

Lake Hills Greenbelt Ranger Station

425-452-7225

15416 SE 16th Street

15500 SE 16th Street: Parking Location

Mercer Slough Environmental Education Center

425-452-2565

1625 118th Avenue SE

Lewis Creek Visitor Center

425-452-4195

5808 Lakemont Blvd SE



MyParksandRecreation.com

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This information will be provided in alternate formats for individuals with disabilities upon request. We invite everyone's participation, please provide two weeks advance notice for accommodation requests. Assistance for the Deaf / Hard of hearing can be provided through the 711 Telecommunications Relay Service.



2013

Winter/Spring

NATURAL RESOURCE PROGRAMS



Lake Hills Greenbelt Ranger Station

Mercer Slough Environmental Education Center

Lewis Creek Visitor Center



Parks & Community Services
Natural Resource Division

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Special Events

LAND OF THE LOST WOLVES SCREENING

Saturday, January 26, 1 – 2:30 p.m.

**Lewis Creek Visitor Center,
5808 Lakemont Blvd SE**

Join us for a free screening of *Land of the Lost Wolves*, the amazing BBC documentary about the return of wolves to the Washington Cascades. We will watch clips from the film along with new footage. Conservation Northwest representative Kit McGurn will be on hand to discuss the film and answer questions.

Ages: 14+. **Cost:** FREE! **Registration:** Not required.
Info: 425-452-4195.

POLLINATE WITH ORCHARD MASON BEES

Saturday, February 23, 2p.m.

**Mercer Slough Environmental Education Center,
1625 118th Ave SE**

Join Missy Anderson, King County Master Gardener, in a special program on how you can use Orchard Mason bees to help pollinate your yard and how you

can provide a perfect home for these vital nature workers.

Registration: Not required. **Cost:** FREE!

ARBOR DAY – EARTH DAY (VOLUNTEER EVENT & CELEBRATION)

Saturday, April 20

**Lewis Creek Visitor Center,
5808 Lakemont Blvd SE**

This year Bellevue's annual Arbor Day - Earth Day celebration will mark the city's 22nd year of being recognized as a Tree City USA by the Arbor Day Foundation. The event will include several volunteer projects, a tree-planting ceremony and family festival. **Contact** 425-452-4195 or email parks_stewardship@bellevuewa.gov for more information.



THE OWL AND THE WOODPECKER IN WASHINGTON (TRAVELING EXHIBIT)

April 27 - July 7

Lewis Creek Park Visitor Center, 5808 Lakemont Blvd SE

Award winning photographer, author, conservationist, and Washington resident Paul Bannick examines the intertwined life histories of owls and woodpeckers and the unique roles they have played in defining and enriching their often threatened habitats. A Burke Museum Traveling Exhibit.

Ages: 14+. **Cost:** FREE! **Registration:** Not required. **Info:** 425-452-4195.

Local Area Hikes

Did you know Bellevue has almost 100 parks and over 80 miles of trail to explore? Get connected to your local greenbelts and neighborhood parks as rangers take you on hikes throughout the year. Please dress for the weather, bring water and wear sturdy shoes. Hikes vary in theme and length. Please see details below.

Ages: All ages welcome. **Cost:** FREE! **Registration:** Not required.

LAKE HILLS GREENBELT RANGER WALK

Every Saturday, 2 – 3p.m.

Do you know the story behind the phantom at Phantom Lake? 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 discover our local wildlife. Be sure to dress for the weather!

Distance: 1 – 3 miles

Elevation Change: 10 ft.

Meeting Place: Lake Hills Greenbelt Ranger Station, 15416 SE 16th St.

Info: 425-452-7225 or lharper@bellevuewa.gov

MERCER SLOUGH NATURE WALK

Every Saturday, 2 – 3p.m.

Join a Park Ranger for a free guided tour and learn about the fascinating flora, fauna, and history of the Mercer Slough Nature Park. Please dress for weather.

Distance: 1 mile

Elevation Change: 35 ft.

Meeting Place: Mercer Slough Environmental Education Center, 1625 118th Avenue SE

Info: 425-452-2565 or mseec@bellevuewa.gov



LEWIS CREEK PARK RANGER HIKE

Saturdays: January 5, February 2, March 2, April 6, 10:30 – 11:30 a.m.

