



Eco-Events November 2026

The Natural Resources Department's Calendar of Events

Wednesday, Nov 4th, 5:30 PM – 7:00 PM – SOAR IN 4 FAMILY NIGHT – Soar in 4 occurs the first Wednesday of each month in downtown Bradenton. Families visit demonstration tables facilitated by Manatee County teachers, non-profit organizations, and volunteers to learn how to use various materials to support the 'spotlight book,' as well as incorporate take-home items to continue to play, create, learn, and explore at home together. These monthly events provide families with the resources and information to become their child's best 'first teacher' at home. All activities are aligned to classroom learning. Program suitable for children and their families. *Program sponsored by Soar in 4 in partnership with Manatee County.* No reservations required. For more information please visit www.soarin4.org. **The Bishop Museum**

Thursday, Nov 5th, 10:00 AM – 12:00 PM – GREEN EXPLORERS: TREE TOP TREASURE HUNT – Do you wonder what is hiding high up in the canopy? Using binoculars, let your little explorer discover the plants and animals that hide in the treetops. Using hands-on exploration and the participants' own creativity, attendees will have a chance to play in nature. Green Explorers is a low structure, highly social, and experience-based activity. Program suitable for all ages, recommended for ages 5- 12. Reservations are required. To register please visit <https://events.humanitix.com/green-explorers-tree-top-treasure-hunt>. For more information please contact coral.bass@mymanatee.org. **Rye Preserve**

Friday, Nov 6th, 10:00 AM – 11:00 AM – FRIDAY MORNING YOGA AT THE NEST – Start your weekend with intention and ease. Join us for a gentle, alignment-based Hatha yoga class designed to lengthen and strengthen the body while cultivating awareness through mindful movement and breath. This slow-flow session is beginner-friendly and open to all levels. Program suitable for adults. *Please bring mats, towels, and water. Other props are provided by the instructor.* Reservations are required. To register please visit <https://events.humanitix.com/robinson-yoga>. **Robinson Preserve – Mosaic NEST**

Friday, Nov 6th, 10:00 AM – 11:00 AM – NATURE TALES: CH CH CH CHANGES – Does your kiddo enjoy stories and nature? Join us at Conservatory Park in Nature Tales. Meet monthly at Conservatory Park for an interactive story time, activities, and a walk in the great outdoors. This month, we will discover how animals, seasons, and weather can all change. Program suitable for 8 year olds or younger. Reservations are required. To register please visit <https://events.humanitix.com/nature-tales-ch-ch-ch-changes>. For more information please contact coral.bass@mymanatee.org. **Conservatory Park – Playground Pavilion**



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Friday, Nov 6th, 5:30 PM, 7:00 PM & Saturday, Nov 7th, 2:30 PM, 4:00 PM, 5:30 PM, 7:00 PM – ESCAPE ROOM: SWAMP MYSTERY – Venture into the swamp to discover its mysteries and the whereabouts of missing fisherman Curtis Wallace. Become an investigator, find hidden clues, and collect items you will need to solve this enigma. Program suitable for ages 8 and up. *There is a small jump scare in the escape room. Your party may opt out from the jump scare. Sessions are limited to 6 participants. All participating members of the party must purchase an individual ticket. Parents or guardians are allowed to accompany their children throughout the experience. Please contact organizer if your party needs larger group number accommodations. No refunds. Reservations are required. To register please visit https://parks.mymanatee.org/webtrac/web/search.html?interfaceparameter=WebTrac_NaturalResources&primarycode=110008. For more information please contact sara.alvarezcollazo@mymanatee.org. \$15 participation fee payable online.. Robinson*

Preserve – Mosaic NEST

Monday, Nov 9th, 5:30 PM – 6:30 PM – SUNSET TAI CHI AT THE NEST – Join us for this monthly class at the NEST! At sunset on the second Monday of the month, Dr. Brian Nell, a certified Tai Chi instructor, will lead the group through the gentle movements of Tai Chi. This is a great way to shake off the stressful work week. Improve your balance, loosen your joints, and improve flexibility as you relax and breathe. This class is perfect for beginners and will include an exploration of several different styles of Tai Chi and Qigong. This class is held rain or shine. Program suitable for adults. *Program sponsored by Cypress Pillar Healing Arts in partnership with Manatee County. Reservations are required. To register please visit <https://events.humanitix.com/robinson-tai-chi>. For more information please contact aedan.stockdale@mymanatee.org.* Robinson Preserve – Mosaic NEST

