

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

JANUARY 2017

- Jan 3-9** **SBCC's 11th Anniversary Celebration**, times vary by activity
South Bellevue Community Center, 15409 SE Newport Way
South Bellevue Community Center is turning eleven! In honor of this anniversary, many of our instructors will offer their classes, activities, and programs for free as a thank-you to our loyal patrons, and as an invitation for any person to try something new! Come celebrate with Indoor Cycling, Zumba, Rock Climbing, Boot Camp with Karie, Parent/Child Indoor Play, Strong & Fit for Seniors/Adults, Drop-in Sports, Total Body Fitness, Purna Yoga, Pilates, Jazzercise, Yang Style Tai Chi, Parkour, Post Rehab Strength and Conditioning, and Ballet. **Ages:** All ages – specific ages depending upon the class. **Cost:** Free! **Pre-registration:** Not required. **Info:** sbcc@bellevuewa.gov or 425-452-4240, or see SBCC's web page - <http://bellevuewa.gov/sbcc.htm>
- Jan 6** **Indoor Play with Alex Zerbe**, 10:30 a.m. - noon
South Bellevue Community Center, 14509 SE Newport Way
Don't miss this special Indoor Play with a performance by Alex Zerbe. With captivating amounts of energy, Alex Zerbe moves like a rubber band from one end of the stage to the other. Beatboxing, juggling, dancing, singing, music and magic are just a few of the things that led Piers Morgan of *America's Got Talent* to call Alex "the total package." Join us and the two-time Guinness World Record holder for an awesome, free 45-minutes show! Kids will enjoy Indoor Play from 10:30 a.m. to 11:15 a.m.; then the performance will start at 11:15 a.m. **Ages:** 0-5 years old. **Cost:** Free! **Info:** 425-452-4240.
- Jan 6** **Lewis Creek Story Time: "Owl Moon"**, two sessions, choose one –
11 a.m. –noon OR 1:30 p.m. – 2:30 p.m.
Lewis Creek Park Visitor Center, 5808 Lakemont Blvd SE
Look, listen and create during an hour of stories and crafts. A little girl and her father go owling one night... will they see an owl? We always make a fun craft to take home. **Ages:** 3 years and older. This is a parent/adult and child class. **Cost:** Free! **Pre-registration:** Required for children and adults. **To register:** <http://parksreg.bellevuewa.gov/> or 425-452-6885, course 112315 or 112316. **Info:** 425-452-4195.
- Jan 8** **Mercer Slough Family-Friendly Ranger Walk**, 2 p.m. – 3 p.m.
Mercer Slough Environmental Education Center, 1625 118th Avenue SE
Bring the whole family to join a Ranger on a guided hike through the Mercer Slough Nature Park. This kid-oriented program uses games and activities to educate kids and their parents about the Nature Park while discovering the birds and animals that call the Mercer Slough home. The hour-long nature walk ends at the channel bridge in the middle of the park. From there you are able to explore the rich diversity the park has to offer. **Ages:** All ages welcome. **Cost:** Free! **Pre-registration:** Please RSVP. **Info and to RSVP:** mseec@bellevuewa.gov or 425-452-2565.

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- Jan 11** **How Now Brown Cow (Early Release Wednesday),**
1:30 p.m. – 3 p.m.
Kelsey Creek Farm Park, 410 130th Place SE
Help create enrichment opportunities to actively engage and entertain our farm animals. Learn how they think, how each animal needs different activities based on their instincts, and why it's important for animals to stay busy. Let's make our farm animals' habitats rewarding and fun. We'll work in the farm yard and do art/craft activities, too. **Ages:** 6 to 10 years old. **Cost:** \$25/residents and \$30/non-residents. **Pre-registration:** Required. **To register:** 425-452-7688, course 111272. **Info:** kelseycreekfarm@bellevuewa.gov or 425-450-7688.
- Jan 13** **Discover Winter: Bundling Up in the Wild,** 10 a.m. – 11 a.m.
Lake Hills Greenbelt Ranger Station, 15416 SE 16th Street
As winter brings snow to the mountains of the Northwest, animals like the Snowshoe Hare have amazing features to keep them safe in the changing environment. Come learn how some animals have certain adaptations that help them weather through the cold months of the year. **Ages:** All ages welcome. **Cost:** \$2 suggested donation at the door. **Pre-registration:** Required. **To register:** <http://parksreg.bellevuewa.gov/>, course 112718. **Info:** 425-452-6993.
- Jan 14** **The Eagle and Salmon Circle of Life,** 2 p.m. – 3 p.m.
Mercer Slough Environmental Education Center, 1625 118th Avenue SE
Every winter the streams, wetlands and rivers of the Pacific Northwest become a smorgasbord of delight for the American Bald Eagle. By January most of the returning salmon have spawned, and their scavenged carcasses can be found strewn along the fresh water shores and even into the forest. Join us to learn more about this unique connection between the eagles, salmon, and healthy forests. **Ages:** All ages welcome. **Cost:** Free! **Pre-registration:** Please RSVP. **Info and to RSVP:** msec@bellevuewa.gov or 425-452-2565.
- Jan 14** **The Food Web – Nature's Hungry!** 2 p.m. – 3 p.m.
Lewis Creek Park Visitor Center, 5808 Lakemont Blvd SE
All living things depend on each other to survive. What do you depend on? Learn about the intricate web of life that exists all around us! **Ages:** 5 years and older. **Cost:** Free! **Pre-registration:** Not required. **Info:** 425-452-4195.
- Jan 18** **Garden Lecture: "The Education of a Garden Traveler,"** 7 p.m.
Bellevue Botanical Garden, 12001 Main Street
Sit back and enjoy Marty Wingate as she shares her travelogue through gardens of England, Ireland, and Scotland. Virtually visit gardens both public and private, and both grand and intimate that are not only full of ideas about plants and design, but also stories of people and places. **Cost:** \$5/Bellevue Botanical Garden Society members; \$15/non-BBGS members. **Pre-registration:** Recommended. **Info and to register:** <http://www.bellevuebotanical.org/classes.html>

