

**The Janet Huckabee Arkansas River Valley Nature Center** offers recreational and educational programming for people of all ages. Along with daily, weekly and monthly events, the center offers specialized programs suitable for any nature enthusiast.

Keep this schedule handy when you plan your next trip to the nature center. One of our many fun and informative sessions is sure to interest you.

## Daily

### 2 p.m. "Critter Crunch" Animal Feeding

**Friday:** snake feeding

**Saturday:** fish feeding in the large aquarium

**For the rest of the week, stop by and see which surprise critter will be having lunch.**

## Weekly

### Friday, 3:30 p.m.

**Nature Break** – Join the nature center staff for a 30-minute nature break activity designed for 3-7 year olds.

### Saturday, 9 a.m.

**Guided Hike** – A member of the education staff will lead a hike along one of our many trails. Dress for the weather and don't forget your camera.

### Saturday, 10 a.m.-noon

**Canoe/Kayak Program** – Staff members will assist boaters on Wells Lake. A parent or guardian must accompany children. Participants must wear life jackets (provided). This activity is weather-permitting.

### Saturday, 3 p.m.

**Laser Shot** – Think you're a deadeye? Sharpen your hunting skills using a computer program like a video game, complete with laser gun. This activity is dependent on the availability of our Multipurpose Room.

### Sunday, 2:30 p.m.

**Archery** – Take part in this beginner's guide to archery. We provide the bows, arrows and safety instruction.

## Monthly

### SECOND FRIDAY, SUNSET

**Family Fun Night** – Family-friendly outdoor programs at sunset. Bring adequate clothing, snacks, a flashlight and maybe a blanket or lawn chair to sit on, depending on the activity.

- **May 14, 8 p.m.**

**Campfire** – Enjoy a night by the campfire as we share tales and popular campfire games.

- **June 11, 8 p.m.**

**Owl Prowl on the Arkansas River** – The staff will take the AGFC education barge out on the Arkansas River for an on-the-water owl prowl. Space is limited. Registration is required.

- **July 9, 8:30 p.m.**

**Star Party** – Nature center grounds on the north side of Wells Lake will be transformed into an outdoor observatory. The Arkansas Oklahoma Astronomical Society will host an evening devoted to the night sky.

- **August 13, 6:30 p.m.**

**Back to School Bash** – Ready to go back to school? Youth of all ages are invited to join the education staff for an evening of scavenger hunts and special back-to-school art projects.

### THIRD TUESDAY, 7 p.m.

**Outdoor Experiences** – Sharpen outdoor skills and interest in all things outdoors.

- **May 18**

**Wild Game Cooking** – The co-host of *Arkansas Outdoors* (and AGFC regional education coordinator), Phyllis Spear will present a free wild-game cooking class.

- **June 15**

**Crayfish Class** – Join a fisheries expert for a seminar on crayfish diversity and biology.

- **July 20 and 22**

**Boater Education Course** – The Arkansas Boating Education Course teaches fundamentals of safe boating. Take the class and pass the test. 6 p.m.-9 p.m. each night. Both evenings required.

- **August 17**

**GPS for Hikers and Hunters** – Learn the basics of GPS navigation and uses. Borrow one of our GPS units to navigate Wells Lake and search for our geocache. Registration is required.

## Weekdays in the Summer

### WEDNESDAY, JUNE 9-FRIDAY, AUGUST 13

- **Wednesdays, 9:30 a.m.**

**Story Time** – Bring the little ones for nature storytelling adventures. Preschool- and elementary-age stories are read by our staff and volunteers.

- **Wednesdays, 10 a.m.**

**Youth Nature Series** – Come out for our youth summer nature series with topics from outdoor recreation, biology, nature art and shooting sports. The series consists of 10 programs, and prizes will be awarded at the end of summer based on the number of events each person attends. Designed for 8-15 year olds.

- **Thursdays, 9 a.m.**

**Fishing** – Join us at Wells Lake as we provide fishing tips and see who can catch the big one! Rod, reel, tackle and bait will be supplied.

