

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

DECEMBER 2014

- Nov 29 – Jan 3 Garden d’Lights**, 4:30 p.m. – 9:30 p.m., every evening
Bellevue Botanical Garden, 12001 Main Street
This annual holiday season tradition features thousands of tiny twinkling lights that transform Bellevue Botanical Garden into a winter wonderland. Be sure to join us this year, and bring your family, friends and out-of-town guests to see the new Visitor Center and new Garden d’Lights route. **Cost:** \$5; children 10 and under are free. **For driving, parking and ticket information:**
<http://www.gardendlights.org/>
- Dec 3 Farm Hands – Happy Holidays to All**, 1:30 p.m. – 3 p.m.
Kelsey Creek Farm Park, 410 130th Place SE
Farm Hands is designed for school-aged kids with early release Wednesdays. Blend a touch of work and a dash of play, and mix together for a fun afternoon with Farmer Jayne. We’ll learn about our animals, make treats and work in the farm yard. **Ages:** 5 to 8 years old. **Cost:** \$25/residents and \$30/non-residents. **Pre-registration:** Required. **To register:** 425-452-7688, course #81675. **Info:**
kelseycreekfarm@bellevuewa.gov or 425-452-7688.
- Dec 3-6 Hilltop Holiday Craft Show**,
December 3-5 - 10 a.m. – 8 p.m.
December 6 – 10 a.m. – 5 p.m.
Northwest Arts Center, 9825 NE 24th Street
Lift your holiday spirit! Come and enjoy a delightful, unique, whimsical, one-of-a-kind craft show featuring thousands of hand-crafted items from over 65 selected Northwest crafters. It’s not your ordinary craft show! **Ages:** All ages; children must be accompanied by an adult. **Cost:** Free admission; craft items vary in price. **Pre-registration:** Not required. **Info:** NWAC@bellevuewa.gov or 425-452-4106. **Crafter application/information:** hilltop.crafts@frontier.com or 206-920-2957.
- Dec 4 Christmas Ship Festival**, 8:50 p.m. – 9:10 p.m.
Newcastle Beach Park, 4400 Lake Washington Blvd SE
Join us on shore to welcome the Christmas Ship Festival presented by Argosy Cruises. Come with family and friends to gather together to marvel at the parade of boats as they come by the beach. You can join the caroling or just enjoy the onboard choir’s presentation. All this, and a beach fire to keep you warm! **Ages:** All ages; family event. **Cost:** Free! **Pre-registration:** Not required. **Info:**
NWAC@bellevuewa.gov or 425-452-4106.

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- Dec 5** **What's Better than Recycling? Reducing and Reusing!**, 10 a.m. – 11 a.m.
Lake Hills Greenbelt Ranger Station, 15416 SE 16th Street
Come learn about what you can do in your own home, day-to-day, to help reduce what ends up in your curbside bins. Learn about fun and useful “upcycle” projects, and make one of your own to take home. **Ages:** All ages; we encourage families to attend. **Cost:** Free! **Pre-registration:** Required. **Info and to register:** ParkRangerProgram@bellevuewa.gov or 425-452-6993, course 86612.
- Dec 5** **Time to Hibernate (Children's Activity)**, two sessions, choose one
11 a.m. – noon and 1:30 p.m. – 2:30 p.m.
Lewis Creek Park Visitor Center, 5808 Lakemont Blvd SE
During the cold winter months many animals take a very long nap called “hibernation.” Find out what animals get very sleepy in winter! We always make a fun craft to take home! **Ages:** 3 years and older. **Cost:** \$2/resident and \$3/non-resident. **Pre-registration:** Required. **To register:** 425-452-6885, course 86689 or 86690. **Info:** 425-452-4195.
- Dec 5** **Holiday Ball**, 7 p.m. – 9:30 p.m.
Highland Community Center, 14224 Bel-Red Road
Come and enjoy a light meal and dancing at the annual Holiday Ball. This dance is for teens and adults living with intellectual disabilities. **Ages:** 16 years and older. **Cost:** \$9/resident and \$11/non-resident. **Pre-registration:** Required. **To register:** www.MyParksandRecreation.com, activity code 76733. **Info:** 425-452-7686.
- Dec 6** **Lewis Creek Park Ranger Hike**, 10:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.
Lewis Creek Park Visitor Center, 5808 Lakemont Blvd SE
Explore the natural history of Lewis Creek Park with a Park Ranger. 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.
- Dec 7** **“Planet Earth: Pole to Pole” (Nature Movie)**, 2 p.m. – 2:44 p.m.
Lewis Creek Park Visitor Center, 5808 Lakemont Blvd SE
Follow the sun as it touches the lives of creatures across the planet. This documentary will examine how seasons affect the Earth and produce spectacular events. Running time is 44 minutes. **Ages:** 12 years and older. **Cost:** Free! Donations will be gratefully accepted. **Pre-registration:** Not required. **Info:** 425-452-4195.
- Dec 7** **Ranger Program: Hibernation**, 2 p.m. – 3 p.m.
Mercer Slough Environmental Education Center, Douglas Fir Community Room, 1625 118th Avenue SE
Did you know that many animals sleep through the winter? Join a park ranger and learn which animals do this, and why they sleep through the cold!. **Ages:** All ages, we welcome families. **Cost:** Free! **Pre-registration:** Not required. **Info:** mseec@bellevuewa.gov or 425-452-2565.

