

2019

September-December

# NATURAL RESOURCE PROGRAMS

Mercer Slough Environmental Education Center

Lake Hills Greenbelt Ranger Station

Lewis Creek Visitor Center



Bellevue Parks &  
Community Services

Natural Resource Division

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# Let us know how we're doing!

Bellevue Parks & Community Services wants to know how we can make our environmental education programs better. We invite you to give us feedback about programs you've attended and suggestions for future programs. You can do this two ways:

1. Ask for an evaluation card at a visitor's center that you can fill out on the spot, OR
2. Simply send us an email at [program\\_feedback@bellevuewa.gov](mailto:program_feedback@bellevuewa.gov)

Any thoughts you have about our programs are welcome, but we're specifically wondering;

- Did the program you attended increase your knowledge of the natural world?
- Did the program you attended increase your respect for natural areas?
- What would the ideal length be for a ranger program?
- Do you prefer programs on animals, plants, ecosystems, natural resources, or something else?
- Do you/your family prefer programs outdoors/in parks or indoors with photos and videos?

Thank you for your help in shaping the future of our educational programs!



# Special Events

## BELLEVUE'S 2019 SPECIES OF THE YEAR

Each year, the Bellevue Master Naturalist corps features a native species that is local to our area. The Species of the Year for 2019 is the American Crow.

Look for this crow icon next to program titles in this guide. Join us at all three visitor centers to learn what makes crows so special, and how Bellevue residents can keep up a good relationship with these fascinating birds.



*Bellevue  
Master  
Naturalist*



# Local Area Hikes

## RANGER-LED HIKE AT LEWIS CREEK PARK

September 7, 10:30-11:30 a.m.  
October 5, 10:30 -11:30 a.m.  
November 2, 10:30- 11:30 a.m.  
December 7, 10:30-11:30 a.m.

Join a Bellevue 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. For groups of 10 or more, please call 425-452-4195. **No pre-registration or RSVP required.**

**Distance:** 1 mile.

**Level of Difficulty:** Easy (50 feet elevation change)

**Meeting Place:** Lewis Creek Park Visitor Center,  
5808 Lakemont Blvd SE

## RANGER-LED HIKE AT LAKEMONT HIGHLANDS OPEN SPACE

Sunday, September 15, 10 a.m.-12 p.m.

Join a Bellevue Park Ranger at the Lewis Creek Visitor Center to explore the Lakemont Highlands Open Space trail system. Please dress for the weather and wear sturdy shoes. For groups of 10 or more, please call 425-452-4195. **No pre-registration or RSVP required.**

**Distance:** 3.5 miles.

**Level of Difficulty:** Moderately Difficult (680 feet elevation change)

**Meeting Place:** Lewis Creek Park Visitor Center,  
5808 Lakemont Blvd SE





## RANGER-LED HIKE AT COAL CREEK NATURAL AREA

Sunday, October 20, 10:30 a.m.-12 p.m.

Explore Coal Creek at the Cinder Mine Trailhead to discover Bellevue's largest park and get lost in the wilderness while still in the city! This area is rich in history and wildlife you'll learn about while being guided by a Bellevue Park Ranger. Please dress for the weather and wear sturdy shoes. For groups of 10 or more, please call 425-452-4195. **No pre-registration or RSVP required.**

**Distance:** 2 miles.

**Level of Difficulty:** Moderately Difficult (240 feet elevation change)

**Meeting Place:** Cinder Mine Trailhead (Newcastle Golf Club Road, west of Redtown Trailhead)

## RANGER-LED HIKE AT LAKEMONT COMMUNITY PARK

Sunday, November 17, 10:30 a.m.-12 p.m

This lovely trail winds alongside a creek as we ascend and descend throughout the park. Please dress for the weather and wear sturdy shoes. For groups of 10 or more, please call 425-452-4195. No pre-registration or RSVP required.

**Distance:** 2 miles.

**Level of Difficulty:** Moderately Difficult (700 feet elevation change)

**Meeting Place:** Lakemont Community Park, 5170 Village Park Dr SE

## A WINTER WANDER

Sunday, December 29, 10:30 a.m.-12 p.m.

Head outside this winter to reflect on the passage of time in nature. We'll ponder seasonality, forest changes, and the bygone residents of the area. All ages are welcome. Please dress for the weather and wear sturdy shoes. For groups of 10 or more, please call 425-452-4195. **No pre-registration or RSVP required.**

**Distance:** 1 miles.

**Level of Difficulty:** Easy (50 feet elevation change)

**Meeting Place:** Lewis Creek Park Visitor Center,  
5808 Lakemont Blvd SE



## MERCER SLOUGH RANGER WALKS

### Family Ranger Hike

Sunday, September 1, October 6, November 3, December 8  
2-3:30 p.m.

