

**Bellevue Parks & Community Services
Events List
(This list is a guide. Details may change.)**

JANUARY 2012 EVENTS

- Jan 3-8** **SBCC's Sixth Anniversary! FREE classes and activities**, times vary
South Bellevue Community Center, 14509 SE Newport Way
Come and try new fitness classes and activities, including our rock climbing wall, during our anniversary week. Full schedule of events is available at http://bellevuewa.gov/south_bellevue_center.htm or by calling 425-452-4240.
Ages: Ages vary for each class or activity. **Cost:** Free! **Pre-registration:** Only required for indoor cycling classes. **To register:** 425-452-6885. **Info:** 425-452-4240.
- Jan 6** **"Owl Moon" by Jane Yolen (children's activity)**, 1:30 p.m. – 2:30 p.m.
Lewis Creek Park Visitor Center, 5808 Lakemont Blvd SE
A little girl and her father go owling one night. Will they see an owl or two? We will read the story and make an owl mask. **Ages:** 3 years and older. **Cost:** \$2; parent and child must both register. **Pre-registration:** required. **To register:** 425-452-6885, course #64085. **Info:** 425-452-4195.
- Jan 7** **Lewis Creek Ranger Hike**, 10:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.
Lewis Creek Park Visitor Center, 5808 Lakemont Blvd SE
Join a ranger to explore the natural history of Lewis Creek Park. Look for signs of local wildlife and learn what to do when encountering animals in the wild.
Ages: All ages welcome. **Cost:** Free! No registration is required. **Info:** 425-452-4195.
- Jan 7** **"Baby Tales" (children's movie)**, 2 p.m. – 3 p.m.
Lewis Creek Park Visitor Center, 5808 Lakemont Blvd SE
Foal, cub, piglet, chick, polliwog, pup or kitten – every creature begins life the same way, as a baby. But growing up is different for each of us. Turtle hatchlings make their way in the world by pure instinct. Other babies form strong bonds with their mothers, relying on them for years of devoted care and all-important training. These are the stories of babies across the animal kingdom and their daunting journeys into a grown-up world. Running time is 60 minutes.
Ages: Appropriate for ages 5 and up. **Cost:** Free! Donations will be gratefully accepted. **Pre-registration:** required. **To register:** 425-452-6885, course #64192. **Info:** 425-452-4195.

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- Jan 11** **“Green Fire – Aldo Leopold and a Land Ethic for Our Time” (movie),**
5:30 p.m. – 7 p.m.
Lewis Creek Park Visitor Center, 5808 Lakemont Blvd SE
Come celebrate Leopold’s 125th birthday as we eat cake and watch the first full-length, high-definition documentary film ever made about legendary environmentalist Aldo Leopold! “Green Fire” highlights Leopold’s extraordinary career, tracing how he shaped and influenced the modern environmental movement. Leopold remains relevant today, inspiring projects all over the country that connect people and land. Running time is 72 minutes. **Ages:** Appropriate for ages 12 and older. **Cost:** Free! Donations will be gratefully accepted. **Pre-registration:** required. **To register:** 425-452-6885, course #64203. **Info:** 425-452-4195.
- Jan 14** **Local Area Hikes – Coal Creek Park, 10 a.m. – Noon**
Redtown Trailhead (Cougar Mountain) on Lakemont Blvd SE (limited parking)
Did you know Bellevue has almost 100 parks and over 80 miles of trails to explore? Get connected to your local greenbelts and neighborhood parks as rangers take you on hikes throughout the year. Soft-surface trails follow Coal Creek past waterfalls and evidence of the area's coal mining past. Please dress for the weather, bring water and wear sturdy shoes. Distance: 5 miles. Level of difficulty: Moderate. **Cost:** Free! **Info:** 425-452-4195.
- Jan 15** **“Challenges of Life” (movie), 2 p.m. – 3 p.m..**
Lewis Creek Park Visitor Center, 5808 Lakemont Blvd SE
This introduction to the series shows examples of extraordinary feeding, hunting, courting and parenting behavior from across the animal kingdom and around the globe. Running time is 50 minutes. **Ages:** Appropriate for ages 12 and older. **Cost:** Free! Donations will be gratefully accepted. **Pre-registration:** required. **To register:** 425-452-6885, course #64196. **Info:** 425-452-4195.
- Jan 16** **Celebration of a Dream – Tribute to Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.,**
Noon – 3 p.m..
Crossroads Shopping Center, corner of 156th Avenue NE and NE 8th Street
This program features music, cultural entertainment, guest speakers and activities for children. **Ages:** All ages are welcome. **Cost:** Free! **Pre-registration:** not required. **Info:** Kevin Henry – khenry@bellevuewa.gov or 425-452-7886.
- Jan 17** **Park Rentals** – The Parks Scheduling Office will begin accepting 2012 park use requests from Bellevue residents and Bellevue businesses. The updated 2012 park rental information will be available mid-January online at http://bellevuewa.gov/facility_rentals_outdoor.htm . For additional information, contact the Parks Scheduling Office at ParkRental@bellevuewa.gov or 425-452-6914. (Non-residents may begin the park rental process on February 15.)

