



# LITTLE TRAVERSE CONSERVANCY'S SUMMER 2016 ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION PROGRAMS

## KNEE HIGH NATURALIST PROGRAMS AGES 3-5

*These fun and interactive sessions include a story, short hike or activity, crafts and more. Siblings are welcome to tag along. Parents are asked to stay with their children. No charge, but registration required by calling Melissa at 231.344.1004.*

*Tuesdays are at SPRING LAKE PARK from 10-11am and 1-2pm  
Wednesdays are at RESORT TOWNSHIP EAST PARK from 10-11am  
Wednesday, August 3 is at the PETOSKEY WATERFRONT*

### July 5 and July 6 - Radical Reptiles

These cold-blooded critters with scaly skin fascinate us and freak us out! Through pictures, stories, observation, and a search through their habitat, we'll explore the lives of reptiles that inhabit northern Michigan, perhaps helping us gain a little more appreciation and a little less apprehension about them. We hope to have live specimens available to view.

### July 12 and July 13 - Feathered Families

Warm temperatures and a plentiful food supply make summer the perfect time for birds to raise their young. We'll learn about different types of nests, nesting habits, how birds communicate and more about the family life of our feathered friends with LTC volunteer and bird enthusiast Mary Trout. She'll also guide a short hike to observe local birds and a nest making craft to take home.

### July 19 and July 20 - To Be a Tree

From seeds and fruit to shade and animal homes, trees are vital to us and our natural communities. We'll learn about our most magnificent plants and discover what makes them special through several activities including a fun tree treasure hunt.

### July 26 and July 27 - Bug Bonanza!

Explore the fascinating world of insects and their cousins. They can be pesty, but they are also vital to our food supply and healthy habitats. We'll search the fields and woods to catch some bugs and observe them up close.

### August 3 - Just Ducky – at the Petoskey Waterfront

With Lake Michigan shoreline, a pond and rivers, the Petoskey waterfront is a great place to learn about ducks! We'll explore the lives of these water birds with a story, short hike, fun activities and a duck race in a little "creek." Participants can bring their own rubber duck or they can borrow one of ours.

### August 9 and August 10 - Fairy Houses and Gnome Homes

Little ones will walk the fairy and gnome trail to gather building materials for constructing a forest fairy or gnome home in the park. They'll sprinkle magic dust on their enchanted house and imagine all the adventures that will happen there.



## JUNIOR NATURALIST PROGRAMS AGES 6-8 WEDNESDAYS 10-11:30

*No charge, but registration required by calling Sarah Mayhew at 231.344.1018.*

### Wednesday, July 6

**Bugs Life Helstrom/Highland Nature Preserve, Conway**  
From field to forest to pond... they're out there! We're going to be taking a closer look at insects, their relatives and different habitats during this adventure. All materials provided.

### Wednesday, July 13

**Nature Art McCune Nature Preserve, Petoskey**  
Join local LTC staff and local multi-media artist Katie Brines for a creative exploration into the art of found objects. This program will begin with a short walk into the gorgeous McCune Nature Preserve. Following our walk, children will create a unique found object work of art using a variety of materials and techniques.

### Wednesday, July 20

**Cool Camo Watson Nature Preserve, Harbor Springs**  
Come out, come out wherever you are! Camouflage helps animals blend into their surroundings and avoid being someone else's lunch. In this program we'll build on our own observations skills while learning about different predator and prey adaptations through a fun hide-and-seek activity along the trail.

### Wednesday, July 27

**Feathered Friends & Fens Waldron Fen Nature Preserve, Alanson**  
Birds are amazing creatures with their songs, beauty, flight and nest building! What is a fen? Fens are unique wetland ecosystems that attract many different kinds of birds. We'll be exploring both during this program at this fascinating nature preserve. Some binoculars are available. Feel free to bring your own!

### Wednesday, August 3

**Bike path cruise / preserve tour Spring Lake Park, M119**  
Come for a leisurely ride along the paved bike path leading from Spring Lake Park. We'll be casually riding north passing several LTC nature preserves along the way. Parents are encouraged to come along. Helmets and extra water are recommended. This is an easy paved trail; however, children are expected to have an intermediate level of riding experience. Please bring your own bike. Meet at Spring Lake Park pavilion.

### Wednesday, August 10

**Sensing the Forest McCune Nature Preserve, Petoskey**  
Using their senses and a few simple tools to explore the beautiful forest of the McCune Nature Preserve, children will examine many kinds of plants and animals and in the process learn about their basic needs. Sight, sound, and smell will help them investigate the natural world, from tiny mushrooms on a rotting log to birds singing from the treetops.



## ADVENTURE NATURALIST PROGRAMS AGES 9-12 THURSDAYS 10AM-NOON

No charge. Registration required by calling Sarah Mayhew at 231.344.1018.



