



**Bellevue Parks & Community Services  
Event List**

**January 2009 Events**

**Extended through Jan. 11**

**Garden d'Lights**, nightly 5:00 – 10 p.m., Bellevue Botanical Garden, 12001 Main St. Free, donations encouraged, Visit BBG's amazing annual display featuring over 500,000 lights (more and more of which are LED), created by over 300 volunteers who work year round to organize, teach techniques, install and build the displays. For more information call 425-452-2750 or go online to [www.bellevuebotanical.org](http://www.bellevuebotanical.org).

**Extended through Jan. 19**

**Group Health Ice Arena at Bellevue Downtown Park**, 10201 4th St N.E. \$10 admission to open air skating rink; includes skate rental. Open daily with variable hours. For more information, visit [www.magicseason.com](http://www.magicseason.com) or 425-453-3110.

**Jan. 3, Feb. 7, Mar. 7**

**Bellevue Birding** – 9-10 a.m. at Lewis Creek Visitor Center, 5808 Lakemont Blvd. SE. Let a naturalist help you identify our feathered friends. Even in Winter, birds make their home in Lewis Creek Park. Please be prepared to go outside. Pre-registration is **not** required. Free. For more information, call 425-452-4195.

**Jan. 7**

**Winter Wildlife** – 2- 3 p.m. at Lewis Creek Visitor Center, 5808 Lakemont Blvd. SE. What would you do without your winter coat, and a warm home to sleep in? Is it surprising that animals also build homes to block the cold and some actually thicken their fur. Come to Lewis Creek to explore how animals adapt to dealing with the Winter. Program cost: \$7. Visit [www.naturevision.org](http://www.naturevision.org) for more information. To register, call 425-836-2697.

**Jan. 8**

**Family Movie Night - Alaska: Spirit of the Wild** – 3– 5 p.m. at Lewis Creek Visitor Center, 5808 Lakemont Blvd. SE. Join us for a family movie, the 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday of every month. This powerful documentary allows viewers a window into the beauty and danger of one of the most difficult places in the world to live: the Alaskan wilderness. Narrated by Charlton Heston, see a powerful caribou stampede, frolicking polar bears, the spectacular Northern Lights and many more memorable scenes. Free. To register, call 425-452-6885 or visit [www.myparksandrecreation.com](http://www.myparksandrecreation.com). Course # 36227.

**Jan. 9**

**Rhythms in Nature – 7:00 – 9:00p.m. at Mercer Slough Environmental Education Center.** Discover the soundscapes of nature through percussion interpretation. Explore the sounds of the Mercer Slough with a trained naturalist. Then bring your explorations to life using percussion instruments. Your instructor will lead a percussion session incorporating natural noises, patterns, and objects encountered outside.

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Instruments will be provided. Pre-registration is required, \$5. For more information call 425-452-2565.

