

February 9, 2016

For Immediate Release:

Contact: Lynn McIntyre

Senior Director of Community Relations

Chattahoochee Nature Center

Located at 9135 Willeo Road, Roswell, GA 30075

Mailing Address: PO Box 769769, Roswell, GA 30076

770-992-2055 x 224 or 770-883-8215 (cell)

**April – Garden Enchantment**

[See our spring newsletter with complete details](http://chattnaturecenter.org/about/newsletters/)

**[Back to Your Roots Farm Fair](http://chattnaturecenter.org/special-events/family-fun-days/)**

**[Sunday, April 3, 12-4pm](http://chattnaturecenter.org/special-events/family-fun-days/)**

Our Featured Event for Family Fun in April allows you to *get back to your roots* with CNC this spring as we celebrate Earth Day and play outside. Farm Animals from Farmer Sue’s ***The Art Barn***

* Explore the Unity Garden to see beautiful vegetable plants growing
* Farm Fun Hands-On Activities
* Listen to live local bluegrass music
* Food Truck available for picnics
* Spring Native Plant Sale featuring vegetables, shrubs, trees
* Play Outdoor Games
* Face Painting
* Enter to win a Garden-themed prize pack
* And More!

Sponsorships are available too!

All ages. Included with General Admission/and CNC Members are Free.

**Spring Native Plant Sale 2016 at the Chattahoochee Nature Center’s Green House**

**Thursday, March 31 - CNC Members - Only Sale from 4-7pm**

**Friday and Saturday, April 1, 2, 8, and 9 from 10am-5pm**

Invite spring to your garden. Native Plants add diversity, attract native insects, feed birds and mammals, and are easy to care for. We’ll have plants for every situation—from sun to shade plus Herbs and Veggies for the Edible Garden. Attract butterflies, pollinators, and birds to your garden by going native. Natives provide benefits to your space, including privacy, beauty, blossoms, food, and homes for animals.  Over 120 species of plants available, and Horticulturists and knowledgeable volunteers on site to help you select plants for your garden of dreams.

Prepare to celebrate spring with the addition of blooming native azaleas. Roswell’s Azalea Festival promises to be a great new tradition. Native azaleas have delicious scents and naturalize beautifully in addition to a bloom schedule that extends from March to August, depending on the species.

* Blooming native azaleas, trees and shrubs
* Wide selection of woodland plants and spring ephemerals
* Butterfly host and sensory garden plants
* Unusual native perennials

Lisa Cole, CNC’s horticulturalist says, “Biodiversity in the garden is critical to habitat development. If you want to attract a wide array of song birds, pollinators and other interesting animals, you must start with the plants.”

Check our website here for the plant inventory and flier

**Spring Gallery in Bloom!**

**Through - May**

Our River Resource Gallery in the Discovery center is in BLOOM! Come see the Georgia Nature Photographers Association’s top photos focused on the beautiful blooms of spring. Included with General Admission.

**Fairy House Spring Scavenger Hunt**

**Through - May**

Children love to look for Fairies, they are hidden throughout the forest if you look hard enough! Come hike our trails to search for their fairy homes made from tiny natural objects. Earn Nature Exchange points as you find them along the way. Included with General Admission.

**In the Nature Exchange**

**Plants and Parts throughout April**

We are breaking out the microscopes and science tools this month to get a close up look at plants and their parts. See how roots work, peek into a flower, and even see color-changing blooms.

**Folklore Galore**

**Throughout April**

Everything has a story, even plants! Come learn about stories and myths told about some of our local species and try your hand at making your own story. Included with General Admission.

**Spring Break Bonus Fun, April 4-8**

* **Trading Magic**:Bring in your natural objects and knowledge and trade – all trades earn DOUBLE points. Earn more points when you trade April 4-8.
* **The Great Math Mystery**: Join us daily at 11am for this amazing film focused on the magic of the universal language – math. Runs 55mins, ages 10+.
* **Fairy House Scavenger Hunt:** Fairies are hidden throughout the forest if you look hard enough! Come hike our trails to search for their fairy homes made from tiny natural objects. Earn NEX points as you find them along the way.
* **Fairy House Building:** Join us daily at 1pm daily and bring your creativity. We will have natural objects available for you to create your own fairy house for the fairies of CNC.