Lawn

Tuesday, Nov 10th, 8:00 AM – 12:00 PM – TEEN WILD TRAILS: MOODY BRANCH HIKE – In this challenging level adventure, we will hike for about 6 miles in a scrub habitat at Moody Branch in Duette, FL. Please wear clothing appropriate for bring in the outdoors. We recommend a water bottle, sun protection such as a hat and sunscreen and insect repellent. Program suitable for ages 13-17. *Teen Wild Trails is an adventure program for environmentally passionate teens, ages 13-17, to explore Manatee County's habitats and resources in partnership with Big Waters Land Trust. We will be meeting on the 2nd Wednesday of select months to explore a new wild trail on the county map. Adventures will last around 4 hours excluding drive time. All participants should be able to keep up with the physical demands of being outdoors in Florida. This is a drop off program. Adventures are limited to 10 participants. Club members will be accompanied by two staff members knowledgeable in Wilderness Survival, First Aid, CPR and AED. Reservations are required. To register please visit <https://events.humanitix.com/teen-wild-trails-nov-2026>. For more information please contact sara.alvarezcollazo@mymanatee.org.* Moody Branch Wildlife and Environmental Area – Pavilion

Tuesday, Nov 10th, 9:00 AM – 11:00 AM – INVASIVE ORCHID PULL – Help protect GT Bray Park by pulling invasive Chinese ground orchid, a fast-spreading plant that threatens native flora and wildlife habitat. Program suitable for all ages. *Supplies, instructions, bug spray and ice water for refills will be provided. Reservation are required To register please visit <https://events.humanitix.com/gt-bray-park-invasive-orchid-pull>. For more information please contact shelby.reece@mymanatee.org.* GT Bray



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*Friday, Nov 13th, 10:00 AM – 11:00 AM – FRIDAY MORNING YOGA AT THE NEST – Start your weekend with intention and ease. Join us for a gentle, alignment-based Hatha yoga class designed to lengthen and strengthen the body while cultivating awareness through mindful movement and breath. This slow-flow session is beginner-friendly and open to all levels. Program suitable for adults. Please bring mats, towels, and water. Other props are provided by the instructor. Reservations are required. To register please visit <https://events.humanitix.com/robinson-yoga>. **Robinson Preserve – Mosaic NEST***

*Saturday, Nov 14th, 9:00 AM – 11:00 AM – ROBINSON RESTORATION – Help restore areas of Robinson Preserve! Join us near the NEST (South Entrance) to clear debris and plant native species. Program suitable for all ages. Supplies, instructions, bug spray and ice water for refills will be provided. Reservation are required To register please visit <https://events.humanitix.com/robinson-restoration-lzl8wlge>. For more information please contact shelby.reece@mymanatee.org. **Robinson Preserve***

*Saturday, Nov 14th, 9:00 AM – 12:00 PM – SATURDAY MORNINGS AT THE NEST – Join us at the Mosaic Center for Nature, Exploration, Science, and Technology for a morning of discovery. Explore the canopy boardwalk among the banyans, climb to the top of the crow's nest, take in breathtaking panoramic views, and make an exciting exit from the building via slide. Program suitable for all ages. No reservations are required. **Robinson Preserve – Mosaic NEST***

*Saturday, Nov 14th, 6:00 PM – 8:00 PM – STARRY NIGHT ASTRONOMY – Join us for an astronomical extravaganza! Dozens of local astronomers will be set up in the Robinson Preserve Expansion with telescopes at the ready. Be sure to bring a sense of wonder and exploration as we view the skies through high-powered telescopes. Learn how to identify heavenly bodies, and how you can stargaze at home too. Program suitable for all ages. Program sponsored by Suncoast Stargazers in partnership with Manatee County. Reservations are required. To register please visit <https://events.humanitix.com/robinson-astronomy>. **Robinson Preserve – Expansion Parking Lot***