Join a Park Ranger in exploring the natural history of Lewis Creek Park. Look for signs of local wildlife and learn what to do when encountering animals in the wild.

Distance: 2 miles

Elevation Change: 50 ft.

Meeting Place: *Lewis Creek Visitor Center, 5808 Lakemont Blvd SE*

Info: 425-452-4195 or lcvc@bellevuewa.gov

COAL CREEK PARK

Saturday, January 19, 10 a.m. – 12p.m.

Discover Bellevue's largest park and get lost in the wilderness while still in the city! This area is rich in history and wildlife.

Distance: 5 miles

Elevation Change: 380 ft.

Meeting Place: *Redtown Trailhead (Cougar Mountain) on Lakemont Blvd SE.*

Info: 425-452-4195 or lcvc@bellevuewa.gov



WOOF WALKS IN NATURE

Join a Park Ranger and discover fascinating ecological facts about Bellevue City Parks. Bring your dog and learn how you can both help the city steward these valuable lands. Please dress for the weather. Families are encouraged to attend. Dogs must be on a leash.

Info: 425-452-7225 or smcampbell@bellevuewa.gov

When & Where:

 January 12, 10a.m. – 11a.m.,
**meet at Lake Hills Greenbelt Ranger Station:
15416 SE 16th St.**

 February 9, 10a.m. – 11a.m.,
**meet at Robinswood House in Robinswood Park,
2430 148th Ave. SE**

 March 16, 10am – 11a.m.,
**meet at Entrance Kiosk in Weowna Park,
1420 168th Ave. SE**

 April 6, 10a.m. – 11a.m.,
**meet at Lake Hills Greenbelt Ranger Station,
15416 SE 16th St.**



LEWIS CREEK TO LAKEMONT COMMUNITY PARK HIKE

Saturday, February 16, 10 a.m. – 12p.m.

This lovely trail winds through green corridors to connect two of Bellevue's most beautiful parks.

Distance: 5 miles

Elevation Change: 750 ft.

Meeting Place: *Lewis Creek Visitor Center, 5808 Lakemont Blvd SE*

Info: 425-452-4195 or lcvc@bellevuewa.gov

SOUTH BELLEVUE GREEN SPACES HIKE

Saturday, March 16, 10 a.m. – 12p.m.

Explore the unknown trails of South Bellevue. Parks and open space ravines guide you (and wildlife!) through friendly neighborhoods.

Distance: 3 miles

Elevation Change: 350 ft.

Meeting Place: *Lattawood Park, 4530 155th Ave SE*

Info: 425-452-4195 or lcvc@bellevuewa.gov





MERCER SLOUGH

ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION CENTER

Mercer Slough Environmental Education Center, 1625 118th Avenue SE

Hours: Daily, 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. **Phone:** 425-452-2565

Email: MSEEC@bellevuewa.gov

Overlooking the 320 acre Mercer Slough Nature Park, the Visitor Center offers remarkable view of the forest canopy and swampy wetlands below. Inside, enjoy an interactive library and interpretive displays for adults and families. Park Rangers provide information and free weekly programs. Pick up trail maps, brochures, and program information today.

Family Discovery Series

Ages: 8+. **Cost:** FREE! **Registration:** Not required.

WETLAND BIRDS

Sunday, January 20, 2 – 2:30 p.m.

Wetlands are known for their wildlife. The birds that inhabit wetland ecosystems like the Mercer Slough Nature Park are fascinating creatures. We'll learn about herons, waterfowl, rails, bitterns, and more! We'll also talk about what we can do to help these birds and their habitats.

BEAVERS – NATURE'S ARCHITECTS

Sunday, February 17, 2 – 2:30 p.m.

Did you know that 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.

URBAN WILDLIFE

Sunday March 24, 2 – 2:30 p.m.

Some pretty amazing species live within Bellevue's city limits. Join us for an overview of what's here, how to prevent conflicts, and how to attract some desired species. Join us after the program for a fun, urban wildlife food web activity.

INTRODUCTION TO BIRDING

Sunday, April 28, 2 – 2:30 p.m.

