

1000 Islands Environmental Center Fall/Winter 2025 Public Programs

Saturday, September 6 | 11:00 AM – 12:00 PM **Survival Series**

Learn outdoor skills like fire building, foraging, and more with library and nature center staff! Each session will focus on a new survival skill. This program is open to all ages. Children 12 and under must be accompanied by an adult. Registration is recommended but not required. These are hands-on sessions and may be held outdoors; please plan accordingly. ***Register through the Kaukauna Public Library website. FREE***

Saturday, September 6 | 11:00 AM – 1:00 PM **FOCUS ON THE FOX – Service Saturday: River and Conservancy Zone Cleanup** Help kickoff our month-long celebration of World Rivers Day locally by participating in a Service Saturday project to clean up trash and other debris from the Fox River and all around the 1000 Islands Conservancy Zone! Bring your own gloves if you have them, but we do have some available to use. ***No registration required - drop by anytime during the program hours to do your part!***

Tuesday, September 9 | 4:00 PM – 5:15 PM **1000 Islands Junior Naturalist**

Our Junior Naturalist program is here to turn middle schoolers into wilderness experts. Learn to navigate the wild, build awesome shelters, identify plants and wildlife, and so much more! Once they have mastered these skills, students will have the unique chance to become teachers themselves, sharing their knowledge and experiences with their peers. This hands-on approach not only reinforces their learning but also boosts their confidence and leadership skills. ***Grades 5-8. Class size is limited, and pre-registration required. FREE***

Wednesday, September 10 | 6:00 PM – 6:45 PM **Grounded & Resilient: Moving**

Meditation in Nature This program is a transformative outdoor experience that blends ancient practices and modern awareness to cultivate resilience, calm, and embodied presence. Participants will engage in gentle yet powerful movement and standing yoga poses. Growing personal resilience is woven into each session as well. This program empowers each participant to reconnect with themselves and the living world. ***Classes will be held on the second Wednesday and the 4th Sunday of each month. We will be meeting outside weather permitting. Class size is limited, and pre-registration required. FREE***

Friday, September 12 | 9:30 AM – 10:30 AM **1000 Little Wonders: FOCUS ON THE FOX - Fish** This class is for children 3-5 years old and their caregiver. Listen to the book *Monica the Muskie* by Bob Allen, enjoy a hike, work on a craft, and enjoy some time together learning and laughing! This program will be both inside and outside. Please dress for the weather. ***Class size is limited, and pre-registration required. FREE***

Thursday, September 18 | 1:00 PM – 2:30 PM **Companion Gardening and Corn Tasting** Join library staff at 1000 Islands Environmental Center to learn about the trials and successes of companion gardening and how you can grow one in your backyard. All ages are welcome. The first portion of this program will be presentation style, followed by corn tasting and a corn husk flower craft. ***Registration is not required. Patrons do not need to live in Kaukauna or have a library card to attend.***

Saturday, September 20 | 11:00 AM – 2:00 PM **FOCUS ON THE FOX – Fishing Clinic & Crayfish and Critter Hunt** Join the Kaukauna High School Fishing Team and Nature Center staff for a day of fishing on the Fox River and Crayfishing in Konkapot Creek! No experience is necessary. Bring your own fishing pole and/or net or share in the use of our available equipment. ***No registration necessary, stop by anytime during the program hours. FREE***

Monday, September 22 – Sunday, October 5 | 12:30 PM - 5:30 PM on 9/22; All other days 8:00 AM – 5:30 PM **Goats Browsing on Invasive Plants at 1000 Islands** Goats from Mulberry Lane Farms will be in a fenced area to eat buckthorn and other invasive plants. Weather permitting, the goats will be out working (eating) daily. Check our Facebook page for opportunities to volunteer to be a Goat Watcher! ***FREE (Donations appreciated to help support the Kaukauna Goats program.)***

Friday, September 26 | 9:00 AM – 3:00 PM **A Storybook Walk and Adventure** This is a fun, educational activity for the entire family. Enjoy the outdoors and read the book *G is for Goat* by Patricia Polacco on our kid-friendly boardwalk trail. Reading stations will be set up along the boardwalk for a self-guided walk to read a page or two at each station. Visit each station to read the entire book. After completing the book, be sure to explore the Conservancy Zone and trails, and stop inside the Nature Center for a take-along craft courtesy of Kaukauna Public Library. ***FREE***

Saturday, September 27 | 11:00 AM – 12:00 PM **Honey Extraction Event** Join beekeeper, Brian Jacobs, as he demonstrates honey extraction from his local hives. Experience how raw honey tastes and see how it is collected from a hive, from the safety of the Nature Center building. ***Class size is limited, and pre-registration required. FREE***

Sunday, September 28 | 9:00 AM – 9:45 AM **Grounded & Resilient: Moving Meditation in Nature** This program is a transformative outdoor experience that blends ancient practices and modern awareness to cultivate resilience, calm, and embodied presence. Participants will engage in gentle yet powerful movement through *qi gong* (a form of *Tai Chi*) and standing yoga poses. Growing personal resilience is woven into each session as well. Whether you're stepping into stillness or flowing with movement, this program empowers each participant to reconnect with themselves and the living world. *Classes will be held on the second Wednesday and the 4th Sunday of each month. We will be meeting outside weather permitting. Class size is limited, and pre-registration required. FREE*