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- Dec 12-21** **“The Snow Queen” (Bellevue Youth Theatre Production),**
December 12, 13, 19 and 20 at 7 p.m.;
December 13, 14, 20 and 21 at 2 p.m.
Bellevue Youth Theatre, 16661 Northrup Way
Enjoy this delightful musical adaptation of Hans Christian Andersen’s fairy tale. This timeless classic comes alive on the Bellevue Youth Theatre stage. You will want to bring the whole family. **Ages:** Suitable for all ages. **Cost:** \$10/advance tickets or \$12 if purchased after December 5. Tickets will be available in late September. **Info and to buy tickets:** 425-452-7155.
- Dec 13** **History of Lewis Creek Park, 1 p.m. – 2 p.m.**
Lewis Creek Park Visitor Center, 5808 Lakemont Blvd SE
Have you ever wondered about how Lewis Creek came to be as you walk through the park? Lewis Creek has a rich history extending back into the 1800s. What signs of this history can you observe throughout the park? Discover the past of Lewis Creek, and what can still be seen today. **Ages:** 12 years and older. **Cost:** Free! **Pre-registration:** Not required. **Info:** 425-452-4195.
- Dec 14** **Ranger Program: Hibernation, 2 p.m. – 3 p.m.**
Mercer Slough Environmental Education Center, Douglas Fir Community Room, 1625 118th Avenue SE
Did you know that many animals sleep through the winter? Join a park ranger and learn which animals do this, and why they sleep through the cold!. **Ages:** All ages, we welcome families. **Cost:** Free! **Pre-registration:** Not required. **Info:** mseec@bellevuewa.gov or 425-452-2565.
- Dec 14** **“March of the Penguins” (Children’s Movie), 2 p.m. – 3:20 p.m.**
Lewis Creek Park Visitor Center, 5808 Lakemont Blvd SE
Follow along with Emperor penguins as they make an incredible journey through the harshest environment on Earth to lay their eggs. Running time is 80 minutes. **Ages:** 3 years and older. **Cost:** Free! **Pre-registration:** Not required. **Info:** 425-452-4195.
- Dec 16** **Youth Holiday Party, 4:30 p.m. – 7 p.m.**
Crossroads Community Center, 16000 NE 10th Street
Crossroads Community Center invites Bellevue children, youth and teens to a community Holiday Party. **Ages:** Infants-18 years old and their parent (child must be present to receive a gift). **Cost:** Free! **Pre-registration:** Not required. **Info:** 425-452-4874.
- Dec 17** **Holiday Luncheon, 11:30 a.m. – 1 p.m.**
North Bellevue Community Center, 4063 148th Avenue NE
Join us as we serve you a festive holiday meal. Enjoy seasonal music preceding. **Ages:** All ages welcome. **Cost:** \$3 for people 60 years and older; \$6 for all others. **Pre-registration:** Required by December 9. **Info and to register:** Darrion Spratley at dspratley@bellevuewa.gov or 425-452-7681.