Bird-watching is one of the most popular outdoor activities in America. From hanging a feeder to learning bird songs, there's a lifetime of learning and fun to be had! Learn some introductory skills and see what you'll need to get started. A ranger will be available for a 30-minute guided bird walk following the program.



Movies

Ages: 8+. **Cost:** FREE! **Registration:** Not required.

NATURE'S MOST AMAZING EVENTS: THE GREAT MELT

Friday, January 25, 5 – 6 p.m.

Each season, as the ever-thinning Arctic ice recedes, polar bears face a daunting challenge. Run time: 50 min. Popcorn provided!

NATURE'S MOST AMAZING EVENTS: THE GREAT MIGRATION

Friday, February 22, 5 – 6 p.m.

The annual rains of the Serengeti draw in the greatest concentration of large animals on Earth, testing the survival skills of all those around. Run time: 50 min. Popcorn provided!

NATURE'S MOST AMAZING EVENTS: THE GREAT FLOOD

Friday, March 29, 5 – 6 p.m.

Thousands of animals make the long trek toward the life saving annual flood of Botswana's Okavango Delta. Run time: 50 min. Popcorn provided!

NATURE'S MOST AMAZING EVENTS: THE GREAT FEAST

Friday, April 26, 5 – 6 p.m.

The annual plankton boom of Alaska's coastal waters attracts humpback whales and sea lions, who must avoid predatory killer whales. Run time: 50 min. Popcorn provided!



Adult Enrichment Series

HOT TOPICS IN WASHINGTON CONSERVATION SERIES: DAMS

Saturday, January 12, 2 – 2:30 p.m.

Our nation's waterways contain thousands of dams. Many of these dams have outlived their usefulness, are deteriorating, are a financial liability, or contribute to ecological degradation. Learn about dams, fish passage, and a few projects that have sought to address some of the issues associated with dams.

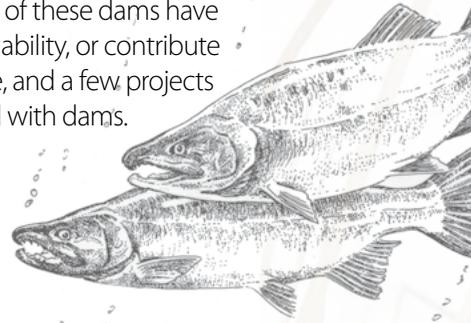
Ages: 12+. **Cost:** FREE! **Registration:** Not required.

PUBLIC LANDS OF THE PUGET SOUND REGION

Saturday, February 9, 2 – 2:30 p.m.

The public lands of the Puget Sound region have many managers, ranging from cities to the Federal Government. Learn about some of the properties you may have overlooked, special designations, and find out what incredible natural features some these lands have to offer.

Ages: 12+. **Cost:** FREE! **Registration:** Not required.



ORCAS AND BELLEVUE

Saturday, March 16, 2 – 2:30 p.m.

Killer whales are a source of pride for the residents of Washington State. But did you know that the Orcas inhabiting our waters are an endangered species? Join us for a presentation on Orcas, Orca conservation, and how Eastsiders can help save these iconic creatures by conserving our salmon streams.

Ages: 8+. **Cost:** FREE!

Registration: Not required.

GUEST SPEAKER: THE NATURE OF HAIKU

Saturday, April 13, 10 a.m. – 12p.m.

April is National Poetry Month! Join Michael Dylan Welch, vice president of the Haiku Society of America, for an exploration of haiku poetry as a window into appreciating the natural world, its seasons, and your five senses. Explore the myths and realities of haiku, hear a brief overview of haiku in Japan, and understand important targets for writing haiku in English.

Ages: Best for adults. **Cost:** FREE!

Registration: Required - visit www.MyParksAndRecreation.com or call 425-452-6885. **Info:** 425-452-2565 or mseec@bellevuewa.gov. **Course #:** 72528.



LAKE HILLS GREENBELT

R A N G E R S T A T I O N

Lake Hills Greenbelt Ranger Station, 15416 SE 16th Street

Hours: Tuesday – Saturday, 12 – 4p.m. **Phone:** 425-452-7225

Email: ParkRangerProgram@bellevuewa.gov

Surrounded by community farms, gardens, and beautiful wetlands, you will find interpretive displays, trails, environmental program information, and friendly Park Rangers to answer your questions.

