



Eco-Events September 2026

The Natural Resources Department's Calendar of Events

Wednesday, Sep 2nd, 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, Sep 3rd, 2:00 PM – 3:00 PM – TORTOISE TALK – Join us for this informal program on the lawn of the NEST as we take our education tortoise out to graze! In the wild, foraging is an integral part of a gopher tortoise's lifestyle, so we encourage it as much as possible. Stop by and say hello, get a chance to meet him up close, and ask any questions you may have. Learn all about what tortoises need to survive, how we care for our tortoise, and what efforts we can take to protect these important members of our Florida ecosystems. Program suitable for all ages. No reservations are required. For more information please contact ecoevents@mymanatee.org. **Robinson Preserve – Mosaic NEST Lawn**

Friday, Sep 4th, 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, Sep 4th, 6:00 PM – 8:00 PM – GAME NIGHT – Are you ready to learn a new game, or are you interested in sharing a much-beloved board game with others? 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. Reservations not required. To register please visit <https://events.humanitix.com/game-night-at-the-nest-september-2026/tickets>. For more information please contact coral.bass@mymanatee.org. **Robinson Preserve – Mosaic NEST**

Saturday, Sep 5th, 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**



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Thursday, Sep 10th, 10:00 AM – 11:00 AM – TREETOTS: LIGHT AND DARK – Bring your little one for an enlightening light exploration program. Engage all the senses through movement, lights, and reflections, inspiring nature exploration in the safety of our county site, The Nest. TreeTots is an interactive activity that introduces babies and toddlers to the natural world. Program suitable for newborns to 2 year old. Reservations are required. To register please visit

*<https://events.humanitix.com/treetots-light-and-dark-2026>. For more information please contact coral.bass@mymanatee.org. **Robinson Preserve – Mosaic NEST***

*Thursday, Sep 10th, 2:00 PM – 3:00 PM – TORTOISE TALK – Join us for this informal program on the lawn of the NEST as we take our education tortoise out to graze! In the wild, foraging is an integral part of a gopher tortoise's lifestyle, so we encourage it as much as possible. Stop by and say hello, get a chance to meet him up close, and ask any questions you may have. Learn all about what tortoises need to survive, how we care for our tortoise, and what efforts we can take to protect these important members of our Florida ecosystems. Program suitable for all ages. No reservations are required. For more information please contact ecoevents@mymanatee.org. **Robinson Preserve – Mosaic NEST Lawn***

*Friday, Sep 11th, 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, Sep 12th, 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, Sep 12th, 1:00 PM – 3:00 PM – SALTWATER FISHING CLINIC – Join us for a special saltwater fishing clinic! Tie an improved clinch knot, practice your fish identification skills, and learn the basics of catch and release fishing in Florida. Get a chance to use our fishing equipment and cast your line into the waters of Emerson Point Preserve to see what we can catch! Program suitable for all ages. *Fishing poles, bait and tackle will be provided for the duration of the program.* Reservations are required. To register please visit <https://events.humanitix.com/saltwater-fishing-clinic-sept-2026>. For more information please contact sara.alvarezcollazo@mymanatee.org. **Emerson Point Preserve – Classroom Pavilion***



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Sunday, Sep 13th, 8:00 AM – 10:00 AM – COQUINA BEACH CLEAN-UP – Grab your sunscreen and let's give Coquina Beach some love! This clean-up is fun for the whole family, and no experience is necessary. Whether you're a first-time volunteer or a beach clean-up regular, we'd love to have you join us for a morning of community, sunshine, and making a real difference for our coastline. Program suitable for all ages. *All necessary supplies plus ice water to help stay hydrated will be provided* Reservations are required. To register please visit <https://events.humanitix.com/coquina-beach-clean-up>. For more information please contact shelby.reece@mymanatee.org. **Coquina Beach**

Monday, Sep 14th, 10:00 AM – 12:00 PM – EXPLORE NATURE! TOWER TALKS – Visit the top of the tower at Robinson Preserve to take in the beautiful views of Tampa Bay! 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 required. For more information please contact emily.laughlin@mymanatee.org. **Robinson Preserve – Tower**

