

**Activities by Area Organizations
For the
Mohican Wildlife Weekend April 23-25, 2010**

Malabar Farm State Park:

Saturday:

1. **Richland County Master Gardeners.** 10am-4pm. Visit the “hands on” insect display. Learn about Ohio’s “helpful” or “harmful” insects. Kids will also be given seed packets for planting their very own butterfly garden. Collect a free sticker for children. Master Gardeners will be on hand to answer gardening questions. Located in the Main Barn.
2. **Recycled Nature Crafts for the Family.** 11am-4pm. You can work at your own pace to create nature crafts out of items that you would normally throw away. Materials will be provided to complete at least 3 nature crafts. Program by the Richland County Regional Solid Waste Management Authority. Main Barn.
3. **Tours of the “Big House”** 12pm, 2pm, 4pm. Noted author and conservationist Louis Bromfield’s historical Federal Reserve style home open for guided public tours. The 32 room home has all of the original furnishings and was the site of the famous Hollywood wedding of Bogart and Bacall on May 21, 1945. Tickets available at the Visitor Center.
4. **Bee Basics** 1pm-2pm. Come see live bees and learn about these VIP (Very Important Pollinators) insects. This is for anyone interested in starting their own hives or learning the basics. Presented by the Richland County Beekeepers. Meet at Visitor Center inside at the bee exhibit.
5. **Farm Wildlife Tours** 1 & 3pm. Tractor drawn wagon tours provide a wealth of history about the farm and provide an opportunity to see farm animals and wildlife. \$2.00/person Purchase tickets in Gift Shop at the Malabar Farm Visitor Center.
6. **Barn Dance** 7-10pm. Join us for a fun family evening of square dancing. Experienced and beginner dancers welcomed. Featuring the **Backporch Swing Band.** **Sponsored by Mohican State Park Resort.** Food and refreshments will be available for sale by the **Ohio Bird Sanctuary.** Main Barn.
7. **Solar and Star Party.** Stop by and take a peak of the sun with the solar telescope during the day at the Visitor Center. Then at 7pm come and view the night sky with local astronomers as they turn their telescopes to view planets such as Saturn and Jupiter as well as Orion Nebula and the moon. Weather permitting. Meet at the picnic area.

Sunday:

1. **Special Appearance** by Kristin Stanford, the Island Snake Lady. 10am
2. **Tours of the Big House:** 12pm, 2pm, 4pm on the hour. *Fee applies*
3. **Richland County Master Gardeners;** 12pm-3pm. Visit the “hands on” insect display. Learn about Ohio’s “helpful” or “harmful” insects. Main barn.
4. **Farm Wildlife Tours** 1 & 3pm. \$2/person. Purchase tickets in Gift Shop at the Malabar Farm Visitor Center.

Mohican State Park:

Saturday:

1. **Guide Series Fly-fishing Equipment Workshop** 10am-12pm. Presented by Gander Mountain. Meet at the Covered Bridge parking lot.
2. **Fly-fishing and Fly-tying Demonstration** 10am-4pm. Presented by Mohican Fly Fishing Club. Meet at the Covered Bridge river access.
3. **Self-guided Nature Walk and Period Costumes** 10am-4pm. At Wolf Creek/Pine Run Grist Mill. On going guided tours of the operating gristmill with interpreters present in period costumes. Early 1800s encampment. State Route 3 south of St. Rt. 97. \$1 admission for all visitors over age 10.

4. **All Dressed up for Insects** 11am-1pm. Stop by the Nature Center to meet a cockroach and an insect that “prays”. Also enjoy a game of Nature BINGO, visit the Bug Trap, or make a bug vacuum. Nature games and activities. Meet at Mohican Nature Center located in the campground.
5. **River Walk** 1pm-2pm. Join our Naturalist for an adventure along the scenic Clearfork River in search of aquatic creatures. Meet at Mohican Nature Center located in campground.
6. **Insect Edibles** 4pm-5pm. Yes, it’s true; insects are full of vitamins and protein. Join our Naturalist on a brief history of edible insects and why insects are becoming more popular on menus today. Free samples and yummy recipes. Meet in the lobby of Mohican State Park Lodge.
7. **Bat Program 7pm. Weather permitting.** Program led by Merrill Tawse. Biologists will have mist nets in place to capture bats for banding and release. Flashlights would be helpful. Meet at the Mohican Covered Bridge.
8. **Bird of Prey Show** 8pm. Gather in the lobby of the Mohican Resort to learn about Ohio’s flighted predators. Marvel at the speed of falcons, the stealth of owls, and the accuracy of hawks.