Family Discovery Series

Ages: 6+. **Cost:** FREE! **Registration:** Not required.

WONDERFUL WINTER ADAPTATIONS

Saturday, January 19, 2 – 3p.m.

Where do all the animals go in the winter? How do bears sleep for so long without eating? How do birds find food in the snow? Come join a Ranger in exploring the wintry Greenbelt to find out about how animals survive our long, cold winters! Be sure to dress appropriately for cold weather and walking.

WILDLIFE CAMOUFLAGE

Saturday, March 23, 2 – 3p.m.

Have you ever noticed how difficult it is to see a bird or a squirrel when they're standing perfectly still in a tree? Why is it a good idea for them to blend in so well? Why are some animals dressed in bright, bold colors? Join a Ranger in exploring the wonderful world of animal camouflage from all over the globe as well as in our very own Lake Hills Greenbelt!

OUTDOOR ESSENTIALS

Saturday, April 27, 2 – 3p.m.

Ever wonder if you could survive if you got lost in the woods? Learn useful outdoor survival skills from a Ranger including orienteering, how to tie a number of basic knots, and what hiking essentials you should always bring with you on a day hike. Come dressed in your best "outdoor" gear!

Adult Enrichment Series

HOT TOPICS IN WASHINGTON CONSERVATION: BACKYARD WILDLIFE HABITAT

Saturday, February 16, 2 – 3p.m.

Are you attracting the kind of wildlife you would like to visit your backyard? Join us in learning about how to provide a useful and beautiful backyard habitat for busy bees, curious squirrels, musical birds, and you! Learn how to have your outdoor space registered as a certified wildlife habitat that will benefit both you and your wildlife neighbors.

Ages: 12+; under 18 must be supervised by parent. **Cost:** FREE!

Registration: Not required.



Community Garden Programs

P-PATCH PROGRAM

The City of Bellevue offers P-Patches (community garden plots) at two locations: the Lake Hills Greenbelt Ranger Station & the Crossroads Park Par-3 Golf Course. Most plots measure approximately 4002 ft. Water is supplied on-site. Seasonal P-Patches are open from April – October 2013. Interested gardeners must contact Laura Harper for more information and to be added to our mailing list.

Contact: Laura Harper at 425-452-7225 or email LHarper@bellevuewa.gov



MASTER GARDENER PROGRAMS

April – October, Wednesdays & Saturdays, 9 – 10a.m.

Lake Hills Greenbelt Demonstration Garden

Consult a Master Gardener about all aspects of plant care, choosing seeds, disease, propagation, identification, and more! For more information visit us online: <http://gardening.wsu.edu> or www.mgfk.org; or email the Demonstration Garden at bellevuedemo@hotmail.com. For workshop information please contact Pat Naselow at 425-531-1694 or pnaselow@gmail.com. For guided tour information, gardening clubs and children's groups, please contact Mary Osborne: 425-485-5942.





LEWIS CREEK

VISITOR CENTER

Lewis Creek Visitor Center, 5808 Lakemont Blvd SE

Hours: Wednesday - Sunday, 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. **Phone:** 425-452-4195

Email: lcvc@bellevuewa.gov

This beautiful park offers ample opportunity to wander through forests, meadows, and wetlands. Come inside the Visitor Center to pick up trail and park maps for the area, attend a Natural Resource program, or simply enjoy the relaxing atmosphere.

Family Discovery Series

GREEN HOUR

Saturdays, January 19, February 16, March 16, April 13, 1 – 2 p.m.

Join us the 3rd Friday of every month from 1-2pm for a Green Hour at Lewis Creek Park! Observe and explore the park during an hour of unstructured play and interaction with the natural world. Each month, creative, science-based ideas will have children and parents deepening their knowledge and love of nature together!

Ages: 5+. **Cost:** FREE! **Register** at 425-452-6885. **Info:** 425-452-4195.

Course #: 72590, 72591, 72592, 72593.

WILD TRACKS

Saturday, January 12, 1 – 2 p.m.

Walk with a park ranger through Lewis Creek looking for signs of wildlife: tracks, scat, rubbings, tunnels, etc. Each child will make and take home a plaster track!

