Friday, July 13

**Time:** 6:30 p.m.

**Location:** Nappanee, Indiana

### Dusty Miller Kid's Club

B is for Bread. Join the Bonneyville Miller to explore the world of Breads. We will have fun with some experiments and maybe even have a delicious treat. Space is limited to 10 youth.

**Date:** Tuesday, July 17

**Time:** 1 - 3 p.m.

**Fee:** \$5 / person

**Age:** 3 - 4 grade level

**Preregistration:** Monday, July 16 by 1 p.m.  
Call 574-535-6458

**Location:** Baldwin One-Room Schoolhouse, Bonneyville Mill County Park

### Historic Craft Workshop: Sweetheart Jewelry

Soldiers during WWII stayed connected with their loved ones back home by sending them gifts of sweetheart jewelry. These pins, rings, bracelets and lockets were worn by those on the Home Front with love, honor, and patriotic pride. At this workshop you will get to make your own sweetheart jewelry for you or a loved one. All supplies are provided.

**Date:** Thursday, July 19

**Time:** 7 p.m. - 8 p.m.

**Cost:** \$5 to make one item,  
\$8 for two

**Preregister by:** Call 574-848-4322

**Location:** Elkhart County Historical Museum

### Bonneyville Millers Vintage Base Ball

Pack your picnic basket with goodie's and head for Chapel Field in Ox Bow County Park for an afternoon of base ball. The Bonneyville Millers will be hosting the Munster Centennials and Lafayette Couriers for a round robin tournament.

**Date:** Saturday, July 28

**Time:** 11 a.m.

**Cost:** \$2 / vehicle

**Location:** Chapel Field,  
Ox Bow County Park

### Behind the Scenes with the Museum Curator

Have you ever wanted to experience the life of a museum curator? Go behind the scenes with Collections Curator Liz Haeuptle and tour the museum's collection storage spaces, learn how Haeuptle preserves the artifacts, and try your hand at artifact care.

**Date:** Saturday, July 28

**Time:** 1:00 - 2:30 p.m.

**Cost:** \$1

**Preregister by:** Thursday, July 26  
Call 574-848-4322

**Location:** Elkhart County Historical Museum

## August

### Native American Day Camp

Explore Native American life this summer with the Elkhart County Parks. You will get to build shelters, sew moccasins, grind corn, start fires, tell legends, try natural dyeing, and more!

**Date:** Wednesday - Friday, August 1-3

**Time:** 9 a.m. - 3 p.m.

**Age:** 6 - 8 grade level

**Cost:** \$30/child

### Dusty Miller Kid's Club

Join the Bonneyville Miller for some fun arts and crafts with flour. We will make some fun items for you to give as a gift or maybe hang on your Christmas tree.

**Date:** Tuesday, August 7

**Time:** 1 - 3 p.m.

**Age:** 3 - 4 grade level

**Cost:** \$5/person

**Preregistration:** Monday, August 6 by 1 p.m.  
Call 574-535-6458

**Location:** Baldwin One-Room Schoolhouse, Bonneyville Mill County Park

### Walking Tour of Middlebury

Take a guided walking tour of historic downtown Middlebury. Hear about its rich past, compare how things look today with historic photographs and walk where our ancestors did. Visit the Middlebury Community Historical Museum before or after your tour.

**Date:** Thursday, August 9

**Time:** 6 p.m. & 7:30 p.m.

**Cost:** \$1 / person

**Preregister by:** Thursday, August 9  
Call 574-848-4322

**Location:** Downtown Middlebury

### Bonneyville Millers Vintage Base Ball

The Douglas Dutchers from Douglas, Michigan will be visiting Chapel Field today to take on the Bonneyville Millers. Come and cheer the Millers on to a victory.

**Date:** Saturday, August 25

**Time:** 2 p.m.

**Cost:** \$2 / vehicle

**Location:** Chapel Field,  
Ox Bow County Park



# Historical Programs

## Bonneyville Millers Vintage Base Ball

The Bonneyville Millers host another Michigan team with a storied base ball history. The House of David Echoes from Benton Harbor travel to Chapel Field to tangle with the Millers.

**Date:** Sunday, August 26

**Time:** 2 p.m.

**Cost:** \$2 / vehicle

**Location:** Chapel Field, Ox Bow County Park

## September

### Bristol Hills Storytelling Festival

Hear some of the best storytellers in the nation delight the audience as they spin tales, share fables, and swap yarns. This year's festival features tellers Jim May and Kim Weitkamp. Come at 5:30 p.m. to tell your own stories in an informal setting at the swapping grounds. For more information, visit <http://www.bristolhills.net/>

**Date:** Friday & Saturday,  
September 7 & 8

**Time:** 7 p.m.

**Age:** Family oriented for teens & adults

**Cost:** \$10

**Location:** Elkhart County Historical Museum

### 30th Annual Bonneyville Celebration

Join in the fun as we celebrate our local agricultural heritage and history with handmade crafts and goods, historic demonstrations, down-home food and quality entertainment.