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- Jan 21** **The Eagle and Salmon Circle of Life**, 2 p.m. – 3 p.m.
Mercer Slough Environmental Education Center, 1625 118th Avenue SE
Every winter the streams, wetlands and rivers of the Pacific Northwest become a smorgasbord of delight for the American Bald Eagle. By January most of the returning salmon have spawned, and their scavenged carcasses can be found strewn along the fresh water shores and even into the forest. Join us to learn more about this unique connection between the eagles, salmon, and healthy forests.
Ages: All ages welcome. **Cost:** Free! **Pre-registration:** Please RSVP. **Info and to RSVP:** mseec@bellevuewa.gov or 425-452-2565.
- Jan 21** **The Food Web – Nature’s Hungry!** 2 p.m. – 3 p.m.
Lewis Creek Park Visitor Center, 5808 Lakemont Blvd SE
All living things depend on each other to survive. What do you depend on? Learn about the intricate web of life that exists all around us! **Ages:** 5 years and older. **Cost:** Free! **Pre-registration:** Not required. **Info:** 425-452-4195.
- Jan 22** **Coal Creek Natural Area Ranger Hike**, 10:30 a.m. – noon
Meets at Cinder Mine Trailhead (Newcastle Golf Club Road, west of Redtown Trailhead)
Discover Bellevue’s largest park and get lost in the wilderness while still in the city! This area is rich in history and wildlife. **Distance:** 2 miles. **Level of Difficulty:** Moderate (100 feet elevation change). **Ages:** All ages are welcome! **Pre-registration:** Not required. **Info:** 425-452-4195.
- Jan 22** **Northwest Perennial Alliance Lecture: “Re-Imagining Your Garden,”** 1 p.m.
Bellevue Botanical Garden, 12001 Main Street
Join landscape designer Phoebe Fine in an exploration of design solutions that you can use to enhance your outdoor space and inspire you to live well in your built environment. She’ll share projects that are innovative and sustainable, and will offer an updated approach to your garden. With before-and-after photographs, you will see how site design and implementation can improve the way your landscape functions and enhance your experience in your garden. **Cost:** Free for Northwest Perennial Alliance members; \$15/non-NPA members. **Info:** http://www.northwestperennialalliance.org/Phoebe_Fine_lecture.php
- Jan 22** **Mercer Slough Ranger Walk for Grown-Ups**, 2 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.
Mercer Slough Environmental Education Center, 1625 118th Avenue SE
Join a Ranger to take a short hike through the wetlands of Mercer Slough Nature Park. With an emphasis on the history and natural resources of the Nature Park, begin with an overview of the LEED Gold education center and end at the bridge that spans the channel of Mercer Slough. Afterward, you are free to explore further on your own, or return to the education center with the Ranger. **Ages:** All ages welcome. **Cost:** Free! **Pre-registration:** Please RSVP. **Info and to RSVP:** mseec@bellevuewa.gov or 425-452-2565.

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- Jan 25** **Hip Hop Rabbit (Early Release Wednesday),**
1:30 p.m. – 3 p.m.
Kelsey Creek Farm Park, 410 130th Place SE
Help create enrichment opportunities to actively engage and entertain our farm animals. Learn how they think, how each animal needs different activities based on their instincts, and why it's important for animals to stay busy. Let's make our farm animals' habitats rewarding and fun. We'll work in the farm yard and do art/craft activities, too. **Ages:** 6 to 10 years old. **Cost:** \$25/residents and \$30/non-residents. **Pre-registration:** Required. **To register:** 425-452-7688, course 11273. **Info:** kelseycreekfarm@bellevuewa.gov or 425-450-7688.
- Jan 25** **Garden Class: "Great Garden Trees,"** 6:30 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.
Bellevue Botanical Garden, 12001 Main Street
Trees have been called the backbone of the garden. These long-lived plants set the stage for the landscape and provide multiple aesthetic and environmental benefits. How we choose and plant them affects future success and longevity. This class will help all gardeners to choose the best specimens and species for seasonal beauty and adaptability to the Northwest climate. This class will also cover essential care practices and how to avoid the most common mistakes made in gardening with trees. **Cost:** \$25/Bellevue Botanical Garden Society members; \$35/non-BBGS members. **Pre-registration:** Required. **Info and to register:** <http://www.bellevuebotanical.org/classes.html>
- Jan 27** **A Winter Woof Walk,** 10 a.m. – 11 a.m.
Meet at Kelsey Creek Park, lower parking lot, 410 130th Place SE
Join a Park Ranger and discover fascinating ecological facts about Bellevue City Parks. Bring your dog(s) and learn how you can enjoy your parks with your furry friends. Please dress for the weather. Dogs must be on a leash no longer than 6 feet. **Distance:** 1 mile. **Level of difficulty:** Moderate (100 feet elevation change). **Ages:** All ages welcome; we encourage families to join us! **Cost:** Free! **Pre-registration:** Required. **To register:** <http://parksreg.bellevuewa.gov/>, course 112732. **Info:** 425-452-6993.
- Jan 27** **"Earth's Navigators" (Nature Movie),** 5 p.m. – 6 p.m.
Mercer Slough Environmental Education Center, 1625 118th Avenue SE
Every year as the seasons change, millions of animals take part in what is considered to be the world's great migration. Whether the migrations are on land, in the air or water, they are all equally impressive. Join us for an epic journey across the globe to witness some of these remarkable animals finding their way over hundreds of miles. **Ages:** All ages welcome. **Cost:** Free! **Pre-registration:** Please RSVP. **Info and to RSVP:** mseec@bellevuewa.gov or 425-452-2565.