Ages: 6+. **Cost:** \$4 Resident; \$5 Non-Resident. **Register** at 425-452-6885.

Info: 425-452-4195. **Course #:** 72594.

THE FOOD CHAIN

Saturday, February 9, 1 – 2 p.m.

All living things depend on each other to survive. Who do you depend on? Learn about the web of life as you create your very own food chain model to take home!

Ages: 6+. **Cost:** FREE! **Register** at 425-452-6885. **Info:** 425-452-4195.

Course #: 72595.

TINY CRITTERS

Saturday, March 9, 1 – 2 p.m.

What is the smallest animal you can think of? Think small! Come learn about the tiniest animals we share this world with... so small we will view them under a microscope!

Ages: 6+. **Cost:** FREE! **Register** at 425-452-6885. **Info:** 425-452-4195.

Course #: 72596.



OWL PROWL

Friday, April 26, 7:30 – 9:30 p.m.

Come in and learn about the mysterious animal called the owl. Then, take a night hike with the Rangers and listen for owls and other nocturnal wildlife in the park. Bring a flashlight or a headlamp for the journey, as well as sturdy shoes!

Ages: 6+. **Cost:** \$5 Resident; \$6 Non-Resident.

Pre-registration required. Both parent and child must register.

To Register: 425-452-6885.

Info: 425-452-4195. **Course #:** 72597.

Story Time

Look, listen and create during an hour of stories and crafts with a park ranger on the 1st Friday of every month. Parents and children will explore together the diverse animal world with animated fiction and fun. All children must be accompanied by a registered adult. Registration is required.

Ages: 3+. **Cost:** \$2.50 Resident; \$3 Non-Resident.

Register at 425-452-6885. **Info:** 425-452-4195.

ONCE THERE WAS A TREE

Friday, January 4, 11 a.m. – 12 p.m. & 1:30 – 2:30 p.m.

Many creatures call this tree their home, but find out who actually owns it. We always make a fun craft to take home!

Course #: 72563, 72564.

FRIGHTFUL'S DAUGHTER

Friday, February 1, 11 a.m. – 12 p.m. & 1:30 – 2:30 p.m.

Follow the story of a boy who watches over a family of peregrine falcons. We always make a fun craft to take home!

Course #: 72565, 72566.





IN MY OWN BACKYARD

Friday, March 1, 11a.m. – 12p.m. & 1:30 – 2:30 p.m.

Do you ever wonder who and what used to live where you do now? Hold on for an amazing story about the history of earth and who used to live in your backyard! We always make a fun craft to take home. **Course #:** 72567, 72568.

THE BOY WHO DREW BIRDS

Friday, April 5, 11a.m. – 12p.m. & 1:30 – 2:30 p.m.

A beautiful children's story about the famous birder, John James Audubon. We always make a fun craft to take home!

Course #: 72569, 72570.

Movies

Kids! Join us for fun, educational nature movies at Lewis Creek! Children under 12 must be accompanied by an adult.

Registration: Not required. **Cost:** FREE!

CREEPY CRAWLERS

Sunday, January 13, 2 – 2:30 p.m.

Beautiful butterflies and bugs galore – fleas, moths, beetles and caterpillars. Run time: 30 min. Donations gratefully accepted. **Ages:** 3+.



WHALE OF A SQUID

Sunday, February 10, 2:00 – 2:30 p.m.

Join the adventures of the Kratt brothers as they meet up with cool creatures from around the world. Each episode is an adventure that also features how animals use science in their natural lives. Run time: 30 min. **Ages:** 6+.



TONS OF FUN

Sunday, March 10, 2 – 2:30 p.m.

The world's biggest babies – hippos, elephants and rhinos. Run time: 30 min. **Ages:** 3+.



AARDVARK TOWN

Sunday, April 14, 2 – 2:30 p.m.

Join the adventures of the Kratt brothers as they meet up with cool creatures from around the world. Each episode is an adventure that also features how animals use science in their natural lives. Run time: 30 min. **Ages:** 6+.



Adult Enrichment Series

HOT TOPICS IN WASHINGTON CONSERVATION: DOMESTIC INVASIVES

Sunday, January 20, 1 – 2 p.m.

