



# Summer Programs 2024



1900 Davidson Street  
Nashville, TN 37206  
(615) 862-8539

shelbybottoms@nashville.gov  
sbnc.nashville.gov

## Things to look for this season:



**Wildflowers:** In June, you can see Milkweed (pink) blooming by the Nature Center. Our iconic Tickseed Sunflower (yellow) typically blooms by the Observation Deck in early August, which also brings tall Ironweed (purple) and Boneset (white).

**Shelby Bottoms Nature Center**  
Tues/Thurs/Sat: 9 am - 4 pm  
Wed/Fri: 12 - 4 pm

**Shelby Bottoms Greenway and Trails**  
Dawn to dusk, 365 days a year!

## On Repeat

Contact the Nature Center for ADA accommodations 

### Afternoon Tea



**1st Friday** of the month  
2 - 3 pm  
All Ages  
No Registration Required

Come close out the week and enjoy the summer sights with a selection of iced teas from High Garden Tea, featuring the Shelby Bottoms Blend!  
Leader: SBNC Staff



### Early Bird Coffee Social

**1st Saturday** of the month  
9 am - 12 pm  
All Ages  
No Registration Required

Enjoy Shelby Bottoms with a hot cup of our "For the Birds" Bird Friendly® certified coffee. Stay and learn about the connection between bird habitat, coffee, and native wildflowers, or take a cup to go into the park.  
Leader: SBNC Staff



### Ask a Master Gardener



**1st Saturday** of the month  
10 am - 12 pm  
All Ages  
No Registration Required

Drop in with your questions and curiosity! Members from the University of Tennessee Extension, Master Gardeners of Davidson County will be available to share their knowledge.  
Leader: Master Gardeners of Davidson County

### Early Morning Bird Hike

**2nd Saturday** of the month  
8 - 9:30 am  
Ages 15+  
Registration Required

Join us on a guided bird hike on the Greenway and trails around the Nature Center. Binoculars are available to borrow, and all levels of experience are welcome.  
Leader: Lena Friedman

### Nature Story & Song



**1st Wednesday** of the month  
10 am  
No Registration Required

Join us as we read nature-themed books and share a few songs in between. All ages welcome!  
Leader: SBNC Staff & Volunteers

To register, email us at [shelbybottoms@nashville.gov](mailto:shelbybottoms@nashville.gov) or call (615) 862-8539

# June

## Celebrate TN Open House



Saturday, June 1  
12 - 2 pm  
All Ages  
No Registration Required

Over 200 years ago Tennessee became the 16th state. In honor of this great state that many of us call home, we will have some fun informal activities around the building. There will also be an opportunity to take part in some light volunteer service projects during this time.  
Leader: Christie Wiser & SBNC Staff

## Mushrooms, Y'all



Friday, June 7  
10 - 11 am  
All Ages  
Registration Required

Our wetlands and riparian areas produce a lot of interesting mycelium! Come learn how to identify mushrooms and what to look for on our mushroom exploration - it will be a fun-gi time (puns included)!  
Leader: Hazel Miller

## All About Bird Nests



Friday, June 7  
3 - 4 pm  
All Ages  
Registration Required

Do you hear the baby birds begging for food? Come learn all about the different kinds of bird families we see in Nashville, how they live (and why it matters!), and practice helping save wild birds. You'll even get to practice building nests.  
Leader: Devon Blackburn ([Lillie Birds Wildlife Rehabilitation](#)), Debbie Sykes ([Nashville Wildlife Conservation Center](#)), & Volunteers

## Tomatoes & Cicadas

Saturday, June 8  
1 - 2 pm  
All Ages  
Registration Required

Discover more about cool symbiotic connections in nature! We may even have tomato seeds or plants for give-aways.

Leader: Christie Wiser



## Back Porch Jam

Saturday, June 8  
1 - 3 pm  
All Ages  
No Registration Required

Bring an instrument and join us for some good old-fashioned back porch pickin'. All are welcome, including listeners, players, and singers. Share your favorite country, blues, bluegrass, old time, or any other tunes and songs with a friendly crew.  
Leader: Volunteer Amanda Healan

## Summertime Evening Stroll



Tuesday, June 11  
5 - 6 pm  
All Ages  
Registration Required

Come take a midsummer evening stroll with us around the one-mile Greenway loop and learn about the park and some of the ecosystems in it.

