



Lake Erie Nature & Science Center

28728 Wolf Road, Bay Village, Ohio 44140 • 440-871-2900 • www.lensc.org

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FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:
SHAWN SALAMONE 440-871-2900 EXT. 207

SPRING ARRIVING ALL AROUND LAKE ERIE NATURE & SCIENCE CENTER

Rain Gardens and Rain Barrels, Spring Break Laser Lights, Animals and Ice Cream Usher in the Season

Bay Village, Ohio --- Lake Erie Nature & Science Center is the place to usher in spring! Want to build a garden that thrives on spring rain? A “how-to” talk will give adults the information they need to build a beautiful garden that captures the spring snowmelt and rain to sustain plants that don’t mind getting “wet feet.” Participants will also find out how rain gardens help the environment and make great looking landscape features! Amy Roskilly from the Cuyahoga Soil and Water Conservation District leads the Rain Garden Seminar on Wednesday, March 24 from 6 - 7:30 p.m. Pre-registration is required at \$5 per person.

Capture the rain for all your lawn and gardening needs with your own rain barrel. Build one at Lake Erie Nature & Science Center’s Rain Barrel Workshop on Saturday, April 24 from 9 – 11 a.m. Adults or families (ages 8 and up with at least one adult) will get step by step instruction from Joe Reitz, Engineering Manager for the City of Avon Lake. Pre-registration required and the fee is \$80 for the first barrel; \$50 for each additional.

Add some razzle dazzle to your Spring Break as Laser Lights return to the Schuele Planetarium at Lake Erie Nature & Science Center. Family-friendly **Laser Light and Music** shows take place at 11:30 a.m., 12:30, 1:30, 2:30, 3:30 and 4:30 p.m. from April 2 -11, with the exception of Easter Sunday when the Center is closed. Tickets are \$3 per person.

On April 17, your family can come nose to beak with an owl that’s common around Ohio but not easy to spot in nature given its small size and nocturnal habits. Meet An Animal: the Screech Owl takes place at 3 p.m. in the Center’s Grand River room. The program is family-friendly and free!

A variety of animals will take center stage on Sunday, April 25 as Animals a la Mode returns to Lake Erie Nature & Science Center. A new mix of live creatures will captivate the whole family in this interactive show from 2 – 3:30 p.m. Top off the spring afternoon with some delicious ice cream! Each program is unique! Pre-registration required and the fee is \$5/person (children 1 and under free).

Throughout the spring season, you can also enjoy a tour of the night sky from the always “clear skies” in the planetarium. The whole family, even your toddler, will enjoy **Twinkle Tots** on Thursdays and Saturdays at 11 a.m. while, **Stellar Stars**, on Wednesdays at 11 a.m. and Saturdays at Noon, appeals to ages 2 and up.

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(March-April Lake Erie Nature & Science Center continued)

Backyard Astronomy, held every Saturday at 1 p.m., is aimed at school-aged kids and up, while **Monthly SkyQuest** star shows target anyone who wants to delve a little deeper into space and astronomy topics. In March, the latest Space Shuttle mission takes center stage at all SkyQuest programs, held every Saturday at 2 p.m. and first and third Saturdays at 7 p.m. In April, the SkyQuest focus shifts to a potpourri of topics including the conclusion NASA's Lunar Reconnaissance Orbiter, Saturn's new look, where to find Mercury in the April night sky and Mars' pass by the Bee-Hive star cluster. Don't forget free telescope viewing in the field on the 1st and 3rd Saturday nights at 8 p.m., if weather conditions cooperate.

Tickets for all star shows go on sale 30 minutes before each program begins on a first-come, first-served basis. Twinkle Tots is \$1 per person, Stellar Stars and Backyard Astronomy are \$2 per person and the admission to Monthly SkyQuest is \$2 at 2 p.m. and \$3 for the evening programs.

Registration for all these programs and many more is taken in person during regular Center hours or by credit card over the phone. Lake Erie Nature & Science Center is located at 28728 Wolf Road in Bay Village. For more information, visit www.lensc.org or call 440-871-2900.