

# Youth Education Programs at Swaner Preserve and EcoCenter

## Field Trips

Swaner Preserve and EcoCenter offers field trips in the Fall, Winter, and Spring for grades K-8. Winter field trips allow students to snowshoe on the Preserve while learning about animal tracking and snow science. Fall and spring field trips provide opportunities for students to explore a wetland habitat and learn about the plants and animals that live there.



## Summer Camps

Summer camp opportunities are provided for youth in grades 1-8. Camp programs range in topic from science and environmental education to art and robotics. High school students have the opportunity to serve as teen camp counselors for the camps.



## 4-H Teen Clubs

There are currently two 4-H clubs for high school students (Grades 9-12) at Swaner Preserve and EcoCenter. **4-H Teen Council** allows teens to develop leadership skills, complete community education and service projects, and advise on youth education programs at Swaner. **4-H Swaner Stewards** is based on environmental science. It allows students to get involved in research and restoration taking place on the preserve, participate in outdoor recreation activities such as hiking, camping, and snowshoeing, and learn about careers in natural resources. Both clubs provide teens with a fun and educational way to meet new people and develop life skills.



## Little Naturalists: Story Time at Swaner

Little Naturalists is a program for youth ages 3-5. On the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday of each month (September-May), children are invited to come listen to a nature-themed story and participate in a related activity or craft. Stories and activities include looking for animal tracks in the snow, meeting live tadpoles, frogs, butterflies, and owls, and watercoloring. All children must be accompanied by an adult.

## Monthly Youth Education Programs

A variety of education programs are offered each month for youth and their families at Swaner EcoCenter. Programs range from Earth Day Celebrations and Campouts on the Preserve to Family Snowshoe Tours and Science Nights.



**For more information about all of the youth education programs offered at Swaner Preserve and EcoCenter visit [www.swanerecocenter.org](http://www.swanerecocenter.org) or contact Sally Upton at [sally.upton@usu.edu](mailto:sally.upton@usu.edu) or 435-252-3576. All youth education programs at Swaner are conducted in partnership with Utah State University Extension 4-H.**

SWANER PRESERVE  
AND ECOCENTER  
UtahStateUniversity

# Monthly Youth and Family Education Programs

## at Swaner Preserve and EcoCenter

### February

#### **Family Snowshoe Tour**

**Monday, February 20th, 10:00 am-12:00 pm**

Bring the whole family for a snowshoe walk around the Preserve. We'll also learn about animal tracking and look for animal tracks in the snow. \$5.00 for non-members, free for members. RSVP required.

### March

#### **It's Easy Being Green Mini Day-Camp**

**Saturday, March 17th, 10:00 am – 2:00 pm**

Join us on St. Patrick's Day to learn about living "green" through fun, hands-on activities. We'll explore ways young people can help the environment and live sustainably by playing games, completing art projects, and conducting a community service project. Grades 3-6. Pre-registration required. \$15.00 per participant, 10% discount for members.

#### **Earth Hour**

**Monday, March 29th, 7:00-9:00 pm**

Earth Hour is a movement across the world to get people to turn off their lights for one hour. This is a conscious action to limit energy consumption and fight climate change. Join us on March 29th as the lights go out at Swaner for one hour to show our support. We'll provide fun activities in the dark and show you how to conduct your own Earth Hour at home. Free and open to all ages.

### April

#### **Spring Celebration**

**Saturday, April 7th, 10:00 am-12:00 pm**

Youth of all ages will enjoy a variety of activities as we ring in the Spring season. Younger kids will enjoy dying eggs with natural dyes. Older kids will have fun participating in a Geocache Egg Hunt. Free and open to all ages.

#### **Earth Day Celebration**

**Thursday, April 19th, 6:00-8:00 pm**

Join us for the 2nd annual Earth Day Celebration at Swaner. We'll have activities for all ages, including our wetland-themed climbing wall, geocaching, wetland explorations, crafts, and games. Come celebrate our planet and learn about your local environment. Free and open to all ages.

### May

#### **Mother and Child Outdoor Adventure**

**Saturday, May 5th, 10:00 am – 1:00 pm**

In honor of Mother's Day, we invite all mothers to bring their children and participate in a fun-filled day. We'll learn about our local environment, explore a wetland, hike, and complete art projects. Pre-registration required. There will be a minimal cost associated with this program. Open to children ages 7-18.

### June

#### **Father and Child Outdoor Adventure**

**Saturday, June 16th, 10:00 am – 1:00 pm**

In honor of Father's Day, we invite all fathers to bring their children and participate in a fun-filled day. We'll learn about our local environment, explore a wetland, hike, and complete a stewardship project. Pre-registration required. There will be a minimal cost associated with this program. Open to children ages 7-18.

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