

# Greenways & Natural Lands Seminole Tracks Newsletter



## *Fall in Love with Nature...*

Fall is such a beautiful time in Florida to get outdoors and take in the changing season. We may not have autumn leaves, but native flowers are blooming, birds are migrating and the air is growing cooler and crisper by the day.

Seminole County Natural Lands offers many opportunities to enjoy this season, whether you fancy leisurely strolls in nature, learning new facts about local creatures or adventurous hikes on challenging terrain. We can't wait to see you out there!

## *What's Inside:*

Family Fun Campouts 🍃 1

Winter Break Eco Camp 🍃 1

Classes and Programs 🍃 2

Guided Hikes 🍃 3

Additional Programming 🍃 4

Calendars 🍃 5-6







**Dates:** October 30-31  
November 20-21

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**Location:** Geneva Wilderness Area  
3485 N. County Road 426  
Geneva, FL 32732

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**Times:** Saturday, 2:00pm to  
Sunday, 9:00am

**Cost:** \$15 per person/per campout

Register online at [recreation.seminolecountyfl.gov](http://recreation.seminolecountyfl.gov)



# Family Fun Campouts

## Return!



This is one of our most popular Natural Lands events! Spend the night at the Geneva Wilderness Area and learn to camp with the experts.

This event is tailored for families with children ages 5-13 who want a crash course in camping. Meals included! We will have tent pitching assistance, cast iron cooking, a wild-life chat in the nature center, fishing, hiking, and cooking s'mores over a campfire. Tents can be rented for an additional fee.

This season, Halloween campers can enjoy some spooky fun including tent trick-or-treating and pumpkin carving. In November, enjoy the brisk nighttime air in front of a warm fire.



# Winter Break Eco Camp!

Winter Break Eco Camp is like Summer Camp, just without the heat and bugs!

Your kids will have a blast while learning about the natural world! Campers will explore the Geneva Wilderness Area through fishing, hiking, setting live traps, and learning about native wildlife and plants. Inside the nature center, they will create works of art, play games and meet our live animal residents.

Find out more by visiting our Eco Camp webpage!



**Dates:** December 27-31

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**Location:** Ed Yarborough Nature Center  
3485 N. County Road 426,  
Geneva

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**Times:** 9:00am - 4:00pm  
(extended day available from 7:30am - 5:30pm)

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**Cost:** \$132/week (extended day an additional \$15/week)

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**Ages:** 7-12

Register online at [recreation.seminolecountyfl.gov](http://recreation.seminolecountyfl.gov)





# Classes and Programs

Come learn something new by experiencing it first-hand! Natural Land's classes and programs offer learning opportunities for everyone. This Fall, we have a variety of events to choose from. Just make sure you register before you arrive. Classes fill up quickly, so sign up today by visiting: [recreation.seminolecountyfl.gov](http://recreation.seminolecountyfl.gov)



## Snakes of Florida Program

Join a local expert from Seminole County Natural Lands as he gives an introduction to and dispels some of the myths about these often-misunderstood cold blooded residents!

**Date/Times:** Saturday September 25, 9 am-noon

**Location:** Ed Yarborough Nature Center  
3485 N. County Road 426, Geneva

**Cost:** \$3 per person

**Ages:** 7 and up (children must be accompanied by an adult)

**\*\*Register each person attending\*\***



## Fall Open Houses @ EYNC

Stop in to visit the Ed Yarborough Nature Center! Fall in love with our animal residents and explore our exhibits and displays. Join a knowledgeable guide on a short hike to the fishing pier where you might spy some wild creatures! Hikes begin at 9:30, 10:30 and 11:30 am. All ages are welcome. *No registration required!*

**Dates:** Saturday, September 4th (National Wildlife Day)

Saturday, October 9th (Bones and Fossils Day)

Saturday, November 13th (New Encounters in November)

**Location:** Ed Yarborough Nature Center  
3485 N. County Road 426  
Geneva 32732



## Star Gazing

Join Natural Lands, the staff of the Emil Buehler Planetarium at Seminole State College and members of the Central Florida Astronomical Society for an evening exploring the wonders of the night sky. Program includes guided constellation laser tours of the sky and peering through large telescopes of many of the sky's best celestial objects.

