

# Mason Mill Naturalist Programs



## December 2019

### Central DeKalb Senior Center: Bird Stroll

**Every Tuesday morning at 8:30; led by David Kuechenmeister**

The public is invited to join a master birder for a two mile walk on the trails of Mason Mill Park to see what birds are active. All levels of birders are welcome. Binoculars and comfortable footwear are recommended. The Bird Stroll will not happen in inclement weather. Meet at the Central DeKalb Senior Center.

### Just Walk

**Every Wednesday morning at 10:00; led by Carolyn Hartfield**

Just Walk is a program of Walk with a Doc in partnership with AARP and is open to everyone. This friendly walk along the South Peachtree Creek Trail (paved and boardwalk) is a great way to build fitness and nature into your weekly routine. The walk is 2 miles, with an option for an additional 2 miles. Wear appropriate footwear and dress for the weather. Water and snacks are provided. Meet at the South Peachtree Creek trailhead near the Mason Mill Tennis Center (McConnell Dr & Mason Mill Rd). Kids and pets are welcome.

### Nature Walk with Ranger Jonah

**Every Thursday morning at 10:00; led by Jonah McDonald**

Come walk with Ranger Jonah and learn about the flora and fauna of the Mason Mill forest. We will walk 1-2 hours for a total of 2 miles on paved paths, boardwalks, and soft-surface trails. Hear from the Park Naturalist about local animal activity and what plants thrive in the forest. Wear appropriate footwear, dress for the weather, and bring a refillable water bottle. Bring hiking stick(s) if you have or need them. Meet at the South Peachtree Creek trailhead near the Mason Mill Tennis Center (McConnell Dr & Mason Mill Rd). All ages are welcome.

## MORE PROGRAMS ON THE REVERSE!

## Trees Atlanta Full Moon Night Walk—PRE-REGISTRATION ONLY

**Thursday, December 12 at 5:30 pm; led by Jonah McDonald, co-sponsored by Trees Atlanta**

Come see the park in the full moon's light! We'll watch the sun set then walk through dusk and into the night, listening to the sounds of nature after dark. Ranger Jonah and a docent from Trees Atlanta will offer facts about the trees of Mason Mill's forest. Can we identify each tree species in the dark? We will walk around 2 miles, so wear appropriate footwear, dress for the weather, and bring a refillable water bottle, a flashlight or head-lamp, and hiking sticks if you need them. Meet at the South Peachtree Creek trailhead near the Mason Mill Tennis Center (McConnell Dr & Mason Mill Rd). All ages welcome. Due to the popularity of this hike, pre-registration is required, with a maximum of 30 participants. You can register starting at noon on November 15th at <https://dec-moon.eventbrite.com>

## Storytelling and S'mores

**Saturday, December 14 at 4:00 pm; led by Jonah McDonald**

On Saturday evening, Ranger Jonah will be building a campfire at the historic barbecue grill (built by the WPA in 1939) near the Old Decatur Waterworks. Come sit around the fire and listen to Ranger Jonah tell folktales from around the world! The stories will be appropriate for all ages and we'll have the opportunity to roast marshmallows over the fire and eat s'mores. Bring the whole family, chairs or a blanket, and maybe a picnic dinner. Wear warm clothes appropriate for the weather. Start at the South Peachtree Creek trailhead near the Mason Mill Tennis Center (McConnell Dr & Mason Mill Rd) and follow signs along the PATH, over the railroad bridge, to the campfire location. All ages are welcome.

## iNaturalist Walk

**Saturday, December 21 at 10:00 am; led by Jonah McDonald**

Have you ever noticed a plant, animal, or fungus in the forest and wished you knew what it was? *There is now an app for that!* iNaturalist is a free app that can turn your smartphone into an almost magical tool for learning about nature. Bring your phone and learn how. Already know iNaturalist? Then this short walk will be a great time to snap some pictures and make some IDs. We'll spend around 1 hour on the PATH trails. Wear appropriate footwear, dress for the weather, and bring a re-



fillable water bottle and insect repellent. Meet at the South Peachtree Creek trailhead near the Mason Mill Tennis Center (McConnell Dr & Mason Mill Rd). All ages welcome.



**Contact the Park Naturalist: [jpmcdonald@dekalbcountyga.gov](mailto:jpmcdonald@dekalbcountyga.gov) or 404-491-3670**

*Another quality program brought to you by the DeKalb County Department of Recreation, Parks and Cultural Affairs*