Saturday, October 4 | 11:00 AM – 12:00 PM **Survival Series**
Join the Kaukauna Public Library and 1000 Islands staff to learn fire building! Staff will share the basics of fire-making, including gathering materials and various fire-starting methods. Open to all ages. Children 12 and under must be accompanied by an adult. **Registration is encouraged but not required—sign up through the Kaukauna Public Library website.** Dress for the weather and join the fun! **FREE**

Saturday, October 4 | 12:30 PM – 2:30 PM **FOCUS ON THE FOX – Papermaking**
The Fox River, and the innovations of local companies are what made our area the “Paper Valley” and helped build our community. Celebrate this incredible legacy of the Fox with a hands-on papermaking experience! Participants will make a piece of artistic recycled paper and learn more about the history of papermaking in the Kaukauna area. ***Pre-registration is appreciated but not required, stop by anytime during the program hours. FREE***

Wednesday, October 8 | 6:00 PM – 6:45 PM **Grounded & Resilient: Moving Meditation in Nature** This program is a transformative outdoor experience that blends ancient practices and modern awareness to cultivate resilience, calm, and embodied presence. Participants will engage in gentle yet powerful movement and standing yoga poses. Growing personal resilience is woven into each session as well. This program empowers each participant to reconnect with themselves and the living world. *Classes will be held on the second Wednesday and the 4th Sunday of each month. We will be meeting outside weather permitting. Class size is limited, and pre-registration required. FREE*

Friday, October 10 | 9:30 AM – 10:30 AM [1000 Little Wonders – Owls](#)

This class is for children 3-5 years old and their caregiver. Listen to the book *Hoot Owl: Master of Disguise* by Sean Taylor, enjoy a hike, work on a craft, and enjoy some time together learning and laughing! This program will be both inside and outside. This program will be both inside and outside. Please dress for the weather. ***Class size is limited, and pre-registration required. FREE***

Saturday, October 11 | 12:00 PM – 2:00 PM [Outdoor Geocaching Treasure Hunt](#)

We're turning the Conservancy Zone into a treasure-filled wonderland! You'll get to try your hand at geocaching, a real-world outdoor treasure hunting game. Share in the use of our handheld GPS units to find hidden caches and uncover sweet candy treasures! ***Pre-Registration is appreciated but not required. Stop by anytime during the program hours. FREE***

Tuesday, October 14 | 4:00 PM – 5:15 PM [1000 Islands Junior Naturalist](#)

Our Junior Naturalist program is here to turn middle schoolers into wilderness experts. Learn to navigate the wild, build awesome shelters, identify plants and wildlife, and so much more! Once they have mastered these skills, students will have the unique chance to become teachers themselves, sharing their knowledge and experiences with their peers. This hands-on approach not only reinforces their learning but also boosts their confidence and leadership skills. ***Grades 5-8 Class size is limited, and pre-registration required. FREE***

Friday, October 24 | 9:00 AM – 3:00 PM [A Storybook Walk and Adventure](#)

This is a fun, educational activity for the entire family. Enjoy the outdoors and read the book *The Little Old Lady Who Was Not Afraid of Anything* by Linda Williams on our kid-friendly boardwalk trail. Reading stations will be set up along the boardwalk for a self-guided walk to read a page or two at each station. Visit each station to read the entire book. After completing the book, be sure to explore the Conservancy Zone and trails, and stop inside the Nature Center for a take-along craft courtesy of Kaukauna Public Library. ***FREE***

Saturday, October 25 | 12:00 PM – 2:00 PM **Junior Girl Scout Badge Clinic – Geocaching**

Scouts will earn their Junior Geocaching Badge and have fun working together by fulfilling these five steps: Preparing for your adventure by learning about caching, Making a trade item, Learning to use a GPS receiver, Going on a geocaching adventure, and Taking part in a travel-bug's travels. *Pre-registration is required, and class size is limited. Please register through the Girl Scouts of the Northwestern Great Lakes via their website or by calling 888-747-6945. The cost is \$11 per scout.*

Sunday, October 26 | 9:00 AM – 9:45 AM **Grounded & Resilient: Moving Meditation in Nature**

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Thursday, October 30 | 6:00 PM – 8:00 PM **Trail of Terror & Community Campfire**

Embark on a spooky self-guided hike on our haunted boardwalk trail, where ghouls and goblins will both scare and delight! After the hike, it's time to calm your nerves and unwind. Gather around the campfire to enjoy snacks, share stories, and have loads of fun under the open sky. Younger ages can enjoy Halloween themed stories at Kaukauna Public Library and join the campfire afterwards. *Haunted Trail intended for ages 12+ / Campfire Open to All Ages. FREE*