Nation-wide 42 percent of the species listed under the Endangered Species Act are at risk primarily because of invasive species. Some invasive species are more obvious than others, and, in fact, domestic pets make up a large percentage of our non-native predator population. Learn about Washington's invasive predators and ways you can help alleviate their impacts on our environment.

Ages: 12+. **Cost:** FREE! **To Register:** 425-452-6885. **Info:** 425-452-4195.
Course #: 72624.

COAL MINING AT COUGAR MOUNTAIN WITH THE EASTSIDE HERITAGE CENTER

Sunday, January 27, 2 – 4 p.m.

This program focuses on 100 years of local coal mining. In 1888 there were 20 mules and 200 men employed here! Exporting coal to San Francisco turned Seattle into a dominant seaport. Learn what is underneath a mountain that is older than Rainier. Presented by the Eastside Heritage Center and Bellevue Parks & Community Services.

Ages: All ages welcome. **Cost:** FREE! **Registration:** Not required.



ANIMAL ART

Saturday, March 23, 1:00 – 3:00 p.m.

Draw and sketch different Pacific Northwest species from a collection of wildlife mounts! There is no other way to capture the magnificence of these creatures so close up and so still. Mounts, newsprint, charcoal pencils and drawing boards provided. Challenge your artistic talents while learning about the natural history of the area you live in.

Ages: 13+. **Cost:** \$4 Resident; \$5 Non-Resident.
Register at 425-452-6885. **Info:** 425-452-4195.
Course #: 72629.

Living With Wildlife

How do I get the deer to stop eating my rose bushes? What do I do about mountain beavers in my yard? Just how smart are those crows and ravens going through my garbage? How fortunate we are to live in a city full of wildlife! But this also leaves us with the responsibility of learning how to live with our furry and feathered neighbors. Learn about the wildlife that lives in and around Bellevue and how to live in harmony with wild animals.



CROWS

Sunday, February 24, 1 – 2 p.m.

Crows are one of our most common wildlife residents- they are smarter than many mammals, have amazing memory and are very social. Find out why crows gather at Factoria Mall, and what's all that fuss we hear. Learn what crows know - and discover how we can get along together.

Ages: 8+. **Cost:** FREE! **Register** at 425-452-6885. **Info:** 425-452-4195.

Course #: 72620.

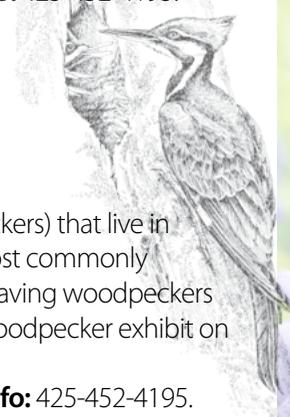
WOODPECKERS

Sunday, April 28, 1 – 2 p.m.

Of the 11 species of woodpeckers (including sapsuckers) that live in Washington, the Northern flicker is probably the most commonly seen and heard. Come learn about the benefits of having woodpeckers in your yard and view the Burke Museum's Owl & Woodpecker exhibit on display in the visitor center April 27 – July 7th.

Ages: 12+. **Cost:** FREE! **Register** at 425-452-6885. **Info:** 425-452-4195.

Course #: 72621.



Film Series

Ages: 12+. **Cost:** FREE! **Registration:** Not required.

ALASKA: SPIRIT OF THE WILD

Sunday, January 6, 2 – 2:40 p.m.

Witness the spirit of the wild in the thundering stampede of the caribou, the beauty of the polar bear, the hunt of the wolf pack and the majesty of resiliency of life itself in wild Alaska. Run time: 40 min.



RAPTOR FORCE

Sunday, February 3, 2 – 3 p.m.

Fly with nature's elite aerial killing machines! Learn the secrets of raptors and how they've mastered, more than any other type of bird, the art of soaring. Run time: 56 min.



WINGED MIGRATION

Sunday, March 3, 2 – 3:30 p.m.

A nature classic, witness as five film crews follow a rich variety of bird migrations through 40 countries and each of the seven continents. Run time: 89 min.



AN INCONVENIENT TRUTH

Sunday, April 7, 2 – 3:30 p.m.

A documentary about global warming and the future of our planet. Run time: 96 min.



VISITOR CENTERS



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425-452-4195
5808 Lakemont Blvd SE



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MAP