*Tuesday, Nov 17th, 3:00 PM – 5:00 PM – VOLUNTEERS PADDLE SHORELINE CLEANUP - EMERSON POINT – Help clean up the shoreline at Emerson Point Preserve by kayak while you earn volunteer service hours! Kayaks and supplies provided. Program suitable for ages 13-18. No paddling experience is required, and kayaks and safety gear are provided. Please wear clothes and shoes that can get wet, and bring sun protection and a water bottle. A parent/guardian waiver is required. It will be sent by email and copies will be available the day of the event. Reservation are required To register please visit <https://events.humanitix.com/volunteers-paddle-shoreline-cleanup-emerson-point-jle2gdzq>. For more information please contact shelby.reece@mymanatee.org. **Emerson Point***

*Wednesday, Nov 18th, 9:00 AM – 11:00 AM – OYSTER SHELL DRILLING AT ROBINSON PRESERVE – Help restore local oyster reefs! Drill recycled shells at Robinson Preserve on 11/18 to build aquatic habitat and filter our rivers and bays! Reservations are required. To register please visit <https://events.humanitix.com/oyster-shell-drilling-at-robinson-preserve>. For more information please contact shelby.reece@mymanatee.org. **Robinson Preserve – Pavilion near NEST***

Find the calendar online at www.mymanatee.org/ecoevents



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*Wednesday, Nov 18th, 10:00 AM – 12:00 PM – SOAR LAB – Our partners at Soar in 4 opened an incredible interactive museum for the youngsters in your life, called the Soar Lab. Inside is a room devoted to building complete with a giant Light Brite and Legos. A tinker room filled with kid-friendly tools and a gigantic art room packed with easels, puppets, and a stage. Open five days a week, check out soarin4.org for more detailed information. One Wednesday a month, our education staff will join the museum for some fun hands-on nature play. Program suitable for children 3rd grade and below. *Program sponsored by Soar in 4 in partnership with Manatee County. While the Soar Lab is free for most families, please consult the soarin4.org/soar-lab/ website for more information. No reservations are required.* **Soar Lab***

*Thursday, Nov 19th, 9:00 AM – 11:00 AM – ETHNOBOTANY: PLANTS & PEOPLE – Join us for a hike through the upland habitats of Moody Branch as we discover native plants that people have used for food and medicine. Learn about the edible wild plants and natural delicacies found in Manatee County's preserves and throughout Florida, and explore the many ways these plants have been used throughout history. Program suitable for adults. *Moody Branch Preserve has no restrooms, please use the restroom before arriving. Please bring water and wear long pants and close-toed shoes as we will be walking over rough terrain and off-trail.* Reservations are required. To register please visit <https://events.humanitix.com/ethnobotany-plants-and-people>. For more information please contact ecoevents@mymanatee.org. **Moody Branch Preserve***

*Thursday, Nov 19th, 1:00 PM – 3:00 PM – HOMESCHOOL SCIENCE CLUB: WALKING IN THE PAST – Come walk in history's footsteps as we explore the Indigenous cultures that inhabited the preserves. Learn all about the skills practiced by Florida's early inhabitants. Measure the distance you can throw a spear with an atlatl, and explore the skills needed to live and thrive in old Florida. Program recommended for students ages 6-12. *Homeschool Science Club explores scientific and natural concepts through games, crafts, and activities encouraging students to be active outdoors. Guardians are responsible for identifying the learning maturity of their child. Please note the location of this session. Don't forget to register for the waitlist if at capacity!* Reservations are required. To register please visit <https://events.humanitix.com/hssc-november-2026-rye>. For more information please contact sara.alvarezcollazo@mymanatee.org. **Rye Preserve – Pavilion***

*Friday, Nov 20th, 10:00 AM – 11:00 AM – FRIDAY MORNING YOGA AT THE NEST – Start your weekend with intention and ease. Join us for a gentle, alignment-based Hatha yoga class designed to lengthen and strengthen the body while cultivating awareness through mindful movement and breath. This slow-flow session is beginner-friendly and open to all levels. Program suitable for adults. *Please bring mats, towels, and water. Other props are provided by the instructor.* Reservations are required. To register please visit <https://events.humanitix.com/robinson-yoga>. **Robinson Preserve – Mosaic NEST***