Monday, Sep 14th, 6:30 PM – 7:30 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, Sep 15th, 10:00 AM – 12:00 PM – HOMESCHOOL SCIENCE CLUB: BUG-EYED – Did you know insects see the world in a completely different way? Explore the fascinating world of insects as you discover how their unique eyes, wings, and bodies help them survive. Then, take a closer look at the insects around you and investigate their incredible adaptations through hands-on exploration and observation. Program suitable for ages 7- 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 Reservations Required* To register please visit <https://events.humanitix.com/homeschool-science-club-bug-eyed-conservatory-park?h=S0fXWc8dzZoWpNXAyx4JGFVQZAyeO-OM4aNi3za1O5I&t=1786992506355>. For more information please contact emily.laughlin@mymanatee.org. **Conservatory Park – Large Pavillion**



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Tuesday, Sep 15th, 3:00 PM – 5:00 PM – VOLUNTEERS SEED HARVESTING AND PLANTING AT RYE PRESERVE – Come spend your afternoon harvesting seeds that will go on to become new plants at preserves all around our county. This will be a project with a great ripple effect. It's a great way to get outside, learn something new, and rack up volunteer hours while you're at it. Open to ages 12-18, no experience needed, just be ready to get a little dirty for a good cause! Program suitable for ages 12- 18 *All necessary supplies and instructions will be provided.* Reservations are required To register please visit <https://events.humanitix.com/volunteers-seed-harvesting-and-planting-at-rye-preserve>. For more information please contact shelby.reece@mymanatee.org. **Rye Preserve**

Wednesday, Sep 16th, 6:50 AM – 8:50 AM – WILDLIFE SPOTLIGHT A.M RISERS COSTAL ROBINSON – Experience Robinson Preserve at its most peaceful as dawn opens over the South Expansion. We'll gather at 6:50 a.m. and follow the Tower Trail into sunrise, watching the preserve wake with calls, wingbeats, and shifting coastal light. After the observation tower, we'll wander toward Tampa Bay for a quiet shoreline walk before returning to the trailhead. This 2-mile birding journey invites you to slow down, listen deeply, and connect with the coastal habitats that make this place extraordinary. Program suitable for adults. *Participants should bring a binoculars water bottle and wear clothing appropriate for the weather. We recommend sun protection, bug spray, and closed toed shoes. Binoculars are provided for those who need them.* Reservations are required. To register please visit https://events.humanitix.com/wildlife-spotlight-a-m-risers-costal-robinson?h=5iaUb_0rEt8Ily55F4VO3cfIYRwKKKBMZo9MxO9gZqA&t=1786974226527. For more information please contact cierra.nelson@mymanatee.org. **Robinson Preserve – South Parking Lot**

Wednesday, Sep 16th, 10:00 AM – 12:00 PM – SOAR LAB – Our partners at Soar in 4 just 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**

Wednesday, Sep 16th, 6:00 PM – 7:00 PM – KAYAKING/PADDLING 101 – Ever wanted to try kayaking but weren't sure where to start? Join us at Lakewood Ranch Library for a beginner-friendly crash course taught by the Volunteer Coordinator from Manatee County Natural Resources! We'll cover everything from beginner-friendly launch sites and routes to safety essentials and wildlife habitat awareness so you'll leave feeling confident and ready to get out on the water. Plus, we'll share some fun ways to stay connected to our natural spaces long after this class ends, including opportunities to get involved with Natural Resources through shoreline clean-ups and other hands-on volunteer events around the county. Program suitable for 18+ Reservations are required To register please visit <https://manateelibrary.libcal.com/event/17100100?register>. **Lakewood Ranch Library**



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*Thursday, Sep 17th, 1:00 PM – 3:00 PM – HOMESCHOOL SCIENCE CLUB: LANGUAGE OF COLORS – Nature is a colorful mosaic, but what do these colors mean? Animals and plants often use color to communicate and protect themselves. Step outside to explore different colors in nature from camouflage to a stern warning, we'll discover what colors mean to you and how they're produced. Program recommended for students ages 7-13. 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 Reservations are required. To register please visit <https://events.humanitix.com/language-of-color-rye>. For more information please contact sara.alvarezcollazo@mymanatee.org. **Emerson Point Preserve – Classroom Pavilion***