Bring the whole family to join a Ranger on a guided hike through the Mercer Slough Nature Park. This kid-oriented program aims 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 can continue on to further explore the rich diversity the park has to offer. **Cost: FREE!**

**Distance:** 1.5+ miles.

**Level of Difficulty:** Easy (30 feet elevation change)

**Meeting Place:** Mercer Slough Environmental Education Center  
1625 118th Ave SE

**Registration:** RSVP at 425-452-2565 or [mseec@bellevuewa.gov](mailto:mseec@bellevuewa.gov)

### Mercer Slough Private Group Ranger Walks:

Available by appointment.

**Contact:** 425-452-2565 or [mseec@bellevuewa.gov](mailto:mseec@bellevuewa.gov)

## LAKE HILLS GREENBELT RANGER WALKS

### Family-Friendly Ranger Walks

Saturday, 2-3 p.m.

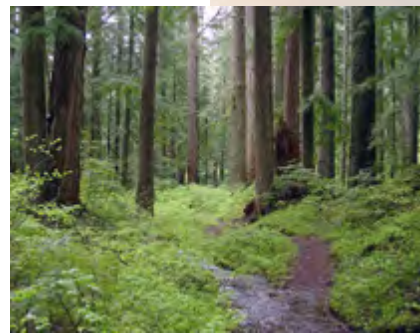
Join us Saturdays for an interpretive tour of the Lake Hills Greenbelt. We will depart from the Lake Hills Ranger Station for a 1-hour trek. Come learn about local history and see native plants and wildlife that call Bellevue home. As our tour concludes, you may continue on your own as the trail loops Larson Lake park. Bring your friends and family along for this free weekly hike, led by one of your local Bellevue Park Rangers. For groups of 10 or more, please call 425-452-6993 or [ParkRangerProgram@bellevuewa.gov](mailto:ParkRangerProgram@bellevuewa.gov). **No pre-registration or RSVP required.**

**Distance:** 1 mile.

**Level of Difficulty:** Very Easy

**Meeting Place:** Lake Hills Greenbelt Ranger Station, 15416 SE 16th St.

**RSVP:** Please call 425-452-6993 24 hours in for groups larger than 10.





# MERCER SLOUGH

ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION CENTER

*Mercer Slough Environmental Education Center, 1625 118 Avenue SE*

**Hours:** Daily, 10 a.m.-4 p.m. **Phone:** 425-452-2565

**Email:** [MSEEC@bellevuewa.gov](mailto:MSEEC@bellevuewa.gov)

*Overlooking the 320 acre Mercer Slough Nature Park, the Visitor Center offers remarkable view of the forest canopy and swampy wetlands below. Inside, enjoy an interactive library and interpretive displays for adults and families. Park Rangers provide information and free weekly programs.*

*Pick up trail maps, brochures, and program information today.*

## Programs

### STORY AND A STROLL: CRAWDAD CREEK

Friday, September 20, 11 a.m.-12 p.m.

This story explores the treasures of Crawdad Creek from a child's perspective. The illustrations draw you into a quiet world that gets richer the closer you look. **Ages:** Best for children 3-5yrs old. **Cost:** FREE! **Pre-registration required:** RSVP at 425-452-2565 or [mseec@bellevuewa.gov](mailto:mseec@bellevuewa.gov)

### RANGER PROGRAM: FALL FOR FROGS

Saturday, September 21, 2-3 p.m.

Have you ever heard the chorus of frogs and wondered how they stop and start in unison? Hop on over to the Mercer Slough to discover more about our frogs thriving in the wetland. These musical amphibians play an intricate role in the food web and help keep our ecosystems in balance. Enjoy some fun activities, crafts and a nature walk. It will be a splash! **Ages:** Best for children 5-10yrs old. **Cost:** FREE! **Pre-registration required:** RSVP at 425-452-2565 or [mseec@bellevuewa.gov](mailto:mseec@bellevuewa.gov)





## MOVIES AT MERCER SLOUGH: FRESH WATER

Friday, September 27, 2-3 p.m.

Only 3% of the world's water is fresh, yet all life forms depend on it. This Planet Earth Episode follows the journey of our fresh water and demonstrates how various species take advantage of this precious natural resource. Narrated by David Attenborough. **Ages:** All are welcome but best for 5yrs and UP. **Cost:** FREE!  
**Registration required:** RSVP 425-452-2565 or msec@bellevuewa.gov



## STORY AND A STROLL: WHEN RAIN FALLS

Friday, October 18, 11 a.m.-12 p.m.

