



STL City Nature Challenge 2018

Special Events in the City of St. Louis

Friday, April 27

iNaturalist Support with David Wilson at Forest Park

Where: Dennis & Judith Jones Visitor and Education Center

When: 9 AM - NOON

David Wilson, local St. Louis naturalist, will be greeting visitors at Forest Park to answer participants' questions and hand out materials regarding the STL City Nature Challenge.

Saturday, April 28

Save the Frog Day with Herpetologists of the Saint Louis Zoo

Where: Herpetarium at the Saint Louis Zoo

When: 9 AM - NOON

Join us from 9 a.m. to noon in front of the Herpetarium to celebrate "Save the Frog Day." Learn about our region's native frogs and toads, and how to identify them by ear. Zoo staff will also instruct participants on how to use the iNaturalist app, and help document the native flora and fauna during the STL City Nature Challenge!

Nature Tour of Bellefontaine Cemetery & Arboretum with Naturalists

Where: 4947 W. Florissant (meet at the front gate)

When: 10 AM - NOON

Bellefontaine Cemetery & Arboretum is a 314-acre greenspace within the City of St. Louis, situated along the Mississippi River – one of the world's major migratory pathways for myriad animals. Recognizing the importance for conservation within urban areas, staff at Bellefontaine Cemetery & Arboretum have developed landscapes that encourage the presence of wildlife, from the smallest pollinating insect to the burly coyotes that venture onto the property at night. Prairie restorations, native plant gardens, and habitat-oriented horticulture are some of the focused efforts in place to foster visits from birds, mammals, insects, reptile, and amphibians. Join us at 10:00am, when attendees will travel around Bellefontaine Cemetery & Arboretum's manicured grounds to experience the life that fills the sprawling landscape. A mixture of driving and walking for approximately two hours will take curious visitors to places where they can expect to see various waterfowl, foxes, song-birds, pollinators, and maybe a skunk or two!



Saturday, April 28 cont.

Guided Biodiversity Hike at the Missouri Botanical Garden

Where: Missouri Botanical Garden (meet at PlantLab Classroom behind the Climatron)

When: 10 AM – 11:30 AM

Meet at the PlantLab classroom for a brief iNaturalist tutorial followed by a guided walk through the Garden led by trained educators and naturalists.

Forest Park with Ecology Experts, Gary Schimmelpfenig and Thibaud Aronson

Where: Kennedy Savanna (meet at the intersection of Rosebury Avenue and S. Skinker Blvd.)

When: 10 AM – NOON

Join ecologists Thibaud Aronson and Gary Schimmelpfenig for a guided visit to Forest Park's Kennedy Savanna. Thibaud and Gary will engage with participants in the STL City Nature Challenge by providing their birding and ecology experience to gather data through the iNaturalist application, provide commentary, and answer questions.

Help Assess Habitat at O'Fallon Park with Missouri Department of Conservation

Where: O'Fallon Park Rec Complex (meet at front entrance)

When: Saturday, April 28th, 11 AM – 1 PM

Join Missouri Department of Conservation's Josh Ward at O'Fallon Park during the STL City Nature Challenge. O'Fallon Park is preparing up to receive habitat improvement in the coming year, so this event will serve as a pre-habitat improvement survey of the area; this will support measurement of biodiversity changes over time. Be a citizen science and help collect data while learning about habitat improvement efforts and the nature at O'Fallon Park.

Evening Owl Prowl with Mark Glenshaw at Forest Park

Where: Forest Park (Meet at Dennis & Judith Jones Visitor and Education Center)

When: 6:30 PM - 8:30 PM

Join award-winning naturalist and Forest Park Forever volunteer, Mark H.X. Glenshaw, on an owl prowling; a tour to look for, learn about and observe the Great Horned Owls he has studied in Forest Park since December 2005. As a top of the food chain predator, Great Horned Owls have a vitally important ecological role. Owl prowls yield observations of many other animals ranging from raccoons and bats to herons and egrets to toads and frogs. All observations will be logged in iNaturalist as part of the STL City Nature Challenge.

- RSVP to Mark by email mglenshaw@gmail.com. Those that RSVP will receive an e-mail from Mark with detailed instructions on what to wear and bring on the owl prowling.
 - Group size limited to 10 people, 2 attendees maximum per RSVP, no children under 4. First come, first serve.
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Sunday, April 29

Beginner Bird Walk with Audubon & Webster Groves Nature Society at Tower Grove Park

Where: Tower Grove Park, (meet at the Gaddy Bird Garden)

When: 9AM - 11AM

Join us as we explore the winged wonders of Tower Grove Park; meet up at the Gaddy Bird Garden at the northwest corner of Tower Grove Park. No experience required and families welcome. No bird is too common on these walks, the pace is easy and the terrain is flat. Loaner binoculars will be available, and leaders will provide binocular instruction if needed. Wear comfortable shoes, and please dress for the weather. This walk is co-led by the St. Louis Audubon Society and the Webster Groves Nature Study Society.

Get Your National Park Prescription Filled at the Park "Rx" Day with the National Park Service at the Arch

Where: Luther Ely Smith Square 11 North Fourth Street

When: 9AM - 12PM

The STL City Nature Challenge Coincides with National Park Prescription Day. Fill your prescription for outdoor fun by participating in the STL City Nature Challenge in Luther Ely Smith Square at Gateway Arch National Park. Come to the area between the Old Courthouse and the Arch grounds between 9:00 am to 12:00 pm to meet National Park Service rangers. Rangers will help visitors use the iNaturalist app to document park flora and fauna on the newly remodeled park grounds. Visitors can also earn a Citizen Science Junior Ranger badge by completing a bird count activity sheet. Have fun collecting and sharing data on plant and animal species in the park, while competing in this national challenge!

Learn Birding Techniques from a Bird Keeper at the Saint Louis Zoo

Where: Saint Louis Zoo, Deck area by Ray's Grill

When: 11AM. - NOON

Learn birding techniques at the Saint Louis Zoo. Forest Park provides homes to many bird species that breed or overwinter in Missouri. Many of these birds utilize Zoo grounds as they pass through the Forest Park byway. This walk will begin at 11 a.m. and highlight some of our native song birds, ducks and wading birds, as well as basic birding techniques. Participants will join a bird keeper at the deck area by Ray's Grill (the deck area by the Stingrays at Caribbean cove, between the two lakes). Learn how to go birding while competing in this national challenge! In addition to the morning bird walk, participants will learn how to use the iNaturalist app and document the native bird fauna around the zoo campus.

Sunday, April 29 cont.

Pollinators at Bellerive Park with Brightside St. Louis

Where: Bellerive Park (Meet at the playground)

When: 11:00 AM OR 1:00 PM

Discover pollinator habitat with Brightside St. Louis in Bellerive Park! On Sunday, April 29th, meet Brightside representatives at the Bellerive Park playground to learn about the importance of pollinators, the City's monarch butterfly conservation efforts, and how you can protect pollinators in your own yard. Take a guided nature walk around the park to discover habitat restoration efforts, which will support a variety of wildlife. Help St. Louis compete in the City Nature Challenge by documenting park flora and fauna in the iNaturalist app. For questions, please contact Brightside St. Louis: (314) 772-4646

Guided Biodiversity Hike at the Missouri Botanical Garden

Where: Missouri Botanical Garden

When: 1 - 2:30 PM

Meet at the PlantLab classroom for a brief iNaturalist tutorial followed by a guided walk through the Garden led by trained educators and naturalists.



Saint Louis Zoo
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