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- Dec 17** **Animal Enrichment – Happy Holidays to All**, 1:30 p.m. – 3 p.m.
Kelsey Creek Farm Park, 410 130th Place SE
This NEW program is for 8-10 year-olds on early release Wednesdays. Help Farmer Jayne create opportunities to actively engage and entertain our farm animals. Learn how they think and which activities animals need to stay busy. Let's make our farm animals' habitats rewarding and fun. **Ages:** 8 to 10 years old. **Cost:** \$25/residents and \$30/non-residents. **Pre-registration:** Required. **To register:** Call 425-452-7688 to register for course 86956. **Info:** kelseycreekfarm@bellevuewa.gov or 425-452-7688.
- Dec 19** **Hibernation Pajama Party**, 7:30 p.m. – 9 p.m.
Lewis Creek Park Visitor Center, 5808 Lakemont Blvd SE
Come learn about animals that hibernate, as well as other ways of surviving the winter. Make sure to bring your PJ's and a blanket or pillow as we settle in for the winter! ***Parents must register and attend with their child.*** **Ages:** 5 years and older. **Cost:** \$2/resident and \$3/non-resident. **Pre-registration:** Required. **To register:** 425-452-6885, course 86697. **Info:** 425-452-4195.
- Dec 20** **Lakemont Highlands Open Spaces Hike**, 10 a.m. - noon
Meeting place: Lewis Creek Park Visitor Center, 5808 Lakemont Blvd SE
Explore the lesser-known trails of South Bellevue. Parks and open spaces guide you (and wildlife!) through friendly neighborhoods. **Distance:** 3.5 miles. **Level of difficulty:** Difficult (350 feet elevation change). **Ages:** All ages welcome. **Cost:** Free! **Pre-registration:** Not required. **Info:** 425-452-4195.
- Dec 22** **Christmas Ship Festival**, 8:25 p.m. – 8:45 p.m.
Meydenbauer Beach Park, 419 98th Avenue NE
Join us on shore to welcome the Christmas Ship Festival presented by Argosy Cruises. Come with family and friends to gather together to marvel at the parade of boats as they come by the beach. You can join the caroling or just enjoy the onboard choir's presentation. All this, and a beach fire to keep you warm! **Ages:** All ages; family event. **Cost:** Free! **Pre-registration:** Not required. **Info:** NWAC@bellevuewa.gov or 425-452-4106.
- Dec 26** **Movies at Mercer Slough: "Fortress of the Bears,"** 5 p.m. – 6 p.m.
Mercer Slough Environmental Education Center, Douglas Fir Community Room, 1625 118th Avenue SE
Admiralty Inlet in Southeast Alaska supports the largest concentration of bears anywhere in the world. These Alaskan brown bears are part of a unique circle of life that has played out here for centuries. We'll provide the popcorn! **Ages:** Best for ages 8 years and older. **Cost:** Free! **Pre-registration:** Not required. **Info:** mseec@bellevuewa.gov or 425-452-2565.

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Dec 27

Wild Tracks (Family Activity), 1 p.m. – 2 p.m.

Lewis Creek Park Visitor Center, 5808 Lakemont Blvd SE

Learn about different signs of animals, and then take a walk through Lewis Creek looking for signs of wildlife: tracks, scat, rubbings, tunnels, etc. Each child will make and take home a plaster track! **Ages:** 5 years and older. **Cost:** \$2/resident and \$3/non-resident. **Pre-registration:** Required. **To register:** 425-452-6885, course 86698. **Info:** 425-452-4195.