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Friday, Nov 20th, 1:00 PM – 3:00 PM – HOMESCHOOL SCIENCE CLUB: WALKING IN THE PAST – Come walk in history's footsteps as we explore the Indigenous cultures that inhabited the preserves. Learn all about the skills practiced by Florida's early inhabitants. Measure the distance you can throw a spear with an atlatl, and explore the skills needed to live and thrive in old Florida. Program recommended for students ages 6-12. *Homeschool Science Club explores scientific and natural concepts through games, crafts, and activities encouraging students to be active outdoors. Guardians are responsible for identifying the learning maturity of their child. Please note the location of this session. Don't forget to register for the waitlist if at capacity! Reservations are required. To register please visit <https://events.humanitix.com/hssc-november-2026-emerson>. For more information please contact sara.alvarezcollazo@mymanatee.org. Emerson Point Preserve – Classroom Pavilion*

Friday, Nov 20th, 1:00 PM – 3:00 PM – HOMESCHOOL BIOLAB: BIOBOTS – Robots help scientists study nature, reaching depths never before explored! Imagine how far into space or deep into the ocean robots can reach! In this program, you'll work with a lab partner to code a robot using colors and explore how robots can be used to study the natural world. Program recommended for ages 10-15. *Homeschool Bio Lab is an advanced course where we explore higher scientific concepts and the scientific method through dissections, chemistry, and biology experiments. No refunds available. Reservations are required. To register please visit [https://parks.mymanatee.org/webtrac/web/search.html?interfaceparameter=WebTrac NaturalResources&primarycode=110007](https://parks.mymanatee.org/webtrac/web/search.html?interfaceparameter=WebTrac%20NaturalResources&primarycode=110007). For more information please contact emily.laughlin@mymanatee.org. Emerson Point Preserve – Classroom*

Saturday, Nov 21st, 9:00 AM – 12:00 PM – REPTIFEST 2026 – Join us for the 3rd Annual ReptiFest at the NEST! Celebrate the fascinating world of reptiles and discover the important role these amazing creatures play in our ecosystems. Learn what to do if you encounter a gopher tortoise, get up close with live reptiles, and step inside a model gopher tortoise burrow to see how these incredible animals live! Inside the NEST, enjoy a variety of hands-on, reptile-themed activities, including puzzles, puppets, crafts, and more. There's something for everyone to enjoy! Don't miss this fun-filled, family-friendly celebration of reptiles. Come explore, learn, and discover why there's so much to love about these incredible creatures! Program suitable for all ages. No reservations are required. To register please visit <https://events.humanitix.com/reptifest-2026>. For more information please contact emily.laughlin@mymanatee.org. Robinson Preserve – Mosaic NEST Lawn

Sunday, Nov 22nd, 9:00 AM – 11:00 AM – EXPLORE NATURE: NEAL TOWER TALK – Visit the top of the tower at Neal Preserve to take in the beautiful views! Stop by to chat with a naturalist and learn about the plants, animals, and history of the preserve. Program suitable for all ages. No reservations are required. For more information please contact emily.laughlin@mymanatee.org. Neal Preserve – Neal Tower



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*Sunday, Nov 22nd, 5:00 PM – 6:30 PM – SUNSET SHELLWALK – Discover the beach as the sunsets. Join us for a peaceful evening walk along the shore as we search for seashells and take in the beauty of the coastline at sunset. Learn how to identify common shells, discover the fascinating world of mollusks, and explore the unique adaptations that help these animals thrive along our coast. As we beachcomb, we'll discuss ethical seashell-collecting practices, learn what to look for in a healthy shoreline, and uncover how shells connect us to the incredible life of the ocean. Come enjoy a beautiful sunset by the sea while exploring and learning about shells. Program suitable for adults. Reservations are required. To register please visit <https://events.humanitix.com/sunset-seashell-walk>. For more information please contact emily.laughlin@mymanatee.org. **Coquina Beach***

