

Astronomy & Planetarium Programs

First Friday NatureSphere Nights

5 yrs + / 1st Fri of each month / \$6

Spend an evening in the comfort of Robinson Nature Center's NatureSphere, a digital planetarium and dome-style movie theater. Explore the planets, constellations and solar phenomena in the current night's sky, and then enjoy a full-dome feature film. Children must be over the age of five and accompanied by an adult. Choose from among the dates and times below. Pre-register to secure your tickets.

Early shows

RP4800.101	Sep 7	6:30-7:30 PM
RP4800.103	Oct 5	6:30-7:30 PM
RP4800.105	Nov 2	6:30-7:30 PM
RP4800.107	Dec 7	6:30-7:30 PM

Late shows

RP4800.102	Sep 7	8-9 PM
RP4800.104	Oct 5	8-9 PM
RP4800.106	Nov 2	8-9 PM
RP4800.108	Dec 7	8-9 PM

The Universe Through Little Eyes

3-5 yrs / 1st & 3rd Sat of each month / \$3 with paid admission or RNC annual pass

Be with your little one as they experience the sky in a whole new way. From the comfort of Robinson Nature Center's NatureSphere, a digital planetarium and dome-style movie theater, you and your child can tour the current night sky and then enjoy a kid-friendly, full-dome film. Children must be accompanied by an adult. Pre-register to secure your tickets.

Program will run from **10-10:40 AM**. Choose from among the dates below.

RP4802.101	Sep 1	RP4802.105	Nov 3
RP4802.102	Sep 15	RP4802.106	Nov 17
RP4802.103	Oct 6	RP4802.107	Dec 1
RP4802.104	Oct 20	RP4802.108	Dec 15

Search the Skies

5 yrs + / 1st & 3rd Sun of each month / \$3 with paid admission or RNC annual pass

Bring your family out to discover current events occurring in our night skies and then enjoy a full-dome feature film in the comfort of Robinson Nature Center's NatureSphere, a digital planetarium and dome-style movie theater. Children must be accompanied by an adult.

Program will run from **2-3 PM**. Choose from among the dates below.

RP4801.101	Sep 2	RP4801.105	Nov 4
RP4801.102	Sep 16	RP4801.106	Nov 18
RP4801.103	Oct 7	RP4801.107	Dec 2
RP4801.104	Oct 21	RP4801.108	Dec 16

"Beyond Earth" Astronomy Series

16 yrs + / Thurs, dates below / \$12 per lecture; \$40 for series

In partnership with The Johns Hopkins University Applied Physics Laboratory (APL), Robinson Nature Center offers the unique opportunity to delve into the details of the latest space missions exploring our solar system with local researchers. Follow clues pointing to the existence of water on Mars; learn about Mercury's unusual magnetic field and spectacular geology; and discover more about the relationship between Earth and the Sun. Lectures are followed by hors d'oeuvres and a chance to converse with APL space scientists and fellow enthusiasts. Lecture topics and dates below.

RP4837.101	MESSENGER's Mission to Mercury	Sep 20	7-8:30 PM
RP4837.102	Launch of Radiation Belt Storm Probes	Oct 18	7-8:30 PM
RP4837.103	How CRISM found water on Mars	Nov 15	7-8:30 PM
RP4837.104	TIMED Mission of Earth's Atmosphere	Dec 13	7-8:30 PM

Nature Programs

Discovery Days

3-7 yrs / 2nd & 4th Sat of each month / Free with paid admission or RNC annual pass
Discovery Days are introduce your child to plants and animals through stories, games or craft activities. Themes vary by week. The program is available on a first-come, first-served basis. Children must be accompanied by an adult. Fall Discovery Days will be held from 10:30 AM - 11:00 AM on **Sept 8 & 22, Oct 13 & 27, Nov 10 & 24, Dec 8 & 22**.

Lil' Acorns Fall Romp

2-3 yrs / Sep 15 / \$14 (includes one child and one parent/guardian)

Does your child love to explore, but isn't ready to explore without you? Hold your lil' acorn's hand as they discover the natural sounds, smells and sights of fall through hands-on activities, a puppet show and a trail walk through the woods. Snacks included.

RP4817.101	10:30 AM-noon	Sa
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Deer Management for the Homeowner

16 yrs + / Sep 27 / Free

Concerned about the over-abundance of deer in your backyard and garden? Gain a better understanding of deer ecology and how we've come to have so many deer on the landscape. Learn about management options for controlling deer on your property.

RP4842.101	7-8:30 PM	Th
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Fall Migratory Bird Walk

8 yrs + / Sep 29 / \$6 per person

Don't miss Maryland's flying fall visitors. This special, one-mile walk focuses on the migratory birds that fly through our state to overwinter further south. From sparrows to juncos, let Howard County Bird Club representatives teach you when they appear, how to recognize their calls and where to look. Children must be accompanied by an adult.

