



Lake Erie Nature & Science Center

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OCTOBER IS 'BEARY' FUN AT LAKE ERIE NATURE & SCIENCE CENTER *'BEAR NECESSITIES' NEOEA DAY & FAMILY HAYRIDE NIGHTS TAKE CENTER STAGE*

Bay Village, Ohio --- Popular *Fall Family Hayride Nights* start and end the month of October at Lake Erie Nature & Science Center, with "unBEARable" fun for a school holiday sandwiched in between. "Fall is one of the nicest times of the year to enjoy a program at Lake Erie Nature & Science Center," said Director of Education Darci Sanders. "A hayride through Huntington Reservation is an incredible treat for the senses."

The annual Hayride Nights feature much more than the traditional trip in a hay wagon! Families don't need to think about dinner, if they register for either of the Hayride Nights on October 3 or October 24. They can head out of the house and enjoy a pizza supper, planetarium star shows, live wildlife encounters and a hands-on activity from 6 to 9 p.m. On the 24th, the hayride takes on a Halloween theme, and kids are encouraged to wear their costumes for a parade through the Center's wildlife gardens. Both hayride nights **require pre-registration** and cost \$10 for adults and \$5 per child. Both evenings also promise to showcase seasonal pumpkins, hot chocolate and crackling fires.

In the middle of the month, students from around Ohio will be home from school for NEOEA Day, but this school holiday doesn't have to be "unBEARably" boring. Lake Erie Nature & Science Center is offering "Bear Necessities" programs to introduce three age groups to the fascinating world of bears. The program will welcome ages 1 - 5 with an adult from 10 to 11 a.m., grades K - 2 from 1 to 2 p.m., and grades 3 - 5 from 3 to 4 p.m. Each hour will be jam-packed with bear activities. Pre-registration is required and a member discount is available.

Lake Erie Nature & Science Center provides wildlife exhibits and rehabilitation, planetarium and nature education programming to more than 190,000 visitors every year. Although the Center is located in Huntington Reservation, it is a separate, non-profit organization and relies on donations for support. Find out more by visiting www.lensc.org or call (440) 871-2900.

Event listings:

Fall Family Hayride Night

Friday, October 3

6 - 9 p.m.

Fee: \$10/adult; \$5/child

Fill a fall Friday with fantastic family fun! (Can you say that 3 times fast?) No need to cook this night! Gather up the family and join us for a pizza dinner and much more. We'll have a hands-on fall activity for your little ones, plus planetarium programs, live wildlife encounters and hayrides for all ages! Toasty fireplaces and plump pumpkins will add to the evening's autumn atmosphere. ***Pre-registration required.***

NEOEA School Holiday Special-Bear Necessities!

For preschoolers with an adult or children in Grades K - 5

Friday, October 17

10 - 11 a.m. - Ages 1 - 5 with an adult

1 - 2 p.m. - Children in Grades K – 2

3 - 4 p.m. - Children in Grades 3 – 5

Fee: \$15/child; members \$10/child

Learn much more than just the “bear necessities” in this fun class that’s sure to beat the boredom (and the TV) on a school holiday! Learn more about these magnificent creatures including their favorite foods and habitats. Compare your size to that of different bears and make a bear mask, too! ***Pre-registration required.***

Halloween Hayride Night

October 24

6 - 9 p.m.

Fee: \$10/adult; \$5/child

Put on your costume and join the trick or treat parade through the Wildlife Gardens of Lake Erie Nature & Science Center! Make a take-home Halloween craft and sip some rich hot chocolate after your yummy pizza dinner. Hop on a hayride, take in the autumn night skies in the Walter R. Schuele Planetarium and relax by a crackling fireplace with friends or family at this un-scary Halloween celebration. ***Pre-registration required.***