Bellevue Parks & Community Services
Events List
(This list is a guide. Details may change.)

FEBRUARY 2014

Feb 1 **Lewis Creek Park Ranger Hike,** 10:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.
Lewis Creek Park Visitor Center, 5808 Lakemont Blvd SE
Explore the natural history of Lewis Creek Park with a Park Ranger. Look for signs of local wildlife, and learn what to do when encountering animals in the wild. Dress for the weather and wear sturdy shoes. **Ages:** All ages welcome. **Cost:** Free! **Pre-registration:** Not required. **Info:** 425-452-4195.

Feb 1 **Groundhogs and Shadows,** 1 p.m. – 2 p.m.
Lewis Creek Park Visitor Center, 5808 Lakemont Blvd SE
To celebrate Groundhog Day, come learn about groundhogs and the folklore that surrounds them. We will make our very own groundhog weather predictor to take home! **Ages:** 3 years and older. **Cost:** $2/residents and $3/non-residents. **Pre-registration:** Required. **To register:** 425-452-6885, course # 82888. **Info:** 425-452-4195.

Feb 2 **Migration (Ranger Program),** 2 p.m. – 3 p.m.
Mercer Slough Environmental Education Center, Douglas Fir Community Room, 1625 118th Avenue SE
The Mercer Slough is home to several migratory species. From the hoary bat to the yellow warbler, peamouth minnow to the Chinook salmon, we'll learn about some pretty amazing migratory animals. **Ages:** All ages welcome. **Cost:** Free! **Pre-registration:** Not required. **Info:** mseec@bellevuewa.gov or 425-452-2565.

Feb 2 **"Life: Hunters and Hunted" (Movie),** 2 p.m. – 3 p.m.
Lewis Creek Park Visitor Center, 5808 Lakemont Blvd SE
The ability of mammals to learn new tricks helps them to survive in the cat-and-mouse chase of the hunters and hunted. Watch as animals learn to survive, including orcas, tigers and rattle snakes. Running time is 55 minutes. **Ages:** 12 years and older. **Cost:** Free! Donations will be gratefully accepted. **Pre-registration:** Not required. **Info:** 425-452-4195.

Feb 5-9 **Northwest Flower and Garden Show,** 9 a.m. – 8 p.m.
Washington State Convention & Trade Center, 800 Convention Place, Seattle
This is one of the largest, most magnificent garden shows in the world. Please come visit the Bellevue Botanical Garden Society's booth. **Ages:** All ages. **Cost and info:** Please see the show's website – www.gardenshow.com – or call 800-569-2832.

Bellevue Parks & Community Services
Events List
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Feb 7 **"Stellaluna" (Children's Activity),** 11 a.m. – noon and 1:30 p.m. – 2:30 p.m. (two sessions, choose one)
Lewis Creek Park Visitor Center, 5808 Lakemont Blvd SE
Meet Stellaluna, a little fruit bat who gets lost before she knows how to fly. As she waits for her mother to return, she stays with another kind of flying family and learns their strange habits. We always make a fun craft to take home! **Ages:** 3 years and older. **Cost:** $2/residents and $3/non-residents. **Pre-registration:** Required. To register: 425-452-6885, course #82829 or #82830. **Info:** 425-452-4195.

Feb 8 **Snowshoe Adventure Introduction Series,** 9:30 a.m. – 5 p.m.
Leaves from Highland Community Center, 14224 Bel-Red Road
Never been snowshoeing? This is the perfect opportunity for you to explore the white wilderness around us. Expert staff will ensure the trip is safe and fun for everyone. Transportation and snowshoes will be provided! Learn new skills and meet new friends while enjoying the great outdoors. You won't find a bigger adventure on a snowy day! **Ages:** 11 years and older. **Cost:** $40/residents and $50/non-residents. **Pre-registration:** Required. **To register:** www.MyParksandRecreation.com, course #82769. **Info:** jwalenga@bellevuewa.gov .

Feb 8 **My Little Valentine (Family Activity),** 10 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.
Northwest Arts Center, 9825 NE 24th Street
Bring your dad and make a special box-lunch for both of you to share. Together, make a special gift to take home to mom. Sing songs, do a little dance and complete the morning decorating a sweet Valentine treat. **Ages:** 2 to 5 years old, with caregiver. **Cost:** $25/residents and $30/non-residents (one adult/one child). **Pre-registration:** Required. **To register:** 425-452-4106, course #81779. **Info:** NWAC@bellevuewa.gov or 425-452-4106.

Feb 8 **Woof Walks in Nature,** 10 a.m. – 11 a.m.
Meet at Lake Hills Greenbelt Community Garden Kiosk, 15500 SE 16th Street
Join a Park Ranger and discover fascinating ecological facts about Bellevue City Parks. Bring your dog and learn how you can both help the City steward these valuable lands. Please dress for the weather. We encourage families to attend. Dogs must be on a 6-foot leash. **Ages:** All ages welcome. **Cost:** Free! **Pre-registration:** Required. **Info and to register:** 425-452-7225 or LHarper@bellevuewa.gov .

Bellevue Parks & Community Services
Events List
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Feb 8 **Animal Art,** 1 p.m. – 3 p.m.
Lewis Creek Park Visitor Center, 5808 Lakemont Blvd SE
Draw and sketch different Pacific Northwest species from a collection of wildlife mounts! There is no other way to capture the magnificence of these creatures so close up and so still. Mounts, newsprint and charcoal pencils will be provided. Challenge your artistic talents while learning about the natural history of the area in which you live. **Ages:** 8 years and older. **Cost:** $4/residents and $5/non-residents. **Pre-registration:** Required. **To register:** 425-452-6885, course #82935. **Info:** 425-452-4195.

Feb 9 **Migration (Ranger Program),** 2 p.m. – 3 p.m.
Mercer Slough Environmental Education Center, Douglas Fir Community Room, 1625 118th Avenue SE
The Mercer Slough is home to several migratory species. From the hoary bat to the yellow warbler, peamouth minnow to the Chinook salmon, we'll learn about some pretty amazing migratory animals. **Ages:** All ages welcome. **Cost:** Free! **Pre-registration:** Not required. **Info:** mseec@bellevuewa.gov or 425-452-2565.