- **Thursdays, 1 p.m.**

**BB Guns** – Learn basic firearms safety and shooting techniques in our indoor BB gun range.

- **Fridays, 10 a.m.-noon**

**Canoe/Kayak Program** – Staff members will assist boaters on Wells Lake. A parent or guardian must accompany children. Participants must wear life jackets (provided). This activity is weather-permitting.

Canoes and Kayaks are available for check-out 8:30 a.m.-3 p.m., Tuesday-Thursday during summer.



## Other Special Programs

- **Thursday, June 10**  
**Reading the River** – The education barge is back. Spend quality time with your family learning to read the dangers of the Arkansas River. The tour will cover jetties, riprap, current, wind dangers and locking through Lock and Dam 13. All safety equipment provided. 9 a.m.-noon and 1 p.m.-3 p.m. time slots available. Registration is required.
- **Thursday, June 17**  
**Arkansas River Boat Tour** – Join nature center staff on the AGFC education barge for short tours along the Arkansas River. All safety equipment provided. 9-10 a.m., 10:30 a.m.-noon, and 1- 2:30 p.m. time slots available. Registration is required.
- **Saturday, August 21**  
**Mussel Man Bill Posey** – Join in on a presentation and live displays about Arkansas mussels. 1 p.m.

## Summer Adult Workshop and Events

- **May 20, 7-9 p.m. and May 22, 8:30 a.m.-noon**  
**Macro Photography Workshop: Advanced Skills** – Learn techniques to improve your skills with macro lenses. Instruction and hands-on training offers many techniques to improve your photography. This is an advanced, not a beginning, level class. Attendance to both sessions is recommended. Advance registration is required.
- **July 13, 10 a.m.**  
**Basic Adult Archery Instruction** – Learn the basics of archery. We will cover the parts of the arrows, bows and targets. Learn proper aiming techniques while you shoot different types of targets. This is a great opportunity to learn basics to pass on to kids. Ages 18 and up. No registration required.
- **July 24, 10 a.m.-4 p.m.**  
**Photography Workshop: Advanced Skills – High Dynamic Range** – Improve your HDR photography skills. Participants will be instructed through hands-on activities in High Dynamic Range photography techniques. This is an advanced, not a beginning, level class. Advance registration is required.

## Summer Youth Workshops and Events

- **Kiddie Kamps** – Bring your little ones (ages 4-7) out for a two-hour mini-day camp. We will have several fun activities planned. A responsible adult is required to stay on the premises. Advance registration is required.  
**June 8, 9-11 a.m.** – Insects  
**July 6, 9-11 a.m.** – Habitat and camouflage  
**August 10, 9-11 a.m.** – Black bears
  - **Youth Outdoor Photography Workshops** – Become a professional photographer in training, with a focus on outdoor photography. Bring your own camera, or use one of ours. Advance registration is required.  
**June 29**  
Ages 6-10 – 9-11 a.m. | Ages 11-16 – noon-2 p.m.  
**July 27**  
Ages 6-10 – 9-11 a.m. | Ages 11-16 – noon-2 p.m.
  - **Youth Painting Workshops** – Come your paint your love of nature and learn a few new techniques for watercolor painting in nature. Advance registration is required.  
**June 15**  
Watercolor techniques for nature  
Ages 6-9 – 9:30 -11 a.m. | Ages 10-13 – noon-1:30 p.m.  
**July 20**  
Abstract nature watercolor workshops  
Ages 6-9 – 9:30 -11 a.m. | Ages 10-13 – noon-1:30 p.m.
- Hours of Operation**  
Tuesday-Saturday 8:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m. | Sunday 1-5 p.m. Closed Mondays and major holidays. Free Admission.



Keeping the Natural State natural.

### Janet Huckabee Arkansas River Valley Nature Center

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[www.rivervalleynaturecenter.com](http://www.rivervalleynaturecenter.com)

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# Program Schedule

May-August 2010

