



FORSYTHCOUNTY
Department of Communications
Release 000466
March 4, 2011

Contact: Jodi B. Gardner
Director of Communications
770.886.2802
JBGardner@forsythco.com

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

SPRING INTO OUTDOOR FUN AND ADVENTURE
AT SAWNEE MOUNTAIN PRESERVE

Outdoor Division offers outdoor adventures for all ages

FORSYTHCOUNTY, Georgia – Spring into outdoor fun and adventure at Forsyth County’s Sawnee Mountain Preserve Visitor Center (SMPVC). In the coming months, the Forsyth County Parks and Recreation Department’s Outdoor Division will offer a variety of activities for children, adults and families.

Naturalist Training

Activity # 260020-A: Thursdays, March 17 - April 14, 9:30 a.m.-noon, ages 18 and up

This free training will help you learn the skills of teaching environmental programs at Sawnee Mountain Preserve. Call Carrie Toth at 770.781.2217 for more information.

Introduction to Tree Climbing

Activity # 261520-B: Saturday, March 19, 2-5 p.m., ages 8 and up*

Activity # 261520-C: Saturday, April 2, 2-5 p.m., ages 8 and up*

*The cost is \$30.00 for county residents and \$35.00 for non-county residents.

Lots of fun and a great workout for the whole family! Climbers will be given instruction and guidance while climbing. All equipment will be provided and is manufactured specifically for climbing. Climbers remain secured to the rope the entire time they are off the ground. Registered participants will be notified if a program is cancelled due to weather conditions. Rain date will be the Sunday after the scheduled class.

-more-

Spring Break Nature Camp

Activity # 269820-A: Monday, April 4 - Friday, April 8, 9 a.m.-3 p.m., ages 6 and up
The cost is \$135.00 for county residents and \$162.00 for non-county residents.

Campers will hike, tree climb, explore, learn about animals and the environment, and more!

Home School Afternoon: All About Owls

Activity # 268320-C: Thursday April 7, 3-4:30 p.m., ages 5 and up
The cost is \$6.00 for county residents and \$7.20 for non-county residents.

Classes for area home school students will be led by trained naturalists.

Family Hike

Activity # 266920-B: Saturday, April 9, 1-2 p.m.
The cost is \$6.00 for county residents and \$7.20 for non-county residents.

Join a naturalist on a guided hike along the trails of Sawnee Mountain Preserve. Children under 12 must be accompanied by a paying adult.

Nature Tales - Grandparent/Grandchild Program: Searching for Spring

Activity # 268220-B: Saturday April 16, 1-2 p.m., ages 3-5
The cost is \$6.00 for county residents and \$7.20 for non-county residents.

Nature Tales is intended to be a time for both children and their grandparents to learn about nature together. This hour-long program features a story, craft, nature activities and a walk. Children must be accompanied by an adult.

Intro to Vegetable Gardening

Activity # 262220-A: Tuesdays, March 15, 29, April 12, 26, May 10, 24, 6:30-8 p.m.,
ages 18 and up
The cost is \$45.00 for county residents and \$54.00 for non-county residents.

This class covers planning, soils and management, intro to plant growth, sowing seeds and transplanting, fertilizer application, watering, training plants, managing problems and harvesting produce. Enjoy hands-on exercises and outdoor work in raised bed vegetable gardens.

Junior Girl Scout Wildlife Badge

Activity # 269320-A: Saturday, March 19, 2-3:30 p.m.
The cost is \$6.00 for county residents and \$7.20 for non-county residents.

Junior Girl Scouts are invited to participate in activities to earn their Wildlife badge. Naturalists will lead scouts along the trails of Sawnee Mountain while learning about wildlife. All activities are from the Junior Girl Scout Badge Handbook. Registration is open to troops or individual scouts. Badge is not included.

-more-

FORSYTHCOUNTY Department of Communications

110 E. Main Street, Suite 210 | Cumming, Georgia 30040 | www.forsythco.com | TV Forsyth - Comcast Channel 23

Georgia Master Naturalists

Activity # 260020-B: Tuesdays, April 12 - May 31, 8:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m., ages 18 and up
The cost is \$200 for county residents and \$240 for non-county residents.

The Georgia Master Naturalist Program is an Adult Environmental Education Course developed by the University of Georgia (UGA) Cooperative Extension Service and the Warnell School of Forestry and Natural Resources. It is for those who wish to be more informed about habitats, natural resources and the environment of our state and county. The program is a combination of lectures and outside hands-on learning through field studies developed with research-based scientific knowledge.

Participants will hear from experts who manage our natural resources, including faculty from UGA, specialists from the Georgia Forestry Department, Cooperative Extension and Keep Forsyth County Beautiful personnel, and others. The sessions are eight hours each. Topics include Ecology, Wildlife Management, Water Quality/Conservation, Birding, Environmental Awareness, Geology, Agriculture, Urban Forestry, Native Plants, Invasive Plants, Insects and Soil Conservation.

The SMPVC is located at 4075 Spot Road in Cumming. Pre-registration is required for all programs. An activity registration form can be found on the Parks and Recreation Department page at www.forsythco.com. Online registration is also available. To receive additional program information, call the Outdoor Division at 770.781.2217.

###