Feb 9 **"Growing Up Wild: Fuzzy Wuzzy Bears" (Children's Movie),**
2 p.m. – 2:30 p.m.
Lewis Creek Park Visitor Center, 5808 Lakemont Blvd SE
Look for food and trouble in bear country with grizzly bears, polar bears, black bears and pandas! "Growing Up Wild" gives fun and entertaining insight into the animal kingdom. Running time is 30 minutes. **Ages:** 3 years and older. **Cost:** Free! Donations will be gratefully accepted. **Pre-registration:** Not required. **Info:** 425-452-4195.

Feb 11 **Sweetheart Dance,** 2 p.m. – 4 p.m.
North Bellevue Community Center, 4063 148th Avenue NE
The "Sound of Swing" will perform for your dancing pleasure. **Ages:** 18 years and older. **Cost:** $3 per person, payable at the door. **Pre-registration:** Not required. **Info:** 425-452-7681.

Feb 12 **Farm Hands – Happy Valentine's Day to Our Animal Friends,**
1:30 p.m. – 3 p.m.
Kelsey Creek Farm Park, 410 130th Place SE
Create Valentine's Day treats for our animal friends, and deliver the goodies around the barnyard with Farmer Jayne. We'll use our imaginations with card making for our favorite people, too, and end up our time with a special holiday treat for ourselves! **Ages:** 5 to 8 years old. **Cost:** $25/residents and $30/non-residents. **Pre-registration:** Required. **To register:** 425-452-7688, course #81669. **Info:** kelseycreekfarm@bellevuewa.gov or 425-452-7688.

Bellevue Parks & Community Services
Events List
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Feb 15 **Lewis Creek to Lakemont Community Park Hike,** 10 a.m. - noon
Lewis Creek Park Visitor Center, 5808 Lakemont Blvd SE
This lovely trail winds through green corridors to connect two of Bellevue's most beautiful parks. **Distance:** 5 miles. **Level of difficulty:** Difficult (750 feet elevation). **Ages:** 12 years and older. **Cost:** Free! **Pre-registration:** Not required. **Info:** 425-452-4195.

Feb 15 **Green Hour (Family Activity),** 1 p.m. – 2 p.m.
Lewis Creek Park Visitor Center, 5808 Lakemont Blvd SE
Join us the third Saturday of every month for a Green Hour at Lewis Creek Park! Observe and explore the park during an hour of unstructured play and interaction with the natural world. Each month, creative, science-based ideas will have children and parents deepening their knowledge and love of nature together. **Ages:** 5 years and older. **Cost:** Free! **Pre-registration:** Not required. **Info:** 425-452-4195.

Feb 16 **National Parks History: Presidents That Made It Possible,** 2 p.m. – 3 p.m.
Lewis Creek Park Visitor Center, 5808 Lakemont Blvd SE
In honor of Presidents' week, learn about the presidents who shaped the face of our national parks and the National Park Service. Their actions instilled a sense of the importance of preservation and appreciation in the American public that lives on today in national parks as well as local parks. **Ages:** 8 years and older. **Cost:** Free! **Pre-registration:** Not required. **Info:** 425-452-4195.

Feb 18 **Mid-Winter Break Teen Snowshoe Trip**, 9 a.m. – 3 p.m.
Leaves from Highland Community Center, 14224 Bel-Red Road
Enjoy the snow this break! We will head into the hills for a winter adventure. This is a great opportunity for beginners or more experienced teens. Snowshoe, build a snow shelter, track wildlife and enjoy some hot cocoa on a day away from your usual routine. **Ages:** 12 to 17 years old. **Cost:** $50. **Pre-registration:** Required. **To register:** www.MyParksandRecreation.com , course #82774. **Info:** jwalenga@bellevuewa.gov .

Feb 20 **Mid-Winter Break Teen Snowshoe Trip**, 9 a.m. – 3 p.m.
Leaves from Highland Community Center, 14224 Bel-Red Road
Enjoy the snow this break! We will head into the hills for a winter adventure. This is a great opportunity for beginners or more experienced teens. Snowshoe, build a snow shelter, track wildlife and enjoy some hot cocoa on a day away from your usual routine. **Ages:** 12 to 17 years old. **Cost:** $50. **Pre-registration:** Required. **To register:** www.MyParksandRecreation.com , course #82775. **Info:** jwalenga@bellevuewa.gov .

Bellevue Parks & Community Services
Events List
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Feb 22 **Muddy Tracks of Wildlife Friends, 2** p.m. – 3 p.m.
Lake Hills Greenbelt Ranger Station, 15416 SE 16th Street
With all of our winter rain, we sure have a lot of mud. Have you ever looked closely and noticed some tracks left in that mud? Who do you think they belong to? Explore the Greenbelt with a Park Ranger and discover who leave the tracks that you see. You can even take some tracks home! Registration for this class includes one child and one adult. Register for the class using the child's name. An additional child may attend. **Ages:** 3 years and older. **Cost:** $2.50/residents and $3/non-residents. **Pre-registration:** Required. **To register:** 425-452-7225, course #82776. **Info:** 425-452-7225.

Feb 23 **Introducing: Washington State (Adult Enrichment Program),** 2 p.m. – 3 p.m.
Mercer Slough Environmental Education Center, Douglas Fir Community Room, 1625 118th Avenue SE
Think you know Washington State? From the Westside prairies to the alpine meadows, there's a lot here you may not know about. We'll discuss the incredible habitats and species that the Evergreen State holds. **Ages:** Best for ages 12 years and older. **Cost:** Free! **Pre-registration:** Not required. **Info:** mseec@bellevuewa.gov or 425-452-2565.

Feb 28 **"Blue Planet: Seasonal Seas" (Nature Film),** 5 p.m. – 6 p.m.
Mercer Slough Environmental Education Center, Douglas Fir Community Room, 1625 118th Avenue SE
As the days grow longer, billions of microscopic plankton bloom under the blazing sun. Here in the temperate seas, three-ton basking sharks graze among forests of giant kelp – the fastest growing plant in the world. The forests harbor thousands of other animals, including sea otters, brilliantly-colored anemones, squid and exquisite leafy dragons. But as the year wears on, storms rage in the icy seas… a desperate challenge for the animals that remain. This video contains a shark scene which may not be appropriate for some younger viewers. Popcorn provided! **Ages:** Best for ages 5 years and older. **Cost:** Free! **Pre-registration:** Not required. **Info:** mseec@bellevuewa.gov or 425-452-2565.

