

The Anita C.  
Leight  
Estuary  
Center is  
part of the  
Otter Point  
Creek  
Component  
of the  
Chesapeake  
Bay National  
Estuarine  
Research  
Reserve in  
Maryland.

# Anita C. Leight Estuary Center

## 2018-19 Winter Calendar



### HOW TO REGISTER FOR HARFORD COUNTY PROGRAMS

- ◆ Go to [www.harfordcountymd.gov/225/Parks-Recreation](http://www.harfordcountymd.gov/225/Parks-Recreation) and click the "Register" button OR
- ◆ Go to [www.otterpointcreek.org](http://www.otterpointcreek.org), click on Calendar of Events, click on link within program description OR
- ◆ Call 410-612-1688
- ◆ Payment is due at time of registration

### CANCELLATION/REIMBURSEMENT POLICY:

- ◆ If the **Estuary Center cancels** a program, we will initiate a full credit, reimbursement upon request
- ◆ If **you need to cancel** registration for a program, you must call the Estuary Center
- ◆ If you cancel more than **two weeks** before the program, we will initiate a reimbursement minus a \$5 administrative fee
- ◆ No reimbursements for cancellations received less than **two weeks** before a program

### HOW TO REGISTER FOR OPCA PROGRAMS

- ◆ Go to [www.otterpointcreek.org](http://www.otterpointcreek.org). On Home Page or Calendar of Events, choose "Click here for online registration" and follow instructions OR
- ◆ Call 410-612-1688
- ◆ Payment is due at time of registration

### CANCELLATION/REIMBURSEMENT POLICY:

- ◆ If the **Estuary Center cancels** a program, we will initiate a full reimbursement
- ◆ If **you need to cancel** registration for a program, you must call the Estuary Center
- ◆ If you cancel more than **one week** before the program, we will initiate a reimbursement minus an administrative fee
- ◆ No reimbursements for cancellations received less than **one week** before a program

### ALL PROGRAMS

- ◆ Space is limited, so registration is required for all programs except Drop-In Programs
- ◆ All programs meet at the Center unless otherwise noted
- ◆ Children under 13 must be with an adult unless otherwise noted
- ◆ Programs listed in the calendar are for individuals and families. If you have a group such as scouts that would like a program, contact the Estuary Center or complete and return our Program Request Form.

### ESTUARY CENTER INFORMATION

- ◆ Phone/Address: 410-612-1688 or 410-879-2000 x1688, Anita C. Leight Estuary Center, 700 Otter Point Road, Abingdon, MD 21009
- ◆ Web page: [www.otterpointcreek.org](http://www.otterpointcreek.org)
- ◆ Hours of Operation: The Estuary Center is open Monday - Saturday, 10:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m., and Sunday, 12:00 - 5:00 p.m.
- ◆ Park grounds are open dawn to dusk
- ◆ All trails are not handicapped or stroller accessible

**The Estuary Center will be closed on December 25, January 1, 21 & February 18**

### DROP IN PROGRAMS - NO REGISTRATION - NO FEE!

#### CRITTER DINNER TIME - ALL AGES!

Watch our turtles, amphibians and snakes eat while learning about these fascinating creatures.

Sat., December 29 at 1:30 p.m.

Sat., January 26 at 1:30 p.m.

Sat., February 23 at 1:30 p.m.

#### MEET A CRITTER - ALL AGES!

Check out one of our live critters up close while discovering what makes that animal special.

Sun., December 23 at 1:00 p.m.

Sun., January 27 at 3:30 p.m.

Sun., February 17 at 3:30 p.m.

#### TAILS AND TOTS - 0 - 6 w/ADULT

Story time with a natural twist! Listen to stories, learn new songs, and move like the animals!

Sun., December 16 at 3:00 p.m.

Sun., January 6 at 3:30 p.m.

Sun., February 3 at 3:30 p.m.



# HARFORD COUNTY WINTER PROGRAMS

Registration is required for all programs.

## DECEMBER

### Caught on Camera

Are animals still active in the cold winter months? We set up a trail camera to find out. Hike to retrieve the camera and return to the Center to sip hot chocolate and review our findings.

*\*Meet at Boscely Conservancy*

**Date:** Sat., December 1 **Time:** 10:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.  
**Ages:** 4 - adult, under 13 w/adult **Fee:** \$3/person

### Nature-made Ugly Sweaters

Let your creativity run wild while decorating funky and fresh holiday sweaters sure to win the prize at any Ugly Sweater party. Bring your own sweater, decorations provided by nature!

