

SPRING 2026 ACTIVITY GUIDE

ZIONSVILLE

ACTIVE BY NATURE



**SUMMER
CAMP
EDITION**



ZIONSVILLE
PARKS & RECREATION



NATIVE PLANT SALE

SATURDAY, APRIL 25
9 A.M. - 12 P.M.
HERITAGE TRAIL PARK

NEW THIS YEAR!
Pollinator &
Hummingbird Garden
16 -plant Kits

Save 10% off individual plants
While Supplies Last

Our Native Plant Sale is now a part of **Greenfest: Bringing Nature Home**

Discover a beautiful variety of plants that thrive in our local environment. Whether you're a seasoned gardener or just getting started, native plants are an eco-friendly choice that help support local wildlife and conserve water.

WHY NATIVE PLANTS?

- ✓ **Low maintenance** - Natives require less water and fertilizer.
- ✓ **Wildlife-friendly** - They attract birds, bees, butterflies and other wildlife.
- ✓ **Sustainable** - Help restore local habitats and promote biodiversity.

Pre-sale OPENS February 16 - April 17
(pickup April 25 between 9 am - 12pm)
Any remaining plants will be available for
sale April 25



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ZIONSVILLE PARKS

Carpenter Nature Preserve - CNP
601 S 900 E

Carter Station Park - CS
4643 Pebblepointe Pass

Creekside Nature Park - CP
11001 E Sycamore Street

Elm Street Green - ESG
165 N Elm Street

Heritage Trail Park - HTP
4050 S 875 E

Lincoln Park - LP
100 W Oak Street

Mulberry Fields Park - MF
9645 Whitestown Road

Overley-Worman Park - OWP
6040 Godello Circle

Starkey Nature Park - SNP
667 Sugarbush Drive

The Woods - TW
8329 Keeneland Rd

Turkey Foot Nature Park - TF
4795 Turkeyfoot Avenue

Zion Nature Sanctuary - ZNS
690 Beech Street



Spring Takes Root in Zionsville

Jarod Logsdon, CPRE

Superintendent of Parks and Recreation
Town of Zionsville

Spring has officially taken root in Zionsville Parks and Recreation, and we invite families to grow, play, and connect with us throughout the season. Step into spring at Greenfest, featuring our annual Native Plant Sale, where you can learn about sustainability, support pollinators, and bring a little native beauty home.

Ready to grow with us? Community Garden plots are available for families looking to get their hands a little dirty and put their green thumbs to the test.

As temperatures warm, explore the outdoors on one of our guided spring hikes and witness the natural world waking up, rally the family for a pickleball match, or enjoy a round of 9 holes at Zionsville Golf Course. Be sure to mark your calendars as we celebrate the end of the school year with Party in the Park. From the first bloom to the last day of school, Zionsville Parks and Recreation truly offers something for everyone.



HOW TO REACH US

Zionsville Parks and Recreation

1100 W Oak Street
Zionsville, IN 46077

317.733.2273

Zionsville Nature Center - ZNC

250 N 5th Street
Zionsville, IN 46077

317.873.8950

Zionsville Golf Course

10799 E 550 S
Zionsville, IN 46077

317.873.4218

Programs and Event Questions

recreation@zionsville-in.gov

Parks and Facility Questions

parks@zionsville-in.gov

Connect with us on social media

[@zionsvilleparksrecreation](https://www.instagram.com/zionsvilleparksrecreation)



UPCOMING SPECIAL EVENTS

Zionsville Greenfest: Bringing Nature Home

Saturday, April 25

9:00 am - 12:00 pm

Heritage Trail Park

Planting native plants in your own garden can make a real difference. In celebration of Earth Day and Arbor Day, Greenfest: Bringing Nature Home invites the community to discover how simple, everyday choices can help protect and support local environment. This family-friendly event connects participants with the tools, knowledge, and inspiration needed to become good stewards of the environment—starting right in their own backyards. Attendees can explore the native plant sale, visit educational booths, and learn simple, practical ways to promote sustainability and support native species at home, all while enjoying a fun and engaging community atmosphere.

Greenfest: Bringing Nature Home celebrates the idea that conservation doesn't stop at a park boundary. Together, we can grow healthier habitats, one backyard at a time. Native Plant Presale runs February 16 - April 17. Any remaining plants will be available for sale at Greenfest.

ZIONSVILLE
**GREEN
FEST** 
& Native Plant Sale



SCAN ME!



For Special Event Details



Party in the Park

Thursday, May 28

3:00 - 6:00 pm

Mulberry Fields Park

Get ready to party with Zionsville Parks and Recreation as we bid farewell to the school year at Mulberry Fields Park! Splash into a whirlwind of games, activities, a special appearance by the Zionsville Nature Center, and groove to tunes from a live DJ. Don't forget to cool off at the Mulberry Fields Splash Pad! Plus food trucks to enjoy, and the Zionsville Fire and Police Departments Touch-a-Truck and splash zone.