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JANUARY 2015

- Jan 2** **Winter Wonders (Children’s Activity)**, two sessions, choose one:
11 a.m. – noon and 1:30 p.m. – 2:30 p.m.
Lewis Creek Park Visitor Center, 5808 Lakemont Blvd SE
Wintertime is full of wonders! From trees to animals, learn about what trees and animals do in the winter. We always make a fun craft to take home! **Ages:** 3 years and older. **Cost:** \$2/resident and \$3/non-resident. **Pre-registration:** Required. **To register:** 425-452-6885, course 90864 or 90865. **Info:** 425-452-4195.
- Jan 3** **Lewis Creek Park Ranger Hike**, 10:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.
Lewis Creek Park Visitor Center, 5808 Lakemont Blvd SE
Explore the natural history of Lewis Creek Park with a Park Ranger. 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.
- Jan 4** **“Life: Mammals” (Nature Movie)**, 2 p.m. – 3 p.m.
Lewis Creek Park Visitor Center, 5808 Lakemont Blvd SE
From whales in the oceans, to lions and elephants on the African plains, mammals are successful at the game of survival. Learn about the adaptations that help mammals to thrive including familial ties, social structure, intelligence and warm-bloodedness. **Ages:** Best for ages 12 years and older. **Cost:** Free! **Pre-registration:** Not required. **Info:** 425-452-4195.
- Jan 4** **Ranger Program: Lions, Coyotes and Bears, OH MY!**, 2 p.m. – 3 p.m.
Mercer Slough Environmental Education Center, Douglas Fir Community Room, 1625 118th Avenue SE
Do you know what large predators live in the Bellevue area? Learn about cougars, coyotes, black bears and other native hunters in this educational program. You will also learn why natural predators are so important to a healthy ecosystem, and what to do if you run into one of these large animals. **Ages:** All ages welcome. **Cost:** Free! **Pre-registration:** Not required. **Info:** mseec@bellevuewa.gov or 425-452-2565.

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- Jan 6** **Creative Garden Writing Workshop with Steve Lorton,**
9:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.
Bellevue Botanical Garden Visitor Center, 12001 Main Street
Steve Lorton, former Northwest Bureau Chief and Garden Editor for *Sunset* magazine, will teach attendees how to write descriptive articles about gardens. Attendees will spend some time in one of the Bellevue Botanical Garden's gardens, after which they will write about what they observed, with Steve's guidance. Steve has written extensively about gardens in America, Japan, Korea, Finland, England, Spain, France and Brazil. Class is limited to 15 participants. **Cost:** \$25 for Bellevue Botanical Garden Society members; non-BBGS members - \$35. **Pre-registration:** Required. **Info and to register:** <http://www.bellevuebotanical.org/classes.html>
- Jan 8** **Basic Snowshoe Course, 6:30 p.m. – 9 p.m. (with field trip on January 17 or January 25)**
Highland Community Center, 14224 Bel-Red Road
This course, offered by TRACKS and the Foothills Branch of the Mountaineers, is designed for anyone over age 18 who wants to learn snowshoe skills and how to safely enjoy snowshoeing in our Puget Sound winter wonderland. The course consists of one weekday evening lecture and a full-day weekend instructional field trip. Participants will learn how to travel safely on snowshoes, select and use proper gear and clothing, and choose the right outing and routes for their skill level. The course will also provide an introduction to avalanche awareness and the basics of winter survival. Some gear will be provided by request. **Lecture:** Thursday, January 8. **Field trip:** Saturday, January 17, or Sunday, January 25 (student chooses one). **Ages:** 18 years and older, or 14 years and older if taking the course with a parent. **Cost:** \$65 for Mountaineer members; \$85 for non-members. **Pre-registration:** Required. **Info and to register:** www.mountaineers.org – click on the “Learn” tab and then follow the prompts to find the Foothills Branch Basic Snowshoe course.
- Jan 10** **All About Bones, 1 p.m. – 2 p.m.**
Lewis Creek Park Visitor Center, 5808 Lakemont Blvd SE
Come examine the skulls of several animals that live in Bellevue, and find out which is which! Discover the reason that each skull looks the way it looks, and how bones can tell the life story of an animal. **Ages:** 5 years and older. **Cost:** Free! **Pre-registration:** Not required. **Info:** 425-452-4195.
- Jan 11** **“Wild Kratts: Platypus Café” (Children’s Movie), 2 p.m. – 2:30 p.m.**
Lewis Creek Park Visitor Center, 5808 Lakemont Blvd SE
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. Running time is 30 minutes. **Ages:** 3 years and older. **Cost:** Free! Donations will be gratefully accepted. **Pre-registration:** Not required. **Info:** 425-452-4195.