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- Jan 18** **Experience Dance Project – Family Program**, 6:30 p.m. – 7:30 p.m..
Crossroads Community Center, 16000 NE 10th Street
Families and kids of all ages are invited to a free Experience Dance Project Family Program. Discover what type of movement contemporary dance uses and how dance is created. Program presented by Eva Stone of the Stone Dance Collective. **Ages:** All ages. **Cost:** Free! **Pre-registration:** required. **To register:** 425-452-4874. **Info:** 425-452-4874 or sbcc@bellevuewa.gov .
- Jan 19** **“Coal Mining at Cougar Mountain” (family activity)**, 6 p.m. – 8 p.m..
Lewis Creek Park Visitor Center, 5808 Lakemont Blvd SE
Presented by the Eastside Heritage Center, this program focuses on 100 years of local coal mining. In 1888 there were 21 mules and 200 men employed here! Exporting coal to San Francisco turned Seattle into a dominant seaport. Come and learn what is underneath a mountain that is older than Rainier. **Ages:** Appropriate for ages 10 and older. **Cost:** Free! **Pre-registration:** required. Parent and child must both register. **To register:** 425-452-6885, course # 64740. **Info:** 425-452-4195.
- Jan 20** **Bird Watching**, 8 a.m. – 9:30 a.m..
Lake Hills Greenbelt Ranger Station, 15416 SE 16th Street
Get to know our winter birds in the Lake Hills Greenbelt! Join Hugh Jennings, a longtime birder, to explore our wild birds. Learn which birds spend their winters here and which ones you should expect to see in the spring. Please dress for the weather. If you have binoculars, please feel free to bring them along. **Ages:** Best for ages 12 and older. Children 12 and under must be accompanied by an adult. **Cost:** Free! **Pre-registration:** required. **To register and for Info:** 425-452-2565.
- Jan 21** **Marshmallow Memories**, 10 a.m. – 11:30 a.m..
Northwest Arts Center, 9819 NE 24th Street
Spend a warm and cozy Saturday morning with your child making fun marshmallow art, music and movement, a yummy snack and then join us for a wacky, wonderful marshmallow relay race! **Ages:** 2-5 years. **Cost:** \$22 for residents (\$5 for additional family member); \$25 for non-residents (\$6 for additional family member). **Pre-registration:** required. **To register:** 425-452-6885, course #64554. **Info:** NWAC@bellevuewa.gov or 425-452-4106.
- Jan 21** **Weird Webs (family activity)**, 1 p.m. – 1:30 p.m..
Lewis Creek Park Visitor Center, 5808 Lakemont Blvd SE
We will use a ball of string to create a food web that shows the interactions between the members of the ecosystem and learn to appreciate the interconnections and interdependence within the “web of life.” Parents and children will learn together. **Ages:** 8 and older. **Cost:** Free! **Pre-registration:** required. **To register:** 425-452-6885, course #64060. **Info:** 425-452-4195.

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- Jan 21** **Experience Dance Project – Contemporary Dance Class**, 1 p.m. – 2:30 p.m..
Crossroads Community Center, 16000 NE 10th Street
As part of the Experience Dance Project program, try a contemporary dance class – no experience necessary! Get a deeper appreciation for and understanding of contemporary dance by attending this free class. This program was created by Eva Stone of The Stone Dance Collective. **Ages:** 10 and older. **Cost:** Free! **Pre-registration:** required. **To register:** www.MyParksandRecreation.com or call 425-452-4874. **Info:** 425-452-4874 or sbcc@bellevuewa.gov .
- Jan 21** **“Singin’ in the Rain” – Bellevue Youth Theatre Foundation fundraiser**, 6 p.m. – 9 p.m.
The Westin Bellevue, 601 Bellevue Way NE
Save the date for a fabulous evening of entertainment, food and fun, featuring Pat Cashman as MC, young actors and their mentors. Learn about the Bellevue Youth Theatre and how you can help this unique Eastside treasure fulfill its mission. Proceeds help support BYT programs and will help build the new theater. **Cost:** \$100. **To register and for more info:** www.bytf.org or call 425-440-3777.
- Jan 22** **“Wolves in Washington” (Hot Topic Series)**, 1 p.m. - 2 p.m..
Lewis Creek Park Visitor Center, 5808 Lakemont Blvd SE
Have you heard? Gray wolves have returned to Washington nearly 70 years after they were extirpated from the state! Should we be excited or nervous? Where are they coming from? Where are they traveling to? What is the State doing to prepare for their presence? Explore and inquire about wolves in Washington State. Learn about where you can find more resources on this important topic. **Ages:** Appropriate for ages 12 and older. **Cost:** Free! Donations will be gratefully accepted. **Pre-registration:** required. **To register:** 425-452-6885, course #64215. **Info:** 425-452-4195.
- Jan 27** **Movies at Mercer Slough: “Life in the Undergrowth,”** 5 p.m. – 6 p.m.
Mercer Slough Environmental Education Center, Douglas Fir Community Room, 1625 118th Ave SE
Open your eyes to the bizarre, ferocious and surprisingly beautiful world of the invertebrates. Within this remarkable world lie not just beetles and bugs, but exotic cicadas, neon glow worms and intricate silk-weaving spiders, along with a whole host of other incredible life forms with startling behavior. Popcorn provided! **Ages:** Best for ages 8+. Children 12 and under must be accompanied by an adult. **Cost:** Free! No registration is required. **Info:** 425-452-2565 or mseec@bellevuewa.gov .