ZIONSVILLE
PARKS & RECREATION

ZIONSVILLE PARKS & RECREATION SUMMER CAMPS

Registration OPENS March 2!

Summer fun awaits for ages 3 - 12,
Join us for an unforgettable
season of exploration, activities,
and adventure!

- ✓ Outdoor Exploration
- ✓ Creative Arts & Crafts
- ✓ Games
- ✓ Live Animals

www.zionsville-in.gov/summercamps



SUMMER CAMPS

Day Camps

Stinky, Slimy and Gross **REG** Tuesday, June 16

Ages: 6 - 8 years

Ready to get messy? This camp is all about the grossest and gooiest sides of nature! From stinky skunks to slimy worms, we'll dig into mud, bugs, and fungi to discover why being gross is great. Get ready to squish, sniff, and explore.

9:00 am - 2:00 pm

Zionsville Nature Center

Fee: \$65/Resident, \$75/Nonresident

Art Adventures **REG** Wednesday, June 17

Ages: 6 - 12 years

Combine your love of art with the fun of summer camp. We will explore hands on, messy and fun arts and crafts while out in the park, and let our imaginations soar.

9:00 am - 2:00 pm

Mulberry Fields Park

Fee: \$65/Resident, \$75/Nonresident

Animal Helpers **REG** Thursday, June 18

Ages: 6 - 8 years

Have you ever wanted to help animals? Now's your chance! Join us at Zionsville Nature Center to learn what it takes to care for our resident animals before adventuring out to help those living in the wild! Spend the day exploring the great outdoors and learning what animals need to survive.

9:00 am - 2:00 pm

Zionsville Nature Center

Fee: \$65/Resident, \$75/Nonresident



Outdoor Escape Room **REG** Wednesday, June 24

Ages: 9 - 12 years

Can you solve the mystery? Work together to crack codes, solve puzzles, and follow clues hidden along the trail. This interactive camp turns the outdoors into a real-life escape room where teamwork, curiosity, and problem-solving lead the way.

1:00 - 4:00 pm

Overley-Worman Park

Fee: \$40/Resident, \$45/Nonresident

Once Upon a Forest **REG** Monday, June 29

Ages: 6 - 8 years

Step into a woodland fairy tale as we explore magical paths, hidden creatures, and nature-inspired stories. From bubbling nature potions to handmade forest wands, campers will use their imagination to explore the forest in new ways.

9:00 am - 2:00 pm

Zionsville Nature Center

Fee: \$65/Resident, \$75/Nonresident

PEEPs Camp **REG** Tuesday, July 7

Ages: 3 1/2 - 5 years

Calling all little explorers! Discover the magic of nature camp through outdoor play and exploration. This fun introduction to camp is perfect for sparking curiosity, connecting with nature, and building confidence.

9:00 am - 12:00 pm

Zionsville Nature Center

Fee: \$40/Resident, \$45/Nonresident

Wet and Wild **REG** Wednesday, July 8

Ages: 6 - 8 years

Creekstomping ✓

Water games ✓

Messy arts and crafts ✓

This camp will be a wet and wild blast!

We will spend the day exploring the creek and pond, playing tons of fun games, and making a mess with friends!

9:00 am - 2:00 pm

Overley-Worman Park

Fee: \$65/Resident, \$75/Nonresident



Nature Makers **REG** Thursday, July 9

Ages: 6 - 8 years

Nature is full of inspiration! Explore colors, textures, and patterns found outdoors as we create art inspired by the world around us.

9:00 am - 2:00 pm

Zionsville Nature Center

Fee: \$65/Resident, \$75/Nonresident

CAMP REGISTRATION

Camp Registration Opens

Monday, March 2
8 am

- Online registration only
- You must have a MyRec account to register
- Enrollment is on first-come, first-served basis
- Children must be correct age at the start of their camp
- Camp questions can be directed to recreation@zionsville-in.gov



SUMMER CAMPS



Grandparent and ME! **REG** Friday, July 10

Ages: 3 1/2 - 6 years, with grandparent

Kids, here's your chance to bring your grandparent to spend a morning at summer camp and share in all your activities and explorations! It's okay if siblings share a grandparent.

9:00 am - 12:00 pm

Zion Nature Sanctuary

Fee: \$40/Resident, \$45/Nonresident

Creek Camp **REG** Tuesday, July 21

Ages: 9 - 12 years

Eagle Creek is such an important part of our community! Spend the afternoon learning about watersheds and how we can take care of this beautiful resource while also getting in the creek to explore and look for creatures!

1:00 - 4:00 pm

Overley-Worman Park

Fee: \$40/Resident, \$45/Nonresident

Junior Naturalists **REG** Thursday, July 23

Ages: 9 - 12 years

Have you ever wanted to help animals? Now's your chance! Join us at Zionsville Nature Center to learn what it takes to care for our resident animals before adventuring out to help those living in the wild! Spend the day exploring the great outdoors and learning what animals need to survive.