When rain falls, we scurry indoors. But what about all those animals in the forests and fields? Journey from your neighborhood to the woods and wetlands of the mercer Slough after enjoying this engaging story of animal habitats. **Ages:** Best for children 3-5yrs old. **Cost:** FREE! **Pre-registration required:** RSVP at 425-452-2565 or msec@bellevuewa.gov



## RANGER PROGRAM: SWIM TO SPAWN

Saturday, October 19, 2-3 p.m.

Salmon were once abundant here in the PNW but have been on a rapid decline in most of our region. Come learn more about the Salmon that make the arduous journey from the ocean to the Mercer Slough where they will eventually spawn in the shallow waters of Kelsey creek. Learn about the different stages of our Salmon and what you can do to help aid in their survival. **Ages:** Best for children 5-10yrs old. **Cost:** FREE! **Pre-registration required:** RSVP at 425-452-2565 or msec@bellevuewa.gov



## MOVIES AT MERCER SLOUGH: OUR BLUE PLANET

Friday, October 25, 5-6 p.m.

This episode examines the role of human anthropogenic activity on the oceans. Microplastics and pollution are an increasing problem for the world's seas, threatening the lives of marine life and ultimately affecting the ecosystem. Can humans reverse their activity to protect these threatened ecosystems and the wildlife dependent on them? **Ages:** All are welcome but best for 5yrs and UP. **Cost:** FREE! **Registration required:** RSVP 425-452-2565 or mseec@bellevuewa.gov



## STORY AND A STROLL: OWL MOON

Friday, November 22, 11 a.m.-12 p.m.

Enjoy this heartwarming story of father and daughter out for a winter evening walk. While the trees are still, and the night is quiet, the father knows there are creatures of the night. Do you know how to call the owls? **Ages:** Best for children 3-5yrs old. **Cost:** FREE! **Pre-registration required:** RSVP at 425-452-2565 or mseec@bellevuewa.gov

## MOVIES AT MERCER SLOUGH: SEASONAL FORESTS

Friday, November 22, 5-6 p.m.

This episode of Planet Earth explores our seasonal coniferous and deciduous woodland habitats and the animals that depend on them. Narrated by David Attenborough. **Ages:** All are welcome but best for 5yrs and UP. **Cost:** FREE! **Registration required:** RSVP 425-452-2565 or mseec@bellevuewa.gov

## RANGER PROGRAM: NOCTURNAL IN NOVEMBER

Saturday, November 23, 2-3 p.m.

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:** Best for children 5-10yrs old. **Cost:** FREE! **Pre-registration required:** RSVP at 425-452-2565 or mseec@bellevuewa.gov

## STORY AND A STROLL: WHO LIVES IN THE SNOW

Friday, December 13, 11 a.m.-12 p.m.

Although the surface of the snow looks quiet and serene, life below is drastically different. Visit the mysterious world of winter in and under the snow.

**Ages:** Best for children 3-5yrs old. **Cost:** FREE! **Pre-registration required:** RSVP at 425-452-2565 or [mseec@bellevuewa.gov](mailto:mseec@bellevuewa.gov)



## MOVIES AT MERCER SLOUGH: FROM POLE TO POLE

Friday, December 20, 5-6 p.m.

The first episode of Planet Earth illustrates a journey around the globe revealing the effects of gradual climate change and seasonal transitions. Narrated by David Attenborough. **Ages:** All are welcome but best for 5yrs and UP. **Cost:** FREE! **Registration required:** RSVP 425-452-2565 or [mseec@bellevuewa.gov](mailto:mseec@bellevuewa.gov)

## RANGER PROGRAM: BREAKFAST FOR BIRDS

Saturday, December 21, 2-3 p.m.

The Mercer Slough provides critical habitat for both residential and migratory birds year-round. Limited resources for these birds during the winter months can make survival challenging. Join us to find out more about our winter birds and what you can do in your own backyard to help them survive tough times. **Ages:** Best for children 5-10yrs old. **Cost:** FREE! **Pre-registration required:** RSVP at 425-452-2565 or [mseec@bellevuewa.gov](mailto:mseec@bellevuewa.gov)



Mercer Slough Environmental Education Center is a collaboration between the City of Bellevue and the Pacific Science Center. For information on programs provided by Pacific Science Center, please visit [pacificsciencecenter.org](http://pacificsciencecenter.org).