Leader: Isaiah Francescon

## Blackberry Sunset Pick & Stroll

Thursday, June 13  
7 - 8 pm  
All Ages  
Registration Required

Join us for a short stroll to harvest a modest amount of wild blackberries. We will learn ways to pick responsibly and safely. To make it even sweeter, we will also sample some blackberry lemonade!  
Leader: Christie Wiser

## Celebrate Nashville Wildlife



Saturday, June 15  
10:30 am - 12 pm  
All Ages  
No Registration Required

June is one of the busiest months of the year for wildlife. Come meet local wild animal ambassadors, learn what their species is up to, and how you can help them!

Leader: [Nashville Wildlife Conservation Center](#)

## Relaxing Sound Bath

Saturday, June 15  
2 - 3 pm  
Ages 13+

Interested in a relaxing and restorative sound experience? Join certified sound healing facilitator and professional upright bass player John Paul for a vibey sound bath in the nature classroom featuring crystal singing bowls, upright bass, chimes, ukulele and more. Donations appreciated.

Leader: Volunteer John Paul

To register, visit <https://rebrand.ly/SBNCsound>

## Summer Moon Hike





Friday, June 21  
8 - 9 pm  
All Ages  
Registration Required

With hopes for a nice clear sky that allows us to marvel at the moon, we will take a hike around the park to explore by moonlight (no flashlights, please!).




Leader: Christie Wiser

**The Nature Center will be CLOSED 6/19 for Juneteenth**




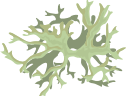


To register, email us at [shelbybottoms@nashville.gov](mailto:shelbybottoms@nashville.gov) or call (615) 862-8539

<b>Using Nature to Control Pests with Ivan Chester</b>	Saturday, June 22 10 - 11:30 am Ages 18+ Registration Required	Mosquitos, moles, and garden pests can be controlled without chemicals, poisons, or lots of money! Find out how to implement natural pest control measures and why using them over synthetic or branded "natural" poisons is so important for the health of ourselves and our ecosystem. Leader: Ivan Chester ( <a href="#">Habitat Landscapes</a> )
<b>Ecology Board Game Café</b>	Saturday, June 22 1 - 3:30 pm Ages 6+ No Registration Required	Come sip some coffee or iced tea and enjoy our pop-up ecology-themed board game café. Play a game we own or bring one of your own; come with friends or make some new ones over a game! Snacks, drinks, and board game instruction provided.  Leader: Lena Friedman & Hazel Miller
<b>Biodiversity in the Garden with Joy Boven</b>	Tuesday, June 25 6:30 - 7:30 pm Ages 18+ Registration Required	Joy discusses the different components of biodiversity in our outdoor spaces and how each component has a role and a function. Understanding the big picture helps us as homeowners better steward our land to support the wildlife that lives all around us. Leader: Joy Boven ( <a href="#">Wonder Gift and Garden</a> )
<b>Rings of Life</b> 	Wednesday, June 26 3 - 4 pm All Ages No Registration	Come learn about Dendrology: the study of trees, how trees get rings, and what they can tell us about our past.  Leader: Isaiah Francescon
<b>Meadows and Prairies Inspection Hike</b>	Thursday, June 27 9 - 10 am Ages 4+ Registration Required	Join us to check the status of a few areas we are transitioning into wet meadows and prairies. In the field, we will discuss our methodology, progress, and look for emerging native flora and local fauna. With community support, we hope to use this habitat enhancement as a model for similar projects throughout Metro Nashville Parks. Leader: John Michael Cassidy
<b>Jr. Naturalist: Beginning Birds</b> 	Saturday, June 29 9:30 - 11:30 am Ages 6+ Registration Required	Who's singing in the bushes? What was that bright flash of color? We'll learn how to use binoculars, practice some basic ID, and go for a short bird hike together.  Leader: Lena Friedman 

## July

<b>The Nature Center will be CLOSED 7/4 for Independence Day</b>		
<b>Shelby Bottoms Close Encounters</b> 	Tuesday, July 2 8 - 9 pm Ages 10+ Registration Required	Let's celebrate World UFO Day! What's in the sky over Shelby Bottoms? Join us for a special night hike at Cornelia Fort Airpark trailhead in Shelby Bottoms as we talk about local UFO sightings and what's flying around in the dark.  Leader: Lena Friedman & Hazel Miller
<b>Afternoon Ice Cream</b>	Friday, July 5 2 - 3 pm All Ages Registration Required	Our regular first Friday Afternoon Tea is getting a sweet add-on! After reserving your scoop, drop in anytime this hour to enjoy the Nature Center and learn about what fantastics things are happening this summer. Leader: Christie Wisner
<b>July Jelly Jam-berry</b> 	Saturday, July 6 9:30 am - 12 pm All Ages Registration Required	Blackberries grow wild in the park, and we're hoping for a bountiful harvest! Join us and the Nature Explorers to learn all about ethical harvesting and foraging. We'll pick and walk, and learn about making jellies, jams, and teas. Bring your own blackberry recipe to share in our Jelly Jam-berry mini cookbook! Leader: Leslie and Judy ( <a href="#">Nashville Nature Explorers</a> ) & Hazel Miller
<b>Pollinator Hike</b> 	Thursday, July 11 1 - 2 pm All Ages Registration Required	Come learn about pollinators and the plants they help. We will be taking a hot stroll through the meadow to spot and ID pollintors as well as the native flowers that they are helping. Leader: Isaiah Francescon