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- Jan 11** **Ranger Program: Lions, Coyotes and Bears, OH MY!**, 2 p.m. – 3 p.m.
Mercer Slough Environmental Education Center, Douglas Fir Community Room, 1625 118th Avenue SE
Do you know what large predators live in the Bellevue area? Learn about cougars, coyotes, black bears and other native hunters in this educational program. You will also learn why natural predators are so important to a healthy ecosystem, and what to do if you run into one of these large animals. **Ages:** All ages welcome. **Cost:** Free! **Pre-registration:** Not required. **Info:** mseec@bellevuewa.gov or 425-452-2565.
- Jan 13** **Becoming a Northwest Gardener**, 7 p.m.
Bellevue Botanical Garden Education Center, 12001 Main Street
Tom Fischer, senior acquisitions editor at Timber Press and former editor of *Horticulture* magazine, will lead this lecture. Tom traces the development of his front and back gardens in choosing plants and design elements. His talk also focuses on his “learning curve” (both successful and unsuccessful) after moving from the east coast in 2004. **Cost:** \$5 for Bellevue Botanical Garden Society members; non-BBGS members - \$15. **Pre-registration:** Not required; lectures are first-come, first-served. **Info:** <http://www.bellevuebotanical.org/classes.html>
- Jan 14** **Farm Hands – Chicken Meet & Greet**, 1:30 p.m. – 3 p.m.
Kelsey Creek Farm Park, 410 130th Place SE
Farm Hands is designed for school-aged kids with early release Wednesdays. Blend a touch of work and a dash of play, and mix together for a fun afternoon with Farmer Jayne. We’ll learn about our animals, make treats and work in the farm yard. **Ages:** 5 to 8 years old. **Cost:** \$25/residents and \$30/non-residents. **Pre-registration:** Required. **To register:** 425-452-7688, course #90764. **Info:** kelseycreekfarm@bellevuewa.gov or 425-452-7688.
- Jan 16** **Plantsmanship as Competitive Sport - Special Event with Dan Hinkley and Jim Fox**, 6:30 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.
Bellevue Botanical Garden Education Center, 12001 Main Street
Please join us for what promises to be a lively evening as plants-men Dan Hinkley and Jim Fox discuss their favorite plants. Silent auction includes rare plants, rare prints, and dinner at Windcliff. Proceeds benefit plant exploration and study. **Admission Cost:** \$45. **Info and to purchase tickets:** <http://www.heronswoodgarden.org/events/> and go to prompt for Fox/Hinkley lecture BBG.
- Jan 17** **Coal Creek Park Hike**, 10 a.m. - noon
Meeting place: Redtown Trailhead (Cougar Mountain) on Lakemont Blvd SE
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. **Level of difficulty:** Moderate (100 feet elevation change). **Ages:** All ages welcome. **Cost:** Free! **Pre-registration:** Not required. **Info:** 425-452-4195.