- Jan. 12 – 18 Garden d’Lights helpers needed for breakdown** – must pre-register and have background check done. Help un-install BBG’s amazing annual display featuring over 500,000 lights (more and more of which are LED), created by over 300 volunteers who work year round to organize, teach techniques, install and build the displays. Call 425-451-3755 or visit [www.bellevuebotanical.org](http://www.bellevuebotanical.org) for more information.
- Jan. 13 New Years Dance** – 2 – 4 p.m. at North Bellevue Community Center, 4063 148<sup>th</sup> Ave NE. The 'Sound Of Swing' will perform for your dancing pleasure. \$3 at the door. For more information call 425-452-7681.
- Jan. 14 Birding Basics** – 2 – 3 p.m. at Lewis Creek Visitor Center, 5808 Lakemont Blvd. SE. Let an expert from the Eastside Audubon Society teach you all you need to know to get started with one of the greatest naturalist pastimes- bird watching. Learn what makes a bird a bird and bring home a creative bird feeder for your own backyard birds! Pre-registration required. Free. To register, call 425-452-6885 or visit [www.myparksandrecreation.com](http://www.myparksandrecreation.com). Course # 36231.
- Jan. 15 Avalanche Awareness** – 7– 8:30 p.m. at Lewis Creek Visitor Center, 5808 Lakemont Blvd. SE. Join avalanche expert, Ken White in a dynamic discussion of avalanches. Retired from the US Forest Service, Ken has been leading avalanche awareness training in Washington for 30 years. Learn some of the basics of avalanche hazards, how to avoid them and what equipment to bring while traveling in avalanche terrain. Free. To register, call 425-452-6885 or visit [www.myparksandrecreation.com](http://www.myparksandrecreation.com). Course # 37176.
- Jan. 17 Myths and Legends – Native American Storytelling, 4:00–5:00p.m. at Mercer Slough Environmental Education Center.** Watch as the natural and cultural stories of Pacific Northwest Native Americans come alive. Stories will be fun and interactive. Many stories will be told through songs and traditional instruments. Pre-registration is required, \$5. Age: All – children under 12 must be accompanied by an adult. For more information call 425-452-2565.
- Jan. 21 Tropical Getaway Luncheon** – 11:30 a.m. – 1 p.m. at North Bellevue Community Center, 4063 148<sup>th</sup> Ave. NE. Escape the winter blahs for a few hours! Tropical music, scenes from Hawaii, and great food- all without the hassle of going to the airport. Don your favorite wild shirt and join the fun. Lunch provided by Catholic Community Services of Pierce County for a suggested donation of \$3 for 60+; charge of \$6 for under 60 years old. Pre-registration required by Jan. 16. For more information call 425-452-7681.

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- Jan. 23**      **Without You, I'd be Blue** – 10 – 11 a.m. at Lewis Creek Visitor Center, 5808 Lakemont Blvd. SE. Variety makes the world a fascinating place. We will discover how connected the world's inhabitants really are right here in Lewis Creek. Program Cost: \$7. Visit [www.naturevision.org](http://www.naturevision.org) for more information. To register, call 425-836-2697.
- Jan. 24**      **Fit & Active Conference** – 9 a.m. – 3:30 p.m. at South Bellevue Community Center, 14509 SE Newport Way. Over 40 active and educational sessions focused on improving personal health and becoming more active. For adults and families with children ages 6 and up. Featured Keynote Speaker: Jill Kintner, 2008 Olympic Bronze Medalist in BMX. Program Cost: \$23/adult, \$13/child; includes lunch. Visit [www.bellevuewa.gov/south\\_bellevue\\_center.htm](http://www.bellevuewa.gov/south_bellevue_center.htm) for registration packet or call (425) 452-4240 for more information.
- Stewardship Saturday** – 9 a.m. – 1 p.m., location to be announced. Community volunteer event to provide an opportunity to participate in the care of our City's park resources. Sign up as a group or participate as an individual. For more information, call 425-452-4195.
- Jan. 26**      **Mom and Me at Mercer Slough, 10:00 – 11:00a.m. at Mercer Slough Environmental Education Center.** Foster the young naturalist inside all of us. Explore the small wonders of the Mercer Slough with your child and other parents. Pre-registration is required, \$5. Age: All – children under 12 must be accompanied by an adult. For more information call 425-452-2565.
- Jan. 28**      **Chinese New Year Celebration** – 11:30 a.m. – 1 p.m. at North Bellevue Community Center, 4063 148<sup>th</sup> Ave. NE. Come and celebrate the "Year of the Ox". Learn about Chinese customs, enjoy traditional Chinese entertainment and some fun games. Lunch provided by Senior Services for a suggested donation of \$3 for 60+; charge of \$6 for under 60 years of age. Pre-registration required by Jan. 25. For more information call 425-452-7681.
- Jan. 31**      **Music of the Night** – Meydenbauer Theatre, 11100 NE 6<sup>th</sup> Street. Save the date for an eventful evening of fine dining and entertainment to benefit the Bellevue Youth Theatre. For ticket sales and information about donation and sponsorship opportunities, please visit [www.bytf.org](http://www.bytf.org). For questions please call 425-452-7155 or email [treisner@bytf.org](mailto:treisner@bytf.org).

