

More Educational Events at the EJC Arboretum

Arbor Day Annual Elementary School Tree Planting Ceremony

April 29, 2011; School site varies annually

The EJC Arboretum will support Harrisonburg's urban tree canopy and playground tree canopy by planting a tree on the campus of one of Harrisonburg's public elementary schools on Arbor Day. For information on how your school can participate, please send an inquiry to copelaca@jmu.edu

National Public Gardens Day

May 6, 2011

The EJC Arboretum, a member garden of the National Public Gardens Association, opens its gardens to the public dawn to dusk, free, celebrating National Public Gardens Day.

Herb & Garden Festival

May 21, 2011, 9 a.m.—3 p.m.

The EJC Arboretum will release Monarch butterflies into the arboretum. Selected as a Monarch Waystation, EJC Arboretum gardens are a perfect butterfly habitat and a great place for butterfly lovers to see wild butterflies and learn about butterfly gardens. It is a free event for the public, so come and join us!

Storytime in the Understory

Second Tuesdays monthly, June through September, 11:00 a.m.

This monthly reading hour meets outside on the lawn in front of the Frances Plecker Education Center. Young story enthusiasts and their parents or caregivers will have an enriching and interactive reading hour. While enjoying a visit to the EJC Arboretum, children can begin to develop an understanding of nature through related story topics. Bring your picnic lunch and a blanket or lawn chairs. Story time held indoors in inclement weather.

Migratory Butterfly and Tagging Workshops

Educator Butterfly Workshop: July 20, 2011, 10 a.m.—3 p.m.

Children's Monarch Tagging Workshop: September 24, 2010, 10 a.m.—1 p.m.

Learn hands on migratory butterfly tagging and registry, with interactive learning activities and station activities as well as a lecture. Then release a Monarch to begin its fall migration. This activity is offered as a Children's Workshop (the hands-on project of learning about Monarchs, tagging them, and releasing them into the wild) and as an Educator Workshop (a hands-on activity that marries the presentation of this material to the actual project).

Children's Harvest Festival

Saturday, October 22, 2011

Harrisonburg Children's Museum, and favorite horses join together with Gus Bus, JMU Education student facilitators, dancers and musicians, at the EJC Arboretum, for letterboxing, crafts, hay wagon rides, stories, tours and more educational activities at this free event.

In addition, please consider the EJC Arboretum as a site for full-day in-service days. We would be glad to create a custom program designed for a variety of subjects.

Visit jmu.edu/arboretum for program & event information..



Educational Programs and Tours 2010-2011

School Field Trips and Guided Tours

for

Early Childhood, Elementary, and Secondary Education

Emphasizing:

Botany, Virginia Natives Studies, Biology, Ecology, and Literacy Enrichment

Educational Tours

The Forest Web

Discover how living and non-living organisms coexist and thrive in the forest ecology. While learning how to identify forest species, students will also explore how animals and plants work with each other to fully utilize all the resources that a forest can offer. Also covered in this tour will be how humans can best impact the forest and its wildlife.

Peak Times: Year-Round



Virginia Natives

Learn to identify a variety of native plants and trees and explore how the Native Americans of Virginia used these plants for food, tools, and medicine. This activity pairs well with crafts and hands-on activities.

Peak Times: Spring ~ Fall

Woodland Walk

Take a stroll around the Arboretum and learn to identify numerous wildflowers. Learn what makes wildflowers unique, and explore how nature may inspire creative works of poetry and prose. Write about the wonder of wildflowers in the shade of our Poet Tree, the magnificent *Salix babylonica*.

Peak Times; Spring, Summer

Natural Direction

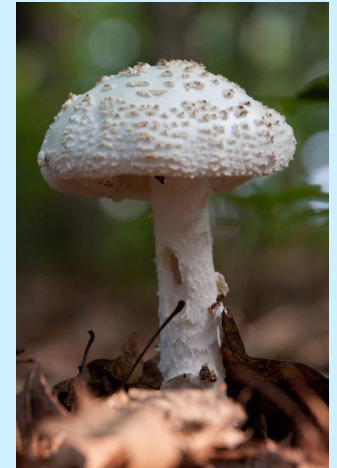
Become oriented to the forest by observing nature, watching birds and animals, and studying the clues in trees and plants. Learn how to map a forest and provide natural, woodland-based directions to friends. Understand how to make ecologically sound choices that can positively direct the future of forest lands.

Peak Times: Year-Round

The Edible Forest

Which mushrooms are edible? What types of tree bark are used to relieve headaches? Learn the answers to these and other questions by exploring plants, fruits, and nuts in the forest. Classes will also see some of the forest foods that only animals can eat.

Peak Times: Summer ~ Winter



Specialized Programs

The staff at the E.J.C. Arboretum can design a program to suit specialized or classroom-based education needs. Though programs at the Arboretum usually have a plant or ecology focus, these specialized programs can incorporate animals and more ideas.

Please e-mail the Education Coordinator, Cathy Copeland, at copelaca@jmu.edu.