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- Jan 17** **Photography 101 Class (Part 1)**, 9 a.m. - 2 p.m.
Bellevue Botanical Garden Education Center, 12001 Main Street
Professional photographer Leslie Cohan, of Images through the Door Photography, teaches “Getting to Know Your Camera.” **Cost:** \$45 for Bellevue Botanical Garden Society members; non-BBGS members - \$55. **Pre-registration:** Required. **Info and to register:** <http://www.bellevuebotanical.org/classes.html>
- Jan 23** **Create a Wildlife-Friendly Habitat in Your Yard**, 10 a.m. – 11 a.m.
Lake Hills Greenbelt Ranger Station, 15416 SE 16th Street
Your home is your habitat. As our city grows, wildlife lose their habitat. But you can help! Join a Ranger to learn how you can help create a wildlife habitat in your yard. Learn about the wildlife that live in Bellevue and how to help provide the four basic needs: food, water, shelter and space. **Ages:** All ages; we encourage families to attend. **Cost:** Free! **Pre-registration:** Required. **Info and to register:** ParkRangerProgram@bellevuewa.gov or 425-452-6993, course 90749.
- Jan 23** **Owl Prowl**, 7:30 p.m. – 9 p.m.
Lewis Creek Park Visitor Center, 5808 Lakemont Blvd SE
Discover what owl species live in the Pacific Northwest. Then take a night hike with a Ranger to listen for owls and other nocturnal wildlife in the park. Bring a flashlight or headlamp, as well as good shoes, for the journey! **Ages:** 5 years and older. **Cost:** \$5/resident and \$6/non-resident. **Pre-registration:** Required. **To register:** 425-452-6885, course 90873. **Info:** 425-452-4195.
- Jan 24** **Photography 101 Class (Part 2)**, 9 a.m. - 2 p.m.
Bellevue Botanical Garden Education Center, 12001 Main Street
Leslie Cohan continues the course by teaching about your camera’s capabilities. You will take pictures in the garden for tips and pointers on composition and putting it all together. **Cost:** \$45 for Bellevue Botanical Garden Society members; non-BBGS members - \$55. **Pre-registration:** Required. **Info and to register:** <http://www.bellevuebotanical.org/classes.html>
- Jan 24** **Capturing Nature through Watercolor (Part 1)**, 9 a.m. – 11 a.m.
Bellevue Botanical Garden Education Center, 12001 Main Street
This two-class series is taught by Carol McKinney, a professional watercolorist for over 30 years. She has exhibited in Washington, Massachusetts, California, and Italy. All supplies are included. **Cost:** \$50 for Bellevue Botanical Garden Society members; non-BBGS members - \$70. **Pre-registration:** Required. **Info and to register:** <http://www.bellevuebotanical.org/classes.html>

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- Jan 24** **Frozen**, 10 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.
Northwest Arts Center, 9825 NE 24th Street
'Chill-out' with Miss Karen! Make icy treats, snow people art, and dance to everyone's favorite movie soundtrack. **Ages:** 2 to 5 years old. **Cost:** \$20/residents and \$25/non-residents. **Pre-registration:** Required. **To register:** 425-452-4106, course 93027. **Info:** NWAC@bellevuewa.gov or 425-452-4106.
- Jan 24** **I Painted That! (Part 1)**, 12:30 p.m. – 2 p.m.
Bellevue Botanical Garden Education Center, 12001 Main Street
This three-class series is for children 7 to 10 years old, and is an introductory watercolor class taught by Carol McKinney. All supplies are included. **Cost:** \$60 for Bellevue Botanical Garden Society members; non-BBGS members - \$75. **Pre-registration:** Required. **Info and to register:** <http://www.bellevuebotanical.org/classes.html>
- Jan 25** **Hiking Year Round – Winter Trail Series**, 10 a.m. - 3 p.m.
Leaves from Highland Community Center, 14224 Bel-Red Road
Your season doesn't have to end in October. The crisp winter air or eerie fog rolling through a valley can really add new beauty to a hike. In this all-ages hiking series, we'll head out into the nearby mountains to see some old classics with a new perspective. Be sure to dress for the weather with warm layers and boots. Our experienced guides will explain the basics of staying happy and safe on a wintertime hike, and will lead you on the trail. Transportation will be provided. Some gear is available. Bring a snack and water. **Ages:** All ages welcome. **Cost:** \$5. **Pre-registration:** Required. **To register:** www.MyParksandRecreation.com , course 89695. **Info:** 425-452-.
- Jan 25** **Northwest Perennial Alliance Winter Lecture**, 1 p.m. - 2 p.m.
Bellevue Botanical Garden Education Center, 12001 Main Street
Doors open at noon for plant and seed sales. Open to all ages. **Cost:** Free for Northwest Perennial Alliance members; non-NPA members - \$10. **Pre-registration:** Not required. **Info:** <http://northwestperennialalliance.org/>
- Jan 25** **Coal Mining at Cougar Mountain (Eastside Heritage Center program)**,
2 p.m. – 4 p.m.
Lewis Creek Park Visitor Center, 5808 Lakemont Blvd SE
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 in partnership by the Eastside Heritage Center and Bellevue Parks & Community Services. **Ages:** All ages welcome. **Cost:** Free! **Pre-registration:** Not required. **Info:** 425-452-4195.