*Thursday, Sep 17th, 2:00 PM – 3:00 PM – TORTOISE TALK – Join us for this informal program on the lawn of the NEST as we take our education tortoise out to graze! In the wild, foraging is an integral part of a gopher tortoise's lifestyle, so we encourage it as much as possible. Stop by and say hello, get a chance to meet him up close, and ask any questions you may have. Learn all about what tortoises need to survive, how we care for our tortoise, and what efforts we can take to protect these important members of our Florida ecosystems. Program suitable for all ages. No reservations are required. For more information please contact ecoevents@mymanatee.org. **Robinson Preserve – Mosaic NEST Lawn***

*Friday, Sep 18th, 10:00 AM – 11:00 AM – TALL TAIL TRIBE: PARTS OF A WHOLE – Leaves, seeds, and roots are all elements of a trees. Feathers, wings, and beaks are all components on birds. Using the outdoors as our guide, we will explore the different parts of nature and how each piece is knitted together to make a whole animal, plant, or ecosystem. Through games, exploration, and activities your tots will discover the amazing natural features, big and small, found in your very own backyard. Program suitable for preschool age children. Reservations are required For more information please contact coral.bass@mymanatee.org. **Emerson Point Preserve – Classroom Pavillion***

*Friday, Sep 18th, 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, Sep 18th – Saturday Sep 19th, 1:00 PM – 3:00 PM – HOMESCHOOL SCIENCE CLUB: LANGUAGE OF COLORS – Nature is a colorful mosaic, but what do these colors mean? Animals and plants often use color to communicate and protect themselves. Step outside to explore different colors in nature from camouflage to a stern warning, we'll discover what colors mean to you and how they're produced. Program recommended for students ages 7-13. *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* Reservations are required. To register please visit <https://events.humanitix.com/language-of-color-emerson>. For more information please contact sara.alvarezcollazo@mymanatee.org. Emerson Point Preserve – Classroom Pavilion

Saturday, Sep 19th, 9:00 AM – 12:00 PM – FAIRY FESTIVAL – Come experience the magic of nature with your little ones at Robinson Preserve. Spend time outdoors with your family discovering the natural curiosities of plants, wildlife and fairies! Whether you build a fairy home, make a nature crown or take a small hike, this festival complete with activities, crafts and a storytime will fill your family with wonder! Families are encouraged to dress in their best fairy attire. Program suitable for families with children ages 2-10. No reservations required. To register please visit <https://events.humanitix.com/fairy-festival-2026>. For more information please contact sara.alvarezcollazo@mymanatee.org. Robinson Preserve – Mosaic NEST

Saturday, Sep 19th, 8:00 PM – 10:00 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*

Wednesday, Sep 23rd, 6:50 AM – 8:50 AM – WILDLIFE SPOTLIGHT A.M RISERS PERICO PRESERVE – Experience Perico Preserve at its most peaceful during this early-morning birding walk through Manatee County's first preserve designed entirely as a bird sanctuary. Soft dawn light, cooler temperatures, and active coastal species make this the ideal hour to explore its restored wetlands and historical shoreline habitats. We'll gather at 6:50 a.m. and conclude around 7:50 a.m. (with optional extension to 8:50 a.m. for larger groups or extended viewing). Our route covers approximately 1.24 miles, including time at the observation deck and bird blind — perfect spots to settle in and watch our A.M. feathered friends begin their day. Program suitable for adults. *Participants should bring a binoculars water bottle and wear clothing appropriate for the weather. We recommend sun protection, bug spray, and closed toed shoes. Binoculars are provided for those who need them. Reservations are required. To register please visit <https://events.humanitix.com/wild-spotlight-adventure-at-perico-preserve>. For more information please contact cierra.nelson@mymanatee.org. Perico Preserve*