1:00 - 4:00 pm

Zionsville Nature Center

Fee: \$40/Resident, \$45/Nonresident

Week Camps

Backyard Explorers **REG** June 8 - 12 or July 27 - 31

Ages: 4 - 5 years

Discover animals and habitats in your backyard as we turn over logs, hike trails, and explore nature with all our senses. Get up-close to a turtle, discover what a snake feels like and get creative!

9:00 am - 12:00 pm

Zionsville Nature Center

Fee: \$195/Resident, \$225/Nonresident

Nature Navigators **REG** June 22 - 26 or July 13 - 17

Ages: 6 - 8 years

Join us for an exciting week of outdoor activities while learning about nature in your backyard. Become a Junior Naturalist and discover different habitats, explore creeks, use binoculars to spot birds and so much more! Friday camp will meet at Overley-Worman Park.

9:00 am - 12:00 pm

Zionsville Nature Center

Fee: \$195/Resident, \$225/Nonresident

Sk8 Smart: Beginner Skateboard Camp **REG** July 21, 22 & 24

Ages: 7 - 17 years

Get rolling with this three-day beginner skateboard camp designed just for kids! Participants will learn skate park etiquette, practice flat ground skills, explore transitions, and work on basic tricks while developing balance, safety awareness, and confidence. Proper fitting helmets and flat-soled shoes are required. Camp meets Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday.

8:00 - 10:00 am

Mulberry Fields Park

Fee: \$65/Resident, \$75/Nonresident



COUNSELOR-IN-TRAINING

Ages: 13 - 15 years

The Counselor in Training (CIT) program with Zionsville Parks offers teens who've aged out of our traditional camps an opportunity to learn valuable leadership and real-life skills during the summer. Through guidance and support from the counselor they are working with, CITs will learn through team building, leadership training, and assisting with camp activities. This program allows CITs to experience increased responsibility and independence at camp while still enjoying all the fun that camp has to offer.

CIT applications close 3/27 for more information and to apply scan the QR



Wilderness Adventure **REG** June 30 - July 2

Ages: 9 - 12 years

Join us for an exciting three days of wilderness adventure! Each day, explore a new park as we learn basic survival skills like shelter building, starting a fire with flint and steel, navigating, and more!

9:00 am - 2:00 pm

Overley-Worman Park

Fee: \$195/Resident, \$225/Nonresident

Summer Adventures **REG** July 20 - 24

Ages: 6 - 8 years

This is what camp is all about! Spend your mornings with Zionsville Parks staff and discover new games, crafts, and summer adventures. We can't forget time to cool off in the splash pad!

9:00 am - 12:00 pm

Mulberry Fields Park

Fee: \$195/Resident, \$225/Nonresident

SUMMER CAMPS

Immersive Experiences

Junior Indiana Master Naturalist **REG** June 1 - 5

Ages: 9 - 12 years

This program is for our biggest nature enthusiasts! Junior Indiana Master Naturalist is an immersive program to connect kids ages 9 - 12 to natural resources through hands-on learning, field experiences, and volunteer work. This program will deep dive into many topics, like local plants, animals, and ecosystems. Participants will also give back to the natural world through service projects.

- Junior Indiana Master Naturalist is a program through Indiana DNR.
- 80% attendance is required for course completion.
- Previous participants can return to receive Advanced Indiana Master Naturalist certification.

9:00 am – 3:00 pm

Zionsville Nature Center

Fee: \$300/Resident, \$360/Nonresident



Jr Master Gardener: Wildlife Gardener **REG** June 8 - 12

Ages: 9 - 12 years

This camp is for kids ready to get their hands dirty and explore the wild side of gardening! Rooted in the nationally recognized Junior Master Gardener curriculum, this immersive camp blends science, nature, and creativity through hands-on projects, outdoor exploration, and habitat fun. Campers will plant with pollinators in mind, build wildlife homes, investigate insects, and learn how gardens can support birds, bees, and beneficial creatures.

9:00 am - 12:00 pm

Heritage Trail Park

Fee: \$195/Resident, \$225/Nonresident



CAMP REGISTRATION

Camp Registration Opens

Monday, March 2
8 am

- Online registration only
- You must have a MyRec account to register
- Enrollment is on first-come, first-served basis
- Children must be correct age at the start of their camp
- Camp questions can be directed to recreation@zionsville-in.gov



2026 Camp Policies and Procedures

Transfer Policy

A transfer from one day camp to another day camp is contingent upon the availability of spots within the desired camp. If the camp is at maximum capacity, a transfer will not be allowed. There will be no wait list offered for camps once registration is full. It is recommended that families check back occasionally to see if spots have opened from cancellations. There are no camper substitutions.

Age Policy

The cutoff date for a camper's age is the first day of the camp week. There will be no age exceptions for any camp.

Cancellation & Refund Policy

The Zionsville Parks and Recreation will issue a full refund if the department cancels a camp. Camp cancellations received by end of business day April 30 will receive a 100% refund, less a \$10 service charge for cancellation per camp, per camper. Cancellations received between May 1 to end of business day May 15 will receive 50% refund. Cancellations made after May 15 will not be issued a refund.

