

### Wild Things

#### Welcome to the Wilderness!

Introduce your child to the wonders of nature in this fun-filled class designed just for them. Each week the adventure starts with unique songs and a discussion about the animal of the week. We reinforce each topic with a simple craft and a nature hike or fun activity. Join us each Wednesday and learn about the wonderful, wacky wildlife that lives in Tennessee. Registration is required. Please call the Tuesday before class to register.

Ages: 1 – 4 years with adult  
 Day: Wednesdays  
 Times: 9:30 a.m. (Call on the Tuesday before for reservations.)  
 Location: Wilderness Station  
 Fee: \$3.00  
 Contact: Wilderness Station, 615-217-3017. Registration required.



### Tales and Trails

What child doesn't love a good story? Or a fun hike in the woods? Each week, the Wilderness Station will offer a new story that your child will love. We will discover fun and interesting tales about Tennessee's native wildlife and their habitats. Then, we will bring these tales to life by exploring the trails that are all around us. Curious children and adults alike are sure to enjoy this fun program. Registration is required.

Ages: 4 – 7 years with adult  
 Day: Wednesdays  
 Time: 10:30 a.m. (Call on the Tuesday before for reservations.)  
 Location: Wilderness Station  
 Fee: \$3.00  
 Contact: Wilderness Station, 615-217-3017. Registration required.



### Silly Grandpa Concert

Come join in the silliness at the Wilderness Station since we have invited Silly Grandpa to play a concert. Sing, clap, and dance along to Silly Grandpa's fun and entertaining songs.

Ages: All  
 Date: Saturday, January 21  
 Time: 10:00 a.m.  
 Location: Wilderness Station  
 Fee: Free  
 Contact: Wilderness Station, 615-217-3017,  
 outdoormurfreesboro@murffreesborotn.gov



### Winter Wonderland Party for Preschoolers

Don't let your preschooler get the winter time blahs. Instead, come to the Wilderness Station for a wintry, wondrous celebration. We will read "The Mitten" by Jan Brett and play, explore, and discover the native animals that make this story fun with games and a craft.

Registration Required.

Ages: 3 – 5 years  
 Dates: Saturday, February 11  
 Time: 10:30 a.m.  
 Location: Wilderness Station  
 Fee: \$3.00  
 Contact: Wilderness Station, 615-217-3017,  
 outdoormurfreesboro@murffreesborotn.gov



**Birthday Parties**  
 Have your child's next birthday party at the Wilderness Station.

Choose one of our exciting nature-themed programs led by a park naturalist. Visit our website for full descriptions, pricing, and scheduling at [www.murffreesborotn.gov/parks](http://www.murffreesborotn.gov/parks) under Wilderness Station.



## Owl Wisdom

What is your owl IQ? Join us as we take a look at these amazing animals and unlock some interesting facts. Then roll up your sleeves and dissect an owl pellet to see what was for dinner. It's gross but so much fun!

**Registration Required.**

Ages: 8 - 12 years  
 Date: Saturday, January 7  
 Time: 2:00 p.m.  
 Location: Wilderness Station  
 Fee: \$5  
 Contact: Wilderness Station, 615-217-3017, [outdoormurfreesboro@murfreesborotn.gov](mailto:outdoormurfreesboro@murfreesborotn.gov).



## Bird Club

Join us for a monthly walk as we search together for resident birds of Tennessee. Murfreesboro's Bird Club welcomes all levels of experience, and we encourage anyone who is interested in birds or bird behavior to join us. Please bring your own binoculars if you have them. We will have a few to lend out on a first-come, first-serve basis.

Ages: 6+  
 Time: 9:00 a.m.  
 Dates and Locations:  
 Saturday, December 17- Nickajack Wetlands  
 Saturday, January 14- Gateway Island  
 Saturday, February 18- Wilderness Station (Great Backyard Bird Count)  
 Fee: Free  
 Contact: Heather Mullican, 615-217-3017, [hmullican@murfreesborotn.gov](mailto:hmullican@murfreesborotn.gov)

## Earth Lab – Now Open!

Did you know that katydids have ears in their front legs or that a woodpecker can peck 20 times per second? I bet you know spiders have 8 legs but did you know they have 48 knees? The Earth has many amazing creatures to learn about and study and now you can enjoy exploring these topics in our Earth Lab. Each month we will have a new topic with fun and exciting activities for kids ages 4 – 9 to discover on this self-led adventure. It's great for homeschoolers or as an afterschool treat.



December – Animals in Winter  
 January – A Winter Nature Study  
 February – Birds in Winter

Ages: 4 – 9 years  
 Day: Wednesdays 12:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.  
 Location: Wilderness Station  
 Fee: Free  
 Contact: Wilderness Station, 615-217-3017, [outdoormurfreesboro@murfreesborotn.gov](mailto:outdoormurfreesboro@murfreesborotn.gov).