**Woodland Restoration Project**

**Saturday, April 2, 9am – 12pm**

Come help us restore the wetlands along our stretch of the Chattahoochee! We will be working to remove invasive privet in and around the wetlands in order to encourage native plants restoration.  **Ages 5 – Adult;** Register by March 28th at l.lintel@chattnaturecenter.org

[**Canoe with us!**](http://chattnaturecenter.org/families/canoe-programs/)

* **Spring Break River Canoe Trip**

**Friday, April 8, 4pm**

Enjoy a staycation this week. Bring the family out on our first canoe trip of the year- a 2 ½ hour adventure down the Chattahoochee River where we will explore the sights and sounds of the river in the spring, and discover the plants and animals that call this area home. Advanced registration required. Ages 6 – adult; $30 General Public/$25 CNC Members; Registration required by April 6.

* **Spring Break Family Canoe Day**

**Saturday, April 9, 1:00pm – 2:30pm**

Get your feet wet with our canoe guides on Beaver Pond! This 1 ½ hour introduction to canoeing is a great way to spend time together during Spring Break. We’ll spend extra time going over paddling techniques and equipment, and provide races, games, and water squirters. CNC provides all equipment for participants. Advanced registration required. Ages 5 and up, $15 General Public/$10 CNC Members

* **River Canoe Trips**

**Saturdays and Sundays, April 23 - May 29, 5pm**

The Chattahoochee River is calling! Take an urban adventure and experience wildlife through a 2 ½ hour paddle down the ‘Hooch. Our experienced and knowledgeable river guides lead the way on the river to see the sights and sounds of spring time. Discover the plants and animals that call this area home and explore the river’s backwaters as you re-imagine the river through a canoeing experience. CNC provides all equipment for participants. Ages 6 -adult, $30 General Public/$25 Members Advanced registration required.

* **Earth Day** C**anoeing: Shooting Stars on the River**

**Friday, April 22nd, 5 - 9pm**

What better way to celebrate Earth Day than getting outside? Enjoy a 2 ½ hour paddle down the Chattahoochee River with our experienced and knowledgeable canoe guides. After the paddle, join us around the campfire as we watch for “shooting stars” during the peak of the Lyrid Meteor Shower. Feel free to bring a picnic dinner! Ages 21+, $40 General Public/$30 Members Advanced registration required.

[**Roswell Azalea Festival April 11 – 30**](http://www.roswellazaleafestival.com/)

CNC is pleased to be a partner in the Roswell celebration of Azaleas. Visit CNC to explore the native azaleas found on our 127 acres.

* Grab a brochure and head out onto CNC’s 127 acres to view over 10 species of native azaleas highlighted on the property. The entire family can join in and kids can earn points in the Nature Exchange with the Azalea Scavenger Hunt.
* The Georgia Nature Photographers Association and CNC team up to present photographs by some of the state’s best photographers. The work will focus on azaleas and other beautiful blooms.
* The Roswell Fine Arts Alliance will be out on the grounds on Tuesday, April 12, 19, and 26th from 10am – Noon as part of **Artists in the Wild**. Painters will be out in the gardens near the blooming nature azaleas, capturing them in their full blooms. Watch them as they paint, ask questions, and enjoy their work.

[**The Nature Club Dine and Discover**](http://chattnaturecenter.org/adults/the-nature-club/)

**Thursday, April 21; 7 – 9pm; $10 General Public/$5 CNC Members**

As part of the Roswell Azalea Festival, we are pleased to have Ernest Koone of Lazy K Nursery share his expertise on native azaleas of Georgia. The native azaleas of the southeast have been called the most beautiful of our Native American flowering shrubs.  Lazy K Nursery is one of the largest growers specializing in American azaleas.  More native azaleas are found growing naturally in Georgia than any other state. A must-attend for anyone interested in growing native azaleas. Join us for our potluck at 7pm and presentation at 7:30pm.