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Jan 29

A Winter Wander Ranger Hike, 10:30 a.m. - noon

Lewis Creek Park Visitor Center, 5808 Lakemont Blvd SE

Come take a walk in Lewis Creek Park and explore the beauty of winter. Rain or shine, we will explore the mosses and lichens of the park, the deciduous and evergreen trees, and discuss what the park's creatures do in the winter. **Distance:** 1.5 miles. **Level of difficulty:** Moderate (50 feet elevation change). **Ages:** All ages welcome; we encourage families to join us! **Cost:** Free! **Pre-registration:** Not required. **Info:** 425-452-4195.

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FEBRUARY 2017

- Feb 1** **Wooly Sheep (Early Release Wednesday),**
1:30 p.m. – 3 p.m.
Kelsey Creek Farm Park, 410 130th Place SE
Help create enrichment opportunities to actively engage and entertain our farm animals. Learn how they think, how each animal needs different activities based on their instincts, and why it's important for animals to stay busy. Let's make our farm animals' habitats rewarding and fun. We'll work in the farm yard and do art/craft activities, too. **Ages:** 6 to 10 years old. **Cost:** \$25/residents and \$30/non-residents. **Pre-registration:** Required. **To register:** 425-452-7688, course 111276. **Info:** kelseycreekfarm@bellevuewa.gov or 425-450-7688.
- Feb 3** **Lewis Creek Story Time: "Secret Place",** two sessions, choose one –
11 a.m. –noon OR 1:30 p.m. – 2:30 p.m.
Lewis Creek Park Visitor Center, 5808 Lakemont Blvd SE
Look, listen and create during an hour of stories and crafts. Every city needs a secret place for animals to live and thrive. Find 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. This is a parent/adult and child class. **Cost:** Free! **Pre-registration:** Required for children and adults. **To register:** <http://parksreg.bellevuewa.gov/> or 425-452-6885, course 112317 or 112318. **Info:** 425-452-4195.
- Feb 4** **Lewis Creek Ranger Hike, 10:30 a.m. - noon**
Meeting place: Lewis Creek Park Visitor Center, 5808 Lakemont Blvd SE
Join a park ranger to explore the natural and cultural history of Lewis Creek Park. Look for signs of local wildlife, and learn what to do when encountering animals in the wild. Please dress for the weather and wear sturdy shoes. **Distance:** Approximately 1 mile. **Level of difficulty:** Moderate (50 feet elevation change). **Ages:** All ages welcome; we encourage families to join us! **Cost:** Free! **Pre-registration:** Not required. **Info:** 425-452-4195.
- Feb 4** **Coal Mining at Cougar Mountain (presented by Eastside Heritage Center),**
2 p.m. - 4 p.m.
Lewis Creek Park Visitor Center, 5808 Lakemont Blvd SE
This program focuses on 100 years of local coal mining. In 1888, there were 20 mules and 200 men employed here! Exporting coal to San Francisco turned Seattle into a dominant seaport. Learn what is underneath a mountain that is older than Rainier. Presented in partnership by the Eastside Heritage Center and Bellevue Parks & Community Services. **Ages:** 13 years and older. **Cost:** Free! **Pre-registration:** Not required. **Info:** 425-452-4195.

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- Feb 5** **Now You See Me... Now You Don't!**, 2 p.m. – 3 p.m.
Lewis Creek Park Visitor Center, 5808 Lakemont Blvd SE
Why are deer brown? Why are frogs green? Why do owls have spots? Discover how various animals disguise themselves and “disappear” into their environment using camouflage. **Ages:** 5 years and older. **Cost:** Free! **Pre-registration:** Not required. **Info:** 425-452-4195.
- Feb 10** **As Snug as a... Beaver?** - 10 a.m. – 11 a.m.
Lake Hills Greenbelt Ranger Station, 15416 SE 16th Street
During the chilly winter months of the year, beavers keep warm and snug in a wooden lodge. Come learn how beavers build their warm homes, and why they build dams. **Ages:** All ages welcome. **Cost:** \$2 suggested donation. **Pre-registration:** Required for children and adults. **To register:** <http://parksreg.bellevuewa.gov>, course 112720. **Info:** 425-452-6993.
- Feb 10** **Night Hike**, 6:30 p.m. – 8 p.m.
Lewis Creek Park Visitor Center, 5808 Lakemont Blvd SE
Bundle up in your winter clothes and join a park ranger for a brisk walk through Lewis Creek Park. Learn about the local nocturnal and crepuscular species that call Bellevue home. Bring a flashlight or headlamp, as well as good shoes and warm clothes, for the journey. **Ages:** 5 years and older. **Cost:** \$2/resident; \$3/non-resident. **Pre-registration:** Required for children and adults. **To register:** <http://parksreg.bellevuewa.gov>, course 112327. **Info:** 425-452-4195.
- Feb 11** **Garden Watercolor Class: “Early Bloomers: Watercolor Flowers, Winter Foliage and Landscapes,”** 10 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.
Bellevue Botanical Garden, 12001 Main Street
Learn how to sketch and paint some of the garden’s earliest bloomers, like crocuses and snowdrops, as well as shrubs and confiders, witch hazels, camellias and more. All supplies are provided, including artist quality watercolor paper. *Sign up for one or both sessions* (February 11 and February 18). In both sessions, we will begin with studies of some of our subject plants and then will paint larger landscapes which incorporate large and small elements. This class will focus on painting witch hazels and primroses; the February 18th class will focus on painting camellias and hellebores. **Cost:** \$35/Bellevue Botanical Garden Society members; \$45/non-BBGS members. **Pre-registration:** Required. **Info and to register:** <http://www.bellevuebotanical.org/classes.html>
- Feb 11** **Whooo was for Lunch?**, 2 p.m. – 3 p.m.
Mercer Slough Environmental Education Center, 1625 118th Avenue SE
Several types of owls can be found living throughout many of Bellevue’s parks. These silent predators of the night are considered a keystone species within the ecosystem. Join us for a fun-filled hour learning about these owls. Dissect an owl pellet to discover who was for lunch. Put your creativity to use with a craft activity that’s yours to keep. **Ages:** All ages welcome. **Cost:** Free! **Pre-registration:** Please RSVP. **Info and to RSVP:** mseec@bellevuewa.gov or 425-452-2565.

