



Bells Bend Outdoor Center

4187 Old Hickory Blvd.
Nashville, TN 37218

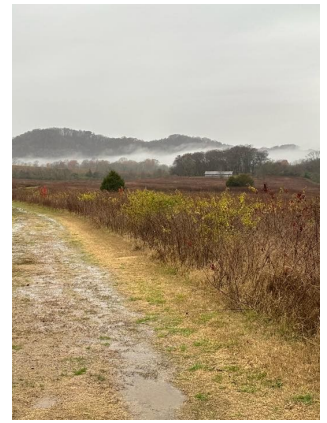
(615) 862-4187

bellsbend@nashville.gov

Outdoor Center Hours

Tuesday-Friday: 12-4P.M.
Saturday: 9A.M.-4P.M.
and by appointment

Bells Bend Park is open 7 days a week from dawn until dusk.



Bells Bend Park - Fall 2023 Program Schedule

Pre-registration is required for most programs, so please call (615) 862-4187 or email bellsbend@nashville.gov to make sure there is a spot available to you.

September

September is Tennessee Archaeology Awareness Month.
Check out our special archaeology focused programming for this month!



Turkey Vultures



Saturday, Sept. 2nd
Drop in 1:00-3:00P.M.
Age level: All ages
Call to register

Celebrate International Turkey Vulture Day by learning about these fascinating birds and the special role they have in our ecosystem. Turkey Vultures are constantly living under challenging conditions and face many threats. You'll be surprised by their daily life, the threats they face, and easy things you can do to help them. In this special celebration, we champion the uniqueness of this species.
Leader: Lise Brown

Bells Bend Outdoor Center will be **CLOSED** Tuesday, Sept. 5th 2023 in observation of Labor Day.
Bells Bend Park will still be open dawn - dusk.

Archery



Saturday, Sept. 9th
1:00-3:00P.M.
Age level: All ages
Call to register

Whether you're taking your first steps into the world of archery or you're a seasoned archer with a quiver full of experience, we invite you to join us for a delightful afternoon dedicated to practicing this skill. Bows and arrows provided. Please wear closed toed shoes.
Leader: Krista Allen and Jon Dodson

Digging into Dendrochronology



Saturday, Sept. 16th
2:00-3:30P.M.
Age level: 8+
Call to register

Archaeology and dendrochronology (tree-ring dating) go hand in hand! During this Project Archaeology based program, you will learn how to apply the principles of dendrochronology to determine a tree's age and recognize climactic variation, as well as experience how archaeologists use tree rings to accurately date archaeological remains and study past climates.
Leader: Krista Allen

Bells Bend History Hike



Thursday, Sept. 21st
10:00-11:30A.M.
Age level: All ages
Call to register

Join life-long Bells Bend resident and Friends of Bells Bend Park's president, Sharon Work, for a hike focusing on the cultural history of Bells Bend and the birth of the park.
Leader: Sharon Work



For assistance or accommodation, please contact Bells Bend Outdoor Center, 615-862-4187.

For Safety and Security Needs Contact:

Non life-threatening emergencies: 615-862-8600 Life-threatening Emergencies: 911



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Autumnal Equinox Wildflower Hike



Saturday, Sept. 23rd
10:00A.M.-12:00P.M.
Age level: 8+
Call to register

Fall comes close to rivaling spring with its vast array of colorful wildflowers. Develop some autumn enthusiasm on this hike through some of Bells Bend's open fields.
Leader: Cheryl Medley

Monarch Mosey



Tuesday, Sept 26th
1:00-2:00P.M.
Age level: All ages
Call to register

This adventure combines leisure, learning, and looking for the magnificent migrating Monarch butterfly! Come with a naturalist for an easy hike and immerse yourself in the beauty of nature while discovering the world of these endangered beauties.
Leader: Krista Allen

Full Moon Night Hike



Friday, Sept. 29th
7:00P.M.-9:00P.M.
Age level: 8+
Call to register

Join Jon Dodson of Outdoor Nashville for this night jaunt to view the full moon and bask in the glow of Bells Bend Park. We will hike roughly 3 miles and if it is clear, we will try to spot some of the prominent constellations.
Leaders: Jon Dodson

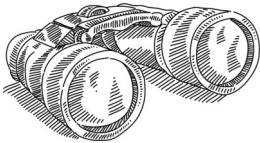
Archaeology Day

Saturday, September 30th
9:30A.M.-3:00P.M.