Inclusion, Modifications and Other Considerations

The Zionsville Parks and Recreation Summer camp program is committed to being an inclusive program. We will make reasonable modifications to allow participants of many different ability levels to join our camp programs. With that in mind, our summer camps are not specialized or therapeutic programs. Safety of our staff and each participant is our top priority. Planning reasonable modifications may take time. The earlier we know of your need the more likely we can make modifications before the programs begin. We reserve the right to decline modifications if said modifications fundamentally alter the nature of the program or is unreasonable as outlined by ADA regulations.

NATURE EDUCATION PROGRAMS

Children's Programs

Drop-in Discovery

Zionsville Nature Center

Drop into the Zionsville Nature Center to explore new topics each month with our Naturalist staff. Celebrate the changing seasons with crafts and activities for all ages.

Animal Masks

March 7 SAT 1:00 - 3:00 pm

Frogs

March 28 SAT 1:00 - 3:00 pm

Life Cycles

April 17 FRI 1:00 - 3:00 pm

Nests

May 15 FRI 1:00 - 3:00 pm

Little Sprouts REG

Heritage Trail Park

Let your little one's curiosity take root! This hands-on series introduces young explorers to the wonders of soil, seeds and sunshine through playful activities, sensory experiences and simple garden projects.

Ages: 3 – 6 years with an adult
Fee: \$5/Resident, \$7/Nonresident

Plant Parts

Explore stems, leaves, flowers, and roots through hands-on play and movement while learning how each part helps a plant thrive.

March 17 MON 10:00 - 11:00 am

Roots & Shoots

Dig underground and reach for the sky as little gardeners discover how roots and shoots help plants grow big and strong!

April 13 MON 10:00 - 11:00 am

Garden Artists

Create colorful masterpieces using leaves, flowers, and nature treasures as we turn the garden into an outdoor art studio!

May 11 MON 10:00 - 11:00 am

Meet the Animals

Zionsville Nature Center

Stop by the Zionsville Nature Center for an exciting chance to meet and learn about our resident reptiles and amphibians. No reservations needed—just drop in and experience the adventure!

March 12 THUR 3:00 - 3:30 pm

March 24 TUE 10:00 - 10:30 am

April 3 FRI 10:00 - 10:30 am

April 9 THUR 3:00 - 3:30 pm

April 21 TUE 10:00 - 10:30 am

May 7 THUR 3:00 - 3:30 pm

May 23 SAT 10:00 - 10:30 am



To register for a program
Scan the QR or visit
zionsvilleparksrecreation.org

SCAN QR CODE



Owl Pellets REG

Tuesday, March 31

Why do owls regurgitate pellets? What do owls eat? Join a Naturalist for an exciting owl pellet dissection. We'll use tools to investigate and identify bones of prey and learn all about the characteristics of owls.

2:00 – 3:00 pm

Zionsville Nature Center

Ages: 6+

Fee: \$6/Resident, \$8/Nonresident

Toddler Trek REG

Toddler Treks are a perfect way to introduce our youngest audience to nature! Each month toddlers and their caregivers will meet at a different park to explore a theme through play, hands-on activities, and outdoor experiences. Older siblings are welcome to attend, but activities are geared towards 4 and under. Dress for the weather and be prepared to get moving!

Ages: 4 and under with an adult

Fee: \$5/Resident, \$7/Nonresident

Birds

March 6 FRI 10:00 - 11:00 am SNP

Water

April 10 FRI 10:00 - 11:00 am TF

Five Senses

May 1 FRI 10:00 - 11:00 am OWP



Zionsville Parks and Recreation's Youth Nature Education Programs are made possible by the generous support of the Zionsville Parks Foundation.

NATURE EDUCATION PROGRAMS

Family Programs

Amphibian Night Hike **REG**

Friday, April 17

Chirp, trill, peep, croak! Spring evenings come alive with amphibian calls. Join us for an evening hike as we listen and learn about the amphibians that call our area home.

6:00 - 7:00 pm

Location Decided Closer to Date

Ages: 6+

Fee: \$5/Resident, \$7/Nonresident

Bird Nest Engineer Challenge **REG**

Wednesday, April 1

From tiny hummingbird nests made from spiderwebs, to giant Bald Eagle nests that can weigh more than a car, bird nests are incredible feats of nature engineering! Join us to learn about different types of bird nests, the materials they use, and then try your hand at building your own nests through different challenges.

2:00 – 3:00 pm

Elm Street Green

Ages: 6+

Fee: \$6/Resident, \$8/Nonresident

Creek Creatures **REG**

Saturday, May 30

What lives in Eagle Creek? So many things! From fish to frogs to aquatic insects, our local creeks are filled with creatures! Borrow a net and get your feet wet with us as we explore and identify the different animals who call our creeks home. Children must be accompanied in the water by an adult; secure shoes are required.