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- Feb 12** **Mercer Slough Family-Friendly Ranger Walk**, 2 p.m. – 3 p.m.
Mercer Slough Environmental Education Center, 1625 118th Avenue SE
Bring the whole family to join a Ranger on a guided hike through the Mercer Slough Nature Park. This kid-oriented program uses games and activities to educate kids and their parents about the Nature Park while discovering the birds and animals that call the Mercer Slough home. The hour-long nature walk ends at the channel bridge in the middle of the park. From there you are able to explore the rich diversity the park has to offer. **Ages:** All ages welcome. **Cost:** Free!
Pre-registration: Please RSVP. **Info and to RSVP:** mseec@bellevuewa.gov or 425-452-2565.
- Feb 15** **Piggly Wiggly (Early Release Wednesday)**,
1:30 p.m. – 3 p.m.
Kelsey Creek Farm Park, 410 130th Place SE
Help create enrichment opportunities to actively engage and entertain our farm animals. Learn how they think, how each animal needs different activities based on their instincts, and why it's important for animals to stay busy. Let's make our farm animals' habitats rewarding and fun. We'll work in the farm yard and do art/craft activities, too. **Ages:** 6 to 10 years old. **Cost:** \$25/residents and \$30/non-residents. **Pre-registration:** Required. **To register:** 425-452-7688, course 111274. **Info:** kelseycreekfarm@bellevuewa.gov or 425-450-7688.
- Feb 18** **Garden Watercolor Class: "Early Bloomers: Watercolor Flowers, Winter Foliage and Landscapes,"** 10 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.
Bellevue Botanical Garden, 12001 Main Street
Learn how to sketch and paint some of the garden's earliest bloomers, like crocuses and snowdrops, as well as shrubs and confiders, witch hazels, camellias and more. All supplies are provided, including artist quality watercolor paper. *Sign up for one or both sessions* (February 11 and February 18). In both sessions, we will begin with studies of some of our subject plants and then will paint larger landscapes which incorporate large and small elements. This class will focus on painting camellias and hellebores; the February 11th class will focus on painting witch hazels and primroses. **Cost:** \$35/Bellevue Botanical Garden Society members; \$45/non-BBGS members. **Pre-registration:** Required. **Info and to register:** <http://www.bellevuebotanical.org/classes.html>

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- Feb 18** **Master Naturalist Classes Species of the Year Program: Planting a Garden Habitat for Native Bees and Butterflies**, 12:30 p.m.
Lake Hills Greenbelt Ranger Station, 15416 SE 16th Street
Ready for a touch of color and promise of spring? Master Gardener and Community Habitat Steward, Julie O'Donnell, will share a colorful photo display featuring local butterflies, bumble bees and the flowers that attract them. She will describe how to create a garden where pollinators will thrive and will explain ways to incorporate flowering shrubs and wildflowers into gardens, show landscape features that promote healthy pollinator populations, and provide nesting sites for them. Julie's personal certified wildlife habitat garden contains over 200 species of native plants and has been successfully attracting birds, butterflies, pollinators, and beneficial insects for more than 25 years. It has been featured in *Pacific Horticulture*, *The Butterfly Gardener*, and *Sunset* publications. **Ages:** 5 years and older. **Cost:** \$2 suggested donation. **Pre-registration:** Required for children and adults. **To register:** <http://parksreg.bellevuewa.gov>, course 114755. **Info:** 425-452-6993.
- Feb 18** **Now You See Me... Now You Don't!**, 2 p.m. – 3 p.m.
Lewis Creek Park Visitor Center, 5808 Lakemont Blvd SE
Why are deer brown? Why are frogs green? Why do owls have spots? Discover how various animals disguise themselves and “disappear” into their environment using camouflage. **Ages:** 5 years and older. **Cost:** Free! **Pre-registration:** Not required. **Info:** 425-452-4195.
- Feb 18** **Where the Past Comes Alive**, 2 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.
Mercer Slough Environmental Education Center, 1625 118th Avenue SE
The History Channel captures the glory, tragedy, and drama of the human experience from the dawn of time until now. This film focuses on the Empire of Industry with regard to timber use over the last century. Join us to learn more about the history of logging and how it has significantly impacted our lives both in the past and the present, and how it connects to the Mercer Slough and the City of Bellevue. **Ages:** Adults. **Cost:** Free! **Pre-registration:** Please RSVP. **Info and to RSVP:** mseec@bellevuewa.gov or 425-452-2565.
- Feb 19** **Lakemont Community Park Ranger Hike**, 10:30 a.m. - noon
Meet at: Lakemont Park, 5170 Village Park Drive SE
This lovely trail winds through green corridors alongside the creek as we ascend and descend throughout the park. **Distance:** 2 miles. **Level of difficulty:** Difficult (350 feet elevation change). **Ages:** All ages welcome. **Cost:** Free! **Pre-registration:** Not required. **Info:** 425-452-4195.