To register, email us at [shelbybottoms@nashville.gov](mailto:shelbybottoms@nashville.gov) or call (615) 862-8539

 <p><b>Firefly Friday</b></p>	<p>Friday, July 12 2 - 3 pm All Ages Registration Required</p>	<p>Flitter on in for a magical firefly-themed craft and story-station area to celebrate one of summer's most iconic insects!</p> <p>Leader: SBNC Seasonal Staff</p>
<p><b>SBNC Movie Night</b></p>	<p>Friday, July 12 7 pm All Ages Registration Required</p>	<p>Celebrate these beautiful summer evenings by relaxing with us outside for movie night. Check our social media leading up to this program to find out the feature film. Bring your own blankets! Snacks will be provided.</p> <p>Leader: SBNC Staff</p>
 <p><b>Makerspace: Biomimicry</b></p>	<p>Saturday, July 13 1 - 3 pm Ages 6+ No Registration Required</p>	<p>Many amazing innovations have been modeled after animals and nature in a process called biomimicry. Stop by anytime between 1 and 3 pm to take on some engineering challenges, create some nature-inspired inventions of your own, and test them out in our pop-up makerspace.</p> <p>Leader: Lena Friedman</p>
 <p><b>Summer Star Party at CFA Trailhead</b></p>	<p>Saturday, July 13 9 - 11 pm All Ages No Registration Required</p>	<p>Members of the <u>Barnard-Seyfert Astronomical Society</u> will set up telescopes and everyone is invited to enjoy the views of the night sky at Cornelia Fort Airpark Trailhead in Shelby Bottoms. Family/kid friendly. You don't need to be a member or own a telescope, just come out and enjoy the night sky.</p> <p>Leader: Astronomers of <u>BSAS</u> &amp; SBNC Staff</p>
<p><b>Cornelia Fort Trailhead Hike</b></p>	<p>Wednesday, July 17 10 am - 12 pm All Ages Registration Required</p>	<p>Come take a hike through the northern end of the park, starting from Cornelia Fort Airpark trailhead in Shelby Bottoms. If the blackberries are in season we will get to pick some while on the hike.</p> <p>Leader: Isaiah Francescon</p>
 <p><b>Summer Lichens</b></p>	<p>Thursday, July 18 10 - 11 am All Ages Registration Required</p>	<p>Lichens grow in all manner of ways in any seasons! Come take a lichen walk and learn about these interesting organisms as we slow down and take a closer look at the world around us.</p> <p>Leader: Hazel Miller</p>
<p><b>Craft Night: Bottle Terrarium</b></p>	<p>Friday, July 19 6:30 - 8 pm Ages 13+ Registration Required</p>	<p>Join us for this season's craft night! We will be making mini terrariums out of recycled materials. No experience required, and materials will be provided. We'll learn about these little sealed ecosystems while we make our own to take home.</p> <p>Leader: Lena Friedman &amp; Hazel Miller</p>
<p><b>Jr. Naturalist: Orienteering</b></p>	<p>Saturday, July 20 9:30 - 11 am Ages 8+ Registration Required</p>	<p>A compass is an important tool for an outdoor scientist or explorer to navigate and create maps. Learn how to read a compass and then use it on a treasure hunt around the Nature Center!</p> <p>Leader: Lena Friedman</p>
<p><b>Moonset Morning Hike</b></p>	<p>Tuesday, July 23 8 - 9 am All Ages Registration Required</p>	<p>This is NOT our average moon hike, as we will be making it an early morning adventure on the trail to seek out stirring wildlife. If a clear sky allows we will see the moon setting during the morning sun!</p> <p>Leader: Christie Wiser</p> 
<p><b>Planting for Pollinators with Joy Boven</b></p>	<p>Tuesday, July 23 6:30 - 7:30 pm Ages 18+ Registration Required</p>	<p>Pollinators preserve and perpetuate biological diversity. They have an important role in the food we eat, but also in the future of plant communities and the biological diversity of our natural world. Joy will focus on a diverse selection of blooms that will bring all the pollinators to your yard and ensure that they get the nutrients they need!</p> <p>Leader: Joy Boven (<u>Wonder Gift and Garden</u>)</p>
 <p><b>Nature Bike Ride</b></p>	<p>Wednesday, July 24 6:45 pm - Dark Ages 4+ Registration Required</p>	<p>Starting from Cornelia Fort Airpark trailhead, we'll take a slow ride to learn about local wildlife and habitats on the north end of Shelby Bottoms Greenway &amp; Nature Park.</p> <p>Leader: John Michael Cassidy</p>