# LAKE HILLS GREENBELT

R A N G E R S T A T I O N

*Lake Hills Greenbelt Ranger Station, 15416 SE 16 Street*

*Hours: Tuesday-Saturday, 12-4p.m. Phone: 425-452-6993*

*Email: [parkrangerprogram@bellevuewa.gov](mailto:parkrangerprogram@bellevuewa.gov)*

*Surrounded by community farms, gardens, and beautiful wetlands, you will find interpretive displays, trails, environmental program information, and friendly Park Rangers to answer your questions.*

## Programs

### COLORFUL CATERPILLARS

Friday, September 13, 10-11 a.m

Every fall, our region begins crawling with life in the form of bright, patterned, and sometimes very fuzzy critters. Caterpillars are plentiful in Bellevue this time of year, preparing for a cozy winter (and getting ready to become butterflies and moths!). Peek into the park's foliage to test your observational skills while on a ranger-led walk and enjoy creating and bringing home a craft! **Ages:** Best for ages 3-8. **Cost:** Free! **Pre-registration required:** 425-452-6993 or [parkrangerprogram@bellevuewa.gov](mailto:parkrangerprogram@bellevuewa.gov)



### A CLOSER LOOK: PNW CATERPILLARS

Saturday, September 14, 12-1 p.m.

Of all the insects we observe in our parks, gardens, and beyond, lepidopterans boast arguably one of the most incredible and complex life cycles. Get an in-depth look at the species we share our region with, how they survive, and everything you should know about interacting with them. We'll be looking at live specimens with a focus on understanding their unique adaptations. **Ages:** Best for ages 9+. **Cost:** Free! **Pre-registration required:** 425-452-6993 or [parkrangerprogram@bellevuewa.gov](mailto:parkrangerprogram@bellevuewa.gov)





## SENSATIONAL SQUIRRELS

Friday, September 27, 10-11 a.m.

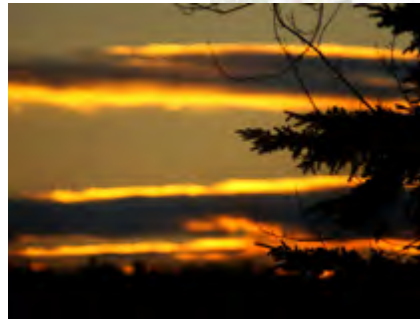


Who knew such a small animal could have such a big personality? As one of the area's most commonly-observed critters, the squirrel evokes many different emotions in those who come across them. We'll discuss the species present in our forests and backyards and learn all about this adaptive animal. Join us for a fun time and a craft! **Ages:** Best for ages 3-8. **Cost:** Free! **Pre-registration required:** 425-452-6993 or [parkrangerprogram@bellevuewa.gov](mailto:parkrangerprogram@bellevuewa.gov)

## AN EVERGREEN EVENING

Saturday, September 28, 7:30-8:30 p.m.

Join us for an evening hike in the Lake Hills Greenbelt. Bring your flashlight and a warm coat as we learn about native Washington trees and listen for creatures that get active in the dark hours! **Ages:** All Ages **Cost:** Free! **Pre-registration required:** 425-452-6993 or [parkrangerprogram@bellevuewa.gov](mailto:parkrangerprogram@bellevuewa.gov)



## LIFE IN LEAF LITTER

Friday, October 11, 10-11 a.m.

It's easy to enjoy the beautiful colors and shapes found in fall leaves, but have you ever wondered what's underneath? In this program, we'll explore the often-overlooked creatures that use fallen leaves to survive and take a real-life peek at what's inside our parks' leaves! Join a ranger to investigate the microcosm of life on the forest floor and leave with tons of new knowledge and a fun experience. **Ages:** Best for ages 3-8. **Cost:** Free! **Pre-registration required:** 425-452-6993 or [parkrangerprogram@bellevuewa.gov](mailto:parkrangerprogram@bellevuewa.gov)



## SPOOKY SPIDERS

Friday, October 25, 10-11 a.m.

Just about everyone has encountered our parks' eight-legged inhabitants, but just how much do you know about their lives? Join us for an hour of spooky fun to learn about the spiders of our area and leave with a better understanding of how they fit into local ecosystems.

We'll head out on a ranger-led walk to try and spot some, and end at the Ranger Station for a craft! **Ages:** Best for ages 3-8. **Cost:** Free! **Pre-registration required:** 425-452-6993 or [parkrangerprogram@bellevuewa.gov](mailto:parkrangerprogram@bellevuewa.gov)



## A CLOSER LOOK: PNW SPIDERS

Saturday, October 26, 12-1 p.m.

