



Elachee Nature Science Center

2125 Elachee Drive, Gainesville GA 30504
Tel 770/535-1976 · Fax 770/535-2302

Calendar of Events

Summer/Fall

2008

Ongoing Programs

Now in the museum!

Admission (includes museum & live animal exhibits): Adults \$5; Ages 2-12 \$3; Members, Free.

Waters of Time - The Chicopee Woods Story. Follow Walnut Creek as you visit previous eras and inhabitants of Chicopee Woods. View two authentic fossilized mosasaur skeletons and learn how cultures lived through actual artifacts, dioramas, & hands-on activities.

Searching for Spaceship Earth. Take a "voyage" to outer space in our astronomy hall filled with displays and interactive activities to acquaint you with our solar system, planet earth, and beyond. Keep up to date with the latest earth and astronomy discoveries through ViewSpace, a continually updating video display from NASA's Space Science Telescope Institute. See amazing views from the Hubble Space Telescope of earth, other planets, and celestial bodies.

Interpretive Chicopee Woods Animal and Botanical Displays. Learn more about the native plants and animals that reside in the Chicopee Woods through our live animal displays of amphibians, reptiles and hawks, interactive habitat kiosk, touch tables, and invasive plant displays.

Neotropical Migratory Birds. Learn about migratory birds that visit our area in this exhibition from the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service. Explore their travels, habitats and survival.

Discover Nature Packs. (Paquete de Naturaleza también en español)

Borrow a backpack with investigative gear, nature guides, & fun learning activities about animals, plants or GPS to help you explore the woods. Also available in Spanish. Free to check out in the lobby.

Camp Elachee 2006. Weekly sessions throughout the summer.

May 27th - August 1st, Monday - Friday, 9am-2pm. Extended care from 8- 9am and/or 2- 5:30pm.

Pre-K, elementary, and middle school youngsters experience a hands-on nature and science-oriented program in a woodland setting. Fun activities include hiking, creek exploration, games, songs, crafts, and special programs relating to the theme of the week. Pre-registration required. Register by mail, phone or online. Call to verify availability.

First Saturday Hikes. 1st Saturday of each month except January & August, 10-11:30 am.

September 6th - Spiders & Millipedes, October 4th - Fall Bird Migration, November 1st - Trees, December 6th - Holiday Scavenger Hunt.

Explore native plants and animals of Chicopee Woods on a naturalist guided hike. Great for families, scouts, and others. Program Fee: Adults, \$5; Ages 2-12, \$3; Under age 2 and Elachee members free.

Elachee's Trail Crew Work Days.

Saturdays. 10am-3pm. July 12th, September 6th, October 11th, November 1st, December 6th.

Also August 2nd, 9am - Noon.

Help maintain the beautiful trails of the preserve. Bring work gloves and sack lunch. Training, tools and snack provided. Call for location and to sign up. Children under 18 must be accompanied by an adult.

Elachee's First Wednesday Home School Preview Day. - Wednesday, July 30th, 10am - noon.

Home school students and parents can sample our science education programs in this free session about reptiles and snakes. Check out our facility, naturalist staff, and SACS-accredited programming. If you wish, bring a picnic lunch for after the program and tour the museum free of charge for the day. Registration will be available for our series of home school programs that begin in August.

1st Wednesday Home School Education Programs.

1st Wednesday of each month - August 2008 through May 2009, 1:30-3:30 pm.

The decomposing world of forest lichens and fungi begins this year's series of programs designed for home-schooled students and parents. Each session covers a different science topic with hands-on, educational, and age-appropriate activities. Topics this year include pond life, energy, bird migration, Cherokee culture, Lake Lanier water study, and others. Program Fee: 10-session year - \$75 per student, \$35 per parent; 5-session semester - \$50 per student, \$25 per parent. Pre-registration required.

(Continued)

Ongoing Events (continued)

Stars Over Elachee Telescope Programs at Chicopee Lake.

Fridays and/or Saturdays at dusk - Friday, August 8th, 8-10 pm; Saturday, September, 6th, 7:30-9:30pm; Friday, October 3rd, 6:45-8:45pm; Saturday, November 1st, 6:15 - 8:15pm; Friday, December 5th and Saturday, December 6th, 5-7 pm.

Learn to use a telescope & star chart to view planets, stars, & constellations in the night sky. Suggested for ages 8 & above. Pre-registration required & space is limited. Call to register and reserve one of our telescopes. Bring a flashlight and pencil. Program fee: Adults, \$10; Children 2-12, \$5; Members free.

Georgia Mountains Archaeology Society.

1st Saturday of each month, 10am-3pm. August 2nd, September 6th, October 4th, November 1st, December 6th.

History enthusiasts can join members of the archaeology club for their monthly meeting to do field studies and categorize artifacts. Free. Membership fee to join club. Those under age 18 need to be accompanied by an adult. Call to confirm date and location.

Special Events

Members Only Programs.

These free programs occur quarterly and are exclusively for our current Elachee members. Please call to reserve your spot or to become a member and join us for these special events.

Saturday, June 21st, 9 am -12 noon. Stream Ecology - Explore our local streams, investigate the critters that inhabit them, and learn about maintaining a healthy water environment.

