



Eco-Events June 2026

The Natural Resources Department's Calendar of Events

Tuesday, Jun 2nd, 9:00 AM – 12:00 PM – NEST OPEN HOUSE – 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**

Tuesday, Jun 2nd, 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**

Wednesday, Jun 3rd, 9:00 AM – 11:00 AM – RIP SQUAD TRAIL WORK DAY - HIDDEN HARBOR PARK – Join us at Hidden Harbor Park for a hands-on trail clearing morning! Help keep our preserve paths open, safe, and beautiful for all to enjoy. Volunteer opportunity suitable for ages 12 and older *Please bring water, closed-toe shoes, and sunscreen. Tools will be provided. No experience necessary* Reservations are required To register please visit <https://events.humanitix.com/rip-squad-trail-work-day-hidden-harbor-park>. For more information please contact shelby.reece@mymanatee.org. **Hidden Harbor Park**

Wednesday, Jun 3rd, 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, Jun 4th, 9:00 AM – 12:00 PM – LET'S EXPLORE IN THE SWAMP – Join us each Thursday in June as we explore a different Florida ecosystem through crafts, games, and hands-on activities. Families will move through the museum at their own pace visiting stations to make crafts, play games, and enjoy hands-on learning activities. This week features our coastal swamps and how mangroves play a vital role in protecting our shorelines. Program suitable for all ages. *This drop-in programming series is designed for families with pre-K to elementary aged children to have fun and learn together. Children cannot be left unattended.* No reservations are required, but entry will be limited at the door once capacity is met—first come, first served! For more information please visit <https://www.manateecountyagmuseum.com/event-details/make-it-take-it-2026-2026-06-04-09-00>. **Manatee County Agricultural Museum**



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*Friday, Jun 5th, 9:30 AM – 11:30 AM – DUETTE PRESERVE RESTORATION PLANTING – Help us restore the Keen wetland in the northeastern section of Duette Preserve. Spend the morning planting native plants to improve water quality and create habitat for many fish and wildlife species. Afterwards, we will tour the site and discuss how the restoration project is designed to improve the water that eventually flows into Lake Manatee. Lunch will be provided by the Tampa Bay Estuary Program. Opportunity suitable for volunteers of all ages. Program sponsored by Tampa Bay Estuary Program in partnership with Manatee County. Please dress for the full sun outdoors and wear closed-toe shoes you do not mind getting wet or muddy. Be sure to bring plenty of water and wear a hat. We will provide all tools for planting. Reservations are required. To register please visit <https://events.humanitix.com/duette-preserve-restoration-planting>. **Dry Prairie Baptist Church***

*Friday, Jun 5th, 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, Jun 5th, 6:00 PM – 8:00 PM – GAME NIGHT AT THE NEST – 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. Snacks will be provided. Program suitable for all ages. No reservations are required. To register please visit <https://events.humanitix.com/game-night-at-the-nest-june-2026/tickets>. For more information please contact coral.bass@mymanatee.org. **Robinson Preserve – Mosaic NEST***

*Saturday, Jun 6th, 9:00 AM – 12:00 PM – WORLD OCEAN DAY CELEBRATION – Come celebrate the ocean and its incredible inhabitants at the NEST at Robinson Preserve! Get hands-on as you help create oyster habitats, observe plankton under a microscope, and build and pilot your very own underwater robot. Step inside the NEST building to explore a range of ocean-themed activities, from puzzles and puppets to button-making and more. Don't miss this exciting, family-friendly event packed with fun, learning, and discovery for all ages! Program suitable for all ages. No reservation required. To register please visit <https://events.humanitix.com/world-ocean-day-2026>. For more information please contact emily.laughlin@mymanatee.org. **Robinson Preserve – Mosaic NEST***



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Monday, Jun 8th, 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, Jun 9th, 9:00 AM – 11:00 AM – VOLUNTEEN SHORELINE CLEAN-UP AT EMERSON POINT – Teen volunteers are invited to clean up the Emerson Point shoreline by way of kayak. We are guaranteed to have fun while doing good for the environment! Program suitable for ages 13-18 *Kayaks, safety gear and all supplies provided Reservations are required To register please visit <https://events.humanitix.com/volunteen-shoreline-clean-up-at-emerson-point>. For more information please contact shelby.reece@mymanatee.org. **Emerson Point Preserve – Point Pavilion 3***