We've all heard stories about spiders in the Northwest, so how do we know what's accurate or not? Visit the Ranger Station for explanations to commonly-asked questions about these divisive arachnids and learn all about our species and their lives. Ecology, evolution, and adaptations will be covered in this discussion, ensuring you'll leave with a stronger understanding (and maybe even admiration) for our eight-legged invertebrates. **Ages:** Best for ages 9+. **Cost:** Free! **Pre-registration required:** 425-452-6993 or [parkrangerprogram@bellevuewa.gov](mailto:parkrangerprogram@bellevuewa.gov)



## WONDERS OF WILDERNESS

Friday, November 22, 10-11 a.m.

The autumn season brings thoughts of appreciation and thanks toward all aspects of life, including nature and all its gifts. Join us for a very special program focused on being thankful for our wild spaces for the wonders it gives us, whether through nourishment for our bodies, or the simple joy of admiring its beauty. Wander through the park with a ranger on a relaxed hike and complete the journey with a fun craft to take home! **Ages:** Best for ages 3-8. **Cost:** Free! **Pre-registration required:** 425-452-6993 or [parkrangerprogram@bellevuewa.gov](mailto:parkrangerprogram@bellevuewa.gov)





## APPRECIATING NATURE THROUGH ART

Saturday, November 23, 12-1 p.m.

For centuries, individuals have better observed the natural world through sketching and keeping detailed notes. Learn how to fine-tune your observational skills by heading out on a walk into the forest with paper in hand, ready to pay close attention to the wide array of life in the parks! Paper and art materials will be provided for the day, but feel free to bring your own favorites. Program will partially take place outdoors, so be sure to dress accordingly!

**Ages:** Best for ages 9+. **Cost:** Free! **Pre-registration required:** 425-452-6993 or [parkrangerprogram@bellevuewa.gov](mailto:parkrangerprogram@bellevuewa.gov)



## CONIFER CONNECTIONS

Friday, December 13, 10-11 a.m.

'Tis the season to have evergreens on the mind, and what better time to learn about them? Head over to the Ranger Station to learn about our parks' own species, how these stunning trees survive through the seasons, and what interactions they have with other creatures. Tag along on a walk through the woods with a ranger and end the morning with a craft you'll want to show off! **Ages:** Best for ages 3-8. **Cost:** Free!

**Pre-registration required:** 425-452-6993 or [parkrangerprogram@bellevuewa.gov](mailto:parkrangerprogram@bellevuewa.gov)





# LEWIS CREEK

## VISITOR CENTER

*Lewis Creek Visitor Center, 5808 Lakemont Blvd SE*

**Hours:** Wednesday - Sunday, 10 a.m.-4 p.m **Phone:** 425-452-4195

**Email:** [lcvc@bellevuewa.gov](mailto:lcvc@bellevuewa.gov)

*This beautiful park offers ample opportunity to wander through forests, meadows, and wetlands. Come inside the Visitor Center to pick up trail and park maps for the area, attend a Natural Resource program, or simply enjoy the relaxing atmosphere.*

### TODDLER TRAILS

Friday, September 27, 10 a.m.-11 a.m.

Friday, October 18, 10 a.m.-11 a.m.

Meets at Lewis Creek Park Visitor Center, 5808 Lakemont Blvd SE

Explore the trails at Lewis Creek Park with a park ranger and get out some wiggles on select Fridays. We'll make frequent stops while we investigate the different environments of Lewis Creek Park and wander through and learn how we can make hiking fun for everyone. Please dress for the weather and wear sturdy shoes. **Age:** Best for children ages 18 months - 3 years with accompanying adult(s). This hike's difficulty is rated as very easy (.5 miles). **RSVP required** for children and adults by 4 p.m. the day before the program at 425-452-4195 or [lcvc@bellevuewa.gov](mailto:lcvc@bellevuewa.gov). Outdoor program.





## NIGHT HIKE AT LEWIS CREEK PARK

Friday, October 11, 6:30-8 p.m.

Friday, November 22, 6-7:30 p.m.

Friday, December 13, 4:30-6 p.m.

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 the park home, and join a park 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! **Pre-registration is required** for youth and adult participants at [register.bellevuewa.gov](http://register.bellevuewa.gov). **Ages:** Best for children ages 5+ with accompanying adult(s). Indoor/outdoor program.

## LEWIS CREEK STORY TIME: LIFE IN THE FOREST FLOOR

September 6, two sessions, choose one:  
11 a.m.-noon OR 1:30-2:30 p.m.

Look, listen, and create during an hour of stories and crafts! You might be amazed how much life goes unnoticed in the woods just because it's under our feet! **Ages:** Best for ages 3-7 with accompanying adult(s). **RSVP required** for children and adults by 4 p.m. the day before the program at 425-452-4195 or [lcvc@bellevuewa.gov](mailto:lcvc@bellevuewa.gov). Indoor program.