## Great Backyard Bird Count

Join us for the Great Backyard Bird Count. Anyone can take part in the Great Backyard Bird Count, from beginning bird watchers to experts. Each checklist submitted during the GBBC helps researchers at the Cornell Lab of Ornithology and the National Audubon Society learn more about how birds are doing, and how to protect them and the environment we share. Please bring your own binoculars if you have them. We will have a few to lend out on a first-come, first-serve basis.

Ages: 6+  
 Time: 9:00 AM  
 Date: Saturday, February 18th  
 Location: Wilderness Station  
 Fee: Free  
 Contact: Heather Mullican, 615-217-3017, [hmullican@murfreesborotn.gov](mailto:hmullican@murfreesborotn.gov)

# Outdoor MURFREESBORO

## FREE Backpacks for Education!

The Greenway and Wilderness Station offer free educational backpacks for morning and afternoon checkout. These backpacks are a great way to introduce your children or students to nature. Whether you're a teacher or interested parent, our educational backpacks offer fun and learning to children of all ages. Each backpack has a theme and includes specific learning material and programs surrounding the theme. The themes are: Birds, Trees, Insects, and Wildflowers. So pick your favorite subject and get outside to explore and learn about Tennessee's beautiful wilderness. Backpacks may be checked out at the Wilderness Station at Barfield Crescent Park.

## Teachers, Home Schoolers, and Scouts Field Trips and Field Studies for Your Group:

We have added several new programs to share with your group. We can now accommodate large classes or small rotational groups. All programs are correlated with state standards or can be adjusted to satisfy badge requirements.

Contact Rachel Singer for a complete list of programs and locations at (615) 217-3017 or [rsinger@murfreesborotn.gov](mailto:rsinger@murfreesborotn.gov). You can also check out our website at [www.murfreesborotn.gov/parks](http://www.murfreesborotn.gov/parks) under Wilderness Station.



### Post-Holiday Hikes

How many of us indulged in a few too many pieces of fudge or a couple extra helpings of dressing and gravy? Don't despair! We'll hike off those unwanted pounds. Join us weekly in January and February for staff-led hikes on the beautiful back country trails. Hikes will last an hour and a half.



Ages: Adults  
 Day: Thursdays in January and February – starting January 5  
 Time: 10:00 a.m.  
 Location: Wilderness Station  
 Fee: Free  
 Contact: Wilderness Station, 615-217-3017,  
[outdoormurfreesboro@murfreeborotn.gov](mailto:outdoormurfreesboro@murfreeborotn.gov).

### Nature Journaling

Turn your aspirations to study nature into a reality. Hike, write, and draw. This two-hour class provides an instruction to nature journaling by honing skills in observation, sketching, and the appreciation of nature's beauty and mystery. Instruction manual and supplies provided. You are invited to come once, or on a monthly basis at the 'Art in Nature' social where we continue to study and draw from the natural world. Reservations are required.



Ages: Adult  
 Date: December 10, January 14, and February 11  
 Day: 2nd Saturday of each month  
 Time: 2:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.  
 Fee: Initial fee of \$15.00 (includes instruction manual), monthly meeting fee \$5.00 (includes drawing supplies)  
 Location: Wilderness Station  
 Contact: Rosanna Ohlsson-Salmon, 615-217-3017,  
[rohlssonssalmon@murfreeborotn.gov](mailto:rohlssonssalmon@murfreeborotn.gov)

### Wildlife Painting

Unleash your inner artist! Join us at the Wilderness Station for an artist-led paint-a-long. Have fun and let the paint flow as an instructor leads you step-by-step through the painting process. The subject matter of the paintings will be wildlife/nature based and will be great for all skill levels. So come on out and get creative! Class will be held inside, so don't let the weather scare you away. Space is limited, and reservations are required. All materials are provided.

Ages: Adult (13 and up)  
 Date: February 25  
 Day: Saturday  
 Time: 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.  
 Fee: \$15.00  
 Location: Wilderness Station  
 Contact: Wilderness Station, 615-217-3017,  
[outdoormurfreesboro@murfreeborotn.gov](mailto:outdoormurfreesboro@murfreeborotn.gov).



### Music in the Wild

Warm up inside the Wilderness Station as we welcome the band Runaway Home back to the park. Runaway Home is a Panoramic-Americana band founded by two intrepid dreamers and schemers who share a love for music and the places it takes us all. Pulling from diverse musical backgrounds, Runaway Home blends their sound whiskey-smooth and harmonically strong, with a plaintive and rootsy edge.