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- Feb 24** **Gardening with Your Children: Plan and Prepare Your Garden**, 10 a.m. – 11 a.m.
Lake Hills Greenbelt Ranger Station, 15416 SE 16th Street
Learn ideas to make your garden fun for the entire family: how to pick a location, and prepare the soil for a successful garden. Learn about what seeds and plants can go in the ground in early spring and which need to wait for the warm sun of June. You will make a fun craft to bring home to your very own garden. **Ages:** All ages welcome. **Cost:** \$2 suggested donation. **Pre-registration:** Required for children and adults. **To register:** <http://parksreg.bellevuewa.gov>, course 112721. **Info:** 425-452-6993.
- Feb 24** **Movie Night: “Clash Encounters of Bears and Wolves”**, 5 p.m. – 6 p.m.
Mercer Slough Environmental Education Center, 1625 118th Avenue SE
Yellowstone National Park is home to predators, scavengers, and opportunists. Two of the top predators in this complex system are the grizzly bear and the wolf. These fierce competitors practice their strategies for survival every day. What they leave in their wake provides an entire food chain of scavengers exactly what they need to survive. This film takes us into the heart of Yellowstone to witness as this incredible series of events unfolds. **Ages:** All ages welcome. **Cost:** Free! **Pre-registration:** Please RSVP. **Info and to RSVP:** mseec@bellevuewa.gov or 425-452-2565.
- Feb 25** **Living with Wildlife – Cunning Crows**, 2 p.m. – 3 p.m.
Lewis Creek Park Visitor Center, 5808 Lakemont Blvd SE
Crows are one of our most common wildlife residents. They have more advanced cognitive abilities than many mammals. They have amazing memories and are very social. Find out why crows gather in huge numbers, and what the fuss is all about. Learn what crows know – and discover how we can get along together. **Ages:** 13 years and older. **Cost:** Free! **Pre-registration:** Not required. **Info:** 425-452-4195.
- Feb 25** **Whooo was for Lunch?**, 2 p.m. – 3 p.m.
Mercer Slough Environmental Education Center, 1625 118th Avenue SE
Several types of owls can be found living throughout many of Bellevue’s parks. These silent predators of the night are considered a keystone species within the ecosystem. Join us for a fun-filled hour learning about these owls. Dissect an owl pellet to discover who was for lunch. Put your creativity to use with a craft activity that’s yours to keep. **Ages:** All ages welcome. **Cost:** Free! **Pre-registration:** Please RSVP. **Info and to RSVP:** mseec@bellevuewa.gov or 425-452-2565.

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Feb 26 **Mercer Slough Adult Ranger Walk**, 2 p.m. – 3:30 p.m., rain or shine
Mercer Slough Environmental Education Center, 1625 118th Avenue SE
Join a Ranger to take a short hike through the wetlands of Mercer Slough Nature Park. With an emphasis on the history and natural resources of the Nature Park, begin with an overview of the LEED Gold education center and end at the bridge that spans the channel of Mercer Slough. Afterward, you are free to explore further on your own, or return to the education center with the Ranger. **Ages:** Adults. **Cost:** Free! **Pre-registration:** Please RSVP. **Info and to RSVP:** mseec@bellevuewa.gov or 425-452-2565.

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MARCH 2017

- March 1** **Springy Goats (Early Release Wednesday),**
1:30 p.m. – 3 p.m.
Kelsey Creek Farm Park, 410 130th Place SE
Help create enrichment opportunities to actively engage and entertain our farm animals. Learn how they think, how each animal needs different activities based on their instincts, and why it's important for animals to stay busy. Let's make our farm animals' habitats rewarding and fun. We'll work in the farm yard and do art/craft activities, too. **Ages:** 6 to 10 years old. **Cost:** \$25/residents and \$30/non-residents. **Pre-registration:** Required. **To register:** 425-452-7688, course 111277. **Info:** kelseycreekfarm@bellevuewa.gov or 425-450-7688.
- March 3** **Lewis Creek Story Time: “Fuzzy, Buzzy Bumble Bees”,**
two sessions, choose one – 11 a.m. –noon OR 1:30 p.m. – 2:30 p.m.
Lewis Creek Park Visitor Center, 5808 Lakemont Blvd SE
Look, listen and create during an hour of stories and crafts. Gentle bumble bees fly all around our gardens, visiting flowers and helping them grow. Hear stories about these special bees and how they live. We always make a fun craft to take home. **Ages:** 3 years and older. This is a parent/adult and child class. **Cost:** Free! **Pre-registration:** Required for children and adults. **To register:** <http://parksreg.bellevuewa.gov/> or 425-452-6885, course 112319 or 112320. **Info:** 425-452-4195.
- March 4** **Garden Class: “Permaculture for the Backyard Gardener,”** 10 a.m. – noon
Bellevue Botanical Garden, 12001 Main Street
This class will be taught by Seattle Tilth. Explore ways to integrate natural patterns and ecology into your backyard garden. The goal of permaculture, short for “permanent agriculture” or “permanent culture,” is to minimize inputs and maximize relationships between plants, animals, environment and people. Go beyond organic gardening by learning the basics of permaculture to discover more holistic and sustainable techniques for your backyard garden! Learn the basics of “systems thinking” to create efficient and abundant gardens that integrate human needs with the natural ecosystem. **Cost:** \$25/Bellevue Botanical Garden Society members; \$35/non-BBGS members. **Pre-registration:** Required. **Info and to register:** <http://www.bellevuebotanical.org/classes.html>
- March 4** **Lewis Creek Ranger Hike, 10:30 a.m. - noon**
Meeting place: Lewis Creek Park Visitor Center, 5808 Lakemont Blvd SE
Join a park ranger to explore the natural and cultural history of Lewis Creek Park. Look for signs of local wildlife, and learn what to do when encountering animals in the wild. Please dress for the weather and wear sturdy shoes. **Distance:** Approximately 1 mile. **Level of difficulty:** Moderate (50 feet elevation change). **Ages:** All ages welcome; we encourage families to join us! **Cost:** Free! **Pre-registration:** Not required. **Info:** 425-452-4195.