## HIGH-FLYING HAWKS

Sunday, September 1, 2:30-3:30 p.m.

Saturday, September 28, 2:30-3:30 p.m.

From patrolling I-405 to flying over the trees of Lewis Creek Park, hawks can be found in almost all of Bellevue's habitats. Learn about the different raptor species that call Lewis Creek Park home before we head out on a hike to scan the sky for them. **Ages:** Best for children ages 5-10 with accompanying adult(s). **No pre-registration or RSVP required.** Indoor/outdoor program.







## LIVING WITH WILDLIFE: THERE'S A BEAR IN THE YARD!

Sunday, September 8, 2-3 p.m.

Living in south Bellevue means roaming bears. Learn all about black bears... including how to prevent conflicts in your neighborhood, and what to do if you see one. **Ages:** This program is best for adults. **No pre-registration or RSVP required.** Indoor program.

## BATTY NIGHTS AT LEWIS CREEK PARK

Friday, September 13, 7:30-9 p.m.

Come test your echolocation out with a Park Ranger. We'll learn all about our local bat species before taking a dusk hike to watch for bats as they forage for insects! Bring a flashlight or headlamp, as well as sturdy shoes! **Preregistration is required** for youth and adult participants at [register.bellevuewa.gov](http://register.bellevuewa.gov). **Ages:** Best for children ages 5+ with accompanying adult(s). Indoor/outdoor program.

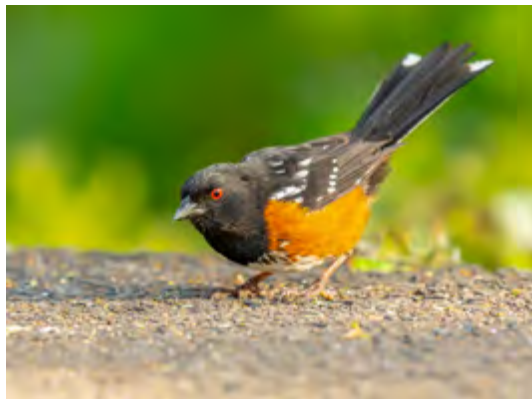


## BIRD STROLL

Saturday, September 21, 2-3 p.m.

Meets at Lewis Creek Park Visitor Center

Have you ever wondered about the bird species you see as you walk through the park? Grab your binoculars and join a park ranger for a walk around Lewis Creek Park where you'll learn to identify our feathered park visitors. **Ages:** This program is best for adults. **RSVP required** by 4 p.m. the day before the program at 425-452-4195 or [lcvc@bellevuewa.gov](mailto:lcvc@bellevuewa.gov). Outdoor program.





## LEWIS CREEK STORY TIME: SALMON STREAM

October 4, two sessions, choose one:  
11 a.m.-noon OR 1:30-2:30 p.m.

Look, listen, and create during an hour of stories and crafts! Swim along with baby salmon from the time they hatch until they complete their long, harrowing journey home. **Ages:** Best for ages 3-7 with accompanying adult(s). **RSVP required** for children and adults by 4 p.m. the day before the program at 425-452-4195 or [lcvc@bellevuewa.gov](mailto:lcvc@bellevuewa.gov). Indoor program.

## OCTOBER IS FOR ORCAS

Sunday, October 13, 2:30-3:30 p.m.  
Saturday, October 19, 2:30-3:30 p.m.  
Sunday, October 27, 2:30-3:30 p.m.



Did you know that our southern resident orcas communicate in a different “language” than transient orcas, or that they use sonar to hunt for their prey? Join us for an introduction to the families that make up the J, L, and K pods, a fantastic orca game, and to learn how you can help our endangered southern resident orcas starting right here in Bellevue! **Ages:** Best for children ages 5-10 with accompanying adult(s). Indoor/outdoor program.

## LIVING WITH WILDLIFE: RACCOONS

Sunday, October 6, 2-3 p.m.



Are you neighbors with one (or a several) of these mischievous mammals? If so, you’re not alone. Learn all about raccoons, including how to prevent conflicts in your neck of the woods. **Ages:** This program is best for adults. **No pre-registration or RSVP required.** Indoor program.

## LEWIS CREEK STORY TIME: VERY HAIRY BEAR

November 1, two sessions, choose one:  
11 a.m.-noon OR 1:30- 2:30 p.m.

Look, listen, and create during an hour of stories and crafts! Where do our bears go when it gets chilly out? Join us as we read some fun stories about our local fuzzy neighbors. **Ages:** Best for ages 3-7 with accompanying adult(s). **RSVP required** for children and adults by 4 p.m. the day before the program at 425-452-4195 or [lcvc@bellevuewa.gov](mailto:lcvc@bellevuewa.gov). Indoor program.