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- Jan 27-28** **“Singin’ in the Rain” – Bellevue Youth Theatre Foundation fundraiser, 7 p.m. – 9 p.m.**
Bellevue Youth Theatre, 16661 Northup Way
Come enjoy a fabulous evening of entertainment. Learn about the Bellevue Youth Theatre and how you can help this unique Eastside treasure fulfill its mission. Proceeds help support BYT programs and will help build the new theater. **Cost:** \$30. **To register and for more info:** www.bytf.org or call 425-440-3777.
- Jan 28** **“Intro to Wildlife Biology” (Living with Wildlife Series), 1 p.m. – 2 p.m..**
Lewis Creek Park Visitor Center, 5808 Lakemont Blvd SE
Wildlife biologists are becoming increasingly involved in the human dimensions of wildlife management. Human-wildlife conflicts are on the rise across America as growing human populations continue to encroach on wilderness territories. Learn about human-wildlife interactions in Washington and what biologists are doing to manage conflicts. **Ages:** Appropriate for ages 12 and older. **Cost:** Free! **Pre-registration:** required. **To register:** 425-452-6885, course #64211. **Info:** 425-452-4195.
- Jan 28** **Experience Dance Project – Family Program, 1 p.m. – 2 p.m.**
South Bellevue Community Center, 14509 SE Newport Way
Families and kids of all ages are invited to a free Experience Dance Project program. Discover what type of movement contemporary dance uses and learn how dance is created. This program was created by Eva Stone of The Stone Dance Collective. **Ages:** All ages. **Cost:** Free! **Pre-registration:** required. **To register:** www.MyParksandRecreation.com or call 425-452-4240. **Info:** 425-452-4240 or sbcc@bellevuewa.gov .
- Jan 28** **Experience Dance Project – Contemporary Dance Class, 2 p.m. – 3:30 p.m..**
South Bellevue Community Center, 14509 SE Newport Way
As part of the Experience Dance Project program, try a contemporary dance class – no experience necessary! Get a deeper appreciation for and understanding of contemporary dance by attending this free class. This program was created by Eva Stone of The Stone Dance Collective. **Ages:** 10 and older. **Cost:** Free! **Pre-registration:** required. **To register:** www.MyParksandRecreation.com or call 425-452-4240. **Info:** 425-452-4240 or sbcc@bellevuewa.gov .
- Jan 29** **“Watched by Wild Animals” by Enos Mills (Naturalists’ Book Club), 6 p.m. – 8 p.m..**
Lewis Creek Park Visitor Center, 5808 Lakemont Blvd SE
Enos A. Mills is considered to be the “Father of Rocky Mountain National Park.” He was a naturalist, writer, speaker, nature guide, photographer, innkeeper and miner. Homesteading in Estes Park, Colorado, in 1885 brought him into intimate contact with the natural world. His books are all true accounts of his experiences in the wilderness. **Ages:** Appropriate for ages 18 and older. **Cost:** Free! **Pre-registration:** required. **To register:** 425-452-6885, course #64204. **Info:** 425-452-4195.