**Date:** Saturday & Sunday,  
September 8 & 9

**Time:** 9 a.m. – 5 p.m.

**Cost:** \$7/vehicle or \$3/person

**Location:** Mill Valley,  
Bonneyville Mill County Park

## Bonneyville Millers Vintage Base Ball

The Bonneyville Millers will take on arch rivals the Deep River Grinders from Lake County, IN.

**Date:** Sunday, September 16

**Time:** 2 p.m.

**Cost:** \$2 / vehicle

**Location:** Chapel Field,  
Ox Bow County Park

## The Bristol Fruit Hills

Head to the Fruit Hills Winery & Orchard to discover Bristol's rich fruit growing past. Hear the history of the horticultural industry and learn how the Judson family is carrying on the tradition today by touring the orchard and winery. End the tour by sampling their wine.

**Date:** Friday, September 21

**Time:** 7 p.m.

**Age:** 21 & up

**Cost:** \$7, includes glass of wine  
or tasting

**Preregister by:** Thursday, September 20  
Call 574-848-4322

**Location:** Fruit Hills Winery & Orchard, Bristol

## October

### Bonneyville Millers Vintage Base Ball

Bring your favorite pooch to Ox Bow County Park for all the fun activities at Bark in the Park and then take your pooch to a base ball game as the Millers close out the season by hosting the Mississinewa Silverheels and the Door Village Prairie Dogs for an afternoon of vintage base ball.

**Date:** Saturday, October 6

**Time:** 2 p.m.

**Cost:** \$2/vehicle

**Location:** Chapel Field,  
Ox Bow County Park

### Cemetery Tour

Take a guided tour of Grace Lawn Cemetery in Elkhart. The cemetery will come alive as first-person costumed interpreters tell stories about those buried beneath the ground.

**Date:** Saturday, October 13

**Time:** 1 & 3 p.m. – two sessions  
to choose from

**Cost:** \$5/adult, children 12 & under free

**Preregister by:** Friday, October 12  
Call 574-848-4322

**Location:** Grace Lawn Cemetery in Elkhart

## Gathering at Five Medals

Join the Elkhart County Historical Museum and Elkhart County Parks for a timeline reenactment of the years 1650 to 1815. See wool being spun, smell the blacksmith forge, taste historical foods, feel hand-made beadwork, and hear a roaring cannon fired by uniformed soldiers from the War of 1812

**Date:** Saturday & Sunday,  
October 20-21

**Time:** 9 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

**Cost:** \$4/adults, \$2/children under 12

**Location:** Benton Spillway Site in River  
Preserve County Park on CR 31

## Genealogy Society Workshop

Are you interested in researching family history? The Elkhart County Genealogical Society is hosting its fall genealogy workshop with featured speaker Jeff Bockman. Program fee includes admission, lunch and snacks.

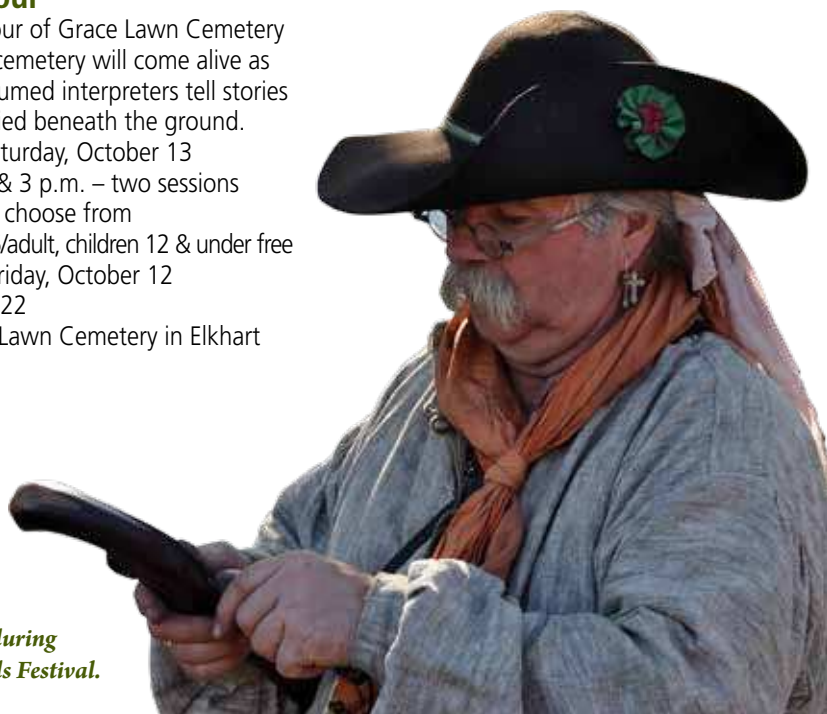
**Date:** Saturday, October 27

**Time:** 8:30 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.

**Cost:** \$30/Early Bird or \$35/at door

**Preregister by:** October 20 for Early Bird. Email  
Ann at [gmannfb@aol.com](mailto:gmannfb@aol.com).

**Location:** Elkhart County Historical Museum



*A Voyager cleans his pistol during  
the Gathering at Five Medals Festival.*