2:00 – 3:00 pm

Overley-Worman Park

Ages: 6+

Fee: \$5/Resident, \$7/Nonresident



Outdoor Escape Room: The Case of the Missing Habitat **REG**

Saturday, April 18

Can your family crack the case? Important habitat clues have gone missing, and the trail holds the key to finding them. Your family will explore the park in search of clues that help put wildlife habitats back together. Along the way, you'll work together to solve hands-on puzzles, uncover hidden messages, and try a few simple science experiments.

This family-friendly program is best suited for ages 6 and up. Younger siblings are welcome to join the fun with help from family members. Please register one person per team or family. Program fee includes materials and small take-home prizes

10:00 - 11:00 am

Overley-Worman Park

Ages: 6+

Fee: \$30 per family/Residents,
\$35 per family/Nonresidents



Slimy Salamander Hike **REG**

Saturday, April 11

Salamanders are an interesting amphibian! They may look like a lizard, but these slimy creatures are more related to frogs. Learn all about our local salamanders as we hike and search a few secret spots to see if we can find a few!

2:00 – 3:00 pm

Starkey Nature Park

Ages: 3+

Fee: \$5/Resident, \$7/Nonresident



Wilderness Adventures

Workshop **REG**

Saturday, April 18

Pack your sense of adventure and join us for the Wilderness Adventures Workshop! Families will dive into hands-on survival skills like shelter building, flint and steel fire-starting, navigation, and foraging. This exciting workshop builds confidence, teamwork, and outdoor know-how. Get ready to learn, explore, and thrive in the wild together!

2:00 – 4:00 pm

Overley-Worman Park

Fee: \$10/Resident, \$14/Nonresident

Woodcock Walk **REG**

Friday, March 7

Join us for on an evening walk to search for one of nature's most amazing courtship displays. In early spring evenings, the male American Woodcock can sometimes be seen doing its unique spiral ascent into the air, followed by a zig-zag flight pattern as he descends. If you are in the right place at the right time, you can see many male woodcocks doing this "sky dance", as Aldo Leopold called it, to attract females.

6:30 – 7:30 pm

Overley-Worman Park

Fee: \$5/Resident, \$7/Nonresident

NATURE EDUCATION PROGRAMS

Adult & Teen

Photography Bird Walk **REG**

Saturday, May 9

Experience the beauty of spring migration through your camera lens! Join a Naturalist for a relaxed walk as we search for colorful songbirds and other seasonal visitors. This slow-paced program is perfect for anyone who enjoys capturing nature's details. Bring your camera or smartphone and enjoy a peaceful morning on the trail. Photography tips and tricks will be shared along the way.

9:00 – 10:30 am

Starkey Nature Park

Ages: 10+

Fee: \$6/Resident, \$8/Nonresident



Volunteer Naturalist Training **REG**

Friday, March 20

Become a Volunteer Naturalist with Zionsville Parks & Recreation! This training will teach you how to lead educational field trips for local school groups. We will cover our field trip themes, natural history topics, trail side activities, as well as teaching techniques. Previous experience working with children is helpful but not required. Just bring your enthusiasm for working with kids!

Full background check required before volunteering with school programs.

10:00 am – 2:00 pm

Zionsville Nature Center

Ages: 18+

Start Native: An Introduction to Plants & Garden Design **REG**

Monday, March 23

New to native plants? This evening workshop provides an approachable introduction to natives, their benefits, and the fundamentals of designing your very first native planting bed. No experience required, just curiosity.

6:00 – 7:00 pm

Zionsville Nature Center

Ages: 14+

Fee: \$5/Resident, \$7/Nonresident



Zionsville Parks and Recreation Fee Statement

The Zionsville Board of Parks and Recreation is committed to providing an equitable park system that offers access to high-quality green spaces and programming for all residents. To sustain a wide range of recreational opportunities, the Department follows a cost recovery philosophy that bases fees on the balance between community benefit and individual benefit. This approach directs public investment toward services with broad community impact - such as parks, trails, playgrounds, and community events - while applying reasonable fees to programs and rentals that primarily serve individual participants. All fees collected are reinvested into a dedicated account to fund staffing, supplies and equipment. By aligning public funding and user contributions, we ensure our parks and programs remain accessible, well-maintained, well-staffed, and of lasting value to the community.



ZIONSVILLE NATURE CENTER

Hours of Operation

Tuesday - Saturday
10 am - 5 pm

The Zionsville Nature Center encourages Zionsville and Central Indiana families to take an active role in their native environment through educational and inquiry-based programs and activities.

The Zionsville Nature Center was founded in 2002. It is currently located inside the Hussey Mayfield Memorial Public Library in the Children's Department.

Exhibits within the Nature Center focus on local Indiana habitats and wildlife.