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- March 5** **Wetlands Don't Stink!** - 2 p.m. – 3 p.m.
Lewis Creek Park Visitor Center, 5808 Lakemont Blvd SE
Wetlands play a very important role in cleaning the water that goes into our local lakes and rivers. Discover wetlands, their wildlife, and how they impact the ecosystem around them! **Ages:** 5 years and older. **Cost:** Free! **Pre-registration:** Not required. **Info:** 425-452-4195.
- March 10** **Discover Spring: It's Time to Wake Up Bear,** 10 a.m. – 11 a.m.
Lake Hills Greenbelt Ranger Station, 15416 SE 16th Street
Did you know that many animals sleep through the winter until springtime? Join a park ranger and learn which animals do this, and why they sleep through the cold. **Ages:** All ages welcome. **Cost:** \$2 suggested donation. **Pre-registration:** Required for children and adults. **To register:** <http://parksreg.bellevuewa.gov>, course 112722. **Info:** 425-452-6993.
- March 11** **Northwest Perennial Alliance March Mania Plant Sale and Master Gardener Clinic,** 9 a.m. – 3 p.m.
Bellevue Botanical Garden, 12001 Main Street
This early spring plant sale features spring ephemerals and choice garden plants not readily available at other times of the year. The sale brings together a fabulous group of specialty nurseries and growers who are not generally open to the public. Learn from these experts and let them help you choose some of the earliest bloomers of the season to brighten up a drab space in your garden. Shop great vendors like Windcliff, Bouquet Banque, Growing Girls, Lee Farm and more. Proceeds from this fundraiser benefit the educational programs of NPA and the NPA Border. Open to the public. **Cost:** Free admission; costs vary for plants. **Info:** http://www.northwestperennialalliance.org/march_mania.php
- March 11** **Nature's Greatest Landscape Engineers,** 2 p.m. – 3 p.m.
Mercer Slough Environmental Education Center, 1625 118th Avenue SE
Beavers' ability to change the landscape is second only to humans. These amazing rodents are so valuable to the ecosystem that Native Americans often referred to them as the "sacred center." Not only do they create a healthy habitat for a number of aquatic species, but they also provide essential natural services for humans as well. Come learn more about these nocturnal creatures that call the Mercer Slough home. **Ages:** All ages welcome. **Cost:** Free! **Pre-registration:** Please RSVP. **Info and to RSVP:** MSEEC@bellevuewa.gov or 425-452-2565.
- March 12** **Lakemont Highlands Open Space Ranger Hike,** 10 a.m. - noon
Meet at: Lewis Creek Park Visitor Center, 5808 Lakemont Blvd SE
Explore the lesser-known trails of South Bellevue. Parks and open spaces guide you (and wildlife) through friendly neighborhoods. **Distance:** 3.5 miles. **Level of difficulty:** Difficult (350 feet elevation change). **Ages:** All ages welcome! **Cost:** Free! **Pre-registration:** Not required. **Info:** 425-452-4195.

Bellevue Parks & Community Services

Events List

(This list is a guide. Details may change.)

- March 12** **Family-Friendly Ranger Walk**, 2 p.m. – 3 p.m.
Mercer Slough Environmental Education Center, 1625 118th Avenue SE
Bring the whole family to join a Ranger on a guided hike through the Mercer Slough Nature Park. This family-friendly program allows parents and their kids to explore the mosaic of habitats while learning more about the birds and animals that call the Mercer Slough home. This hour-long nature walk ends at the channel bridge on the shores of the Slough. From there you are able to continue on to further explore the rich diversity the park has to offer. **Ages:** All ages welcome. **Cost:** Free! **Pre-registration:** Please RSVP. **Info and to RSVP:** MSEEC@bellevuewa.gov or 425-452-2565.
- March 15** **Pony Pleasure (Early Release Wednesday)**,
1:30 p.m. – 3 p.m.
Kelsey Creek Farm Park, 410 130th Place SE
Help create enrichment opportunities to actively engage and entertain our farm animals. Learn how they think, how each animal needs different activities based on their instincts, and why it's important for animals to stay busy. Let's make our farm animals' habitats rewarding and fun. We'll work in the farm yard and do art/craft activities, too. **Ages:** 6 to 10 years old. **Cost:** \$25/residents and \$30/non-residents. **Pre-registration:** Required. **To register:** 425-452-7688, course 111278. **Info:** kelseycreekfarm@bellevuewa.gov or 425-450-7688.
- March 15** **Garden Lecture: "How to Prune and Renovate the Overgrown Garden,"**
7 p.m.
Bellevue Botanical Garden, 12001 Main Street
Cass Turnbull will cover basic pruning of ornamental trees and shrubs along with creative solutions for the overgrown or over-planted garden. Before-and-after photos and diagrams will be used to illustrate pruning for size reduction and pruning for definition (thinning). **Cost:** \$5/Bellevue Botanical Garden Society members; \$15/non-BBGS members. **Pre-registration:** Recommended. **Info and to register:** <http://www.bellevuebotanical.org/classes.html>
- March 16-18** **Puget Sound Dahlia Association Tuber Sale and Master Gardener Clinic**,
10 a.m.
Bellevue Botanical Garden, 12001 Main Street
Open to the public; no admission fee.