Feb 28 **Night Hike,** 7:30 p.m. – 9 p.m.
Lewis Creek Park Visitor Center, 5808 Lakemont Blvd SE
When the sun sets and the dark of night creeps in, Lewis Creek Park comes alive! Learn about the different nocturnal and crepuscular species that call Bellevue home, and join a Ranger on a hike through the woods after dark. Bring a flashlight or headlamp, as well as good shoes and warm clothes, for the journey. **Ages:** 5 years and older. **Cost:** $2/residents and $3/non-residents. **Pre-registration:** Required. To register: 425-452-6885, course #82889. **Info:** 425-452-4195.

Bellevue Parks & Community Services
Events List
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MARCH 2014

March 1 **Lewis Creek Park Ranger Hike,** 10:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.
Lewis Creek Park Visitor Center, 5808 Lakemont Blvd SE
Explore the natural history of Lewis Creek Park with a Park Ranger. Look for signs of local wildlife, and learn what to do when encountering animals in the wild. Dress for the weather and wear sturdy shoes. **Ages:** All ages welcome. **Cost:** Free! **Pre-registration:** Not required. **Info:** 425-452-4195.

March 2 **Mercer's Minnows (Ranger Program),** 2 p.m. – 3 p.m.
Mercer Slough Environmental Education Center, Douglas Fir Community Room, 1625 118th Avenue SE
Did you know that a few times each spring, scores of foot-long minnows travel up the Mercer Slough on the way to their spawning beds in Kelsey Creek? Come learn more about their fascinating journey and watersheds in general. We'll play a fun peamouth minnow game! **Ages:** All ages welcome. **Cost:** Free! **Pre-registration:** Not required. **Info:** mseec@bellevuewa.gov or 425-452-2565.

March 2 **"North America: Born to Be Wild" (Movie),** 2 p.m. – 3 p.m.
Lewis Creek Park Visitor Center, 5808 Lakemont Blvd SE
North America is a Discovery Channel series featuring amazing cinematography to explore our own backyard and all of the marvels it holds. In this episode, take a journey to meet the wide variety of wildlife here, and learn about their struggle to survive. Running time is 60 minutes. **Ages:** 12 years and older. **Cost:** Free! Donations will be gratefully accepted. **Pre-registration:** Not required. **Info:** 425-452-4195.

March 7 **Gardening with Your Children,** 10 a.m. – 11 a.m.
Lake Hills Greenbelt Ranger Station, 15416 SE 16th Street
Explore the world of gardening through hands-on experiences with soil, plants and water. Discover the wonders of seeds, growing plants and plant care in our outdoor raised garden beds. We will introduce you to some of our favorite pollinators – honeybees. As we investigate the world of plants, parents and their children can also grow joy together. Registration for this class includes one child and one adult. Please use the parent's name when registering. An additional child may attend. **Ages:** All ages welcome. **Cost:**$2.50/residents and $3/non-residents. **Pre-registration:** Required. **Info and to register:** 425-452-7225, course #82777.

Bellevue Parks & Community Services
Events List
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March 7 **Secret Place (Children's Activity),** 11 a.m. – noon and 1:30 p.m. – 2:30 p.m. (two sessions, choose one)
Lewis Creek Park Visitor Center, 5808 Lakemont Blvd SE
Every city needs a secret place for animals to live and thrive. Watch the secret place, learn about why it is so special, and why parks are so important! We always make a fun craft to take home! **Ages:** 3 years and older. **Cost:** $2/residents and $3/non-residents. **Pre-registration:** Required. To register: 425-452-6885, course #82831 or #82832. **Info:** 425-452-4195.

March 8 **Snowshoe Adventure Introduction Series,** 9:30 a.m. – 5 p.m.
Leaves from Highland Community Center, 14224 Bel-Red Road
Never been snowshoeing? This is the perfect opportunity for you to explore the white wilderness around us. Expert staff will ensure the trip is safe and fun for everyone. Transportation and snowshoes will be provided! Learn new skills and meet new friends while enjoying the great outdoors. You won't find a bigger adventure on a snowy day! **Ages:** 11 years and older. **Cost:** $40/residents and $50/non-residents. **Pre-registration:** Required. **To register:** www.MyParksandRecreation.com, course #82770. **Info:** jwalenga@bellevuewa.gov .

March 8 **Northwest Perennial Alliance (NPA) March Mania Plant Sale,** 10 a.m. – 2 p.m.
Wilburton Instructional Service Center, 12241 Main Street (one half-block east of Bellevue Botanical Garden)
This sale kicks off the local plant sale season in the Seattle area, and features spring ephemerals, which are plants that are unique to early spring. You won't see these beauties at later sales, so don't miss this opportunity. Learn from the experts, and let them help you choose some of the earliest bloomers of the season to brighten up a drab space in your garden. Proceeds from this fundraiser benefit the educational programs of NPA and the NPA Border. **Ages:** All ages welcome. **Cost:** Admission is free; cost of plants varies. **Info:** www.n-p-a.org .

March 8 **Woof Walks in Nature,** 10 a.m. – 11 a.m.
Meet at Lake Hills Greenbelt Community Garden Kiosk, 15500 SE 16th Street
Join a Park Ranger and discover fascinating ecological facts about Bellevue City Parks. Bring your dog and learn how you can both help the City steward these valuable lands. Please dress for the weather. We encourage families to attend. Dogs must be on a 6-foot leash. **Ages:** All ages welcome. **Cost:** Free! **Pre-registration:** Required. **Info and to register:** LHarper@bellevuewa.gov or 425-452-7225.

Bellevue Parks & Community Services
Events List
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March 8 **The Food Chain (Family Activity),** 1 p.m. – 2 p.m.
Lewis Creek Park Visitor Center, 5808 Lakemont Blvd SE
All living things depend on each other to survive. Who do you depend on? Learn about the web of life as you create your very own food chain model to take home. **Ages:** 6 years and older. **Cost:** $2/residents and $3/non-residents. **Pre-registration:** Required. **To register:** 425-452-6885, course #82890. **Info:** 425-452-4195.