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FEBRUARY 2012 EVENTS

- Feb 3** **“Crawdad Creek,” by Scott Sanders (Children’s Activity)**, 11 a.m. – Noon
Lewis Creek Park Visitor Center, 5808 Lakemont Blvd SE
Explore Crawdad Creek where there are rocks filled with fossils, crawdad hiding under a stone, whirligig beetles and water striders, and hopping frogs! We will make a metamorphic frog to see the changes that many wetland wildlife go through. **Ages:** 3 and older. Children 12 and under must be accompanied by an adult. **Cost:** \$2; parent and child must both register. **Pre-registration:** required. **To register:** 425-452-6885, course #64106. **Info:** 425-452-4195.
- Feb 4** **Jane Goodall’s “When Animals Talk,” (Children’s Movie)**, 1:30 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.
Lewis Creek Park Visitor Center, 5808 Lakemont Blvd SE
Just like any pet owner, Jane Goodall believes that all animals can talk; it’s just that we don’t always understand what they’re saying. “When Animals Talk” recounts the amazing stories of animals that have changed the lives of the people they’ve touched. Dr. Goodall’s message is that communicating with animals brings humankind closer to another world, and that such liaisons can bring about unexpected benefits to both. Running time is 120 minutes. **Ages:** Appropriate for ages 10 and older. **Cost:** Free! Donations will be gratefully accepted. **Pre-registration:** required. **To register:** 425-452-6885, course #64193. **Info:** 425-452-4195.
- Feb 5** **Animal Adaptations (Ranger Program)**, 2:30 p.m. – 3 p.m.
Mercer Slough Environmental Education Center, Douglas Fir Community Room, 1625 118th Avenue SE
Do you ever wish you had super powers? Many of the animals living in the Mercer Slough have amazing abilities that allow them to survive extreme conditions. Come find out about the special adaptations of our wetland wildlife. **Ages:** Best for ages 8 and older. Children 12 and under must be accompanied by an adult. **Cost:** Free! **Pre-registration:** Not required. **Info:** email mseec@bellevuewa.gov or call 425-452-2565.
- Feb 8-12** **Northwest Flower & Garden Show**, 9 a.m.- 8 p.m.
Washington State Convention & Trade Center, 800 Convention Place, Seattle
This is one of the largest, most magnificent garden shows in the world. Please come and visit the **Bellevue Botanical Garden Society’s** booth. **Ages:** All ages. **Cost and info:** Check the show’s website at www.gardenshow.com or call 800-569-2832 for more details.

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- Feb 11** **Winter Wildlife at Coal Creek Park**, 10 a.m. – 11 a.m.
Coal Creek Park, Red Town Trailhead, 7336 Lakemont Blvd SE
Have you ever wondered what wildlife lives in Coal Creek during winter? Do beavers hibernate? With over 520 acres of preserved land, this natural area is the largest wildlife corridor in the Bellevue park system. Learn all about your wildlife neighbors on a nature walk with a Park Ranger. This event will take place in rain, shine or snow. **Ages:** All ages are welcome. **Cost:** Free! **Pre-registration:** not required. **Info:** 425-452-7225.
- Feb 11** **Art of Etiquette – Young Ladies & Gentlemen I**, 9 a.m. – Noon
Northwest Arts Center, 9819 NE 24th Street
Children rarely attend classes on manners, and yet it is the key to building positive friendships and strong self-esteem. This fun, hands-on workshop teaches telephone etiquette, basic table manners, introductions, personal care and posture. Each student receives a goodie bag to take home. **Ages:** 6-11 years. **Cost:** \$50 for residents; \$60 for non-residents. **Pre-registration:** required. **To register:** 425-452-6885, course #60920. **Info:** NWAC@bellevuewa.gov or 425-452-4106.
- Feb 11** **Art of Etiquette – Young Ladies & Gentlemen II**, 1 p.m. – 4 p.m.
Northwest Arts Center, 9819 NE 24th Street
One of the first social settings that children encounter is being a guest. Learning how to be a gracious guest of honor, or host, are skills they will use lifelong. Boys and girls will learn about invitations, being a great guest and host, meeting and greeting others, polite conversation, giving and receiving gifts, basic table manners while neatly eating birthday cake, and how to create their own thank you notes. Cake will be served in this class. **Ages:** 6-11 years. **Cost:** \$50 for residents; \$60 for non-residents. **Pre-registration:** required. **To register:** 425-452-6885, course #60920. **Info:** NWAC@bellevuewa.gov or 425-452-4106.
- Feb 11** **The Life and Times of a Bald Eagle (Family Activity)**, 1 p.m. – 1:30 p.m.
Lewis Creek Park Visitor Center, 5808 Lakemont Blvd SE
Learn about the habits and habitat of a young bald eagle through this creative movement active learning experience. Parents and children will move together. **Ages:** 6 and older. **Cost:** Free! **Pre-registration:** Required; parent and child must both register. **To register:** 425-452-6885, course #64111. **Info:** 425-452-4195.
- Feb 12** **“Reptiles and Amphibians” (Movie)**, 2 p.m. – 3 p.m.
Lewis Creek Park Visitor Center, 5808 Lakemont Blvd SE
They may seem primitive, but reptiles and amphibians still thrive, thanks to diverse survival strategies – Komodo dragons, pebble toads, pygmy geckos, horned lizards and more! Running time is 50 minutes. **Ages:** Appropriate for ages 12 and older. **Cost:** Free! Donations will be gratefully accepted. **Pre-registration:** Required; parent and child must both register. **To register:** 425-452-6885, course #64197. **Info:** 425-452-4195.