**To register, email us at [shelbybottoms@nashville.gov](mailto:shelbybottoms@nashville.gov) or call (615) 862-8539**



**Relaxing  
Sound Bath**

Saturday, July 27  
2 - 3 pm  
Ages 13+

Interested in a relaxing and restorative sound experience? Join certified sound healing facilitator and professional upright bass player John Paul for a vibey sound bath in the nature classroom featuring crystal singing bowls, upright bass, chimes, ukulele and more. Donations appreciated.  
Leader: Volunteer John Paul

To register, visit <https://rebrand.ly/SBNCsound>

**August**

**Afternoon  
Ice Cream**

Friday, August 2  
2 - 3 pm  
All Ages  
Registration Required

Our regular first Friday Afternoon Tea is getting a sweet add-on! After reserving your scoop, drop in anytime this hour to enjoy the Nature Center and learn about what fantastics things are happening this summer.  
Leader: Christie Wiser

**Summer  
Pickin' Party**

Saturday, August 3  
1 - 3 pm  
All Ages  
No Registration Required

All levels are welcome at our popular pickin' parties. Bring your voice, acoustic instrument, a song to share, or just come to listen. We'll be out on the back porch if it's not too hot - otherwise follow the music to the classroom.  
Leader: Volunteer Amanda Healan

**Book Club with the  
Master Gardeners of  
Davidson County**

Saturday, August 10  
2:30 - 3:30 pm  
Ages 16+  
Registration Required

All are welcome to join our book club co-hosted by the Master Gardeners! We meet once a season and read ecological or environmental books. This is a great way to meet with like-minded readers and learn all about the Master Gardener program, too! This spring's choice is Soil: The Story of a Black Mother's Garden by Camille T. Dungy.  
Leader: Master Gardeners of Davidson County & Hazel Miller

**Eco-Printing with  
Native Plants**



Saturday, August 17  
9 - 11 am  
Ages 16+  
Registration Required

The natural world is full of color! Join Rachel Schroeder as she shares her knowledge of natural dyes and eco-printing. We will create works of art using two different techniques. Participants can bring natural fiber items to dye or use some simple items provided for the program. No experience required.  
Leader: Volunteer Rachel Schroeder & SBNC Staff

**Moonwalk with  
the Naturalists**

Tuesday, August 20  
9 - 10 pm  
All Ages  
Registration Required

Join us for a moonlit hike around the park. If we get a nice clear sky we will get to marvel at the moon as well (no flashlights, please!).  
Leader: Christie Wiser & SBNC Staff

**Nature Poetry**



Friday, August 23  
6 - 7:30 pm  
Ages 14+  
Registration Required

Nature occurs often in poetry. Join us for a slow meander around the grounds as we learn about different authors and types of poems that all feature nature as a central theme. We will maybe even take a crack at writing some of our own under the shaded canopy of our wetlands!  
Leader: Hazel Miller

**Jr. Naturalist:  
The Buzz About  
Pollinators**

Saturday, August 24  
9:30 - 11 am  
Ages 6+  
Registration Required

All sorts of pollinators are buzzing, fluttering, and zipping around the park visiting the flowers. What are pollinators, what do they do, and how can we help them? Come explore and find out!  
Leader: Lena Friedman

**Relaxing  
Sound Bath**

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2 - 3 pm  
Ages 13+

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**CORNELIA AIRPARK CONCERTS**



BENEFITING FRIENDS OF SHELBY PARK AND BOTTOMS

Held @ Cornelia Fort Airpark  
Trailhead in Shelby Bottoms

Visit [corneliaairparkconcerts.com](http://corneliaairparkconcerts.com)  
for more information