March 9 **Mercer's Minnows (Ranger Program),** 2 p.m. – 3 p.m.
Mercer Slough Environmental Education Center, Douglas Fir Community Room, 1625 118th Avenue SE
Did you know that a few times each spring, scores of foot-long minnows travel up the Mercer Slough on the way to their spawning beds in Kelsey Creek? Come learn more about their fascinating journey and watersheds in general. We'll play a fun peamouth minnow game! **Ages:** All ages welcome. **Cost:** Free! **Pre-registration:** Not required. **Info:** mseec@bellevuewa.gov or 425-452-2565.

March 9 **"Dinosaurs and Other Creature Features" (Children's Movie),**
2 p.m. – 2:30 p.m.
Lewis Creek Park Visitor Center, 5808 Lakemont Blvd SE
Travel back in time to when dinosaurs ruled the earth! Then learn about some of the world's creepiest creatures like spiders, ants and more. Running time is 30 minutes. **Ages:** 3 years and older. **Cost:** Free! **Pre-registration:** Not required. **Info:** 425-452-4195.

March 12 **Farm Hands – Rabbits, Wiggles and Giggles**, 1:30 p.m. – 3 p.m.
Kelsey Creek Farm Park, 410 130th Place SE
How far can you jump? Hop on over to practice your rabbit skills and meet our beautiful rabbit friends with Farmer Jayne. We'll pet and brush the rabbits, and work by their cages with our rakes, making the area tidy and neat for them. **Ages:** 5 to 8 years old. **Cost:** $25/residents and $30/non-residents. **Pre-registration:** Required. **To register:** 425-452-7688, course #81670. **Info:** kelseycreekfarm@bellevuewa.gov or 425-452-7688.

March 14 **Gardening with Your Children,** 10 a.m. – 11 a.m.
Lake Hills Greenbelt Ranger Station, 15416 SE 16th Street
Explore the world of gardening through hands-on experiences with soil, plants and water. Discover the wonders of seeds, growing plants and plant care in our outdoor raised garden beds. We will introduce you to some of our favorite pollinators – honeybees. As we investigate the world of plants, parents and their children can also grow joy together. Registration for this class includes one child and one adult. Please use the parent's name when registering. An additional child may attend. **Ages:** All ages welcome. **Cost:**$2.50/residents and $3/non-residents. **Pre-registration:** Required. **Info and to register:** 425-452-7225, course #82778.

Bellevue Parks & Community Services
Events List
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March 15 **Lucky Leprechauns (Family Activity)**, 10 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.
Northwest Arts Center, 9825 NE 24th Street
Top o' the mornin' to ya! Join us for art, games, music and all things green. Do not forget to have your leprechaun wear green so you won't get pinched. There's a pot of "gold" waiting for you at the end of the rainbow. **Ages:** 2 to 5 years old, with caregiver. **Cost:** $25/residents and $30/non-residents (1 child/1 adult). **Pre-registration:** Required. **To register:** 425-452-4106, course #81779. **Info:** NWAC@bellevuewa.gov or 425-452-4106.

March 15 **Weowna Park Hike,** 10 a.m. - noon
Meeting place: 168th Avenue SE and SE 19th Street
Explore this deep ravine that was restored using bioengineering techniques. **Distance:** 3 miles. **Level of difficulty:** Moderate (200 feet elevation). **Ages:** All ages welcome. **Cost:** Free! **Pre-registration:** Not required. **Info:** 425-452-4195.

March 15 **Green Hour (Family Activity),** 1 p.m. – 2 p.m.
Lewis Creek Park Visitor Center, 5808 Lakemont Blvd SE
Join us the third Saturday of every month for a Green Hour at Lewis Creek Park! Observe and explore the park during an hour of unstructured play and interaction with the natural world. Each month, creative, science-based ideas will have children and parents deepening their knowledge and love of nature together. **Ages:** 5 years and older. **Cost:** Free! **Pre-registration:** Not required. **Info:** 425-452-4195.

March 16 **Coyotes (Living with Wildlife),** 1 p.m. – 2 p.m.
Lewis Creek Park Visitor Center, 5808 Lakemont Blvd SE
Coyotes have long been thought of as a nuisance animal that looks for trouble; from Native American legend to Wiley the Coyote, they are portrayed as unfortunate tricksters. As one of the most commonly seen urban-dwelling mammals, it is important to understand more about these cunning creatures. Discover more about their habits and how to prevent conflicts with coyotes. **Ages:** 10 years and older. **Cost:** Free! **Pre-registration:** Required. **To register:** 425-452-6885. **Info:** 425-452-4195.

March 21 **Gardening with Your Children,** 10 a.m. – 11 a.m.
Lake Hills Greenbelt Ranger Station, 15416 SE 16th Street
Explore the world of gardening through hands-on experiences with soil, plants and water. Discover the wonders of seeds, growing plants and plant care in our outdoor raised garden beds. We will introduce you to some of our favorite pollinators – honeybees. As we investigate the world of plants, parents and their children can also grow joy together. Registration for this class includes one child and one adult. Please use the parent's name when registering. An additional child may attend. **Ages:** All ages welcome. **Cost:**$2.50/residents and $3/non-residents. **Pre-registration:** Required. **Info and to register:** 425-452-7225, course #82779.

Bellevue Parks & Community Services
Events List
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March 21 **Frog Hop,** 7:30 p.m. – 9 p.m.
Lewis Creek Park Visitor Center, 5808 Lakemont Blvd SE
One of the earliest sounds of spring is the constant rib-bit song of frogs. Learn about the intricate life cycle of these amphibians, as well as the kinds of frogs that live in Western Washington. Then join a Park Ranger to explore Lewis Creek using your ears to guide the way! Bring a flashlight or headlamp, as well as good shoes and warm clothes for the journey. **Ages:** 5 years and older. **Cost:** $2/residents and $3/non-residents. **Pre-registration:** Required. **To register:** 425-452-6885, course #82891. **Info:** 425-452-4195.

March 22 **Hot Topics in Washington State: Frogs,** 1 p.m. – 2 p.m.
Lewis Creek Park Visitor Center, 5808 Lakemont Blvd SE
Did you know that the Pacific Tree Frog is the Washington State Amphibian? It is the most commonly seen and heard frog in the Pacific Northwest! However, there are many other frog species that call Washington home, including an introduced species that is crowding native species. Come discover the variety of frog species and the habitats they live in! **Ages:** 8 years and older. **Cost:** Free! **Pre-registration:** Not required. **Info:** 425-452-4195.