NATURALIST NOTES: CONNECTING KIDS WITH NATURE

Rachel Felling

Naturalist
Zionsville Nature Center

The arrival of spring brings many things; emerging wildflowers, birds migrating, and frogs beginning to call. For our staff, spring also signals field trip season, which means hundreds of eager students visiting our parks, excited to spend the day in nature. Of all of the field trips our staff hosts each year, Nature Connections is perhaps the most immersive and engaging.

Nature Connections started as a pilot program with Eagle Elementary 3rd grade students in 2022. Now in its 4th year, four Zionsville elementary schools participate. The program began with the intention of working with students beyond a single field trip, to help kids connect with nature and their local ecosystems on a deeper level. Nature Connections includes multiple classroom programs throughout the school year where our Naturalist staff visit with interactive lessons and activities that help 3rd graders understand local ecosystems and how humans can impact those ecosystems. In the spring, the schools then visit a Zionsville park for a field trip to see human impacts in action. Finally, the students complete a service project so they can leave having had a strong positive impact on the environment.

If you happen to be in one of our parks on field trip day, you will see our staff and Volunteer Naturalists leading students, teachers, and chaperones into Eagle Creek to assess water quality. Students do this by taking water temperature, testing pH levels, determining turbidity, and everyone's favorite, searching to see what animals live in the water. Certain creatures, mostly small aquatic insects, can only survive in clean water, so their presence is a great indicator of watershed health. During these field trips our 3rd graders have also found fish, crayfish, frogs, salamanders, and turtles during their search. After observing and recording species found, everything is let go back into the creek.

These immersive and memorable field trips reinforce classroom concepts. Everyone leaves the field trip tired, but understanding their connection, and inspired to have a positive impact on our local ecosystems. As we continue to grow Nature Connections, with the goal of working with all Zionsville Community School 3rd graders starting in the 2026-2027 school year, we want to thank the Zionsville Parks Foundation, who has supported the program since its inception.



SCHOOL AND OUTREACH PROGRAMS

After-School Nature Club **REG**

Zionsville Nature Center

Are you ready for an after-school adventure? Join our After-School Nature Club! Each month, we'll uncover the wonders of the natural world through outdoor exploration, fun games, and hands-on activities. This club is perfect for curious kids who love exploring, creating, and playing. Come discover the magic of nature - adventure awaits!

Ages: 6 - 12 years

Fee: \$5/Resident, \$7/Nonresident

Level Up Outdoors

March 25 WED 3:00 - 4:00 pm

Reptiles and Amphibians

April 22 WED 3:00 - 4:00 pm

Wetland Exploration

May 27 WED 3:00 - 4:00 pm

Jr Ecologist Homeschool Club **REG**

Calling all young nature enthusiasts! Join a Naturalist from the Zionsville Nature Center for an engaging monthly homeschool series designed to spark curiosity and a love for the natural world. Each month dives into a new nature theme through fun, hands-on activities.

At the end of each class, children will receive a themed take-home packet filled with ideas and activities to continue exploring at home. This is a drop-off program, but parents are welcome to stay nearby if they wish.

Ages: 7 - 12

Fee: \$6/Resident, \$8/Nonresident

Patterns in Nature

March 17 TUE 2:00 - 3:30 pm OWP

Spring Wildflowers

April 14 TUE 10:00 - 11:30 am SNP

April 23 THUR 2:00 - 3:30 pm SNP

Migration

May 21 THUR 2:00 - 3:30 pm ZNC

May 26 TUE 10:00 - 11:00 am ZNC

PEEPs **REG**

Preschool Environmental Ed Program

Let curiosity lead the way! PEEPs is a playful, hands-on nature program for preschoolers and their caregivers. Each week, we encourage exploration through outdoor adventures, sensory play, and discovery-based learning. Together, we'll follow the seasons, explore local wildlife, and support early development through movement, creativity, and connection with nature. Register monthly to join a themed 3-week series. Come ready to play, explore, and get a little messy!

10:00 - 11:00 am

Ages: 3 - 6 with an adult

Fee: \$15/Resident, \$21/Nonresident

Letters & Numbers in Nature **REG**

Thursday, March 12, 19 & 26

N is for nature! Join us as we search for letters and numbers hidden in sticks, stones, and shadows. We'll use nature to count, build, and explore together.

Turkey Foot Nature Park

Hello Spring! **REG**

Thursday, April 16, 23 & 30

Nature is waking up all around us! Spend your mornings discovering spring wildflowers, listening to amphibians calling, and exploring the outdoors as we welcome warmer days and new growth.

Starkey Nature Park

Pop-Up PEEPs **REG**

Spring adventures pop up in May! These one-day programs invite preschoolers and their caregivers to dive into hands-on play and outdoor discovery, with each session focusing on a single nature theme. Join us for one or all three!

Ages: 3 - 6 years

Fee: \$5/Resident, \$7/Nonresident

Bugs

May 7 THUR 10:00 - 11:00 am ESG

Mud

May 16 SAT 10:00 - 11:00 am SNP

Creek Stomp

May 28 THUR 10:00 - 11:00 am OWP



Outreach Programs

Discover Your Backyard

Join us each month as the Trailhopper, our mobile Nature Center, visits one of our local parks and discover what's happening in our backyard with hands-on activities and adventures. Drop-in and stay as long as you'd like!