Saturday, October 11th, 8-11am. Birds - Learn about the varieties of birds that inhabit and migrate through our local area. Our experienced birders will assist you in searching for beautiful and interesting species found in the treetops and around Chicopee Lake.

Backyard Conservation Workshops.

Saturdays, 10am-12noon; September 6th, October 18th.

Compost, 10-11am; Rain & Water Collection, 11am-noon.

Learn the rudiments of composting, a natural way to dispose of leaves and other yard materials while building rich soil for the garden. Then explore ways to use barrels and cisterns to capture and store rain water for your gardens or to create a new rain garden in your yard. These workshops are made possible by a grant from the City of Gainesville and are free to local residents. Call to pre-register.

Elachee's Annual Snake Day.

Saturday, September 13th, 10am – 2pm.

Slither over to the reptilian event of the year and encounter with a slew of live snakes, lizards, frogs, toads, turtles, and tortoises. See and learn about snakes and reptiles from Georgia and around the world. Our expert exhibitors will help to dispel your myths and fears about reptiles, explain why they are important to our world, and answer your many questions. Also go on a guided hike, make a kids' craft, have a critter painted on your face and win or purchase a Snake Day T-shirt. Carpool if possible - there are always lots of visitors! Sponsored by Tipton Construction Company. Admission: Adults, \$5, Children 2-12, \$3, Members: Free.

Pre-order Native Plant Sale. September 15th – 30th.

Plant list available September 15th.

Pre-order fantastic fall plants that will create a garden of color later this autumn. Selections include high quality, drought resistant wildflowers, perennials, native azaleas, and woody shrubs that attract butterflies, birds and wildlife. Order by September 30th for pick up on Wednesday, October 15th 2-7 pm and Thursday, October 16th, 2-7pm.

(Continued)

Special Events (continued)**Elachee's Trail Steward Training.**

Thursday, September 25th, 6-8pm, and Friday, September 26th, 10am – 12 noon. If you like hiking outside consider becoming one of Elachee's Trail Stewards. Help us record visitor numbers, monitor trail and safety conditions, and conduct light trail maintenance while hiking 1-4 hours a week in the Chicopee Woods Nature Preserve. Training includes learning about the preserve, hiking rules and data collection. Pre-registration required. To register call 770-535-1976 or email judith@elachee.org.

Inspired By Nature - Elachee's Safari Benefit Dinner and Auction.

Saturday, October 4th, 6 - 10pm.

Enjoy a casual evening of cocktails, dinner, jazz music, and live and silent auctions featuring unique artwork, trips, entertainment activities, and items from local merchants. Proceeds benefit Elachee environmental education programs. Reservations required in advance. Call for details and reservations.

Adopt-A-Stream Training at Elachee.

Friday, October 17th, 6-10 pm, and Saturday, October 18th, 9am-4pm.

Join us for an intensive 1.5-day workshop that will train you to effectively and accurately monitor streams. Learn to delineate your watershed, chemically analyze streams, and accurately identify macro invertebrates. Upon completion you'll be certified by GA Adopt-A-Stream, the state's leading citizen science stream monitoring organization. Trainees under age 18 are welcome when accompanied by an adult. Program Fee: \$5. Call to pre-register.

Elachee's NightFall Halloween Festival.

Friday, October 24th & Saturday, October 25th, 6-9 pm. Enter the nighttime forest for a non-scary adventure to learn about nocturnal creatures from our animal-costumed naturalists. Also attend a live animal program and enjoy crafts, face painting, storytelling, stargazing, and treats for the children. Sponsored by Jackson EMC. Admission: Elachee members, \$3; Non-members, \$5. Jackson EMC employees receive \$2 admission discount per person with Jackson EMC employee ID card.

Elachee's Weed Warrior Workshop.

Saturday, November 15th, 9am-2pm.

Learn to identify exotic invasive plants found here in Georgia and then investigate removal and control techniques for different species. Participants should bring work gloves. Snacks, drinks, and lunch provided. Pre-registration required. Free. Pre-registration required. To register call 770-535-1976 or email judith@elachee.org.

Georgia Junior Duck Stamp Art Tour.

December 1st - 30th, Monday-Saturday, 10am – 5pm.

Elachee is pleased to again host the Georgia Junior Duck Stamp Art Tour with 100 winning waterfowl renditions drawn by students throughout the state. These entries in the Federal Junior Duck Stamp Conservation and Design Contest sponsored by the Federal Wildlife Service represent hours of waterfowl and habitat research culminating in the amazing artwork in pencil, watercolor, and collage created by each of the K-12 students. Admission (includes entire museum): Adults, \$5; Children ages 2-12, \$3; Children under 2 and Elachee members free.

Elachee's Winter in the Woods Holiday Celebration, Saturday, December 13th, 10am – 1pm.

Slow down and join us for a natural family celebration of the holidays with seasonal crafts, candy cane hunt, holiday music, cookie decorating, scavenger hunt, and winter hikes. Admission: Adults \$5, Children 2-12 \$3, Members and under 2 are Free.

Times and fees subject to change - please call to verify.

Regular museum hours: Monday-Saturday, 10am-5pm. Admission: Adults \$5, children 2-12 \$3, Members free.

Hiking Trails open Sunday-Saturday, 8am-Dusk. Free. Donations Welcome.