March 23 **Ethnobotany (Eastside Heritage Center program),** 2 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.
Lewis Creek Park Visitor Center, 5808 Lakemont Blvd SE
With the outdoor environment as your marketplace, how might you use the plants to support your daily needs? Join Barb Williams, Eastside Heritage Center volunteer, to learn how you could survive using the plant technologies developed by local Native Americans – our first scientists. This fascinating program will include a talk, plant ID, stories, artifacts and outdoor walk (weather permitting). Presented by Eastside Heritage Center and Bellevue Parks & Community Services. **Ages:** 12 years and older. **Cost:** Free! **Pre-registration:** Required. **To register:** 425-452-6885, course #82938. **Info:** 425-452-4195.

March 28 **Gardening with Your Children,** 10 a.m. – 11 a.m.
Lake Hills Greenbelt Ranger Station, 15416 SE 16th Street
Explore the world of gardening through hands-on experiences with soil, plants and water. Discover the wonders of seeds, growing plants and plant care in our outdoor raised garden beds. We will introduce you to some of our favorite pollinators – honeybees. As we investigate the world of plants, parents and their children can also grow joy together. Registration for this class includes one child and one adult. Please use the parent's name when registering. An additional child may attend. **Ages:** All ages welcome. **Cost:**$2.50/residents and $3/non-residents. **Pre-registration:** Required. **Info and to register:** 425-452-7225, course #82780.

Bellevue Parks & Community Services
Events List
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March 28 **"Blue Planet: Coral Seas" (Nature Film),** 5 p.m. – 6 p.m.
Mercer Slough Environmental Education Center, Douglas Fir Community Room, 1625 118th Avenue SE
Bathed in bright sunlight and warm, clear water, the coral reef is a rich oasis of life – the rainforest of the sea. Bizarrely adorned harlequin shrimp carry off a starfish several times their size, while haunting songs reverberate around the reef, heralding the arrival of humpback whales. Shimmering schools of brightly colored fish battle for territory in this competitive world where you have to stand out to survive. This video contains a shark scene which may not be appropriate for some younger viewers. Popcorn provided! **Ages:** Best for ages 5 years and older. **Cost:** Free! **Pre-registration:** Not required. **Info:** mseec@bellevuewa.gov or 425-452-2565.

March 28 **Owl Prowl,** 7:30 p.m. – 9 p.m.
Lewis Creek Park Visitor Center, 5808 Lakemont Blvd SE
Discover what species live in the Pacific Northwest. Then take a night hike with the Rangers to look for owls and other nocturnal wildlife in the park. Bring a flashlight or headlamp, as well as good shoes, for the journey! **Ages:** 5 years and older. **Cost:** $5/resident and $6/non-resident. **Pre-registration:** Required. **To register:** 425-452-6885, course 82892. **Info:** 425-452-4195.

March 29 **Snowshoe Adventure Introduction Series,** 9:30 a.m. – 5 p.m.
Leaves from Highland Community Center, 14224 Bel-Red Road
Never been snowshoeing? This is the perfect opportunity for you to explore the white wilderness around us. Expert staff will ensure the trip is safe and fun for everyone. Transportation and snowshoes will be provided! Learn new skills and meet new friends while enjoying the great outdoors. You won't find a bigger adventure on a snowy day! **Ages:** 11 years and older. **Cost:** $40/residents and $50/non-residents. **Pre-registration:** Required. **To register:** www.MyParksandRecreation.com, course #82771. **Info:** jwalenga@bellevuewa.gov .

Bellevue Parks & Community Services
Events List
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APRIL 2014

April 4 **Gardening with Your Children,** 10 a.m. – 11 a.m.
Lake Hills Greenbelt Ranger Station, 15416 SE 16th Street
Explore the world of gardening through hands-on experiences with soil, plants and water. Discover the wonders of seeds, growing plants and plant care in our outdoor raised garden beds. We will introduce you to some of our favorite pollinators – honeybees. As we investigate the world of plants, parents and their children can also grow joy together. Registration for this class includes one child and one adult. Please use the parent's name when registering. An additional child may attend. **Ages:** All ages welcome. **Cost:**$2.50/residents and $3/non-residents. **Pre-registration:** Required. **Info and to register:** 425-452-7225, course #82781.

April 4 **Dream Weaver (Children's Activity),** 11 a.m. – noon and 1:30 p.m. – 2:30 p.m. (two sessions, choose one)
Lewis Creek Park Visitor Center, 5808 Lakemont Blvd SE
Weave along with a small yellow spider as she enchants and inspires you! We always make a fun craft to take home! **Ages:** 3 years and older.
Cost:$2/resident and $3/non-resident. **Pre-registration:** Required. **To register:** 425-452-6885, course #82833 and #82834. **Info:** 425-452-4195.

April 5 **Lewis Creek Park Ranger Hike,** 10:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.
Lewis Creek Park Visitor Center, 5808 Lakemont Blvd SE
Explore the natural history of Lewis Creek Park with a Park Ranger. Look for signs of local wildlife, and learn what to do when encountering animals in the wild. Dress for the weather and wear sturdy shoes. **Ages:** All ages welcome. **Cost:** Free! **Pre-registration:** Not required. **Info:** 425-452-4195.

April 5 **Nature Haiku,** 1 p.m. – 2 p.m.
Lewis Creek Park Visitor Center, 5808 Lakemont Blvd SE
April is National Poetry Month! To celebrate, we will learn how to write a haiku, and then incorporate nature themes. Poems will be displayed in the visitor center! **Ages:** 5 years and older. **Cost:** Free! **Pre-registration:** Not required. **Info:** 425-452-4195.

Bellevue Parks & Community Services
Events List
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April 5-6 **Bellevue Zip Tour Grand Opening,** 9 a.m. – 5 p.m.
South Bellevue Community Center, 14509 SE Newport Way
Feel Wild in the City! Be one of the first riders on the Bellevue Zip Tour. The 6.5 zip lines and two suspension bridges are the newest addition to the Bellevue Challenge Course. Each 2-1/2 hour tour will take "zippers" through Eastgate Park's second growth forest and provides execptional views of downtown Bellevue and Mount Baker. Traverse Huckleberry Alley and perch high on the Cathedral and Lightning trees. It's an experience to remember and share! Some restrictions apply, so call before registering. **Ages:** 9 years and older. **Cost:** $44/youth and $69/adult. **Pre-registration:** Required. **To register:** 425-452-4240, courses 83298-83320. **Info:** 425-452-4240.