Amazing Amphibians

April 4 SAT 2:00 - 4:00 pm ZNS

Migration

May 16 SAT 1:00 - 3:00 pm OWP

Park and PLAY

Get off your couch, get out of your house! Join the Zionsville Parks at your local park for some fun outdoor activities, sports, games and more! Drop-in and stay as long as you'd like. Each month we will PARK in one of our Zionsville parks and set up free activities so you can PLAY!

April 24 FRI 10:00 - 11:30 am OWP

May 21 THUR 10:00 - 11:30 am HTP

SCAN QR CODE



To register for a program
Scan the QR or visit
zionsvilleparksrecreation.org

RECREATION PROGRAMS

Dino Egg-ventures **REG**

Saturday, March 21

Calling all kids! Join us as we have an EGG-citing adventure dinosaur style. Go on a dinosaur egg scavenger hunt, build your own dinosaur, get creative with dinosaur art, and join us as we Dino STOMP all around Elm Street Green. Dress for the weather.

10:00 – 11:00 am

Ages: 2 - 10 years

Elm Street Green

Fee: \$5/Resident, \$7/Nonresident

Kids Bike Rodeo:

Roll into Summer **REG**

Saturday, May 30

During this two-hour event, young riders will rotate through fun, hands-on stations to practice bike safety skills like helmet fit, stopping, turning, and riding with confidence. To ensure a great experience for every rider, age groups will participate during scheduled time blocks—bring your bike, helmet, and get ready to roll into summer safely!

9:00 – 11:00 am

Mulberry Fields Park

Ages: 3 – 12

Fee: \$5/Resident, \$7/Nonresident



Pickleball

Introduction to Pickleball **REG**

Mulberry Field Park

Join the pickleball craze that has been sweeping the nation! Join us for an introduction to pickleball! This class will cover the basics of pickleball rules, terminology, primary skills, and more. Paddles and balls will be provided.

Ages: 15+

Fee: \$10/Resident, \$15/Nonresident

April 22	WED	10:00 - 11:30 am
May 6	WED	10:00 - 11:30 am

Pickleball Date Night **REG**

Friday, May 8

Grab your favorite pickleball partner and join us for a fun, social evening on the courts! Designed for friendly competition, laughter, and plenty of rallies. Couples will rotate through a round-robin style of play, facing a variety of teams throughout the night while keeping things light, welcoming, and fun —plus a few fun awards at the end of the night.

6:30 – 8:30 pm

Mulberry Fields Park

Ages: 18+

Fee: \$20 per couple/Resident,

\$25 per couple/Nonresident

Women's Pickleball

Round Robin **REG**

Tuesday April 28, May 5, 12 & 19

Join us this spring for Zionsville Parks and Recreation's 4-week Pickleball round robin league for women. Participate in the greatest sport in town, show off your skills, and earn some friendly bragging rights — all while having fun in a relaxed, social atmosphere! You must be able to attend all four dates. This league is for Advanced Beginner 3.0 level.

6:00 – 7:30 pm

Mulberry Fields Park

Ages: 18+

Fee: \$40/Resident, \$50/Nonresident



Community Trivia Night **REG**

Thursday, March 5

Test your Hoosier pride! Gather your team and compete through rounds featuring Indiana history, plants and animals, pop culture, sports legends, local landmarks, and unexpected fun facts. Only one member per team needs to register.

6:00 - 8:00 pm

Ages: 14+

Fee: \$35/Resident team,

\$40/Nonresident team

My Grown-Up & Me Etiquette Class **REG**

Thursday, April 9

Manners meet modern life in this sweet and engaging etiquette class presented by the Kind Kettle. Through games, role-playing, and hands-on activities, we will learn age-appropriate social skills like introductions, table manners, and confidence in public settings. It's an interactive experience that builds lifelong skills — and creates special moments together.

6:00 – 8:00 pm

Ages: 4+

Fee: \$25/Resident, \$30/Nonresident

Mom & Me Cookie Decorating **REG**

Thursday, May 7

Sweet memories are made one cookie at a time! No experience needed — just come ready to laugh, decorate, and enjoy a fun-filled time together. Each registration comes with a cookie decorating kit with cookies, icing and sprinkles from Redwood Cookie Company, perfect for 2.

6:00 - 8:00 pm

Ages: 3+

Fee: \$25/Resident per kit,

\$30/Nonresident per kit

CELEBRATE WITH ZIONSVILLE PARKS

Zionsville Nature Center Parties

For the Nature Lover in Your Family

Create a unique nature-themed birthday party experience for your child to celebrate their special day! Choose a party based on their interests and the season.

During the party, children will spend time discovering the outdoors through observation, exploration, and hands-on activities. There is also plenty to do indoors if the weather is inclement.