Bellevue Parks & Community Services

Events List

(This list is a guide. Details may change.)

- March 17-26** **“The Ugly Duckling” (Bellevue Youth Theatre Production),**
March 17, 18, 24 and 25 at 7 p.m.; March 19, 25 and 26 at 2 p.m.
Bellevue Youth Theatre-Crossroads, 16051 NE 10th Street
Sometimes heroes come in odd packages, but it is what’s on the inside that counts. This classic Hans Christian Andersen tale tells the story of a little duckling who doesn’t fit in with his family. Unbeknownst to them, he turns out to be much more than they ever imagined. This is a story of friendship, bravery, and self-confidence. **Ages:** Suitable for audiences of all ages. **Cost:** \$12. All seats are reserved. Purchasing in advance is highly recommended! We frequently sell out and often don’t have tickets on the day of the show. Prices go up to \$15 if purchased beginning March 13. Group rates are available. **Pre-registration:** Please RSVP. **Info and to buy tickets:** 425-452-7155.
- March 18** **Hiking History: From Glaciers to Greenways, 2 p.m. – 3 p.m.**
Mercer Slough Environmental Education Center, 1625 118th Avenue SE
What mysteries lie beneath the soggy surface and between the diversity of aquatic plants? Through both natural processes and human interactions, the area has changed drastically over thousands of years. Join a Ranger for a guided history hike through the Mercer Slough Nature Park to uncover the past and explore the future. **Ages:** Adults. **Cost:** Free! **Pre-registration:** Please RSVP. **Info and to RSVP:** MSEEC@bellevuewa.gov or 425-452-2565.
- March 24** **Nature Movie: “Beavers: The Biggest Dam Movie You Ever Saw”,**
5 p.m. – 6 p.m.
Mercer Slough Environmental Education Center, 1625 118th Avenue SE
Have you ever seen a beaver lodge or dam and wondered, “How did they do that?” Take an intimate swim with beavers to explore an amazing diverse aquatic habitat that is home to one of nature’s greatest engineers. This film is a heartfelt story following a family of beavers as they grow, play and transform the world around them. **Ages:** All ages welcome. **Cost:** Free! **Pre-registration:** Please RSVP. **Info and to RSVP:** MSEEC@bellevuewa.gov or 425-452-2565.
- March 25** **Garden Class: “An Introduction to the Art and Horticulture of Bonsai,”**
10 a.m. – noon
Bellevue Botanical Garden, 12001 Main Street
Join local bonsai artists from the Puget Sound Bonsai Association to learn why people are still so captivated by this art form using “trees in pots.” The lecture and demo will highlight the various forms of bonsai, types of plants best suited for bonsai, and a bonsai’s horticultural requirements. This class will specifically focus on outdoor bonsai. **Cost:** \$20/Bellevue Botanical Garden Society members; \$30/non-BBGS members. **Pre-registration:** Required. **Info and to register:** <http://www.bellevuebotanical.org/classes.html>

Bellevue Parks & Community Services

Events List

(This list is a guide. Details may change.)

- March 25** **Nature’s Greatest Landscape Engineers**, 2 p.m. – 3 p.m.
Mercer Slough Environmental Education Center, 1625 118th Avenue SE
Beavers’ ability to change the landscape is second only to humans. These amazing rodents are so valuable to the ecosystem that Native Americans often referred to them as the “sacred center.” Not only do they create a healthy habitat for a number of aquatic species, but they also provide essential natural services for humans as well. Come learn more about these nocturnal creatures that call the Mercer Slough home. **Ages:** All ages welcome. **Cost:** Free! **Pre-registration:** Please RSVP. **Info and to RSVP:** MSEEC@bellevuewa.gov or 425-452-2565.
- March 26** **Garden Lecture: “The Triumph of Seeds” by Thor Hanson**, 1 p.m.
Bellevue Botanical Garden, 12001 Main Street
Join award-winning author and biologist Thor Hanson for an exploration of both the natural and cultural history of seeds – why they are so dominant in nature and why we are so utterly dependent upon them. Drawing on his recent book, *The Triumph of Seeds*, Hanson’s presentation weaves science and culture to show how these common wonders shape our world and touch our lives every day. You’ll never look at a seed the same way again. Doors open at noon for plant sales from Far Reaches Farm and book signing by Thor. Lecture begins at 1 p.m. **Cost:** \$5/Northwest Perennial Alliance members; \$20/non-NPA members. **Info:** http://www.northwestperennialalliance.org/Thor_Hanson_lecture.php
- March 26** **Adult Ranger Walk**, 2 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.
Mercer Slough Environmental Education Center, 1625 118th Avenue SE
Join a Park Ranger to take a short hike through the wetlands of the Mercer Slough Nature Park. With an emphasis on the history and natural resources of the nature park, begin with an overview of the LEED Gold education center and end at the bridge that spans the channel of the Mercer Slough. Afterward you are free to explore further on your own. **Ages:** All ages welcome. **Cost:** Free! **Pre-registration:** Please RSVP. **Info and to RSVP:** MSEEC@bellevuewa.gov or 425-452-2565.
- March 30** **Garden Class: “Garden Habitat for Bumble Bees and other Native Pollinators,”** 6:30 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.
Bellevue Botanical Garden, 12001 Main Street
Explore the world of native pollinators, with an emphasis on our native bumble bees. Learn about these beneficial insects and how you can promote their survival with garden features and preferred flowers. Find out the benefits of attracting winged beauty, including butterflies and birds, to make your garden come to life. This is a Bellevue Parks Master Naturalist Species of the Year program! **Cost:** \$25/Bellevue Botanical Garden Society members; \$35/non-BBGS members. **Pre-registration:** Required. **Info and to register:** <http://www.bellevuebotanical.org/classes.html>

Bellevue Parks & Community Services

Events List

(This list is a guide. Details may change.)