April 6 **"Frogs: The Thin Green Line" (Movie),** 2 p.m. – 3 p.m.
Lewis Creek Park Visitor Center, 5808 Lakemont Blvd SE
Frogs are some of the most wondrous and diverse creatures on earth, but are subject to harsh environmental conditions and are facing extinction. Come learn about the factors posing peril for frogs, as well as what is being done to save them. Running time is 60 minutes. **Ages:** 12 years and older. **Cost:** Free! Donations will be gratefully accepted. **Pre-registration:** Not required. **Info:** 425-452-4195.

April 6 **Ranger Program: Introduction to Birding,** 2 p.m. – 3 p.m.
Mercer Slough Environmental Education Center, Douglas Fir Community Room, 1625 118th Avenue SE
Bird-watching is one of the most popular outdoor activities in America. From hanging a feeder to learning bird songs, there's a lifetime of learning and fun to be had! Learn some introductory skills and see what you'll need to get started. We'll be going on a 30-minute guided bird walk. **Ages:** All ages are welcome. **Cost:** Free! **Pre-registration:** Not required. **Info:** mseec@bellevuewa.gov or 425-452-2565.

April 11 **Hiking Preparedness for Families,** 10 a.m. – 11 a.m.
Lake Hills Greenbelt Ranger Station, 15416 SE 16th Street
Are you new to the area or new to hiking with your family? It can be intimidating knowing what to take on your first hikes with your little ones. Join a Park Ranger to learn about how to dress for the ever-changing Pacific Northwest weather, what to pack, how to be safe, and generally how to prepare for your first hike with your family. Please bring any gear that you have questions about, and any questions that you have. **Ages:** All ages welcome. **Cost:** Free! **Pre-registration:** Not required. **Info:** 425-452-7225.

Bellevue Parks & Community Services
Events List
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April 12 **Metamorphosis,** 1 p.m. – 2 p.m.
Lewis Creek Park Visitor Center, 5808 Lakemont Blvd SE
Each year Lewis Creek experiences a great change… hundreds of caterpillars fill the trees and then disappear. Where do they go? Come learn about the incredible change that caterpillars undergo. **Ages:** 4 years and older. **Cost:** Free! **Pre-registration:** Not required. **Info:** 425-452-4195.

April 13 **"Wild Kratts: Bass Class" (Children's Movie),** 2 p.m. – 2:30 p.m.
Lewis Creek Park Visitor Center, 5808 Lakemont Blvd SE
Join the adventures of the Kratt brothers as they meet up with cool creatures from around the world. Each episode is an adventure that also features how animals use science in their natural lives. Running time is 30 minutes. **Ages:** 3 years and older. **Cost:** Free! **Pre-registration:** Not required. **Info:** 425-452-4195.

April 13 **Ranger Program: Introduction to Birding,** 2 p.m. – 3 p.m.
Mercer Slough Environmental Education Center, Douglas Fir Community Room, 1625 118th Avenue SE
Bird-watching is one of the most popular outdoor activities in America. From hanging a feeder to learning bird songs, there's a lifetime of learning and fun to be had! Learn some introductory skills and see what you'll need to get started. We'll be going on a 30-minute guided bird walk. **Ages:** All ages are welcome. **Cost:** Free! **Pre-registration:** Not required. **Info:** mseec@bellevuewa.gov or 425-452-2565.

April 15 and 17 **Kelsey Creek Pony Partners,** 10 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.
Kelsey Creek Farm Park, 410 130th Avenue SE
Children will learn pony safety, grooming, basic parts of a pony and then will enjoy a craft. Each partner must be accompanied by a parent or guardian. The program runs, rain or shine. No infants or older siblings. **Ages:** 2-5 years. **Cost:** $50/resident and $60/non-resident. **Pre-registration:** Required. **To register:** 425-452-7688, course #81876. **Info:** 425-452-7688.

April 18 **Night Hike,** 7:30 p.m. – 9 p.m.
Lewis Creek Park Visitor Center, 5808 Lakemont Blvd SE
When the sun sets and the dark of night creeps in, Lewis Creek Park comes alive! Learn about the different nocturnal and crepuscular species that call Bellevue home, and join a Ranger on a hike through the woods after dark. Bring a flashlight or headlamp, as well as good shoes and warm clothes, for the journey. **Ages:** 5 years and older. **Cost:** $2/resident and $3/non-resident. **Pre-registration:** Required. To register: 425-452-6885, course #82895. **Info:** 425-452-4195.

Bellevue Parks & Community Services
Events List
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April 19 **Peep! Peep!,** 10 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. – 2:30 p.m.
Northwest Arts Center, 9825 NE 24th Street
Make cheerful chicks that peek out of decorated eggs as well as other springtime creatures. Music and an egg hunt round off our morning of fun! This is an adult/child class. **Ages:** 2-5 years old. **Cost:**$25/resident and $30/non-resident (one child/one adult). **Pre-registration:** Required. **To register:** 425-452-4106, course #81780. **Info:** NWAC@bellevuewa.gov or 425-452-4106.

April 19 **South Bellevue Green Spaces Hike,** 10 a.m. - noon
Meeting place: Lattawood Park, 4530 155th Avenue SE
Explore the unknown trails of South Bellevue. Parks and open space ravines guide you (and wildlife!) through friendly neighborhoods. **Distance:** 3 miles. **Level of difficulty:** Difficult (350 feet elevation). **Ages:** All ages welcome. **Cost:** Free! **Pre-registration:** Not required. **Info:** 425-452-4195.

April 19 **April Pool's Day,** noon - 2 p.m.
Bellevue Aquatic Center, 601 143rd Avenue NE
This event promotes water safety and proper lifejacket use. Come for raffles and water safety demonstrations. **Ages:** All ages are welcome. **Cost:** Ages 12 and under swim for free! Fee is $6.50 for teens and adults. **Pre-registration:** Not required. **Info:** Scott Armstrong – sarmstrong@bellevuewa.gov or 425-452-4444.

