October 2018

- **Tiny Trekkers “Leaf Man” from 10:00-11:00 a.m. Saturday, October 6th.** Follow along with LEC volunteers as we read a book about autumn leaves that are blown by the wind over fields, past orchards and across lakes and rivers. Then take a short hike (weather permitting) and create a take home craft. This program is recommended for children ages 2-5.

- **“Let’s Hit the Trails” Hike from 2:00-3:00 p.m. Saturday, October 6th.** Fall is in the air! Let’s take this opportunity to enjoy nature and the great outdoors! Lace up your hiking shoes and join LEC staff as we explore the different plant and animal species that call scrub habitat their home. Participants should dress appropriately for the weather, bring water and be prepared to hike on unpaved, sugar sand trails.

- **Fall Décor on a Budget from 2:00-3:30 p.m. Sunday, October 7th.** Want to bring that feeling of fall into your home or office, but don’t want to spend a lot of money? LEC staff will teach you several methods to make paper flowers and create a beautiful take home fall floral arrangement in this upcycled craft project. This is a free program but space and materials are limited and pre-registration is required.
• **Bat Box Workshop from 10:00-11:30 p.m. Saturday, October 13th.** Besides being the only mammal that flies, most North American bats are nocturnal insectivores, which means they feed on night-flying insects; especially mosquitoes. In fact, a small bat can devour more than 500 mosquitoes in a single hour. They also eat beetles, wasps, and moths. So encouraging bats to nest near your house with a bat box you construct, is a natural way to repel harmful insects in your yard. Give these mosquito-eating creatures a place to roost in time for trick-or-treat season, build a bat box and reap the benefits year-round. Space is limited to 10 participants and preregistration is required. The fee for this program is $25 per bat box and is a fundraiser for *The Friends of Lyonia Environmental Center.*

• **“Making Sense of Nature” Hike from 2:00-3:00 p.m. Saturday, October 13th.** Let’s engage our senses as we explore through listening, smelling, touching and just enjoying being outdoors. We’ll “see” what nature has to offer! Participants should dress appropriately for the weather, bring water and be prepared to hike on unpaved, sugar sand trails.

• **“Fall in the Scrub” Hike from 2:00-3:30 p.m. Sunday, October 14th.** Enjoy some fresh air as we explore Lyonia Preserve on a guided hike. We’ll be looking for the beautiful Florida scrub jay and learn how they prepare for the winter months. Participants should dress appropriately for the weather, bring water and be prepared to hike approximately two miles on unpaved, sugar sand trails.
• **Critter Corner 11:00-11:30 p.m. Thursday, October 18th.** Have you ever wondered why snakes shed their skin, or wanted to know the difference between alligators and crocodiles? Join one of the LEC’s experienced Animal Care volunteers to learn the answers to these questions. This program is recommended for all ages and we encourage participants to ask questions, explore and have fun!

• **Brunch and Learn from 9:30-11:30 am Saturday, October 20th.** Learn about the importance of scrub habitat as we take a stroll through Lyonia Preserve, keeping an eye out for scrub jays, gopher tortoises and other wildlife. Afterwards, we will meet and learn about a native animal while enjoying the brunch provided by The Friends of Lyonia Environmental Center. Please wear closed toe shoes and be prepared for the weather.

• **“Everybody Eats” from 2:30-3:30 p.m. Saturday, October 20th.** Come learn about the eating habits of our resident animal ambassadors at the LEC. We will discuss the techniques they use to eat, who or what they eat, and how they avoid being eaten! This will be followed by a live feeding demonstration of some of our resident animals by trained staff.

• **Popcorn and a Movie-“Nature’s Miniature Miracles” from 3:00-4:00 p.m. Sunday, October 21st.** Great things come in small packages and animals are no exception to the rule. We will travel across the world in this film, through savannahs to rocky plateaus and down to the depths of the seas to shine a light on these tiny survivors of the animal kingdom. Popcorn is provided free of charge. Drinks, candy & snacks are offered for purchase.
• “Jay Walking” from 9:30-11:00 a.m. Saturday, October 27th. This program spotlights our threatened Florida scrub jay. We will start by learning their vocalizations and interesting facts about their lifestyle. Then we’ll take a stroll into the preserve immersing ourselves in their habitat, keeping our eyes and ears open in hopes of spotting a scrub jay. Binoculars and cameras are suggested. Closed toe shoes are required and participants should dress appropriately for the weather.

• Going Green for Halloween from 2:00-3:30 p.m. Saturday, October 27th. Are you gearing up for ghouls and goblins? To get you in the spirit, we’ll share some of our favorite activities and ideas for making the haunted holiday fun for you and good for the planet. Yes, you can be spooky and sustainable! LEC staff and volunteers will guide participants in creating some recycled “eekk-o-friendly” themed crafts and take part in some extra green Halloween-themed fun.

• Vampires of the Insect World from 3:00-4:00 p.m. Sunday, October 28th. It’s almost Halloween, which means it’s almost the time of year for monsters such as werewolves, mummies and vampires to make an appearance! While we don’t have to worry about real life monsters such as these, vampires do exist in the insect world. Join LEC staff to learn some interesting tales about these blood-sucking insects and ways to protect yourself.
Guided Scrub Strolls at 9 am every Monday & Friday in October. LEC staff will lead these guided hikes in Lyonia Preserve. Strolls will be offered every Monday & Friday from 9:00 am –10:00 am. It is strongly suggested that participants wear closed toed shoes, bring water, and be prepared to hike on unpaved sugar sand trails.

Registration is required and can be done by calling (386) 789-7207 ext. # 21028. Please arrive 10 minutes before the program to sign in.

We are able to provide many of our programs free of charge thanks to the generous support of The Friends of Lyonia Environmental Center. To continue this support of our education programs, your donations are always appreciated. To learn more about the friends group and to donate please visit http://www.lecfriends.com