Bells Bend Park is thrilled to once again be hosting **TCPA Archaeology Day** as part of Tennessee Archaeology Awareness Month. This event welcomes individuals of all ages and has free admission. The day will feature a diverse range of engaging activities focused on educating participants about archaeology and the rich tapestry of Tennessee history.

NTOS Fall Bird Count



Saturday, Sept. 30th
Age level: 18+

This important project allows NTOS to track population trends of species and can be a vital part of making informed conservation decisions. Join the Nashville Chapter of the Tennessee Ornithological Society to inventory and count the birds at the park and within the bend. For those interested, please contact Barbara Harris at: harrbarbara@bellsouth.net

October

Bells Bend Birding



Saturday, Oct. 7th
8:00-10:00A.M.
Age level: All ages
Call to register

Let's watch and learn about the birds that call Bells Bend Park home! We'll use binoculars to search for and identify these feathered friends and take a short hike to see what birds we can find! Perfect for new and experienced bird watchers alike.
Leader: Lise Brown



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Climbing Day



Saturday, Oct. 7th
Drop in 1:00-3:00P.M.
Age level: All ages
Call to register

Whether a beginner or a pro, this is the program for you! Come check out Bells Bend's indoor climbing wall with our auto belay system and outdoor boulder. We'll have the crash pads set up and ready to go! Shoes, chalk, etc. not provided. We will have harnesses available for use on the indoor wall.
Leader: Krista Allen and Jon Dodson

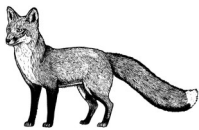
Farm Day

Saturday, Oct. 14th
9:30A.M.-3:00P.M.



The Friends of Bells Bend Park is proud to present Farm Day 2023. This year's festivities will include many of our past traditions: farm animals, hayrides, demonstrations, workshops, tractors and machinery, music, and local vendors. We are also bringing back some competitions! Check out our event on Facebook for more information.
We encourage all to join us for this full day of free fall farm festivities!

Ecosystems Exploration



Friday, Oct. 20th
1:00-3:00P.M.
Age level: 18+
Call to register

This program introduces participants to some fundamental ecological principles through interactive lessons and captivating games. By integrating this knowledge into a game, learners will have the opportunity to apply their understanding in a fun and hands-on manner.
Leader: Park Staff

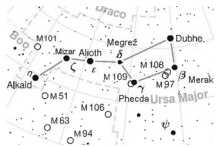
Nature Hike



Saturday, Oct. 21st
10:00-11:00A.M.
Age level: All ages
Call to register

Many species of wildlife seek refuge in Bells Bend Park. Bobwhites call through the fields and deer meander through the tall grasses. Join a park naturalist for a nature excursion into this beautiful area for a non-strenuous hike and learn about the plants and animals that call this park home!
Leader: Krista Allen

Observe the Moon Public Star Party



Saturday, Oct. 21st
Drop in 7:00-9:00P.M.
Age level: All ages
Call to register

Meet at Bells Bend Outdoor Center to join members of Nashville's Barnard-Seyfert Astronomical Society for a night of moon and stargazing to celebrate International Observe the Moon Night! Telescopes and other displays will be available for up-close star viewing. Star viewing is weather dependent, but an alternate activity may be provided.
Leader: Members of BSAS and Park Staff