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- Feb 15** **Bird Watching**, 8 a.m. – 9:30 a.m.
Lake Hills Greenbelt Ranger Station, 15416 SE 16th Street
Get to know our winter birds in the Lake Hills Greenbelt! Join Hugh Jennings, a longtime birder, to explore our wild birds. Learn which birds spend their winters here and which ones you should expect to see in the spring. Please dress for the weather. If you have binoculars, please feel free to bring them along. **Ages:** Best for ages 12 and older. Children 12 and under must be accompanied by an adult. **Cost:** Free! **Pre-registration:** required. **To register and for Info:** 425-452-2565.
- Feb 15** **Park Rentals** – The Parks Scheduling Office will begin accepting 2012 park use requests from everyone. (Bellevue residents and businesses may begin the park rental process on January 17.) The updated 2012 park rental information will be available mid-January online at http://bellevuewa.gov/facility_rentals_outdoor.htm . For additional information, contact the Parks Scheduling Office at ParkRental@bellevuewa.gov or 425-452-6914.
- Feb 16-Apr 12** **Docent Training**, weekly on Thursdays, 9 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.
Bellevue Botanical Garden, 12001 Main Street
Learn, lead and share your gardening passion by becoming a Bellevue Botanical Garden Society Docent. The classes are informative, fun and free. **Ages:** Adults. **Cost:** Free. **Pre-registration:** required. **Info:** email bbgsoffice@bellevuebotanical.org or call 425-451-3755.
- Feb 17** **Winter Masquerade Ball**, 6:30 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.
Northwest Arts Center, 9819 NE 24th Street
Put on your dancing shoes and join us for a Winter Masquerade Ball for families! Dress up in your party clothes and learn new dances. Enjoy dancing to old tunes, make your own original masks, nibble on light goodies and sip beverages. Have a photograph taken to remember the evening. Dads, escort your little princesses; mom, dance with your little prince! **Ages:** 3-10 years. **Cost:** \$24 for residents; \$28 for non-residents. Additional family member - \$13 for residents; \$15 for non-residents **Pre-registration:** required. Please register each child separately. **To register:** 425-452-6885, course #64578. **Info:** NWAC@bellevuewa.gov or 425-452-4106.
- Feb 17** **Disco Dance**, 7 p.m. – 9:30 p.m..
Highland Community Center, 14224 Bel-Red Road
Come and groove to the sounds of the 70s and show off some old and new moves to great disco music. This dance is for teens and adults with developmental disabilities. **Ages:** 16 and older. **Cost:** \$9 for Bellevue residents and \$11 for non-residents. **Pre-registration:** required. **To register:** www.MyParksandRecreation.com . **Info:** 425-452-7686.

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- Feb 17** **“Geology from Mountains to Sound” (Adult Enrichment Series)**, 7 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.
Mercer Slough Environmental Education Center, Douglas Fir Community Room, 1625 118th Avenue SE
Take a virtual trip from mountains to sound, and explore the long and dynamic geologic history of the I-90 corridor. Geologist Rob Viens will present and discuss the geologic history of the region as it is expressed in the trails and parks along the Mountains to Sound Greenbelt, including Mercer Slough, Cougar Mountain, Tiger Mountain, Mount Si and Snoqualmie Pass. **Ages:** Best for ages 12 and older. Children 12 and under must be accompanied by a registered adult. **Cost:** \$5. **Pre-registration:** required. **To register:** 425-452-6885, course #64216. **Info:** mseec@bellevuewa.gov or 425-452-2565.
- Feb 18** **On Your Own**, 1 p.m. – 2:30 p.m.
Lewis Creek Park Visitor Center, 5808 Lakemont Blvd SE
In his essay, “Flambeau,” Aldo Leopold tells the story of meeting two young men on a camping trip. He describes how such a trip provides real world consequences and the freedom to make mistakes. Participants will test their abilities and demonstrate creative problem-solving skills through a series of open-ended challenges. We will share lessons learned from challenge successes and failures. **Ages:** 11 and older. **Cost:** Free! **Pre-registration:** required. **To register:** 425-452-6885, course #64741. **Info:** 425-452-4195.
- Feb 19** **Ecosystem Ecology – Lewis Creek to Lakemont Community Hike**, 10 a.m. – Noon
Lewis Creek Park Visitor Center, 5808 Lakemont Blvd SE
Did you know Bellevue has almost 100 parks and over 80 miles of trails to explore? Get connected to your local greenbelts and neighborhood parks as rangers take you on hikes throughout the year. Hikes vary in theme and length. This hike is 5 miles. Please dress for the weather, bring water and wear sturdy shoes. **Cost:** Free! **Pre-registration:** Not required. **Info:** 425-452-4195.
- Feb 24** **“Wolf – Legendary Outlaw” (Movies at Mercer Slough)**, 5 p.m. – 6 p.m.
Mercer Slough Environmental Education Center, Douglas Fir Community Room, 1625 118th Avenue SE
Journey around the world to witness the stunning life of wolves. Learn how the wolf became a legendary outlaw and how we understand them today. Popcorn provided! Approximately 50 minutes. **Ages:** Best for ages 10 and older. Children under 12 must be accompanied by an adult. **Cost:** Free! **Pre-registration:** Not required. **Info:** mseec@bellevuewa.gov or 425-452-2565.