RP4808.101	9:30 - 10:30 AM	Sa
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Half-Moon Hike with S'mores

7 yrs + / Oct 6 / \$10, individuals; \$25, family

You've never experienced the dark like this before! Learn about adaptations that nocturnal animals use to survive and see how well your own senses compare as you wind your way through the woods at Robinson Nature Center. Warm up with s'mores by the fire. Dress warmly. Children must be accompanied by an adult. Pre-register to secure your spot.

RP4804.101	7:45-9:15 PM	Sa
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Medicinal and Edible Plant Walk

16 yrs + / Oct 14 / \$8

Take a walk through the woods at Robinson Nature Center to discover plants that have served past cultures – and still serve us today – through their medicinal properties and culinary uses. From native asters to invasive garlic mustard, we'll take a closer look at the alternative uses for these plants and we'll share recipe ideas and identification tips.

RP4838.101	1:30-3 PM	Su
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The Rocks that Rock in our Backyard

8 yrs + / Nov 3 / \$8 per person

Join us for a special walk in which we explore the fascinating world of geology. Rocks speak volumes of the history of our county and our world. Discover how our unique rock outcrops reveal a tumultuous history of continental collisions right here in Howard County. Families welcome. All children must be accompanied by an adult. Moderate hiking trails.

RP4839.101	10:30 AM-noon	Sa
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Find out about **Special Events** and **Scout Programs** on the back of this brochure!

Special Events & Scout Programs

Robinson Nature Center One-Year Anniversary Open House Event

All ages / Sunday, Sep 23 / Noon-5 PM/ Free

Celebrate Robinson Nature Center's first birthday through this special open house event. Come out and experience live animal presentations, nature crafts and presentations in our planetarium. Walk the trails, explore the exhibits and play in the Discovery Room. Children must be accompanied by an adult at all times. No registration necessary. Activity and parking information: www.howardcountymd.gov/RobinsonNatureCenter.htm.

"Digging up Simpsonville's Past" Archaeology Workshop

10 yrs + / Oct 6 / \$20 per person, \$15 per person (group rate)

If you have ever wanted to take part in an actual archaeological "dig", this is your chance. During this special event, participants will receive training on basic archaeological techniques and will assist in the excavation of two archaeological hot-spots that contain clues to life in the mill town once known as Simpsonville. The program also features a historical walking tour and hands-on experience with artifacts. Due to the sensitive nature of the site, registration is limited to only 20 participants for each session. When registering a group of 5 or more, you are eligible for the group rate of \$15 per person. You must call Robinson Nature Center to register a group. Registration/Information: 410-313-0400.

RP4829.101	9:30-11:30 AM	Sa
RP4829.102	10:30 AM-12:30 PM	Sa
RP4829.103	11:30 AM-1:30 PM	Sa

School's Out: Scout Day at Robinson Nature Center

6 yrs + / Oct 19, times below / \$20 per person; \$15 per person (group rate)

School is out, so get your troop together and fulfill requirements to earn a badge. For boy scouts, we'll offer programs for Bears hoping to secure the "Share Your World with Wildlife" achievement. Girl Scout's Brownies will earn and receive their "bugs" badge. To register under the troop rate, your troop leader must call Robinson Nature Center and register five or more members of your troop.

RP4840.101	Bear, Share Your World With Wildlife	9:30-11:30 AM	F
RP4841.101	Brownies, Bugs	10 AM-noon	F
RP4840.102	Bear, Share Your World With Wildlife	1-3 PM	F
RP4841.102	Brownies, Bugs	1:30-3:30 PM	F

Mistletoe and Moonlight Shopping at Robinson Nature Center

All ages / Friday, Nov 16 / 5-8 PM/ Free

Looking for the perfect gift and an enjoyable shopping experience? Forget the malls and come out to the Robinson Nature Center. Find the perfect puppet, craft, book or nature trinket for your loved ones. Taste food and drinks from Stonewall Kitchen and Capital Teas in our gift shop. Take part in a special raffle each hour. Let your family enjoy the exhibits and discovery room while you find the perfect present. Children must be accompanied by an adult at all times. No registration necessary. RNC members receive a 15% discount on gift shop purchases on this night only.

 www.facebook.com/RobinsonNatureCenter

Call, Click or Come In

(410) 313-0400

<http://www.howardcountymd.gov/RobinsonNatureCenter.htm>

6692 Cedar Lane, Columbia, MD 21044

Fall 2012 Programs

Robinson

JAMES & ANNE

NATURE CENTER



Howard County
RECREATION & PARKS

www.howardcountymd.gov/Robinsonnaturecenter.htm