Pumpkin Palooza



Saturday, Oct. 28th
1:00-2:30P.M.
Age level: All ages
Call to register

Immerse yourself in enchanting tales about these vibrant gourds, and engage in hands-on crafting to create a pumpkin-themed masterpiece! Discover the magic of autumn as we weave stories and art together in a pumpkin-inspired journey for all ages to enjoy.
Leader: Krista Allen

Full Moon Night Hike



Saturday, Oct. 28th
6:30-8:30P.M.
Age level: 8+
Call to register

Join us for an enchanting full moon hike this October! Explore the trail under the full moon's glow with a naturalist, learning legends and observing nocturnal wildlife. An unforgettable evening of nature, astronomy, and serene autumn night awaits.
Leader: Krista Allen



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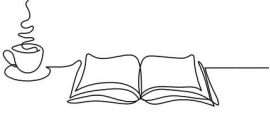


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November

Fall Book Club



Friday, Nov. 3rd
10:00-11:00A.M.
Age level: 18+
Call to register

Our fall book is *Illumination in the Flatwoods: A Season with the Wild Turkey* by naturalist, artist, and wildlife researcher, Joe Hutto. His story inspired the Emmy award-winning PBS Documentary *My Life as a Turkey*. Read this book independently throughout the fall, then join us for engaging conversation as we share our thoughts on this tale of turkeys.
Leader: LinnAnn Welch & Krista Allen

River Ramble



Friday, Nov. 3rd
1:00-3:00P.M.
Age level: All ages
Call to register

Bells Bend is situated in such an interesting geographic position. So close and yet so far from Nashville proper! This time of year, when all the leaves have fallen you can get great views of the Cumberland River and what is on the other side. Join us as we ramble along the River Loop for a unique perspective of Nashville.
Leader: Krista Allen

Park Perimeter Hike



Tuesday, Nov. 14th
Meet at 9:00A.M.
Age level: 18+
Call to register

Bells Bend Park is about 808 acres. How much of it have you seen? Join naturalist, Krista Allen, for a full day of hiking as we traverse the full perimeter of the park and then some. We'll see various creeks, the mt. bike trails, the river, our wetlands, the 1842 Buchanan/Bell House, and so much more. Meet at the outdoor center. Bring lunch and plenty of water.
Leader: Krista Allen

Talk Turkey



Wednesday, Nov. 15th
12:30-2:30P.M.
Age level: All ages
Drop in

How much do we know about Thanksgiving's main dish? Anatomy, habitat, diet, communication and more will be discussed as we talk about Tennessee's wild turkey. Take our "10 Turkey Facts" home with you, and impress your friends and family with your turkey knowledge this year at dinner!
Leader: Krista Allen

Leonid Viewing



Friday Nov. 17th/
Saturday, Nov. 18th
11:30P.M. on Fri.-
Dawn on Sat.
Age level: 18+
Call to register

Join us as we gather under the starry night sky to witness the predicted peak of the Leonid meteor shower from around midnight till dawn. We will provide hot beverages and a naturalist to guide you through the display of "shooting stars." Bundle up, bring a blanket/chair, embrace the cold, and marvel at the wonders of the universe during this late-night event.
Leader: Krista Allen

Bells Bend Outdoor Center will be **CLOSED** Nov. 23rd–Nov. 25th in observation of Thanksgiving.
Bells Bend Park will still be open dawn - dusk.

Nature Apps



Thursday, Nov. 30th
10:00A.M.-12:00P.M.
Age level: All ages
Call to register

In this interactive workshop you will learn to harness the power of several nature and astronomy apps! This will give you the opportunity to learn more about what you see, participate in citizen-science, and gain hands-on experience in observing celestial bodies and exploring the intricacies of the Earth's ecosystems. Please bring your own smartphone or tablet.
Leader: Krista Allen

Follow us on social media for:
highlights of local flora and fauna,
and more information on park programs,
special events, and the Friends of Bells Bend.



Bells Bend Park



@BellsBendPark



@BellsBendPark



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