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- Feb 25** **Black Bears (Nature Program)**, 1 p.m. – 2 p.m.
Lewis Creek Park Visitor Center, 5808 Lakemont Blvd SE
With an estimated population of 25,000 statewide, black bears are the most common source of potentially dangerous conflicts. Black bear complaints to the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife annually average 417 statewide. They range from fleeting glimpses of bears to close encounters. Learn from wildlife biologist Dr. Brian Kertson about black bear ecology, how to prevent conflicts and what to do if you encounter a black bear. **Ages:** Appropriate for ages 12 and older. **Cost:** Free! **Pre-registration:** required. **To register:** 425-452-6885, course #64212. **Info:** 425-452-4195.
- Feb 26** **“Desert Solitaire” by Edward Abbey (Naturalists’ Book Club)**, 6 p.m. – 8 p.m.
Lewis Creek Park Visitor Center, 5808 Lakemont Blvd SE
Critically acclaimed author Edward Abbey vividly captures the essence of his life during three seasons as a park ranger in southeastern Utah. This is a rare view of a quest to experience nature in its purest form – the silence, the struggle, the overwhelming beauty. But this is also the gripping, anguished cry of a man of character who challenges the growing exploitation of the wilderness by oil and mining interests, as well as by the tourist industry. **Ages:** Appropriate for ages 18 and older. **Cost:** Free! **Pre-registration:** required. **To register:** 425-452-6885, course #64205. **Info:** 425-452-4195.

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MARCH 2012

- March 3** **Spring Fling Dance**, 7 p.m. – 11 p.m..
North Bellevue Community Center, 4063 148th Avenue NE
Welcome Spring with the “Sounds of Swing.” USA Dance will be here to teach a lesson from 7:30-8:15. Dance the night away to all the Big Band Favorites and the standards. This is sure to be a fun night! **Ages:** 18 years and older. **Cost:** \$15 per person. **Pre-registration:** not required. **Info:** 425-452-7681.
- March 4** **Beavers – Nature’s Architects (Ranger Program)**, 2:30 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.
Mercer Slough Environmental Education Center, Douglas Fir Community Room, 1625 118th Avenue SE
Did you know you can find beavers at Mercer Slough? Learn about the beaver’s amazing adaptations, how they shape the habitat around them and why Mercer Slough’s beavers are unique. **Ages:** Best for ages 8 years and older. **Cost:** Free! **Pre-registration:** not required. **Info:** mseec@bellevuewa.gov or 425-452-2565.
- March 10** **Northwest Perennial Alliance March Mania Plant Sale**, 10 a.m.- 2 p.m.
Bellevue Botanical Garden, 12001 Main Street
This unique sale kicks off the local plant sale season. The sale has evolved from its humble beginnings ten years ago into a successful event with a long line of gardeners waiting for the sale to begin. This sale is known for its specialties, spring ephemerals and treasures not readily found elsewhere. **Cost:** Admission is free. Cost of plants vary. **Pre-registration:** not required. **Info:** www.n-p-a.org .
- March 10** **Zumba, Carnival Fundraiser**, 6 p.m. – 9 p.m.
Highland Community Center, 14224 Bel-Red Road
This fundraiser will benefit Highland Community Center’s children and adults with disabilities. Dress up in your most colorful costume for Carnival and dance to the beats of the music. Let the music move you for a good cause! **Ages:** 18 years and older. **Cost:** Suggestion donation of \$10 per person. **Pre-registration:** not required. Register at the door. **Info:** 425-452-6104.
- March 14** **St. Patrick’s Day Luncheon**, 11:30 a.m. – 2 p.m.
North Bellevue Community Center, 4063 148th Avenue NE
Join us in being “Irish for a day!” Wear your favorite green outfit and enjoy a traditional Irish meal. We’ll play some Irish music and sing some favorite Irish songs. Your “Irish Eyes” are sure to be smiling! Co-sponsored by Catholic Community Services. **Ages:** 18 years and older. **Cost:** \$3 suggested donation, payable at the door. **Pre-registration:** required by March 7. **Info:** 425-452-7681.