**Thursday, July 7**

### **Adventure in Nature Photography Resort Township Park East, Bay Harbor**

Interested in photography and love being outdoors? Grab your camera for a photo adventure at this beautiful park near Bay Harbor. This program's focus is to improve your photography skills and expand your creativity while providing an opportunity to photograph unique and exciting subjects in nature. All abilities and cameras welcome. Some cameras available.

**Thursday, July 14**

### **Wilderness Survival McCune Nature Preserve, Petoskey**

This course is an introduction to the skills and mindset needed in survival situations. We'll cover the importance of being prepared and informed before venturing out into the woods, as well as addressing strategies for a survival situation. Skills include an intro to shelter building, fire building, and identifying the 10 essentials. The McCune Preserve offers a variety of maintained trails through a beautiful hardwood forest. Sturdy shoes are recommended as we will also be taking a short hike.

**Thursday, July 21**

### **Compass Camp Ransom Nature Preserve, Charlevoix**

Knowing how to use a compass is an important skill to have if you enjoy exploring in nature. Ransom Nature Preserve is home to our popular orienteering course. Come learn the basics of orienteering as we navigate this beautiful land. Parents are encouraged to participate, and one adult will be needed to accompany each group. Long pants and sturdy shoes are recommended.

**Thursday, July 28**

### **Mountain Biking The Hill Nature Preserve, Boyne City**

Do you like mountain biking? Join our mountain biking staff for this fun introduction to a great sport to do in northern Michigan. The Hill Preserve offers well maintained trails, rolling hills, and sweeping views. This trail is not extreme and hill climbing is minimal. Designed for children with an intermediate biking ability (little to no mountain biking experience is perfectly fine). A mountain bike is recommended. Extra water, appropriate footwear, and helmets required.

**Thursday, August 4**

### **Trailblazers Five Mile Creek Preserve, Harbor Springs**

Take a walk on the wild side of the creek. With no established trail, this hike is for the adventurous child. Be prepared to have some fun getting muddy and wet! Although the walk is not extremely difficult, it is not as easy as walking a maintained trail and will require maneuvering over logs and through branches. Dress for hiking.

**Thursday, August 11**

### **Adventures on the Pigeon Andreae/Banwell Preserves, Cheboygan County**

Splash along the river bank. Stick your toes in the beautiful Pigeon River meandering its way through the adjoining Andreae and Banwell preserves in Cheboygan County. Let's explore it! If tromping through the woods and playing in the river sounds like fun, then this is the program for you. Be sure to dress for getting dirty and wet.

## Little Traverse Conservancy's Burt Lake Area Outdoor Sessions

Designed for Ages 7-12 Tuesdays in July 10-11:30 am

No charge. Registration required by calling Sarah Mayhew at 231.344.1018. For more information on all summer programs, visit [www.landtrust.org](http://www.landtrust.org) or call the LTC office at 231.347.0991.

**Tuesday, July 5**

### **Chaboiganing Nature Preserve, Brutus Buggin' Out!**

They're small. They crawl, fly, and swim, and they live just about anywhere! Equipped with sweep nets, magnifying lenses, and bug jars (provided) we will explore our way through the tall grasses to the gorgeous forest within the Chaboiganing Nature Preserve. Using field guides, we will identify them and learn what makes them so special. All materials are provided, though you are welcome to bring your own!

**Tuesday, July 12**

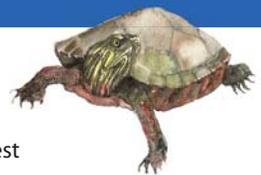
### **Andreae/Banwell Preserves, Cheboygan County Adventures in Nature Photography**

Grab your digital camera for some photo fun! Refine your observation skills and take some cool nature photos to share with family and friends. The goal is to improve your nature photography skills and expand your creativity while providing opportunities to photograph unique and exciting subjects in nature. All abilities and cameras welcome.

**Tuesday, July 19**

### **Seven Springs Nature Preserve, Indian River Creatures in Disguise**

Let's explore some of northern Michigan's greatest hide-and-seekers! Observe animal pelts up close, participate in fun seek-and-find activities that will test your observation skills, and take a hike to look for critters that may be hiding in the nature area. During this program, we'll learn more about how creatures use camouflage to conceal themselves from predators and prey.



**Tuesday, July 26**

### **Andreae/Banwell Preserves, Cheboygan County Adventures on the Pigeon**

Splash along the river bank. Stick your toes in the beautiful Pigeon River as it meanders its way through these Cheboygan County nature preserves. If tromping through the woods and playing in the river sounds like fun, then this is the program for you! Be sure to dress for getting dirty or wet.

Visit Thorne Swift Nature Preserve north of Harbor Springs along Lower Shore Drive for their full summer program brochure. Classes range from Edible and Medicinal Plants to Stone Art. You can also call 231.526.6401 for more info. \$5 parking fee is waived for LTC members and West Traverse Township residents.