Birthday parties are available for children 4 years and up. Reservations can be made up to 3 months in advance.

What You Receive:

- An exciting program and hands-on activities with a Naturalist
- A gift from Zionsville Parks and Recreation for the birthday child
- PDF invitation with directions you can email to your guests
- Zionsville Nature Center will supply goodie bags, tables, seating, reusable tablecloths, napkins, plates, and simple decorations
- Total party length is 1.5 hours



Scan for more information or to reserve your date today!

www.zionsville-in.gov/ZNCbirthday



Zionsville Parks Birthday Parties

Create a unique birthday party experience for your child to celebrate their special day! Choose a party based on their interests and the season.

- Birthday parties are available for children 4 years and up
- Programs are 1 hour in length
- Max 20 children
- Must be added to an existing Zionsville Park shelter reservation



ZIONSVILLE PARKS AT YOUR EVENT

Looking for a unique addition to your business or community event? Let us bring the Zionsville Parks to you! The Creekstomper and Trailhopper are available for local businesses and organizations to help provide information and experiences for our community. Whether a church or school function, the neighborhood block party, or a promotional event at your business let the Zionsville Parks help create memories.

What You Receive:

- Experienced Parks and Recreation staff ready to interact with community members
- Your choice of a nature or recreation experience allowing visitors to come and go as they please
- Minimum of 2 hour rental required

Add the Trailhopper or Creekstomper to your party with a Zionsville park shelter reservation



SCAN ME

SHELTER RESERVATIONS



Zionsville parks are ideal locations for parties, meetings, reunions, weddings or picnics. Reservable shelters allow for exclusive use of park shelters for a prearranged period. Reservations may not extend beyond the current calendar year.

Scan the QR for details and locations or visit zionsville-in.gov/parks



SCAN ME

Reservation Policies

- Alcoholic beverages are not permitted. This ordinance is strictly enforced.
- Permission for amplified sound may be revoked at any time if deemed disruptive.
- User groups may not sell food, beverages or any items in the park. Fundraising activities require Park Board approval in advance.
- No inflatables are permitted in Zionsville parks.
- Food truck and entertainment business additions to your rental require additional permitting and approval.
- At the end of the reserved period, the reservation holder must leave the designated space in the same condition as found. Reservation holders are responsible for any and all damages to park property and/or trash disposal. A \$50 clean-up fee may be charged for any mess that requires additional staff time to clean.



Zionsville Community Gardens

Community Garden Plots are available in several Zionsville parks for an annual membership. A \$25 deposit is collected during registration and may be forfeited if a plot is neglected, abandoned or not maintained according to the Community Garden policy.

This program is intended to promote health, environmental stewardship, gardening hobbyists, and community engagement while ensuring safe, equitable, and well-maintained public spaces. Plot holders are assigned a garden plot for their personal enjoyment and responsible for the upkeep and care of the assigned plot.

Garden Plot Reservations open March 12.
For more information scan the QR code



SHELTER RESERVATIONS



Wedding & Premier Reservations

Say "I Do" in Zionsville Parks

Zionsville Parks and Recreation offers intimate, charming outdoor wedding ceremony locations designed for couples seeking a beautiful, low-stress setting surrounded by nature and small-town character. Inspired by popular garden-style venues and micro-wedding locations throughout the Indianapolis area, our parks are ideal for ceremonies —not seated dinners or large receptions.

Both venues are best suited for gatherings of up to 50 guests, making them perfect for elopements, vow renewals, and small weddings that prioritize simplicity, scenery, and connection.

Pavilion at Elm Street Green

The Pavilion at Elm Street Green (pictured) offers a peaceful, open-air setting surrounded by expansive green space, mature trees, and a relaxed neighborhood feel. Its covered pavilion, wide lawn, and easy accessibility make it especially well-suited for simple, elegant ceremonies with a natural backdrop.

Lincoln Park

Nestled in the heart of downtown Zionsville, Lincoln Park offers a romantic garden atmosphere with winding paths, seasonal blooms, mature trees, and classic small-town charm—making it a favorite for timeless ceremonies.

Lincoln Park is closed for renovation until Fall 2026.



For more information scan the QR
Or visit zionsville-in.gov/parks



HERITAGE TRAIL DOG PARK

The Heritage Trail Dog Park is approximately 3.5 acres and has separate areas for small and large dogs. Amenities on-site include benches, shade areas, pet waste stations, a water fountain with a dog bowl attachment, picnic shelters, and paved walking trails. Dog park hours are from dawn to dusk, 365 days a year. All dogs must be registered and current on vaccinations. Membership is valid for one year.

Residential Fees:

\$75/yr first dog
\$50/yr additional dogs
limit 3 dogs/household

Nonresidential Fees:

\$120/yr
no multiple dog discount

Fees are reinvested to cover ongoing dog park costs and maintenance.

Scan me





ZIONSVILLE
PARKS & RECREATION

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@zionsvilleparksrecreation