April 19 **The Great SBCC Family Challenge,** 1:30 p.m. – 4:30 p.m.
South Bellevue Community Center, 14509 SE Newport Way
A team of three to five family members will challenge other family teams by performing physical feats, mind tasks and creative endeavors in this unique, fun event. Points will be awarded as tasks are completed, with winners announced at the end. The fastest will not necessarily be the winner, as tasks will provide several options to score points. **Ages:** 6 years and older. **Cost:** $5/team member. **Pre-registration:** Required. **To register:** 425-452-4240, course 83701. **Info:** 425-452-4240.

April 19 **Green Hour (Family Activity),** 1 p.m. – 2 p.m.
Lewis Creek Park Visitor Center, 5808 Lakemont Blvd SE
Join us the third Saturday of every month for a Green Hour at Lewis Creek Park! Observe and explore the park during an hour of unstructured play and interaction with the natural world. Each month, creative, science-based ideas will have children and parents deepening their knowledge and love of nature together. **Ages:** 5 years and older. **Cost:** Free! **Pre-registration:** Not required. **Info:** 425-452-4195.

Bellevue Parks & Community Services
Events List
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April 25 **"Blue Planet: Tidal Seas" (Nature Film),** 5 p.m. – 6 p.m.
Mercer Slough Environmental Education Center, Douglas Fir Community Room, 1625 118th Avenue SE
The sun and moon move billions of tons of water with every turn of the tide. The strongest tides empty entire bays, smash trees on riverbanks and strand sea creatures on suddenly-dry land. Weaker tides control the movements of huge numbers of fish, coaxing schools of stingrays through astounding underwater arches. And as the water recedes, the tide can create unbelievable landscapes – like a sparkling world of salt crystals inhabited only by tiny shrimp and bright pink flamingos. This video contains a shark scene which may not be appropriate for some younger viewers. Popcorn provided! **Ages:** Best for ages 5 years and older. **Cost:** Free! **Pre-registration:** Not required. **Info:** mseec@bellevuewa.gov or 425-452-2565.

April 26 **Sheep Shearing,** 11 a.m. – 4 p.m.
Kelsey Creek Farm Park, 410 130th Avenue SE
See the sheep being shorn of their winter coats, and enjoy other farm/craft activities such as spinning demonstrations, tractor rides, pony rides, inflatables, children's crafts and food! **Ages:** All ages are welcome. **Cost:** Free admission. Costs vary for food and activities. No ATM will be on site, and no charge cards will be accepted. **Pre-registration:** Not required. **Info:** kelseycreekfarm@bellevuewa.gov or 425-452-7688.

April 26 **Sheep Shearing Volunteers,** 10 a.m. – 5 p.m.
Kelsey Creek Farm Park, 410 130th Avenue SE
We are seeking energetic, fun teens to assist with children's activities at Kelsey Creek Farm's special event. Volunteers must be able to follow directions, be comfortable in crowds, and be on your feet in all types of weather. This is a great way to earn your community service hours. Dress to work outside with the public. Wear sturdy shoes that can get wet. Volunteers must pre-register. **Ages:** 14 to 18 years old and enrolled in high school. **Cost:** Free. **Pre-registration:** Required. **To register:** 425-452-7688, course #77867. **Info:** kelseycreekfarm@bellevuewa.gov or 425-452-7688.

April 26 **Fraser Cabin Heritage Program,** 11 a.m. – 4 p.m.
Kelsey Creek Farm Park, 410 130th Avenue SE
Visitors are invited to participate in hands-on activities that related to 1880s settler life: agriculture, dairy, household tasks, long cabins, games and Eastside history. This program, part of Kelsey Creek Farm's Sheep Shearing event, is presented by the Eastside Heritage Center, in partnership with Bellevue Parks & Community Services. **Ages:** All ages are welcome. **Cost:** Free! **Pre-registration:** Not required. **Info:** Eastside Heritage Center – www.eastsideheritagecenter.org or 425-450-1049.

Bellevue Parks & Community Services
Events List
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April 27 **Bird Identification,** 2 p.m. – 3 p.m.
Mercer Slough Environmental Education Center, Douglas Fir Community Room, 1625 118th Avenue SE
Come learn some of the finer points of identifying the bird species of our area. We'll discuss field marks, bird songs and some good places to go birding nearby. We will focus on the birds of the Mercer Slough Nature Park. **Ages:** Best for ages 12 years and older. **Cost:** Free! **Pre-registration:** Not required. **Info:** mseec@bellevuewa.gov or 425-452-2565.

May 3 **Arbor Day Earth Day,** 8:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.
Kelsey Creek Park, 410 130th Place SE
This annual Arbor Day Earth Day event will include several volunteer projects, a tree-planting ceremony and a family festival. Approximately 400 volunteers will participate in park enhancement projects at Kelsey Creek Park and other parks around the city. Projects will include planting, trail resurfacing and removing invasive species. **Ages:** All ages welcome. **Cost:** Free! **Pre-registration:** Required by March 14 for volunteer projects. Projects are limited. **Info and to register:** Chris Kukal at CKukal@bellevuewa.gov or 425-452-4195.

Bellevue Parks & Community Services
Events List
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YEAR-ROUND EVENTS

Daily, times vary
Kelsey Creek Farm Pioneer Days
Kelsey Creek Farm Park, 410 130th Place SE
Experience life in the 1800s by visiting our historic log cabin. Tour includes grinding wheat and coffee, turning butter, and other living history activities. These tours are for preschool and school groups. **Ages:** 2 years and older. **Cost:** Varies according to group size (up to $5 per person). **Pre-registration:** Required. **Info and to register:** kelseycreekfarm@bellevuewa.gov or 425-452-7688.

Daily, times vary
Kids on the Farm – Group Tours
Kelsey Creek Farm Park, 410 130th Place SE
Explore our farm and meet our goats, pig, sheep, rabbits, chickens and ponies. Experience the old-fashioned skill of wool carding, and create a wool sheep to take home. These group tours are for preschool and school groups. **Ages:** 2 years and older. **Cost:** Varies according to group size (up to $5 per person). **Pre-registration:** Required. **Info and to register:** kelseycreekfarm@bellevuewa.gov or 425-452-7688.