March 31 – April 9 “The Little Mermaid” (Bellevue Youth Theatre Production),

March 31, April 1, 7 and 8 at 7 p.m.; April 2, 8 and 9 at 2 p.m.

Bellevue Youth Theatre-Crossroads, 16051 NE 10th Street

Enjoy this splashy retelling of the beloved Hans Christian Andersen story. Watch the adventures of the little mermaid as she saves her kingdom and learns what’s truly important to her. This show has songs and dances for the whole family to enjoy. **Ages:** Suitable for audiences of all ages. **Cost:** \$12. All seats are reserved. Purchasing in advance is highly recommended! We frequently sell out and often don’t have tickets on the day of the show. Prices go up to \$15 if purchased beginning March 27. Group rates are available. **Pre-registration:** Please RSVP. **Info and to buy tickets:** 425-452-7155.

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

YEAR-ROUND EVENTS

Farm Parties

Kelsey Creek Farm Park, 410 130th Place SE

Celebrate your child's special day with a visit to the farm! Meet our goats, sheep, rabbits, pig, and ponies. Then create your own wooly sheep to take home. Party packages include one hour tour/craft time and one hour room rental. Parties are limited to 30 children and/or adults. Children under 2 are no additional charge. **Ages:** 2-11 years old. **Cost:** \$165 (resident) and \$180 (non-resident) for 15 or fewer people (children and adults). Additional attendees are \$6 per child. **Pre-registration:** Required. **Info and to register:** kelseycreekfarm@bellevuewa.gov or 425-452-7688.

Kids on the Farm Group Tour

Kelsey Creek Farm Park, 410 130th Place SE

Meet the farm animals and learn interesting animal facts. Experience the old-fashioned skill of wool carding while creating a wooly sheep to take home. These tours are for preschool and school groups. Tours are available weekdays and are approximately one hour in length. **Ages:** 2 years and older. **Cost:** \$90 for 15 or fewer people (children and adults). Additional attendees are \$6 per child and \$2.50 per adult. **Pre-registration:** Required. **Info and to register:** kelseycreekfarm@bellevuewa.gov or 425-452-7688.

Springtime in the Barnyard Group Tour

Kelsey Creek Farm Park, 410 130th Place SE

Welcome springtime with a tour of our animals, which may include chicks, goat kids, piglets and a calf. Learn about their special care, then finish up with a walk through the garden. Tours are available weekdays and are approximately one hour in length. **Ages:** 2 years and older. **Cost:** \$90 for 15 or fewer people (children and adults). Additional attendees are \$6 per child and \$2.50 per adult. **Pre-registration:** Required. **Info and to register:** kelseycreekfarm@bellevuewa.gov or 425-452-7688.

2nd and 4th Tuesdays of each month

Reading with Rover

Crossroads Community Center, 16000 NE 10th Street

Dogs help kids learn to read. Reading with Rover dogs will be at the Crossroads Community Center to listen to children read to them. This free program inspires children to discover the joy of reading while developing literacy skills and confidence in a fun, safe environment using trained therapy dogs. **Ages:** 6 years and older. **Cost:** Free! **Pre-registration:** Not required. **Info:** <http://www.readingwithrover.org/> or call Judi Hagen, 425-452-4874.

Bellevue Parks & Community Services

Events List

(This list is a guide. Details may change.)

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

Youth Link 25th Anniversary & Community Leadership Awards Event Planning Meeting, 6 p.m. - 7 p.m.

Bellevue City Hall, 450 110th Avenue NE, Room 1E-120

Assist in planning our 25th anniversary celebration scheduled for May 2015, and help set the theme, program and marketing of the youth recognition event. Students will help plan and will gain experience in planning the community event from concept to delivery. **Info:** Youth Link: 425-452-5254 or palina@bellevuewa.gov . Visit www.youthlink.com for program and updated schedule.

1st and 3rd Wednesday each month

Bellevue Youth Council Meeting, 5 p.m. - 6 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 . Visit www.youthlink.com for program and updated schedule.

1st and 3rd Wednesday each month

Action Team Meetings, 6 p.m. – 7 p.m.

Bellevue City Hall, Room 1E-120, 450 110th Avenue NE

Participate in planning community special events, community service projects, and other youth leadership activities. Action Teams and planning committees include Youth Link Marketing, Kids Care Coat Drive, Youth Involvement Conference, Community Leadership Awards, We Day, Youth Link University, Crossroads Homework Help, and Youth Link Robotics. **Info:** call Youth Link at 425-452-5254 or email palina@bellevuewa.gov . Visit www.youthlink.com for program and updated schedule info.

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.

Every Thursday

Kids Care Coat Drive Planning Committee, 4 p.m. – 5 p.m.

Bellevue City Hall, Room 1E-120, 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 . Visit www.youthlink.com for program and updated schedule info.

Bellevue Parks & Community Services

Events List

(This list is a guide. Details may change.)

1st Saturday each month

Lewis Creek Ranger Walk, 10:30 a.m. - noon.

Lewis Creek Park Visitor Center, 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 for groups smaller than 10. **Info:** 425-452-7225.

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 \$6.00 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.