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*Wednesday, Sep 23rd, 9:00 AM – 11:00 AM – RIP SQUAD - PERICO PRESERVE – With all the rain we've had lately, invasive plants are having a field day at Perico Preserve and our rangers could really use some backup! Join the RIP Squad To Remove Invasive Plants for a hands-on morning of hand-pulling unwanted growth and helping our preserve thrive. Perfect for ages 12 and up. We'll provide all the supplies you need, plus ice water refills to beat the heat. Program suitable for ages 12+ All necessary supplies and instructions will be provided. Reservations are required To register please visit <https://events.humanitix.com/rip-squad-perico-preserve>. For more information please contact shelby.reece@mymanatee.org. **Perico Preserve***

*Thursday, Sep 24th, 8:00 AM – 12:00 AM – MORNING SHELLS & SHORELINES WALK – Join us for a peaceful hour of beachcombing at Coquina Beach South, where the shoreline is full of stories waiting to be discovered. This guided shell walk invites participants to slow down, explore, and learn about the seashells scattered along our coast — and the remarkable mollusks and gastropods who crafted them. Program suitable for all ages. No experience is necessary. Staff will provide guidance, and Shell ID tools. Please bring water, a towel and sun protection Reservations are required To register please visit <https://events.humanitix.com/morning-shells-and-shorelines?h=NhXSqdLnluEc2ugbYBipqeFpJAS5e4lllqursWY58s&t=1787331792790>. For more information please contact cierra.nelson@mymanatee.org. **Coquina Beach South***

*Thursday, Sep 24th, 10:00 AM – 12:00 PM – GREEN EXPLORERS: PONDERING PONDS – Do you wonder what is hiding beneath a ponds surface? Using nets to search the ponds, let your little explorer discover the creatures that hide around the cattails and the pond scum. 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 ages 5-12 year olds. Reservations are required. To register please visit <https://events.humanitix.com/green-explorers-pondering-ponds>. For more information please contact coral.bass@mymanatee.org. **Tom Bennett Park***

*Thursday, Sep 24th, 1:00 PM – 3:00 PM – CAREER NIGHT AT THE NEST – Are you interested in a career in nature? Join us at The NEST at Robinson Preserve for an informative evening showcasing local professionals and careers in the environmental and heritage resource fields. This is an opportunity to discover what it takes to get into the field of science! Network with these professionals from a variety of local organizations and discover careers that help make a difference in our community. Program recommended for high school and college students, however, all ages are welcome. Reservations are required. To register please visit <https://events.humanitix.com/natural-resources-career-night-2026>. For more information please contact emily.laughlin@mymanatee.org. **Robinson Preserve – Mosaic NEST***



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Thursday, Sep 24th, 2:00 PM – 3:00 PM – TORTOISE TALK – Join us for this informal program on the lawn of the NEST as we take our education tortoise out to graze! In the wild, foraging is an integral part of a gopher tortoise's lifestyle, so we encourage it as much as possible. Stop by and say hello, get a chance to meet him up close, and ask any questions you may have. Learn all about what tortoises need to survive, how we care for our tortoise, and what efforts we can take to protect these important members of our Florida ecosystems. Program suitable for all ages. No reservations are required. For more information please contact ecoevents@mymanatee.org. **Robinson Preserve – Mosaic NEST Lawn**

Friday, Sep 25th – Saturday Sep 26th, 10:00 AM – 11:00 AM – NATURE TALES: ANIMAL PALS – Does your kiddo enjoy stories and nature? Join us at Conservatory Park in Nature Tales. Meet monthly at Conservatory Park for an interactive story, walk, and activities. This month, we will explore the world of animal friends who live Program suitable for ages 8 year old and younger. Reservations are required. To register please visit <https://events.humanitix.com/nature-tales-animal-pals>. For more information please contact coral.bass@mymanatee.org. **Conservatory Park – Playground Pavilion**

Friday, Sep 25th, 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, Sep 25th, 1:00 PM – 3:00 PM – HOMESCHOOL BIOLAB: SEEING DOUBLE – If you are reading this, your eyes are likely hard at work! Eyes grant us the sense of sight. In this program we will experiment with vision and depth perception as we create our own scope. Then we'll discuss the anatomy of the eye and dissect a cow eye. Program suitable 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. For more information please contact emily.laughlin@mymanatee.org. **Emerson Pointe Preserve – Classroom**