**Date:** Sat., December 1 **Time:** 2:00 - 3:30 p.m.  
**Ages:** 5 - adult, under 13 w/adult **Fee:** \$3/project

### Trail Tracking

Learn to identify footprints that belong to estuary critters. Take a short hike around the park and see what animals are out and about in the winter.



**Date:** Sun., December 2 **Time:** 2:00 - 3:30 p.m.  
**Ages:** 5 - adult, under 13 w/adult **Fee:** Free

### Gingerbread What?

Construct gingerbread "cabins" with an eco-friendly, delicious landscape. Give away as a gift or keep for later as a sweet snack.

**Date:** Sat., December 8 **Time:** 10:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.  
**Ages:** 4 - adult, under 13 w/adult **Fee:** \$10/project

### Natural Ornament Workshop

Make one-of-a-kind keepsake ornaments, as many as you want, from natural materials, to cherish for years to come! Refreshments provided.

**Date:** Sun., December 9 **Time:** 2:00 - 3:30 p.m.  
**Ages:** All, under 13 w/adult **Fee:** \$5/person

### DIY Snow Globes

Shake up the winter season with a homemade snow globe! Start with a dash of winter figurines, add a spoonful of snowflakes, mix together with liquid, and shake!



**Date:** Sat., December 15 **Time:** 11:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.  
**Ages:** 4 - adult, under 13 w/adult **Fee:** \$5/project

### Holiday Wreath Making Workshop

Craft a festive wreath to deck your halls! We provide refreshments, fresh greens, 12" wreath frames, and know how. You bring creativity!

**Date:** Sat., December 15 **Time:** 2:00 - 4:00 p.m.  
**Ages:** 8 - adult, under 13 w/adult **Fee:** \$10/project



### Quartz Crystal Jewelry

Design and create a bracelet, necklace or earrings with quartz crystals. Perfect for holiday gift giving, or keep it for yourself! All supplies provided.



**Date:** Sun., December 16 **Time:** 1:00 - 2:00 p.m.  
**Ages:** 8 - adult, under 13 w/adult **Fee:** \$10/project

### Winter Solstice Celebration

Celebrate the shortest day of the year. Cozy up around the pellet stove to listen to a story and sip hot chocolate. Follow up with a short hike to collect materials to create a solstice lantern for home.

**Date:** Sat., December 22 **Time:** 2:00 - 3:30 p.m.  
**Ages:** 4 - adult, under 13 w/adult **Fee:** \$3/person

### Full Moon Campfire

'Tis the night of the full Cold Moon and the shortest day of the year. No need to pack all the fun into 9 hours and 23 minutes of daylight! Hear tales and tunes about the full moon by the light of the campfire, while munching on toasty warm moon pies.

**Date:** Sat., December 22 **Time:** 7:00 - 8:30 p.m.  
**Ages:** 3 - adult, under 15 w/adult **Fee:** \$5/person

### Twiggy Creatures

The leaves have fallen and the forest is bare. Enter the woods to search for wildlife and to collect items to make a twiggy creature!

**Date:** Sat., December 29 **Time:** 11:00 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.  
**Ages:** 4 - adult, under 13 w/adult **Fee:** \$3/person

## JANUARY

### Earth in a Glass Bowl

Let science and creativity collide while learning about our amazing planet and create a mini Earth terrarium for your office or home.

**Date:** Sat., January 5 **Time:** 10:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.  
**Ages:** 12 - adult, under 13 w/adult **Fee:** \$18/project

### Winter Sunshine Hike

Resolve to fight the wintertime blues with plenty of fresh air and sunshine. Hike our beautiful trails and soak up lots of vitamin D!

**Date:** Sat., January 5 **Time:** 1:00 - 2:00 p.m.  
**Ages:** 5 - adult, under 13 w/adult **Fee:** Free

### Otterly Fun Afternoon

Is there a connection between river otters and Otter Point Creek? Answer that question as you play like an otter, communicate like an otter, and take a hike to the water to see where otters live!

**Date:** Sun., January 6 **Time:** 1:00 - 2:30 p.m.  
**Ages:** 3 - adult, under 13 w/adult **Fee:** \$3/person

### Let it Snow!



Embrace winter weather. Celebrate the white stuff through stories, crafts, and a walk in the woods. Warm up with hot chocolate and tasty treats.

