

# Mason Mill Naturalist Programs



## January 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!

## Stories and S'mores with Ranger Jonah & Mrs. Amy

**Wednesday, January 8 at 5:00 pm; led by Jonah McDonald & Amy Witcher**

Join Park Ranger Jonah McDonald and your Youth Services Librarian Mrs. Amy at Mason Mill Park as we gather near a campfire, listen to stories appropriate for all ages, and make tasty s'mores. Bring the whole family, chairs or a blanket, and maybe even a picnic dinner. We will meet at the historic barbecue grill near the Old Decatur Waterworks. Start at the South Peachtree Creek trailhead near the Mason Mill Tennis Center (McConnell Dr. & Mason Mill Rd.) and follow the signs along the PATH, over the railroad bridge, to the campfire location about ½ mile from the parking lot. Funding provided by the Friends of the Toco Hill-Avis G. Williams library.

## "First Day Hike" for the New Year

**Saturday, January 11 at 10:00 am; led by Jonah McDonald**

Resolved to spend more time in nature this year? Come do your first hike of 2020 with Ranger Jonah at Mason Mill Park. To help ring in the new year, parks across the country have been hosting programs called "First Day Hikes" for almost 30 years. This moderate 2-hour hike will cover between 2 and 3 miles on PATH and soft-surface hiking trails. Whether you are a beginner or a seasoned hiker, this program will provide exercise and connection with nature and will take you to parts of Mason Mill Park you may not have seen. Dress for the weather, bring a refillable water bottle, and hiking sticks if you have/need them. All ages are welcome. Meet at the S. Peachtree Creek trailhead near the Mason Mill Tennis Center (McConnell Dr & Mason Mill Rd).

## Volunteer Day

**Sunday, January 12 at 1:00 pm; led by Jonah McDonald**

Want to make our park more welcoming to all? Come assist Ranger Jonah with trail maintenance and invasive plant removal. Georgia Master Gardeners will also be hosting a gardening project, if weeding and mulching is more your speed. Come beautify Mason Mill and restore the forest! Wear long pants and appropriate footwear, dress for the weather, and bring a refillable water bottle. Bring work gloves and a snack; tools and water will be provided. Stay for as long as you are able, meet your neighbors, and help make our forest even more amazing. Meet at the South Peachtree Creek trailhead near the Mason Mill Tennis Center (McConnell Dr & Mason Mill Rd). All ages are invited.

## Herbalist Walk on Chinese New Year

**Saturday, January 25 at 1:00 pm; led by Leslie Williams and Jonah McDonald**

You are invited on a special nature walk on Chinese New Year, led by Atlanta herbalist Leslie Williams. We'll walk through the forest focused on the plants of late-winter and Leslie will introduce us to their medicinal uses. Come see Mason Mill through the eyes of an herbalist. This is a great way to celebrate the New Year, connect with nature, and learn valuable information. This moderate walk will last around 2 hours and cover 2-3 miles on PATH and soft-surface hiking trails. Dress for the weather, bring a refillable water bottle, and hiking sticks if you have/need them. All ages are welcome. Meet at the S. Peachtree Creek trailhead near the Mason Mill Tennis Center (McConnell Dr & Mason Mill Rd).



**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*