### February Events

- Feb. 6**      **Glaciers – Then and Now, 6:00 – 8:00p.m. at Mercer Slough Environmental Education Center.** Glaciers helped shape the land. An expert will interpret the story of this landscape through evidence left behind. Then, we'll look at today's glaciers from an aerial perspective. An accomplished photographer will share amazing images of our local

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glaciers. Pre-registration is required, \$5. For more information call 425-452-2565.

- Feb. 10**      **Sweetheart Dance** – 2– 4 p.m. at North Bellevue Community Center, 4063 148<sup>th</sup> Ave NE. The 'Sound Of Swing' will perform for your dancing pleasure. \$3 at the door. For more information, call 425-452-7681.
- Feb. 11**      **Orient Yourself - Literally** – 2 – 3 p.m. at Lewis Creek Visitor Center, 5808 Lakemont Blvd. SE. Learn all the basics to orienteering and compass use; its history and how to interpret a map. Compasses provided. Be prepared for any weather as we walk around Lewis Creek. Free. To register, call: 425-452-6885 or visit [www.myparksandrecreation.com](http://www.myparksandrecreation.com). Course # 36182.
- Feb. 12**      **Family Movie Night- National Geographic: Forces of Nature** – 3– 5 p.m. at Lewis Creek Visitor Center, 5808 Lakemont Blvd. SE. Join us for a family movie, the 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday of every month. This wonderful documentary from National Geographic demonstrates the power of the planet. The film captures natural wonders and disasters in all their danger and glory. From rain, snow, sleet, hail, earthquakes, tornadoes and volcanoes...Mother Nature has a way of exerting its power time and time again. Free. To register, call: 425-452-6885 or visit [www.myparksandrecreation.com](http://www.myparksandrecreation.com). Course # 36228.
- Feb. 18**      **Fossilize** – 2 – 3 p.m. at Lewis Creek Visitor Center, 5808 Lakemont Blvd. SE. Make your own fossil and learn how rocks have played a big role in our understanding of time past. Join us at Lewis Creek for this exciting program. Program Cost: \$7. Visit [www.naturevision.org](http://www.naturevision.org) for more information. To register, call: 425-836-2697.
- Feb. 20**      **Crawly but not Creepy** – 10 – 11a.m. at Lewis Creek Visitor Center, 5808 Lakemont Blvd. SE. Spiders, or Arthropods are amazing creatures. Having eight legs is just one of many cool and unique traits these furry friends have. Come in for as close-as-you-want encounter with a spider. Program Cost: \$7. Visit [www.naturevision.org](http://www.naturevision.org) for more information. To register, call 425-836-2697.
- Feb. 21**      **Stewardship Saturday** – 9 a.m.-1 p.m., location to be announced. Community volunteer event to provide an opportunity to participate in the care of our City's park resources. Sign up as a group or participate as an individual. For more information, call 425-452-4195.
- Feb. 21**      **Myths and Legends – Native American Storytelling, 4:00 – 5:00p.m. at Mercer Slough Environmental Education Center.** Watch as the natural and cultural stories of Pacific Northwest Native Americans come alive. Stories will be fun and interactive. Many stories will be told through songs and traditional instruments. Pre-registration is required, \$5. Age:

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- Feb. 22**      **Mardi Gras!** – 1– 3 p.m., at Lewis Creek Visitor Center, 5808 Lakemont Blvd. SE. Let’s separate the mythical from the real as we explore animals in the Pacific NW. Bring home a mask for your own Mardi Gras parade. Program Cost: \$5. To register, call 425-452-6885 or visit [www.myparksandrecreation.com](http://www.myparksandrecreation.com). Course # 36185.
- Feb. 23**      **Mom and Me at Mercer Slough, 10:00 – 11:00a.m. at Mercer Slough Environmental Education Center.** Foster the young naturalist inside all of us. Explore the small wonders of the Mercer Slough with your child and other parents. Pre-registration is required, \$5. Age: All – children under 12 must be accompanied by an adult. For more information call 425-452-2565.
- Feb. 25**      **Fish Facts** – 2 – 3 p.m. at Lewis Creek Visitor Center, 5808 Lakemont Blvd. SE. What makes a fish so unique? It isn’t just the gills that make our slippery friends so special. Come learn how to identify different fish and what special adaptations allow them to live underwater. Program Cost: \$7. Visit [www.naturevision.org](http://www.naturevision.org) for more information. To register, call 425-836-2697.
- Feb. 26**      **Native Americans: Life in Winter** – 7– 8:30 p.m., at Lewis Creek Visitor Center, 5808 Lakemont Blvd. SE. Come join Barb Williams, Eastside Heritage Center volunteer, for an unforgettable evening at Lewis Creek. She will delight you with a program about the wintertime activities of local Native Americans. This will include their culture, technologies, uses of plants, games and stories. This is an interactive talk so you will have the opportunity to handle artifacts from her collection. Bring your spirit of adventure, love of nature and desire to become involved in the Native American history of Lewis Creek! Free. To register, call 425-452-6885 or visit [www.myparksandrecreation.com](http://www.myparksandrecreation.com). Course # 37183.
- Feb. 27**      **Movies at Mercer Slough - Pole to Pole, 5p.m. at Mercer Slough Environmental Education Center.** Join us for Pole to Pole is the first in the Planet Earth series. Experience how life in every nook and cranny of the globe is connected on a theatre style screen. It's a unique view of the majesty of our planet and the amazing creatures that live here. Bring a comfy blanket or pillow and we’ll pop the popcorn. All children under 12 must be accompanied by an adult. Free. For more information call 425-452-2565.

**March Events**

- March. 4**      **Sustainable Design: Emerging philosophies, 7:00 – 9:00p.m. at Mercer Slough Environmental Education Center.** This workshop will look beyond the standard perspective of a building. Using sustainable design as

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the foundation to cultivate connections with the environment, Mark Johnson the architect on the Mercer Slough Environmental Education Center, will explore emerging philosophies on how buildings teach. Sustainable design can echo the connection to the local ecology by embracing energy conservation, materials selection, scale, daylight and more. Join this great discussion and impact your future. Free. For more information call 425-452-2565.