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*Saturday, Sep 26th, 9:00 AM – 12:00 PM – TIDE TREKKER: PERICO PADDLE & PICKUP – Get ready to paddle with a purpose! Tide Trekker combines the best of both worlds with a scenic kayak adventure through parts of both Robinson and Perico Preserves and a hands-on litter pickup to help keep our waterways clean. Open to ages 12 and up, this is a fantastic way to spend a morning on the water while giving back to the preserves we love. We will launch from the south kayak launch at Robinson Preserve and paddle through the newly opened up mangrove tunnel out to Perico Bayou. Program suitable for ages 12+ *Kayaks, and all necessary supplies will be provided* Reservations are required To register please visit <https://events.humanitix.com/tide-trekker-perico-paddle-and-pickup>. For more information please contact shelby.reece@mymanatee.org. **Robinson Preserve – South Kayak Launch***

*Saturday, Sep 26th, 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, Sep 26th, 10:00 AM – 11:30 AM – HIKE WITH A LIBRARIAN – Take a hike! Join our Manatee County Librarian, Kira, as we hike through the book "On Animals" by Susan Orlean. Then hike through Emerson Point Preserve. Program suitable for adults. Reservations are required. To register please visit <https://manateelibrary.libcal.com/event/17134316?more>. For more information please contact coral.bass@mymanatee.org. **Emerson Point Preserve – Classroom Pavilion***

*Saturday, Sep 26th, 11:00 AM – 12:00 PM – LIBRARY LEARNING: SCAT, TRACKS, AND ANIMAL ID – Join Emily from the Natural Resources Department for a presentation about animal scats, tracks, and skulls with games and activities. Evidence of wildlife is all around us from tracks to scat. Join us to learn how to identify an animal's presence in the wild. Learn more about animal skulls and scavenge for clues to discover a mystery animal. Program suitable for ages 7-14 Reservations are required. To register please visit <https://manateelibrary.libcal.com/event/17219077>. For more information please contact jenn.leland@mymanatee.org. **Rocky Bluff Library***

*Wednesday, Sep 30th, 6:50 AM – 7:50 AM – WILDLIFE SPOTLIGHT A.M RISERS NEAL PRESERVE – Experience Neal Preserve in the quiet glow of dawn during this early-morning birding walk through its elevated boardwalks, mangrove edges, and archaeological landscape. As the sun rises over Anna Maria Sound, coastal species become active, offering ideal viewing conditions and a peaceful start to the day. We'll gather at 6:50 a.m. and conclude around 7:50 a.m. The route follows the boardwalk loop and includes time at the observation tower. Program suitable for adults. *Participants should bring a binoculars water bottle and wear clothing appropriate for the weather. We recommend sun protection, bug spray, and closed toed shoes. Binoculars are provided for those who need them.* Reservations are required. To register please visit <https://events.humanitix.com/wildlife-spotlight-coastal-adventure-at-neal-preserve?h=P4jqzbzgyvmAT-n0jzaPsETHLasYP7fmnwPfQC-6w4Y&t=1786979803963>. For more information please contact cierra.nelson@mymanatee.org. **Neal Preserve***



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Wednesday, Sep 30th, 9:00 AM – 11:00 AM – OYSTER REEF RESTORATION VOLUNTEER PROJECT - OYSTER SHELL DRILLING – Join us for a hands-on volunteer opportunity supporting oyster restoration in our local waterways! During this event, volunteers will help prepare recycled oyster shells by drilling holes and assembling oyster pins for use in upcoming restoration projects. Oysters are an important part of healthy coastal ecosystems. They help filter and improve water quality, provide valuable habitat for fish and other marine life, and can help protect and stabilize shorelines. Your efforts will contribute to future restoration work that supports healthier waterways and thriving local ecosystems. Program suitable for 18+ *No experience is needed! Staff will provide guidance throughout the event, along with all necessary tools and safety equipment, including gloves, eye protection, dust masks, etc.* Reservations are required To register please visit <https://events.humanitix.com/oyster-restoration-volunteer-project-oyster-shell-drilling>. For more information please contact shelby.reece@mymanatee.org. **Robinson Preserve – Pavilion by NEST**