**Date:** Sat., January 12 **Time:** 10:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.  
**Ages:** 3 - 6 w/adult **Fee:** \$3/child

# HARFORD COUNTY WINTER PROGRAMS cont.

Registration is required for all programs.

## Rustic Winter Bird Feeders

Not all birds migrate – some tough out the winter here in Maryland! Make a log birdfeeder to take home to your backyard birds and help them survive the season of scarce resources.

**Date:** Sun., January 13      **Time:** 1:00 - 2:30 p.m.  
**Ages:** 8 - adult, under 13 w/adult **Fee:** \$6/project

## FEBRUARY



## Snow Slime

Bring the snow inside for this cool, hands-on fluffy snow slime making program. Create something fun and messy with us and take your creation home.

**Date:** Sun., February 3      **Time:** 1:00 - 2:00 p.m.  
**Ages:** 5 - adult, under 13 w/adult **Fee:** \$5/project

## OWL DAY AT ACLEC

### All About Owls

Discover the unique features of owls that make them such successful predators, and craft a decorative snowy owl from pinecones.



**Date:** Sat., January 19      **Time:** 1:00 - 2:00 p.m.  
**Ages:** 4 - adult, under 13 w/adult **Fee:** \$3/person

### Owl Prowl

Venture into the woods of Bosely Conservancy on a cold winter evening to hear the call of these elusive creatures and possibly catch a glimpse of them. *\*Meet at Bosely Conservancy*

**Date:** Sat., January 19      **Time:** 5:00 - 6:30 p.m.  
**Ages:** 8 - adult, under 13 w/adult **Fee:** \$5/person

## Bosely Winter Wonders Photography Hike

Search the woods and waters of the Bosely Conservancy for flora and fauna that grab your attention. Capture those images on camera using tips and techniques shared by Dave Gigliotti, photographer and author.

**Date:** Sun., January 20      **Time:** 1:00 - 2:30 p.m.  
**Ages:** 10 - adult, under 13 w/adult **Fee:** \$3/person

## If a Woodchuck Could Chuck...

Through story, play and craft, learn about groundhogs and why there is a day honoring them.



**Date:** Sat., January 26      **Time:** 10:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.  
**Ages:** 3 - adult, under 13 w/adult **Fee:** \$3/person

## Family Paint Night at Leight

Grab the kids or bring a buddy for an evening of fun and creativity. Follow along on this guided paint night while enjoying hot drinks and cookies, critters and firelight.

**Date:** Sat., January 26      **Time:** 6:00 - 7:30 p.m.  
**Ages:** 5 - adult, under 13 w/adult **Fee:** \$10/person

## Hibernation Hideaway

Find out which animals make a nice comfy bed to sleep away the winter and what those hideouts look like. Afterwards, build your own cozy fort in which to curl up and read a story while inside the Estuary Center. Hot chocolate included.

**Date:** Sun., January 27      **Time:** 1:00 - 2:00 p.m.  
**Ages:** 5 - 9 w/adult      **Fee:** \$3/child

## Camouflage 101

Use camo facepaint to "hide in plain sight" while learning about the origins of camouflage, how animals use it, and practicing your camo skills.

**Date:** Sat., February 9      **Time:** 1:00 - 2:30 p.m.  
**Ages:** 10 - 15      **Fee:** \$6/person

## Bee Nature's Valentine

Share your love for nature by creating seed paper valentines that give back to early spring pollinators.



**Date:** Sun., February 10      **Time:** 2:00 - 3:30 p.m.  
**Ages:** All, under 13 w/adult      **Fee:** \$3/project

## Frozen Marsh Walk

Step into another world while exploring areas of Bosely Conservancy, trekking into the woods and onto the frozen marsh. *\*Meet behind Home Depot on Rt. 40*

**Date:** Sat., February 16      **Time:** 10:00 - 11:30 a.m.  
**Ages:** 6 - adult, under 13 w/adult **Fee:** Free

## Buds and Bark Tree ID

Deciduous trees can be tricky to identify in the winter because their leaves have fallen. Join us on a hike to identify some key characteristics to help you figure out which is which. Warm up by the fire with some hot chocolate afterwards!

**Date:** Sun., February 17      **Time:** 1:00 - 2:30 p.m.  
**Ages:** 11 - adult, under 13 w/adult **Fee:** \$3/person

## Marsh Fairy Lanterns

Fanciful fairies are known to inhabit all sorts of places, including the marsh. Create a beautiful, decorative lantern that is reminiscent of the lush world of marsh fairies in the summer season.