Learn more at <http://www.lazyknursery.com/>

[**Sunset Sips**](http://chattnaturecenter.org/special-events/after-hours-events/sunset-sips/)

**Thursday April 28, 6:30-9:30pm**

This program returns spring 2016 to bring you evening hours at CNC with a side of sunset. Sunset Sips is a laid back, family friendly event and our grounds are open for you to explore. Grab a friend and head over for live local music, cash bar, and feel free to bring a picnic dinner! The program continues 4th Thursday of each month April – September (except July), mark your calendars for the series.

April’s opening act is [**Wes Yoakam**](https://www.reverbnation.com/wesyoakam)**,** who will be sure to have you on your feet and singing, or at least bobbing your head along to some of the best acoustic covers of everything from current pop to classic rock. His tunes will bring you notes of Peter Gabriel, Tom Petty, U2, and more. *Wes began his professional music career in the fertile music ground of Athens, GA. The band sold out the local 1000 seat Georgia Theatre consistently and toured the country from Georgia to New York to Colorado to Michigan and back again. After an 8 year run as an entertainer in the world’s greatest ski bar: “The Club” in Vail, Wes returned to Atlanta and has set up FS Studios and is working on producing and recording area artists. He can now be found producing tracks for Atlanta area artists out of his new FS Studios in East Atlanta and playing around the Atlanta area as a solo and ensemble artist. Check out*[***Wes Yoakam***](https://www.reverbnation.com/wesyoakam)***;* Included with General Admission, FREE to CNC Members**

**Wish Upon a Star Adult Night Hike**

**Saturday, April 23; 8 - 10 pm**

Leave that wintry weather behind and leap into spring with our renowned night hike. This night hike will be one for the books as we not only witness the elusive nightlife that lives near the Chattahoochee River but search the sky for the Lyrid meteor shower. We will wrap the evening up with an up-close and personal experience with one of CNC’s own rehabilitated animals and campfire stargazing. **Ages 18+  $10 General Public/ $8 CNC Members (Sign up by April 15 and save $2).**

**Sundays on the River Concert Series**

**Featuring the Georgia State University Jazz Showcase**

**Sunday, April 10, 2016, 7:30 pm – 9:30 pm** (doors open at 6:30 pm)

Georgia State University’s notable Jazz Ensemble Band, directed by Dr. Gordon Vernick, will debut with a delightful evening dedicated to authentic Jazz, with a Georgia Twist. Hear them perform while you enjoy a ‘Chastain Style’ picnic and sip adult libations as the sun sets. Jazz blends many southern cultural ideals and music genres. With jazz roots based in the Deep South you’ll hear ragtime to blues, blended with rhythms that will keep your toes tapping and primed to dance. Hear Lisa Green, featured vocalists, who will sing song selections that have made Georgia one of the most famous states for music. Tickets are only $22.50 for first come, first served table seating at the pavilion and $17.50 for lawn seating, for this evening of inspiration, musical excitement and rhythm and blues performed by Georgia’s own musicians. Sponsorships are available too!

**General Information for all shows**:  Bring your own picnic and dine during the show at a table (decorated by you).  For lawn seating, bring your own low lawn chair or blanket.  Corporate Sponsorships are available**.** \*These monthly concerts will take place on the second Sunday at the Chattahoochee Nature Center located at 9135 Willeo Road, Roswell, GA.  Each show starts at 7:30 pm and you can arrive at 6:30 pm to enjoy the nature center and gardens prior to the concert. \*Adult beverages are available for purchase at each event, but remember, BYOB is prohibited.  Invite your friends to enjoy concerts close to home at the beautiful Ben Brady Lakeside Pavilion where live music will fill the stage for Sunday night fun!

[***The Chattahoochee Nature Center***](http://www.chattnaturecenter.org) **–** is a private non-profit that serves the community daily. Our mission is **to connect people to nature**. Explore our LEED certified Discovery Center with the Southeast’s only nature exchange. Hike our river boardwalk and accessible woodland trails that feature over 30 species of native wildlife within 127 acres along the Chattahoochee River. Educational programs for children focus on the ecosystem of the Chattahoochee Watershed and help to expand the awareness of the natural world.

[**See Updates on our FACEBOOK**](https://www.facebook.com/ChattahoocheeNatureCenter) **page:**

**###**