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- March 23-April 1** **“Merry Fairy Tales” – Bellevue Youth Theatre production,**
March 23, 24, 30 and 31 at 7 p.m.; March 25, 31, April 1 at 2 p.m.
Bellevue Youth Theatre, 16661 Northup Way
Come enjoy a fabulous evening of entertainment. Learn about the Bellevue Youth Theatre and how you can help this unique Eastside treasure fulfill its mission. Proceeds help support BYT programs and will help build the new theater. **Cost:** \$10/advanced or \$12 beginning March 19. **To purchase tickets:** 425-452-7155. **Info:** <http://bellevuewa.gov/BYT-productions.htm> or 425-452-7155.
- March 24** **Native Plants – Edible, Medicinal and Useful,** 11 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.
Mercer Slough Environmental Education Center, Douglas Fir Community Room, 1625 118th Avenue SE
Join Barb Williams, Bellevue Botanical Garden Society school programs manager and Eastside Heritage Center volunteer, for a fun, hands-on, indoor/outdoor interpretive program about local Native Americans and their ingenious use of native plants to support survival needs. **Ages:** Best for ages 12 years and older. **Cost:** \$5. **Pre-registration:** required. **To register:** visit www.MyParksAndRecreation.com or call 425-452-6885, course #64217. **Info:** mseec@bellevuewa.gov or 425-452-2565.
- March 30** **Movies at Mercer Slough – “Humpback Whale – Giant of the Oceans,”** 5 p.m. – 6 p.m.
Mercer Slough Environmental Education Center, Douglas Fir Community Room, 1625 118th Avenue SE
Experience the wonder of one of the largest creatures ever to inhabit planet Earth. Watch the underwater acrobatics and listen to the song of the humpback whale as you journey with them on a daring migration from the poles to the tropics. Approximately 60 minutes. Popcorn provided! **Ages:** Best for ages 8 years and older. **Cost:** Free! **Pre-registration:** not required. **Info:** mseec@bellevuewa.gov or 425-452-2565.
- March 31** **Create a Wildlife-Friendly Habitat,** 1 p.m. – 2:30 p.m.
Lake Hills Greenbelt Ranger Station, 15416 SE 16th Street
Design a garden that provides the essential needs for wildlife species. You can help wildlife thrive, and learn how to make your garden an official Certified Wildlife Habitat™ or Backyard Wildlife Sanctuary. Tour the Lake Hills Greenbelt’s certified habitat sanctuary. Get ready for spring with a seminar with two of the City of Bellevue’s Master Naturalists. Take a native plant home to get started. **Ages:** Best for ages 18 years and older. **Cost:** Free! Donations will be gratefully accepted at the door. **Pre-registration:** required. Please call Laura Harper at 425-452-7225, course #63684. **Info:** 425-452-7225.

Bellevue Parks & Community Services
Events List
(This list is a guide. Details may change.)

SEASONAL EVENTS

- Dec-April** **Kids on the Farm Group Tours**, times vary
Kelsey Creek Farm Park, 410 130th Place SE
Explore our farm and meet our goats, pig, sheep, rabbits, chickens and ponies.. Experience the old-fashioned skill of wool carding and create a wool sheep to take home. **Ages:** For preschool and school groups, ages 2 and older. **Cost:** Varies according to group size (up to \$5 per person). **Pre-registration is required. Info/Register:** 425-452-7688 or email kelseycreekfarm@bellevuewa.gov .
- Jan-April** **Lewis Creek Ranger Hikes**, 1st Saturday of each month (January 7, February 4, March 3, April 7) 10:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.
Lewis Creek Park Visitor Center, 5808 Lakemont Blvd SE
Join a ranger to explore the natural history of Lewis Creek Park. Look for signs of local wildlife, and learn what to do when encountering animals in the wild. Dress for the weather and wear sturdy shoes. **Ages:** All ages welcome. **Cost:** Free! **Pre-registration:** Not required. **Info:** 425-452-4195.
- Feb-April** **Docent Training**, February 16 to April 12, weekly on Thursdays, 9 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.
Bellevue Botanical Garden, 12001 Main Street
Learn, lead and share your gardening passion by becoming a Bellevue Botanical Garden Society Docent. The classes are informative, fun and free. **Ages:** Adults. **Cost:** Free. **Registration:** required. **For more info:** email bbsoffice@bellevuebotanical.org or call 425-451-3755.
- Feb-Sept** **Garden d’Lights Classes**, offered monthly at various times
Bellevue Botanical Garden, 12001 Main Street
Learn to make beautiful flower light creations that will actually become part of the display at the yearly Garden d’Lights at the Bellevue Botanical Garden. **Ages:** Adults. **For more info:** www.bellevuebotanical.org for class types, fees, times and dates.

**Bellevue Parks & Community Services
Events List
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YEAR-ROUND EVENTS

3rd Sunday of each month

NWRSA Area 2060 Greater Sammamish Hand Spinners, Noon - 2 p.m.

Kelsey Creek Community Farm Park (Farm House), 410 130th Place SE

Visitors invited to drop in and watch as spinners demonstrate the traditional art of hand spinning as they turn fuzzy fiber into yarn. New spinners welcome! **Register:** not required. All ages welcome; children must be accompanied by an adult. **Info:** 425-452-7688 or e-mail kelseycreekfarm@bellevuewa.gov.

Every 1st Monday each month

Snocone Night, 4 p.m. - 7 p.m.