Sunday:

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2. **Insect Edibles** 10am-11am. Yes, it’s true; insects are full of vitamins and protein. Join our Naturalist on a brief history of edible insects and why insects are becoming more popular on menus today. Free samples and yummy recipes. Meet in the lobby of Mohican State Park Lodge.
3. **Bug Eyes!** 12pm-1pm. Learn the importance of eye position on insects and other animals. How does a fly see? We’ll demonstrate and have fun, too.
4. **Insect Hunt** 1pm-2pm. Join our Naturalist in searching and identifying some amazing insects that make up the largest group of animals in the world. Meet at Nature Center located in campground.
5. **All Dressed up for Insects** 2pm-4pm. Stop by the Nature Center to meet a cockroach and an insect that “prays”. Also enjoy a game of Nature BINGO, visit the Bug Trap, or make a bug vacuum. Nature games and activities. Meet at Mohican Nature Center located in the campground.

Gorman Nature Center:

Saturday:

1. **Lake Erie Watersnakes** 10am. “A Slithering Success” An interactive snake program by Kristin Stanford, Lake Erie Watersnake Recovery Plan Coordinator aka the Island Snake Lady.
2. **Pokin’ in the Pond** 12pm. Program led by Merrill Tawse. Come explore the Gorman Nature Center ponds for aquatic insects and learn about their importance in the environment.
3. **Hands on Animals** 2pm. Program led by GNC Volunteers & Staff. Enjoy getting up close and personal with a variety of the Gorman Nature Center’s native, resident animals.

Sunday:

1. **Wildflower Walk** 8am. With Steve McKee of Gorman Nature Center.
2. **Amphibian Amble** 10am. With Chad Byrnes of Gorman Nature Center.
3. **Giants, Tigers, and Bears, oh my!** 12pm. Beyond the garden variety butterfly garden with Cheryl Harner, President of Greater Mohican Audubon Society. Milkweed is

- essential to Monarchs, but what plants do we need for other butterfly species? Venture beyond your garden gate to visit the native plants of Giants, Tigers, and Bears. A colorful power-point adventure program.
4. **Butterfly Crafts and Games for the Family 2pm.** With Joann Mudra & Janet Ellsworth. Join the Environmental Educators to create Monarch Butterfly crafts, experience Monarch migration, and receive a packet of milkweed seeds and information on creating your own Monarch bed and breakfast.

Ohio Bird Sanctuary:

Friday

1. **Welcome Reception and Meet Our Wildlife Ambassadors 6 – 7pm.** Be sure to sign up for our mailing list. **Raffle** held for many donated items.
2. **Keynote Speaker: Kristin Stanford, the Island Snake Lady as seen on “Dirty Jobs”.** 7 – 8pm.
3. **Owl Calling 8:30pm.** Join the OBS staff to call in owls native to the Clearfork Marsh. Enjoy the opportunity to listen to the sounds of spring and hopefully see a few owls up close. Dress for the weather.

Saturday: Lunch & Snacks available throughout the day

1. **Birding Boat Tours 8:30am, 10am, 11:30am, 1pm and 2:30pm.** Enjoy a guided pontoon boat ride on the Clearfork Reservoir. Your pilot will glide along the coastline looking for waterfowl and nesting eagles. Tickets are \$5 each and may be purchased in advance at the Ohio Bird Sanctuary. Seating is limited.
2. **Keeper Talks 10am-3pm on the hour.** Bird care staff or a student intern will present a short program on an individual bird each hour. Learn about the species natural history, hear the bird’s individual story, and have the opportunity to get your picture taken with the bird.

Sunday: Lunch & Snacks available throughout the day

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2. **Children’s Activities 10am-4pm.** A variety of nature crafts and activities will be available. Some of the crafts require a nominal material fee.
3. **Photography 10am-4pm.** Capture the true essence of birds of prey in their natural environment. The Sanctuary education raptors will be out on the trail system perched in natural settings. This is a rare photographic opportunity!
4. **Praying Mantis 2pm.** The gardener’s friend. Enter the amazing world of this tiny predator and learn about their engaging behaviors.

Mohican Outdoor School:

Saturday:

1. **Hemlock Falls Hike 12pm.** Meet at Hemlock Falls Center.
2. **Creature & Discovery Hike 1pm.** Meet at the Environmental Learning Center.
3. **Water Critter Exploration 2pm.** Meet at the Environmental Learning Center.
4. **Butterfly Journey 3pm.** Become a butterfly as you participate in their life cycle. Meet at the Environmental Learning Center.
5. **Hemlock Falls Hike 3pm.** Meet at Hemlock Falls Center.
6. **BBQ 12pm-4pm** Arrive hungry at the Mohican Outdoor School’s great barbecue in Groveport River Lodge. Enjoy hamburgers, hotdogs, and brats. (additional cost)

Cooke Family Wildlife Conservation Area:

Saturday:

1. **Activities 10am-4pm.** Ashland County Park District volunteers will be on hand. Tim Leslie will lead a birdwalk at 10am and a nature hike at 1pm. The following activities are ongoing: fishing at the pond (weather permitting; bring your pole!), nature mystery hikes, nature crafts and hands-on activities, Native American crafts and skills, Geology, animal pelts to touch, live bunnies and maple syrup for sale. Plus there will be a special appearance by Kristin Stanford, the Island Snake Lady, in the afternoon! Lunch and snacks will be available for purchase.