*Monday, Nov 23rd, 9:00 AM – 11:00 AM – WONDER WALK: MOODY WILDFLOWERS – Fall flowers are blooming! Enjoy a hike through rugged and wild Moody Branch Preserve as we search for these floral gems. Discover the importance of blooms in the habitat, the wildlife that relies on them, and unique wildflowers in both scrub habitat and oak hammocks. There is much to see while exploring Manatee County preserves. Program suitable for all ages. *This is a rugged trail, that strollers could struggle to navigate.* Reservations are required. To register please visit <https://events.humanitix.com/wildflower-wonder-walk-moody-branch>. For more information please contact coral.bass@mymanatee.org. **Moody Branch Preserve***

*Monday, Nov 23rd, 10:00 AM – 11:00 AM – INDIGENOUS HERITAGE TOUR – Take a tour of the mounds left by the indigenous people who inhabited the coasts of Florida in the past. Look closer at the skills and tools required to live in old Florida. Experience the beautiful coastal scenery of the estuary. Program suitable for ages 10 and up. Accessibility: *This is a short hike of about a mile with about 6 stair steps and an inclined ramp up the largest mound.* Reservations are required. To register please visit <https://events.humanitix.com/emerson-tour-nov-2026>. For more information please contact sara.alvarezcollazo@mymanatee.org. **Emerson Point Preserve – Meet in front of bathrooms***

*Tuesday, Nov 24th, 9:30 AM – 10:30 AM – INDIGENOUS HERITAGE TOUR – Join us for a guided walk-through Neal Preserve as we explore the history of the indigenous people in the area. We'll take a closer look at the reconstructed burial mounds and climb the observation tower for a scenic view of this coastal preserve. Program suitable for ages 10 and up. Accessibility: *This a short hike of less than a mile, however, we will stop at the observation tower which has 3 flights of stairs. No restrooms facilities, only portable toilet on site.* Reservations are required. To register please visit <https://events.humanitix.com/tour-neal-nov-2026>. For more information please contact sara.alvarezcollazo@mymanatee.org. **Neal Preserve – Pavilion***

*Tuesday, Nov 24th, 10:00 AM – 12:00 AM – EXPLORE NATURE: RIVERVIEW POINT SCAVENGER HUNT – Need a nature break! Pop in for an opportunity to meet our roving naturalist and learn about the amazing flora and fauna found all around you. If you have the time, complete a scavenger hunt to help explore the preserve, and once completed, turn it back in to collect a prize. Program suitable for all ages. No reservations are required. For more information please contact coral.bass@mymanatee.org. **Riverview Point Preserve***



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Tuesday, Nov 24th, 1:00 PM – 3:00 PM – FISHING CLUB – Looking to try fishing? Have a burning question about a lure or rig? Bring your fishing gear or borrow ours and come get your answers at Fishing Club! Instructors can answer your questions, teach you the basics or just recommend the best places to fish in the preserve. Fishing poles are available to borrow on a first come, first served basis, for the duration of the program. Bait will be provided for the duration of the program. ¿Le gustaría experimentar con la pesca? ¿Tiene una pregunta sobre un señuelo de pesca? ¡Traiga su equipo de pesca o hasta tome el de nosotros prestado y disfrute de un día de pesca! Los maestros les pueden responder a sus preguntas, enseñarle lo básico sobre la pesca o hasta recomendar áreas para pescar en la reserva natural. La carnada será proveída durante el evento y habrán cañas de pescar, mientras disponibles, para tomar prestadas por la duración del evento. Club para todas las edades. Program suitable for all ages. *Meet me at the bridge at the south of Robinson. Park at the Perico Bayou Kayak Launch. Enter Robinson through Manatee Ave Entrance. No reservations are required. To register please visit <https://events.humanitix.com/fishing-club-nov2026>. For more information please contact sara.alvarezcollazo@mymanatee.org. **Robinson Preserve – Manatee Ave Entrance Fishing Bridge***

Tuesday, Nov 24th, 6:00 PM – 8:00 PM – GAME NIGHT – What is more family than Board Game Night? Drop into the building for an evening of tabletop gaming fun! Borrow a nature-themed game from our game library or bring your favorite game from home. Meet new people and try something new. Role-playing games such as Dungeons and Dragons are welcome too. We only ask that all content and conversations remain family-friendly. Program suitable for all ages. No reservations are required. To register please visit <https://events.humanitix.com/november-2026-game-night-at-the-nest>. For more information please contact coral.bass@mymanatee.org. **Robinson Preserve – Mosaic NEST**