Bellevue Skate Park, 14224 Bel-Red Road (within Highland Community Park)

Bellevue Skate Park and Snowboard Connection are proud to present “Snocon Night.” Various games, best trick contest, and give a ways for families and youth of all ages. Come check it out - you may walk away with some cool prizes. **Info:** 425-452-2722. **Register:** not required.

Every Monday

2011 Kids Care Coat Drive Planning Committee, 4 p.m. – 5 p.m.

Bellevue City Hall, Room 1E-119, 450 110th Avenue NE

Help plan an annual city-wide coat drive for families in Bellevue. **Info:** call Youth Link at 425-452-5254 or visit www.youthlink.com.

Every Monday

2012 Youth Involvement Conference Planning Committee, 5 p.m. – 6 p.m.

Bellevue City Hall, Room 1E-119, 450 110th Avenue NE

Help plan a biennial city-wide youth conference in Bellevue. Decide with other teens on selecting themes, workshops and speakers. **Info:** call Youth Link at 425-452-5254 or visit www.youthlink.com.

Last Monday each month

Youth Link Teen Closet Distribution Event, 4:30 p.m. - 6:30 p.m.

World Impact Network, 2015 Richards Road

Teen Closet is a free clothing bank for teens and families in the Bellevue area. Individuals, families, and community groups interested in volunteering at the event can contact Patrick, Youth Link Program Coordinator, 425-452-5254, e-mail palina@bellevuewa.gov, or visit www.youthlink.com.

Every Tuesday

21st Annual Community Leadership Awards Night Planning Committee, 4 p.m. – 5 p.m.

Bellevue City Hall, Room 1E-119, 450 110th Avenue NE

Help plan a city-wide youth recognition event in Bellevue. **Info:** call Youth Link at 425-452-5254 or visit www.youthlink.com.

Bellevue Parks & Community Services

Events List

(This list is a guide. Details may change.)

Every 1st and 3rd Tuesday each month

Community Leadership Awards Night Planning Committee, 4 p.m. - 5 p.m.

Bellevue City Hall, 450 110th Avenue NE, Room 1E-119

Help plan a citywide youth recognition event in our community. **Info:** Youth Link: 425-452-5254 or visit www.youthlink.com.

4th Tuesday each month

Bellevue Youth Court, 6 p.m. - 8 p.m.

Bellevue City Hall, 450 110th Avenue NE, Council Chambers

Monthly session of Bellevue Youth Court with two juvenile court cases. **Info:** 425-452-2846 or visit www.youthlink.com.

1st and 3rd Wednesday each month

Bellevue Youth Council Meeting, 5 p.m. - 7 p.m.

Bellevue City Hall, 450 110th Avenue NE, Room 1E-120

Youth leadership and community service program for Bellevue middle and high school students.

Info: Youth Link: 425-452-5254 or visit www.youthlink.com.

1st Thursday each month

Bellevue Network On Aging Meeting, 8:30 a.m. - 10:30 a.m.

Bellevue City Hall, 450 110th Avenue NE, Room 1E-112

Info: 425-452-7681 or visit www.bellevuewa.gov/network_on_aging.htm.

Every Saturday

Lake Hills Greenbelt Ranger-lead Walk, 2 p.m. - 3 p.m.

Lake Hills Greenbelt Ranger Station, 15416 SE 16th Street

Do you know the story behind the Phantom at Phantom Lake? Have you ever seen our feathered winter visitors? Can you spot a nurse log? Join a Park Ranger for a free guided tour of the Greenbelt. Learn the history of the park, tour community gardens, and learn about local wildlife.

Ages: All ages welcome. **Cost:** Free! **Pre-registration** is not required. **Info:** 425-452-7225.

NOTE: No walk on **January 1, 2012** or **April 21, 2012**.

Every Saturday

Mercer Slough Nature Walk, 2 p.m. - 3 p.m.

Mercer Slough Environmental Education Center, 1625 118th Avenue SE

At 320 acres, Mercer Slough Nature Park is Lake Washington's largest wetland and Bellevue's second largest park! Meet a Park Ranger at the Environmental Education Center for a free guided tour to learn about the fascinating flora, fauna and history of the park. Please dress for weather.

Ages: All ages welcome. **Cost:** Free! **Register:** not required. **Info:**

mseec@bellevuewa.gov or 425-452-2565. **NOTE:** No walk on April 21, 2012.

Bellevue Parks & Community Services

Events List

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Every Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday & Friday

Luncheon, Noon

North Bellevue Community Center, 4063 148th Avenue NE

Adults 60 and older can enjoy a delicious, hot lunch. ***Suggested donation:*** \$3 for those 60 and older; fee of \$5.95 for those under 60. Lunches sponsored and prepared by Catholic Community Services staff and Center volunteers. Special events such as Thanksgiving and Holiday lunches.

Info/Pre-register: 425-452-7681.