**Date/Time:** Saturday, November 6, 6:30pm - 10 pm

**Location:** Lake Harney Wilderness Area  
2395 Osceola Fish Camp road  
Geneva, FL 32732

**Cost:** \$5 per person

**Ages:** 9+ (children must be accompanied by an adult)



## Wildlife Photography– Settings Class

Come join Adventure Photographer TJ Waller as he shares some of his secrets of Wildlife Photography! Learn how TJ gets the shots that have been published both locally and nationally!

TJ will cover Camera settings, techniques for stationary and moving subjects, approach techniques, and more!

Skill Level: Beginner to Intermediate

**Date/time:** Saturday, November 20, 8 am—10 am

**Location:** Geneva Wilderness Area/Ed Yarborough Nature Center

**Cost:** \$5 per person

**Ages:** 18+



# Guided Hikes



Fall is one of the busiest hiking seasons here in Central Florida– and it’s not hard to see why! Last year, Natural Lands had to cease guided hikes on our properties due to the pandemic. We are excited to welcome residents back this year! Let our knowledgeable guides walk you through some of Seminole County’s most beautiful wilderness areas. Hikes fill up quickly, so sign up today by visiting: [recreation.seminolecountyfl.gov](https://recreation.seminolecountyfl.gov)

All hikes are \$3 per guest. Children must be 7 years or older (unless otherwise noted) and accompanied by an adult to attend. All Natural Lands hikes require pre-registration. Call 407.665.2211 for more information.

OCT  
2

**Nocturnal Animals Hike**  
Saturday 7:30-9:30 PM @ Geneva Wilderness Area  
Some creatures only appear after the sun sets. Learn how to search for them during this night hike!

Hike Rating  
**EASY**

OCT  
16

**Swamp Walk**  
Saturday 8:00-10:00 AM @ Spring Hammock Preserve  
Follow your guide through the unmarked trails of a real hydric hammock! You must wear long pants and closed-toed shoes (no duct tape, please). Bring bug repellent, water, and something to sit on when you drive home. You will get very muddy and wet and there is nowhere to change after the hike. Ages 10+

Hike Rating  
**STRENUOUS**

OCT  
20

**Harvest Moon Hike**  
Wednesday 7:00-9:00 PM @ Chuluota Wilderness Area  
Take a break in the middle of the week to celebrate the beauty and history of the Harvest Moon during this moonlit night hike.

Hike Rating  
**MODERATE**

OCT  
23

**Birds & Bagels Hike**  
Saturday 7:30-9:30 AM @ Lake Harney Wilderness Area  
This birding hike is hosted by Seminole Audubon Society. Learn how to spot birds by sight and sound, then enjoy complimentary refreshments and breathtaking views on the observation deck overlooking the floodplain.

Hike Rating  
**EASY**

OCT  
30

**Zombie Fungus Foray**  
Saturday 9:00-11:00 AM @ Chuluota Wilderness Area  
Join Dr. Beckerson from UCF on a hunt for real-life zombies! Learn the fascinating and gruesome biology of fungi that turn ants into zombies! This fungi has been popularized by mainstream games and movies. Learn a bit about insects, fungi, and symbioses as we search for these elusive critters. Spooky fun for the whole family! Learn more about this outreach project: [www.thezombiefungusforay.com](http://www.thezombiefungusforay.com)

Hike Rating  
**MODERATE**

DEC  
11

**Morning Trail Trek**  
Saturday 8:00 AM-noon @ Black Bear Wilderness Area  
This hike is for the avid adventurer! This wilderness area boasts common sightings of alligators, snakes and many species of wading birds. The trail is a 7.1 mile loop with rooty and slick terrain. Children must be at least 10 years of age and accompanied by an adult. Hike is limited to 15 participants. Bring extra water and snacks.

