



# Elachee Nature Science Center

Educating for Today . . . Preserving for Tomorrow

## **Junior Master Naturalist for Home School Students**

**2011-2012**

Elachee Nature Science Center, the southeast's first nature center and museum to be accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (SACS), is excited to offer for a second year a special program for middle school and high school home school students. This program will combine classroom instruction, field study and service to provide students with an intensive learning experience in the Chicopee Woods Nature Preserve.

Beginning August 3, join us for these popular hands-on, educational and exciting programs scheduled on the first Wednesday afternoon of each month from 1:30-3:30 p.m. The cost for the entire 10 program series is \$75 per student and \$35 per participating parent. Families may also register on a semester basis at a rate of \$50 per student and \$25 per parent. Pre-registration with payment is required before your student may participate in the program.

***Join us for a FREE First Wednesday Preview Day on Wednesday, July 27, from 1:30–3:30 p.m.*** Tour the facility, meet some of the Elachee staff, speak face to face with the Education Director and Program Manager and enjoy a short program presentation. You may register your child on Preview Day too!

### **Fall Semester 2011**

#### **August 3 – *Native American Culture***

Walk in the footsteps of the first inhabitants of the Chicopee Woods. See how ways of living were developed and spread throughout Georgia. Examine pottery, tools and other cultural artifacts found locally under the guidance of knowledgeable Elachee staff and guest experts. Compare Native American culture from the pre-historic tribes to the Creek and Cherokee.

#### **September 7 – *Nature Journaling***

Join Elachee staff member Lavon Callahan, an avid nature journalist, as she helps us develop the skills and techniques that will enhance your appreciation and understanding of the natural world. Learn to sketch or describe the animals, plants and experiences you have in the woods so that some terrific memories will only be as far away as your desk or bookcase.

**October 5 – *Tremendous Trees of Thompson Mill***

Meet at the UGA Thompson Mill Arboretum in Braselton, GA for a special tour of some unique trees found throughout the state. Students will learn how scientists classify trees as they use a dichotomous key to identify tree species and will learn about the various parts of a tree. Arboretum Manager Bill Lott will take you on a special hike

**November 1 – *Telescopes – a special evening program!***

Join us on Tuesday, November 1, from 6:15-8:15 p.m. at the nature center for an evening of astronomy! Learn telescope basics, view celestial objects and identify some common late fall/early winter constellations.

**December 7 – *“My Side of Elachee” Wilderness Survival***

Read and discuss excerpts of “My Side of the Mountain” and then go on your own survival exploration in Chicopee Woods with minimal supplies.

**Spring Semester 2012**

**January 4 – *All About Energy***

Compare the different forms of energy with hands-on demonstrations, solar ovens, water bottle rockets and calorie counting.

**February 1 – *Orienteering II and Geocaching***

Explore Chicopee Woods with a GPS unit and topographical maps. Review compass and map reading basics and then follow a series of clues to navigate through Chicopee Woods.

**March 7 – *Adopt-A-Stream Training***

Learn how to monitor a creek or stream through biological and chemical sampling. Please wear shoes that can get wet and wear clothes that can get muddy. Learn how you and your family can become certified “Adopt a Stream” volunteers.

**April 4 – *Lake Lanier Ecology – a special 3-hour program!***

Hop aboard the *Chota Princess II* catamaran as we explore and analyze Lake Sidney Lanier, Georgia’s most important reservoir, through a number of experiments and demonstrations. This program will be at Aqualand Marina in Flowery Branch, GA and will meet from 1:30-4:30 pm!

**May 2 – *Exploring Redwine Creek***

End the season with a fun and educational hike along the Redwine Water Trail. Participants will begin the 4 mile hike at the nature center and end at the Chicopee Woods Aquatic Studies Center.