Saturday, Nov 1 | 11:00 AM – 12:00 PM **Survival Series**

Join library and nature center staff to learn the basics of shelter building! This hands-on program is open to all ages. Children 12 and under must be accompanied by an adult. Sessions may take place outdoors—please dress for the weather. Registration is encouraged but not required. *Sign up through the Kaukauna Public Library website. FREE*

Friday, Nov 7 | 9:30 AM – 10:30 AM **1000 Little Wonders – Turkeys**

This class is for children 3-5 years old and their caregiver. Listen to the book *Gobble, Gobble* by Cathryn Falwell. enjoy a hike, work on a craft, and enjoy some time together learning and laughing! This program will be both inside and outside. This program will start inside and end outside. Please dress for the weather. *Class size is limited, and pre-registration required. FREE*

Saturday, Nov 8 | 11:00 AM – 12:00 PM **Fall-themed DIY Craft**

This program is for younger children and families. Get ready to dive into the vibrant colors of fall with our fun-filled DIY craft session. We'll be creating beautiful fall-themed crafts that will bring the magic of autumn right into your hands. ***Pre-Registration is required. FREE***

Tuesday, November 11 | 4:00 PM – 5:15 PM **1000 Islands Junior Naturalist**

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Friday, Nov 21 | 9:00 AM – 3:00 PM **A Storybook Walk and Adventure**

This is a fun, educational activity for the entire family. Enjoy the outdoors and read the book ***The Hike*** by Alison Farrel on our kid-friendly boardwalk trail. Reading stations will be set up along the boardwalk for a self-guided walk to read a page or two at each station. Visit each station to read the entire book. After completing the book, be sure to explore the Conservancy Zone and trails, and stop inside the Nature Center for a take along craft courtesy of Kaukauna Public Library. ***FREE***

Sunday, November 30 | 9:00 AM – 9:45 AM **Grounded & Resilient: Moving Meditation in Nature** This program is a transformative outdoor experience that blends ancient practices and modern awareness to cultivate resilience, calm, and embodied presence. Participants will engage in gentle yet powerful movement and standing yoga poses. Growing personal resilience is woven into each session as well. This program empowers each participant to reconnect with themselves and the living world. *Classes will be held on the second Wednesday and the 4th Sunday of each month. We will be meeting outside weather permitting. Class size is limited, and pre-registration required. FREE*

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Wednesday, December 10 | 6:00 PM – 6:45 PM **Grounded & Resilient: Moving Meditation in Nature** This program is a transformative outdoor experience that blends ancient practices and modern awareness to cultivate resilience, calm, and embodied presence. Participants will engage in gentle yet powerful movement and standing yoga poses. Growing personal resilience is woven into each session as well. This program empowers each participant to reconnect with themselves and the living world. *Classes will be held on the second Wednesday and the 4th Sunday of each month. We will be meeting outside weather permitting. Class size is limited, and pre-registration required. FREE*

Friday, Dec 12 | 9:30 AM – 10:30 AM **1000 Little Wonders – Pine Trees**

This class is for children 3-5 years old and their caregiver. Listen to the story ***A Wish to be a Christmas Tree*** by Colleen Monroe, enjoy a hike, work on a craft, and enjoy some time together learning and laughing! This program will be both inside and outside. This is an indoor and outdoor program. Please come dressed for the weather. ***Class size is limited, and pre-registration required. FREE***

Tuesday, Dec 16 | 5:00 PM – 7:00 PM **Silent Night Hike**

Embark on a self-guided journey through a mesmerizing winter wonderland along our illuminated boardwalk. Lace up your hiking boots and join us for an evening that promises to be a delightful blend of adventure and tranquility. Hot Chocolate and snacks will be available. ***FREE. Donations are appreciated.***

Friday, Dec 19 | 9:00 AM – 3:00 PM **A Storybook Walk and Adventure**

This is a fun, educational activity for the entire family. Enjoy the outdoors and read the book ***Outside In*** by Deborah Underwood. Reading stations will be set up along the boardwalk for a self-guided walk to read a page or two at each station. Visit each station to read the entire book. After completing the book, be sure to explore the Conservancy Zone and trails, and stop inside the Nature Center for a take-along craft courtesy of Kaukauna Public Library. ***FREE***

Sunday, December 28 | 9:00 AM – 9:45 AM **Grounded & Resilient: Moving Meditation in Nature** This program is a transformative outdoor experience that blends ancient practices and modern awareness to cultivate resilience, calm, and embodied presence. Participants will engage in gentle yet powerful movement and standing yoga poses. Growing personal resilience is woven into each session as well. This program empowers each participant to reconnect with themselves and the living world. ***Classes will be held on the second Wednesday and the 4th Sunday of each month. We will be meeting outside weather permitting. Class size is limited, and pre-registration required. FREE***

Please call the Nature Center building at 920-766-4733 or email thousandisland@kaukauna.gov to register for a program unless otherwise noted.

1000 Islands Environmental Center is proud to provide most of our programming free of charge. Please help us keep these programs free into the future by donating when attending or visiting.