**Date:** Sat., February 23      **Time:** 10:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.  
**Ages:** 8 - adult, under 13 w/adult **Fee:** \$10/project

## Kid's Kooky Science Experiments

Calling all budding scientists! Don a lab coat and prepare to have fun while conducting hands-on experiments in our lab! Learn how the world around us works.

**Date:** Sun., February 24      **Time:** 1:30 - 3:00 p.m.  
**Ages:** 8 - 12      **Fee:** \$5/child



# HARFORD COUNTY WINTER PROGRAMS SERIES

Registration is required for all programs.

## Dugout Canoe Workshop Series

Learn and practice the methods used by Native Americans to carve canoes from trees. In this three-part series, learn a new piece of the process each month while building a dugout canoe for the Center! Traditional techniques will be followed as closely as possible to create this masterpiece. Dig into this exploration of history!

**Dates:** Saturdays, December 8, January 12, February 16

**Ages:** 13 - adult

**Time:** 1:00 - 3:30 p.m.

**Fee:** \$3/person/date



## WINTER CHILDREN'S PROGRAM SERIES

Registration is required for all programs.

### Nature Playgroup and Tots

Little ones and their parents play and learn in the natural world. Stories, songs, simple crafts and discovery outings will highlight each day's theme. **Topics:** owls, snow, pine trees, deer, groundhogs, hibernation

**Dates:** Mondays, January 7, 14, 28, February 4, 11, 25

**Ages:** Playgroup - 0 to 5 (w/adult); Tots - 2 & 3 w/adult

**Time:** Playgroup - 9:30 to 10:30 a.m.; Tots - 11:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. **Fee:** \$40 per child



## OPCA WINTER PROGRAMS

Registration is required for all programs.

### Name that Tree - Winter Edition

When is a "pine" tree really a spruce? Is it a fir tree or a cedar? Bring a twig from your Christmas tree and/or several other needled shrubs or trees to learn how to identify conifers in a hands-on lecture lab.

**Date:** Sun., December 2 **Time:** 12:00 - 1:00 p.m.

**Ages:** 8 - adult, under 13 w/adult **Fee:** Free



### Winter Bird Physiology

Instructor: Dr. Mark S. Johnson

This course will provide a brief introduction to the world of winter birds and how they cope with changes in habitat and food choices. Thursday evening includes a discussion of avian physiology, systematics and identification, and ecology as it relate to many common winter birds. Saturday, observe feeder birds and mark and release them following an assessment of health. Participants will get a closer look at birds and obtain a greater appreciation of their unique adaptations including a background on how species develop and diversify. Registration is required.

**Date:** Thurs., February 7

**Time:** 6:30 - 8:30 p.m.

Sat., February 9

9:00 - 10:30 a.m.

**Ages:** 12 - adult, under 13 w/adult **Fee:** \$20.00



### Chilly Chemistry

Discover the science behind winter weather with experiments and activities in the Finton Formula Lab.

**Date:** Sat., February 9 **Time:** 3:00 - 4:30 p.m.

**Ages:** 3 - 10, w/adult **Fee:** \$5/child

*Special Engagement! Calling all  
Chesapeake Bay and History Buffs!*

### The Mystery of John Smith's Chesapeake Cross Markers

Captain John Smith, on his 1612 map of the Chesapeake Bay, marked the extent of his explorations with 27 "Maltese" crosses. Ed Haile and Connie Lapallo, with the Chesapeake Conservancy, have embarked on a project to pinpoint and mark the cross locations in today's landscape for "modern day adventurers". Please join us for a fascinating afternoon of discovery as poet/ author/historians Ed and Connie weave a tale of exploration, geography, research, cartography, and Chesapeake mystery.

**Date:** Sun., January 13

**Time:** 3:00 - 5:00 p.m.

**Ages:** 13 - adult

**Fee:** Free, donations welcome

# OPCA WINTER PROGRAMS

## Holiday Open House

Gather up your family and guests and drop in to the Estuary Center for a relaxing afternoon visit with the naturalist, celebrating a year of accomplishments, taking a holiday themed photo with the critters, and enjoying light refreshments.