Hike Rating  
**STRENUOUS**

Property Addresses	Spring Hammock Preserve	Chuluota Wilderness Area
	2985 Osprey Trail, Longwood 32750	3895 Curryville Rd. Chuluota 32766
	Lake Proctor Wilderness Area	Lake Harney Wilderness Area
	920 E. SR 46, Geneva 32732	2395 Osceola Fish Camp Rd, Geneva 32732
	Black Bear Wilderness Area	Geneva Wilderness Area/Ed Yarborough Nature Center
	298 Michigan Ave., Sanford 32771	3485 N. County Road 426, Geneva 32732



# Private Hikes, Rentals and Programs

**Location:** Ed Yarborough Nature Center  
Geneva Wilderness Area  
3485 N. County Road 426  
Geneva, FL 32732

**Cost:** \$170, which includes 3-hour  
facility rental and the Natural  
Lands host.

**Registration:** To coordinate times and  
availability, please email:  
[nswanson@seminolecountyfl.gov](mailto:nswanson@seminolecountyfl.gov)



## Nature Adventure Birthday Parties!



Create a birthday party experience your child will never forget! A trained staff member will welcome your party guests, present an exciting live animal program and take the group for a hike on our 180-acre property. You will have time in the center for exploration and to enjoy your refreshments.

## Private Hikes

Do you want to take a hike with your favorite people? Schedule a private hike with Natural Lands! Great for scout groups, field trips, team building and family reunions.

One of our knowledgeable staff members will guide you through the trails of the wilderness area of your choice. Along the way, hikers can ask questions and the instructor will stop to point out notable sights. Hike takes approximately 2 hours. \$3 per person. 15-25 guests.

## Facility Rentals

Rent one of our amazing facilities for your party, family reunion, business meeting or other events!

- North Campsite/Pavilion @ GWA
- Ed Yarborough Nature Center
- Full & half days or overnight



## Field Trips & In-School Programs

Field trips to the Ed Yarborough Nature Center can serve as a wonderful opportunity for your students to explore natural science first-hand. Program includes a nature program in the center with live animals, a hike around the property and time for lunch. Open to public, private and home school groups. Only \$5 per student!

Let Natural Lands come to you! During the 45-50 minute in-school program, students will learn about standards-based science topics and have opportunities to view and handle skulls, displays and live animals. This program is FREE!

For more information, please call 407.665.2211 or email [nswanson@seminolecountyfl.gov](mailto:nswanson@seminolecountyfl.gov)

# At a Glance

## September 2021



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
29	30	31	1	2	3	4 Open House @EYNC- National Wildlife Day!
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22 First Day of Fall!	23	24	25 Snakes of Florida Program @ EYNC
26	27	28	29	30	1	2

## October 2021



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
26	27	28	29	30	1	2 Nocturnal Animals Hike @ GWA
3	4	5	6	7	8	9 Open House @ EYNC- Bones and Fossils Day!
10	11	12	13	14	15	16 Swamp Walk @ SHP & Backyard Biodiversity Day @ Mead Garden
17	18	19	20 Harvest Moon Hike @ CWA	21	22	23 Birds & Bagels Hike @ LHWA
24	25	26	27	28	29	30 Family Fun Campout @ GWA/ Zombie Fungus Foray @ CWA
31 Halloween	1					

# At a Glance

## November 2021



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
31	1	2	3	4	5	6 Stargazing Program @ LHWA
7 Daylight Saving Time Ends	8	9	10	11 Veterans Day	12	13 Nature Center Open House @ EYNC-
14	15	16	17	18	19	20 Wildlife Photography @ GWA & Family Fun Campout @ GWA
21	22	23	24	25 Thanksgiving	26	27
28	29	30	1	2	3	4

## December 2021



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
28	29	30	1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11 Morning Trail Trek @ BBWA
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27 Winter Break Eco Camp	28 Winter Break Eco Camp	29 Winter Break Eco Camp	30 Winter Break Eco Camp	31 Winter Break Eco Camp	1