- Mar. 8**      **Hellebore Open House and Plant Sale** – 11 am– 3 pm, at Bellevue Botanical Garden Visitor Center, 12001 Main Street, Bellevue. This unique sale kicks off the local plant sale season. The show has evolved from its humble beginnings seven years ago into a successful event with a long line of gardeners waiting for the sale to begin. The sale is known for its unique specialties, spring ephemerals and treasures not readily found elsewhere. Admission is free. For more information, visit [www.n-p-a.org](http://www.n-p-a.org)
- Mar. 10**      **Shamrock Dance** – 2– 4 p.m. at North Bellevue Community Center, 4063 148<sup>th</sup> Ave NE. The 'Sound Of Swing' will perform for your dancing pleasure. \$3 at the door. For more information call 425-452-7681.
- Mar. 12**      **Family Movie Night** – “Planet Earth- Shallow Seas”, 3– 5 p.m., at Lewis Creek Visitor Center, 5808 Lakemont Blvd. SE. Join us for a family movie, the 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday of every month. Dive down into our planet’s shallow seas as we take a journey through an area filled with life. We will follow a humpback whale and her calf as they travel for 1000’s of miles in search of food. All ages welcome. Free. To register, call: 425-452-6885 or visit [www.myparksandrecreation.com](http://www.myparksandrecreation.com). Course # 3622.
- Mar. 18**      **Water, water everywhere** – 2– 3 p.m. at Lewis Creek Visitor Center, 5808 Lakemont Blvd. SE. Wetlands are more than just a wet place, they hold the keys to cleaning our local environment and provide a home to many amazing animals. Let’s explore together the wet side of Lewis Creek Park. Program Cost: \$7. Visit [www.naturevision.org](http://www.naturevision.org) for more information. To register, call 425-836-2697.
- Mar. 21**      **St. Patrick’s Day Luncheon** – 11:30 a.m. – 1 p.m. at North Bellevue Community Center, 4063 148<sup>th</sup> Ave. NE. Join us in being “Irish for a day!” Wear your favorite green outfit and enjoy a traditional Irish meal. We’ll play some Irish music and sing some favorite Irish songs. Your “Irish Eyes” are sure to be smiling! Lunch provided by Catholic Community Services of Pierce County for a suggested donation of \$3 for 60+; charge of \$6 for under 60 years old. Pre-registration required by Jan. 16. For more information, call 425-452-7681.
- March. 21**      **Myths and Legends – Native American Storytelling, 4:00 – 5:00p.m. at Mercer Slough Environmental Education Center.** Watch as the natural and cultural stories of Pacific Northwest Native Americans come alive. Stories will be fun and interactive. Many stories will be told through

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songs and traditional instruments. Pre-registration is required, \$5. Age: All – children under 12 must be accompanied by an adult. For more information call 425-452-2565.

**Mar. 25**      **Track Trek** – 2– 3 p.m. at Lewis Creek Visitor Center, 5808 Lakemont Blvd. SE. Often the only way to tell an animal was around was by what footprints were left. Learn how to be a natural detective and keep “track” of our wild friends. Program Cost: \$7. Visit [www.naturevision.org](http://www.naturevision.org) for more information. To register, call 425-836-2697.

**March 27**      **Beavers: The Biggest Dam Movie You Ever Saw!, 5pm at Mercer Slough Environmental Education Center.** Plunge in and meet your illusive neighbor. This movie shows several beaver families in their wild surroundings. With breathtaking underwater photography, you travel inside the lodge for a rare look at these charming and industrious creatures, see them evade predators and build their homes. Bring a comfy blanket or pillow and we’ll pop the popcorn. All children under 12 must be accompanied by an adult. Free. For more information call 425-452-2565.

**March 30**      **Mom and Me at Mercer Slough, 10:00 – 11:00am, at Mercer Slough Environmental Education Center.** Foster the young naturalist inside all of us. Explore the small wonders of the Mercer Slough with your child and other parents. Pre-registration is required, \$5. Age: All – children under 12 must be accompanied by an adult. For more information call 425-452-2565.

**Ongoing Events**

**Weekly. Thursdays**

**Sit, Sip & Stroll, 11:00am – 12:00p.m., at Mercer Slough Environmental Education Center.** Take in the magnificent views of Mercer Slough. Enjoy our brand new sustainably built facility that sits among the trees. Sip on coffee or tea as you observe and discuss nature from a comfortable chair or use the spotting scope to find and watch wildlife. Then, a Park Ranger will lead a guided stroll along the trails. Starting October 30th, adults and seniors are welcome to drop-in the Douglas Fir Community Room to join us every Thursday at 11:00 am. No registration necessary. For more information call 425-452-2565.

**Weekly. Saturdays**

**Guided Tour and Wetland Walk – 1:00 – 2:00p.m. at Mercer Slough Environmental Education Center.** Join us for a free guided tour of the new Environmental Education Center and wetland walk in the Mercer Slough Nature Park. Starting November 1st, we’ll meet at the Visitor Center every Saturday at 1:00 pm. No registration necessary. All ages are welcome. For more information call 425-452-2565.

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*Event information as of December 31, 2008*