## LET'S PLANT A TREE!

Sunday, November 3, 2:30-3:30 p.m.

Saturday, November 9, 2:30-3:30 p.m.

Saturday, November 23, 2:30-3:30 p.m.

Learn why tree leaves change color and why some trees don't. We'll try some experiments on tree leaves, go for a short walk through the forest at Lewis Creek Park, and then each participant will plant a willow tree! Please wear waterproof shoes. **Ages:** Best for children ages 5-10 with accompanying adult(s). **RSVP required** for children and adults by 4pm the Friday before the program at 425-452-4195 or [lcvc@bellevuewa.gov](mailto:lcvc@bellevuewa.gov). Indoor/outdoor program.

## SALMON SENSE

Sunday, November 10, 1:30-3 p.m.

Each year, salmon migrate inland throughout our region... but have you ever wondered why they make this perilous journey or how they find their way? Join us at the Lewis Creek Visitor Center as we dissect an adult salmon and discuss this incredible journey. Afterwards, we'll head outside to learn about stream habitat. **Ages:** Best for children ages 9-14 with accompanying adult(s). **RSVP required** for youth and adult participants by 4 p.m. the Friday before the program at 425-452-4195 or [lcvc@bellevuewa.gov](mailto:lcvc@bellevuewa.gov). Indoor/outdoor program.

## LIVING WITH WILDLIFE: CUNNING CROWS

Sunday, November 16, 2-3 p.m.

Crows are one of our Bellevue's most commonly-seen wildlife residents. They have more advanced cognitive abilities than many mammals, an amazing memory, and are very social. Find out why crows gather in enormous numbers, and what the fuss is all about. Learn what crows know and discover how we can get along together. **Ages:** This program is best for adults. **No pre-registration or RSVP required.** Indoor program.



## LEWIS CREEK STORY TIME: WATER DANCE

December 6, two sessions, choose one:

11 a.m. -noon OR 1:30-2:30 p.m.

Look, listen, and create during an hour of stories and crafts! Water can behave in strange ways in winter; from forming icicles to becoming hot cocoa's steam. We'll read to discover how it's all a part of the water cycle. **Ages:** Best for ages 3-7 with accompanying adult(s). **RSVP required** for children and adults by 4 p.m. the day before the program at 425-452-4195 or [lcvc@bellevuewa.gov](mailto:lcvc@bellevuewa.gov). Indoor program.



## WHOOOO'S HOOTING?

Sunday, December 8, 2:30-3:30 p.m.

Saturday, December 21, 2:30-3:30 p.m.

How does a barn owl can find its prey in total darkness? How does a great horned owl clasp its talons with 28 pounds of force? Join us as we learn all about our favorite silently flying friends, try out our hoots, and dig deeper into an owl's diet by dissecting owl pellets! **Ages:** Best for children ages 5-10 with accompanying adult(s). **RSVP required** for children and adults by 4 p.m. the Friday before the program at 425-452-4195 or [lcvc@bellevuewa.gov](mailto:lcvc@bellevuewa.gov). Indoor/outdoor program.

## LIVING WITH WILDLIFE: DEER IN THE HEADLIGHTS

Sunday, December 15, 2-3 p.m.

Black-tailed deer are a welcomed friend in many of Bellevue's neighborhoods. Join us to learn about how to attract deer, deer biology, how to address potential conflicts (including how to protect your fruit trees), what to do if you find a fawn, and much more! **Ages:** This program is best for adults. **No pre-registration or RSVP required.** Indoor program.



## HOLLY'S NOT SO JOLLY

Saturday, December 28, 10:30 a.m.-12 p.m.

Pull on some gardening gloves and join the battle against invasive English holly plants. We'll learn how to identify this beautiful (but pesky) plant and how it harms our forests. Afterwards, we'll go out to pull some of these invasive plants and learn how to turn them into a fun craft! **Ages:** Best for children ages 5-10 with accompanying adult(s). **RSVP required** for children and adults by 4 p.m. the Friday before the program at 425-452-4195 or [lcvc@bellevuewa.gov](mailto:lcvc@bellevuewa.gov). Please bring gloves. Indoor/outdoor program.