Tuesday, Jun 9th, 9:00 AM – 12:00 PM – NEST OPEN HOUSE – 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**

Tuesday, Jun 9th, 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**

Wednesday, Jun 10th, 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. The theme this quarter is science. Program suitable for children 3rd grade and below. *Program sponsored by Soar in 4 in partnership with Manatee County. No reservations are required. For more information please contact coral.bass@mymanatee.org. **Soar Lab***



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Thursday, Jun 11th, 8:00 AM – 10:00 AM – TRAIL MAINTENANCE MORNING – Join us on trails early at Robinson Preserve for a morning of trail maintenance keeping this beloved coastal preserve in top shape. Program suitable for ages 16 and older. Reservations are required. To register please visit <https://events.humanitix.com/trail-maintenance-morning-at-robinson-preserve>. For more information please contact shelby.reece@mymanatee.org. **Robinson Preserve**

Friday, Jun 12th, 9:00 AM – 12:00 PM – TIDE TREKKERS RESTORATION AT LEFFIS KEY – Help restore Leffis Key by removing Australian pine seedlings left behind by Hurricane Milton. Join Tide Trekkers for hands-on coastal habitat recovery! Program suitable for ages 16 and older *Kayaks, safety gear and all supplies provided.* Reservations are required To register please visit <https://events.humanitix.com/tide-trekkers-restoration-at-leffis-key>. For more information please contact shelby.reece@mymanatee.org. **Leffis Key – Coquina Beach South Boat Ramp**

Friday, Jun 12th, 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, Jun 13th, 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**

Tuesday, Jun 16th, 9:00 AM – 12:00 PM – NEST OPEN HOUSE – 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**

Tuesday, Jun 16th, 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**



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Wednesday, Jun 17th, 10:00 AM – 11:00 AM – LIBRARY LEARNING: POP-UP MANGROVE – Join us for Family Storytime. Sing, talk, read, and play your way to a love of reading! This week we will be exploring mangroves and the role they play as part of our natural coastline in Florida. Program suitable for all ages. No reservations are required. For more information please visit <https://manateelibrary.libcal.com/event/16384540>. **Palmetto Library**

Friday, Jun 19th, 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, Jun 20th, 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**

Monday, Jun 22nd, 9:00 AM – 12:00 PM – TOWER PADDLE – Get on the water and learn about the history of Robinson Preserve. Climb to the top of the observation tower to get a fantastic view of the landscape and wildlife that Florida has to offer. Learn the basics of kayaking in this easy paddle! Program suitable for ages 16 and older *Kayaks, safety gear and all supplies provided.* Reservations are required. To register please visit <https://events.humanitix.com/tower-paddle-june2026>. For more information please contact sara.alvarezcollazo@mymanatee.org. **Robinson Preserve – North Kayak Launch**

Tuesday, Jun 23rd, 9:00 AM – 12:00 PM – NEST OPEN HOUSE – 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**

Tuesday, Jun 23rd, 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**



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Wednesday, Jun 24th, 10:00 AM – 11:00 AM – LIBRARY LEARNING: TORTOISE TIME – Join us at the library for a shell-tastic tortoise program. Learn about our amazing digging reptile through games, movements, and stories- and meet our very own gopher tortoise, Genbu. Program suitable for all ages. *Please note that this event takes place outside.* Reservations are required. To register please visit <https://manateelibrary.libcal.com/event/16901081>. **Rocky Bluff Library**

Friday, Jun 26th, 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, Jun 27th, Monday, Jun 29th & Tuesday, Jun 30th, 7:00 AM – 12:00 PM – JAY WATCH AT DUETTE PRESERVE – Spend a morning in the field as a citizen scientist! Help us document Florida Scrub Jay activity at Duette Preserve over three special observation days. Volunteer opportunity suitable for ages 16 and older. *Pick a morning or join us for all three - Available dates: June 28, June 29, and June 30. Bring water, snacks, binoculars (if you have them), sunscreen, and bug spray. Closed-toe shoes required.* Reservations are required To register please visit <https://events.humanitix.com/jaywatch-2026>. For more information please contact shelby.reece@mymanatee.org. **Duette Preserve – Rawls Rd Check Station**

Saturday, Jun 27th, 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**