We will be serving some of our delicious bird-friendly coffee that will be perfect to sip on while enjoying live music and the company of friends, new and old.

Ages: All  
 Date: Saturday, January 28  
 Time: Doors open at 5:30; music is 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.  
 Location: Wilderness Station  
 Fee: Free  
 Contact: Wilderness Station, 615-217-3017,  
[outdoormurfreesboro@murfreeborotn.gov](mailto:outdoormurfreesboro@murfreeborotn.gov).

## THE BETTER BORO PROJECT



### New Year's Day 5k

Start the New Year off on the right foot with the 2nd annual New Year's Day 5k! All fitness levels welcome. Register early to be guaranteed a souvenir shirt. Every finisher will receive a medal, and awards will be given to overall finishers and age group winners.

Ages: All  
 Date: January 1, 2017  
 Time: 2:00 p.m.  
 Fee: \$25 preregistration through December 28, 2016  
 Location: Barfield Crescent Park  
 Contact: Melinda Tate, 615-893-2141, [mtate@murfreeborotn.gov](mailto:mtate@murfreeborotn.gov)  
 For more information and to register: [www.murfreeboront.gov/parks](http://www.murfreeboront.gov/parks)



## Basic Dog Obedience Class

Beginning Obedience Class is open to puppies 12 weeks and older. Adult dogs are welcome. We will work on building a relationship with your dog while teaching good manners and basic obedience commands such as sit, down, stand, stay, wait, leave it, watch me, walk on a loose leash, go to your bed, come, and hand signals. Topics include polite greetings, techniques for preventing unwanted behaviors, and appropriate dog-to-dog interactions. Puppies 6 months and younger will have a short playtime at the end of class. Classes are one hour per week over a six-week period, with an orientation as the first week. Please do not bring your dog to orientation. For puppies' protection, they must have three DHLPP vaccinations plus a Kennel Cough (Bordatella) vaccination in order to attend. A Rabies' vaccination is necessary for dogs. The cost is \$120. Please register at [www.wagitbetter.com](http://www.wagitbetter.com) or contact [heather@wagitbetter.com](mailto:heather@wagitbetter.com)

Dates: Saturdays, January 7 – February 18 – (no class on January 21)  
Time: 9 – 10 am  
Location: Wilderness Station  
Fee: \$120.00  
Contact: [www.wagitbetter.com](http://www.wagitbetter.com) or contact [heather@wagitbetter.com](mailto:heather@wagitbetter.com)



## Canine Good Citizen Class

This class is for puppies and young dogs that have completed the Kinderpuppy Class or for adult dogs who are ready to work towards their Canine Good Citizenship (CGC) certificate. It's an excellent preparatory class for therapy work as well! Dogs learn to sit, down, and stay with distractions and at a distance, calmly greet people and other dogs, walk on a loose leash, and practice other skills from the CGC test. Lots of problem behavior solving included! The test will be given on the last day. Please visit the official AKC page for more information about this program. We begin working with dogs the first class. Classes are one hour per week over a six-week period. A Rabies' vaccination is necessary for all dogs. The cost is \$125. Please register at [www.wagitbetter.com](http://www.wagitbetter.com) or contact [heather@wagitbetter.com](mailto:heather@wagitbetter.com)

Dates: Saturdays, January 7 – February 18 – (no class on January 21)  
Time: 8 – 9 am  
Location: Wilderness Station  
Fee: \$125.00  
Contact: [www.wagitbetter.com](http://www.wagitbetter.com) or contact [heather@wagitbetter.com](mailto:heather@wagitbetter.com)

## Gateway Island Open House

Perfect for a small wedding, a company retreat or a family reunion, the Gateway Island is a beautiful venue conveniently located near shopping, hotels and our Greenway. Check out this little paradise hidden in our city!



Date: Saturday, February 11, 2017  
Time: 11:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.  
Fee: Free  
Location: Gateway Island Reception Center  
Contact: Greenway Office: 615-893-2141

## Valentine Vows

Renew your vows or propose to your sweetheart on Valentine's Day at one of the most beautiful locations in Murfreesboro.

Date: Tuesday, February 14, 2017  
Time slots: One hour increments, from 9:00 a.m. – 7:00 p.m.  
Fee: \$50  
Location: Gateway Island and Reception Center  
Contact: Greenway Office: (615) 893-2141



## Greenway Beautification

Is your group or organization looking for a community volunteer project? Do you use the Greenway frequently and want to give back to the community? Cleaning up the Greenway is a project in which participants of all ages can participate. We provide the supplies. Call the Greenway Office at (615) 893-2141 to schedule a Greenway cleanup customized to your group's availability.

