

Mason Mill Naturalist Programs



February 2020

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!

Nature Storytime with Ranger Jonah & Mrs. Amy

Saturday, February 1 at 10:30 am; led by Jonah McDonald & Amy Witcher

Join us in the library's meeting room for a nature adventure not to be missed! Mrs. Amy will read nature stories and facilitate a pinecone bird-feeder craft. Ranger Jonah will also tell stories while displaying nature show-and-tell items found in Mason Mill Park. Participants are invited to bring their own nature show-and-tell item to share with Ranger Jonah and Mrs. Amy at the end of the program, before we embark on an optional, short walk on the trails to the Mason Mill Park playground. Open to the first 40 participants.

Adventure Series: Super Bowl Hike

Saturday, February 1 at 1:00 pm; led by Jonah McDonald

On the day before the big game, come hike with Ranger Jonah to add some exercise and adventure to your weekend. The first leg of the hike will be kid-friendly and then we'll continue on moderate-to-strenuous hiking trails, exploring some off-the-beaten-path parts of Mason Mill. There will be some steep grades and at least one rock-hop over a creek. Wear appropriate footwear, dress for the weather, and bring a refillable water bottle. Bring hiking stick if you have or need them. Meet at the South Peachtree Creek trailhead near the Mason Mill Tennis Center (McConnell Dr & Mason Mill Rd).

Full Moon Night Walk— PRE-REGISTRATION REQUIRED

Sunday, February 9 at 6:30 pm; led by Jonah McDonald

Come see the park in the full moon's light! We'll walk through dusk and into the night, listening to the sounds of nature after dark, watching for moonrise around 7:00 pm. The park closes at dusk, so this is a great opportunity to hike with Ranger Jonah at night. We will walk 2-3 miles, so wear appropriate footwear, dress for the weather, and bring a refillable water bottle, a flashlight or headlamp, 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 popularity, pre-registration is required, with a max of 30 hikers. Register starting Jan 15: <https://feb-moon-2020.eventbrite.com>

Audubon Winter Birding Walk

Saturday, February 22 at 8:00 am; led by Jamie Vidich, Gus Kaufman, and Jonah McDonald

Join two Audubon master birders and Ranger Jonah for a morning of winter birding. We will look for seasonal migrants and resident species. Mason Mill straddles South Fork Peachtree Creek and provides good habitat for shrubland birds, wetland, and woodland species along the trails. We'll be birding for three hours with about two to three miles of walking. Wear appropriate footwear and dress for the weather. Bring your binoculars and a refillable water bottle. Meet at the South Peachtree Creek trailhead near the Mason Mill Tennis Center (McConnell Dr & Mason Mill Rd).

iNaturalist Walk

Saturday, February 22 at 11:00 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 refillable water bottle. 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 or 404-491-3670