Daily, times vary
Fall on the Farm Group Tours
Kelsey Creek Farm Park, 410 130th Place SE
Experience harvest season in a traditional way. Visit a pony, feed the chidkens and work on barn "chores" with child-sized pails and rakes. Tour the garden and pumpkin patch. Children finish up by choosing a pumpkin from our harvest-themed indoor pumpkin patch! Extra fee for pumpkins. **Ages:** For preschool and school groups, ages 2 years and older. **Cost:** Varies according to group size (up to $5 per person). **Pre-registration:** Required. **Info and to register:** kelseycreekfarm@bellevuewa.gov or 425-452-7688.

3rd Sunday of each month
NWRSA Area 2060 Greater Sammamish Hand Spinners, Noon - 2 p.m.
Kelsey Creek Community Farm Park (Farm House), 410 130th Place SE
Visitors invited to drop in and watch as spinners demonstrate the traditional art of hand spinning as they turn fuzzy fiber into yarn. New spinners welcome! **Register:** not required. All ages welcome; children must be accompanied by an adult. **Info:** 425-452-7688 or e-mail kelseycreekfarm@bellevuewa.gov.

Every 1st Monday each month
Snocon Night, 4 p.m. - 7 p.m.
Bellevue Skate Park, 14224 Bel-Red Road (within Highland Community Park)
Bellevue Skate Park and Snowboard Connection are proud to present "Snocon Night." Various games, best trick contest, and give a ways for families and youth of all ages. Come check it out - you may walk away with some cool prizes. **Info:** 425-452-2722. **Register:** not required.

Bellevue Parks & Community Services
Events List
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Every Monday
Youth Link Marketing Committee, 4:30 p.m. – 5:30 p.m.
Bellevue City Hall, Room 1E-121, 450 110th Avenue NE
Learn marketing through hands-on training and activities! Marketing team members work on the Bellevue Patch, YouthConnect, an online youth publication, develop marketing materials for the program and develop other marketing strategies using social media. **Info:** call Youth Link at 425-452-5254 or email palina@bellevuewa.gov .

Last Monday each month
Youth Link Teen Closet Distribution Event, 4:30 p.m. - 6:30 p.m.
World Impact Network, 2015 Richards Road
Teen Closet is a free clothing bank for teens and families in the Bellevue area. Individuals, families, and community groups interested in volunteering at the event can contact Patrick, Youth Link Program Coordinator, 425-452-5254, e-mail palina@bellevuewa.gov , or visit www.youthlink.com.

Every Tuesday
2013 Kids Care Coat Drive Planning Committee, 4 p.m. – 5 p.m.
Bellevue City Hall, Room 1E-119, 450 110th Avenue NE
Help plan an annual city-wide coat drive for families in Bellevue. **Info:** Youth Link at 425-452-5254 or palina@bellevuewa.gov .

Every Tuesday
2014 Youth Involvement Conference Planning Meeting, 5 p.m. – 6 p.m.
Bellevue City Hall, Room 1E-121, 450 110th Avenue NE
Help plan a biennial city-wide youth conference in Bellevue. Decide with other teens on selecting themes, workshops and speakers. **Info:** call Youth Link at 425-452-5254 or visit www.youthlink.com .

4th Tuesday each month
Bellevue Youth Court, 6 p.m. - 8 p.m.
Bellevue City Hall, 450 110th Avenue NE, Council Chambers
Monthly session of Bellevue Youth Court with two juvenile court cases. **Info:** 425-452-2846 or hstephens@bellevuewa.gov .

1st and 3rd Wednesday each month
Bellevue Youth Council Meeting, 5 p.m. - 7 p.m.
Bellevue City Hall, 450 110th Avenue NE, Room 1E-120
Youth leadership and community service program for Bellevue middle and high school students. **Info:** Youth Link: 425-452-5254 or palina@bellevuewa.gov .

1st Thursday each month
Bellevue Network On Aging Meeting, 8:30 a.m. - 10:30 a.m.
Bellevue City Hall, 450 110th Avenue NE, Room 1E-120
Info: 425-452-7681 or visit www.bellevuewa.gov/network_on_aging.htm.

Bellevue Parks & Community Services
Events List
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1st Saturday each month
Lewis Creek Ranger Hikes, first Saturdays – November 2, December 7, January 4, February 1, March 1 and April 5.
10:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.
Lewis Creek Park, 5808 Lakemont Blvd SE
Join a ranger to explore the natural history of Lewis Creek Park. Look for signs of local wildlife, and learn what to do when encountering animals in the wild. Dress for the weather and wear sturdy shoes. **Ages:** All ages welcome. **Cost:** Free! **Pre-registration:** Not required. **Info:** 425-452-4195.

Every Saturday
Lake Hills Greenbelt Ranger Walk, 2 p.m. - 3 p.m.
Lake Hills Greenbelt Ranger Station, 15416 SE 16th Street
Do you know the story behind the Phantom at Phantom Lake? Have you ever seen our feathered migratory visitors? Can you spot a nurse log? Join a Park Ranger for a free guided tour of the Greenbelt. Discover the history of the park, view community gardens, and share stories about our local wildlife. **Ages:** All ages welcome. **Cost:** Free! **Pre-registration** is not required. **Info:** 425-452-7225.

Every Saturday
Mercer Slough Nature Walk, 2 p.m. - 3 p.m.
Mercer Slough Environmental Education Center, 1625 118th Avenue SE
At 320 acres, Mercer Slough Nature Park is Lake Washington's largest wetland and Bellevue's second largest park! Meet a Park Ranger at the Environmental Education Center for a free guided tour to learn about the fascinating flora, fauna and history of the park. Please dress for weather. **Ages:** All ages welcome. **Cost:** Free! **Pre-registration:** not required. **Info:** mseec@bellevuewa.gov or 425-452-2565.

Every Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday & Friday
Luncheon, Noon
North Bellevue Community Center, 4063 148th Avenue NE
Adults 60 and older can enjoy a delicious, hot lunch. ***Suggested donation***: $3 for those 60 and older; fee of $5.95 for those under 60. Lunches sponsored and prepared by Catholic Community Services staff and Center volunteers. Special events such as Thanksgiving and Holiday lunches. **Info/Pre-register:** 425-452-7681.