**Date:** Sunday, December 23

**Time:** 12:30 - 4:30 p.m.

**Ages:** All, under 13 w/adult

**Fee:** Free, donations welcome

## Volunteer Appreciation Event



### Eve of New Year's Eve Sunset Social

Gather around the fire surrounded by good friends, good food, and what is surely the finest sunset on the east coast, for an evening of celebrating 2018 and looking forward to 2019. Beverages and appetizers will be provided. Please register by December 28.

**Date:** Sunday, December 30

**Time:** 4:30 - 7:00 p.m. **Fee:** *Free For all Active Volunteers!!*

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## Volunteer Opportunities

### Invasinators

Become part of the volunteer team of invasive plant removers and native plant restorers. Dress for the weather and be prepared to be working at either Leight Park or Bosely Conservancy. In case of frozen ground or snow accumulation, Invasinators will not meet.

**Dates:** Sun., January 13

**Time:** 1:00 - 3:00 p.m.

Sun., February 10

12:30 - 2:30 p.m.

**Ages:** 14 - adult



### Grasses to the Masses Workshop

Learn what submerged aquatic vegetation (SAV) is, why it is important to the Bay, and how you can help restore bay grasses. In this free workshop for volunteers, you will be given instruction, equipment, and plant material to grow SAV in your home. Then join us this spring to plant the SAV in Otter Point Creek. No experience necessary.

**Date:** Sun., February 10

**Time:** 3:30 - 5:00 p.m. (Workshop)

Sun., May 19

**Time:** 2:00 - 4:00 p.m. (Planting Day)

**Ages:** 6 - adult, under 16 w/adult



### Plankton Monitoring Studies

Our plankton citizen science project is a great opportunity for science-minded individuals to contribute to monitoring and research at the Center. Help is needed with collection, identification, and analysis of plankton samples. Interested individuals should contact the Center for introductory training.

**Dates:** Every Wednesday in December, January and February (Except December 26)

**Time:** 10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

**Ages:** Adults



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## World Wetlands Day Festival

Saturday, February 2 - 12:00 to 4:00 p.m.



- ◆ Special guest appearance!
- ◆ Wetland Deli
- ◆ Music, Games & Scavenger Hunt
- ◆ Exhibitors
- ◆ Live Animal Demonstrations

Celebrate World Wetlands Day inside at the Estuary Center!  
There will be food and fun activities for all ages.  
Visit [www.Ramsar.org](http://www Ramsar.org) for additional activities and information.



# Otter Point Creek Alliance Membership Application

Members receive 10% off OPCA public nature programs and gift shop items!

- I would like to become a **new member** of the Otter Point Creek Alliance.
- I am **renewing** my membership to the Otter Point Creek Alliance
  - 1 yr. \_\_\_\_\_
  - 2 yrs. \_\_\_\_\_
  - 3 yrs. \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address \_\_\_\_\_  
 City \_\_\_\_\_  
 State \_\_\_\_\_  
 Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
 Phone (home) \_\_\_\_\_  
                   (work) \_\_\_\_\_  
 Email: \_\_\_\_\_

- Type of Yearly Membership**
- \$20      Family (1 Household)
  - \$12      Individual  
            or Senior Couple
  - \$8        Student (Full time)  
            or Senior Citizen (62+)
  - \$50      Contributing
  - \$100     Sustaining

Please make checks payable to  
 Otter Point Creek Alliance (OPCA)  
 and mail to:

Anita C. Leight Estuary Center  
 700 Otter Point Road  
 Abingdon, MD 21009

- I would like to receive the Calendar via email:
- Yes       No

Volunteer opportunities are available. Check out all the Volunteer Job Descriptions on our website:  
[www.otterpointcreek.org](http://www.otterpointcreek.org)

\_\_\_\_ Comp \_\_\_\_ News&Cal/PC \_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_ Exp



Barry Glassman, Harford County Executive  
 Harford County Department  
 of Parks and Recreation

Special Assistance: The Department of Parks and Recreation encourages participation by people with disabilities. To request disability-related accommodations, call therapeutic Recreation Specialist at 410-638-4899/voice (TTY users call MD Relay) two weeks prior to event.

Phone: 410-612-1688 or 410-879-2000 x1688  
 Fax: 410-612-0819  
 Email: [aclec@harfordcountymd.gov](mailto:aclec@harfordcountymd.gov)

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Calendar of Events of the Anita C. Leight Estuary Center, Otter Point Creek Component of the Chesapeake Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve in Maryland