# Visitor Centers



***Mercer Slough Environmental  
Education Center***  
425-452-2565  
1625 118 Avenue SE

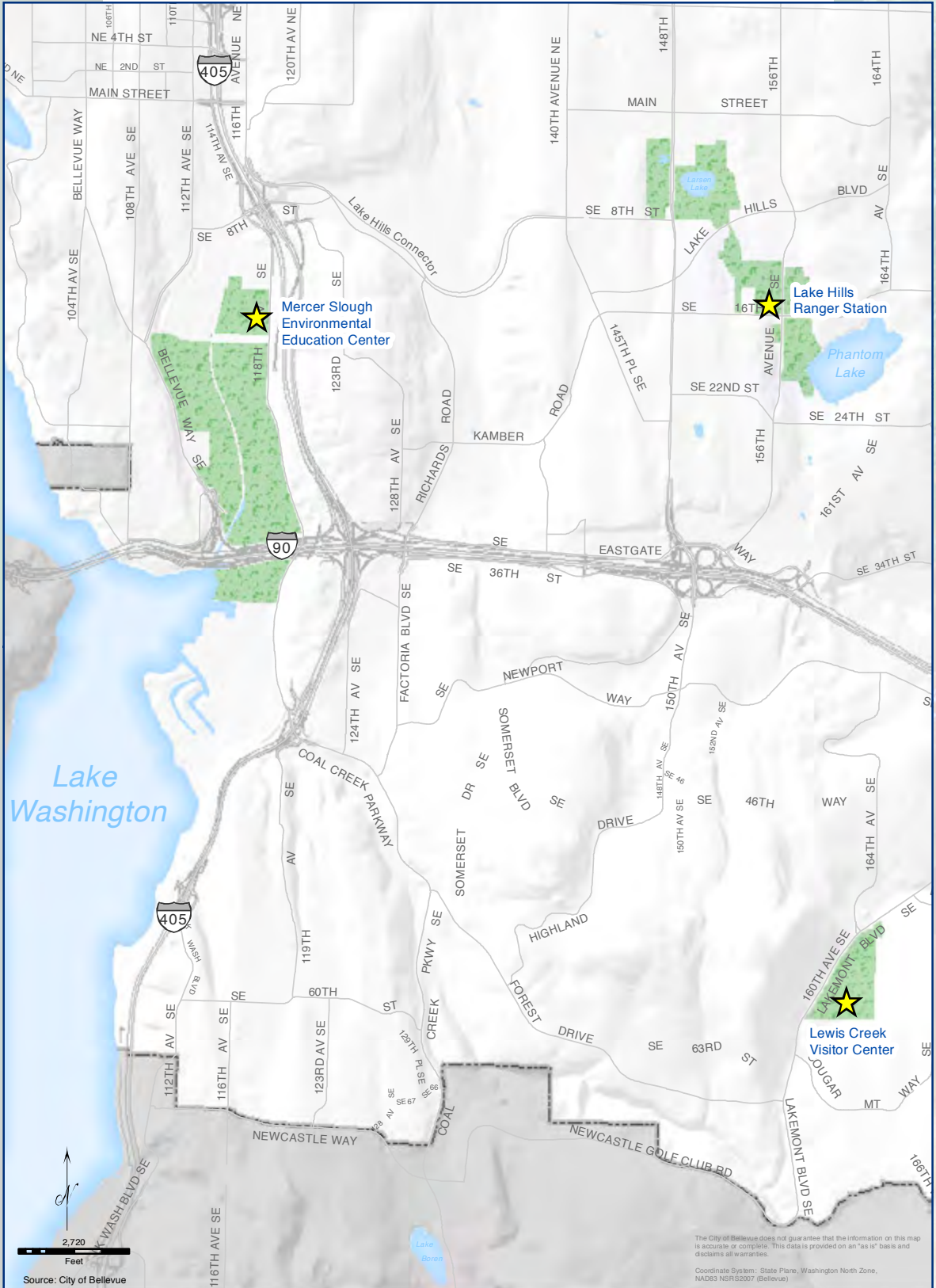


***Lake Hills Greenbelt  
Ranger Station***  
425-452-7225  
15416 SE 16 Street  
(15500 SE 16 Street:  
Parking Location)



***Lewis Creek Visitor Center***  
425-452-4195  
5808 Lakemont Blvd SE

# Visitor Center Locations





Mercer Slough Environmental Education Center  
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Lake Hills Greenbelt Ranger Station  
425-452-7225  
15416 SE 16 Street  
15500 SE 16 Street: Parking Location

Lewis Creek Visitor Center  
425-452-4195  
5808 Lakemont Blvd SE



## Bellevue Parks & Community Services



For alternate formats, interpreters, or reasonable accommodation requests please phone at least 48 hours in advance 425-452-2565 (voice) or email [dvannieula@bellevuewa.gov](mailto:dvannieula@bellevuewa.gov). For complaints regarding accommodations, contact City of Bellevue ADA/Title VI Administrator at 425-452-6168 (voice). If you are deaf or hard of hearing dial 711. All meetings are wheelchair accessible.