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- Jan 25** **Wolves of Washington**, 2 p.m. – 3 p.m.
Mercer Slough Environmental Education Center, Douglas Fir Community Room, 1625 118th Avenue SE
Did you know that Washington State is being recolonized by a native wolf population? This is a very controversial topic, and there are many differing opinions throughout the state on the allowance of such an event. Come learn about both sides of the story, the history of the grey wolf, and the benefits of natural predators in an ecosystem. **Ages:** Best for ages 10 years and older. **Cost:** Free! **Pre-registration:** Not required. **Info:** mseec@bellevuewa.gov or 425-452-2565.
- Jan 28** **Animal Enrichment – Rainy Day Rabbits**, 1:30 p.m. – 3 p.m.
Kelsey Creek Farm Park, 410 130th Place SE
This program is for 8-10 year-olds on early release Wednesdays. Help Farmer Jayne create opportunities to actively engage and entertain our farm animals. Learn how they think and which activities animals need to stay busy. Let's make our farm animals' habitats rewarding and fun. **Ages:** 8 to 10 years old. **Cost:** \$25/residents and \$30/non-residents. **Pre-registration:** Required. **To register:** Call 425-452-7688 to register for course 90785. **Info:** kelseycreekfarm@bellevuewa.gov or 425-452-7688.
- Jan 30** **“Clash: Encounters of Bears and Wolves” (Nature Movie)**, 5 p.m. – 6 p.m.
Mercer Slough Environmental Education Center, Douglas Fir Community Room, 1625 118th Avenue SE
In Yellowstone's vast and complex kingdom, two dominant predators reign supreme: the grizzly bear and the wolf. Size and power square off against speed and teamwork, as mighty grizzly bears contend with powerful packs of wolves for control of the food supply. We'll provide the popcorn! **Ages:** All ages welcome. **Cost:** Free! **Pre-registration:** Not required. **Info:** mseec@bellevuewa.gov or 425-452-2565.
- Jan 31** **Capturing Nature through Watercolor (Part 2)**, 9 a.m. – 11 a.m.
Bellevue Botanical Garden Education Center, 12001 Main Street
This two-class series is taught by Carol McKinney, a professional watercolorist for over 30 years. She has exhibited in Washington, Massachusetts, California, and Italy. All supplies are included. **Cost:** \$50 for Bellevue Botanical Garden Society members; non-BBGS members - \$70. **Pre-registration:** Required. **Info and to register:** <http://www.bellevuebotanical.org/classes.html>
- Jan 31** **I Painted That! (Part 2)**, 12:30 p.m. – 2 p.m.
Bellevue Botanical Garden Education Center, 12001 Main Street
This three-class series is for children 7 to 10 years old, and is an introductory watercolor class taught by Carol McKinney. All supplies are included. Part 3 of this series will be held on February 7. **Cost:** \$60 for Bellevue Botanical Garden Society members; non-BBGS members - \$75. **Pre-registration:** Required. **Info and to register:** <http://www.bellevuebotanical.org/classes.html>

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FEBRUARY 2015

- Feb 1** **“Planet Earth: Forests” (Nature Movie)**, 2 p.m. – 4 p.m.
Lewis Creek Park Visitor Center, 5808 Lakemont Blvd SE
Investigate temperate regions and find elusive wildlife and well-adapted plants. From the giant sequoia trees of the West Coast, to the forests of Siberia, explore the forests of the world. Running time is 44 minutes. **Ages:** 12 years and older. **Cost:** Free! Donations will be gratefully accepted. **Pre-registration:** Not required. **Info:** 425-452-4195.
- Feb 5** **Winter Wildlands Alliance Backcountry Film Festival**, 7 p.m.
Highland Community Center, 14224 Bel-Red Road
The Winter Wildlands Alliance Backcountry Film Festival celebrates the human-powered winter experience through film. The festival aims to entertain while helping to raise funds and awareness for Winter Wildlands and our like-minded partners. The selection of unique films that make up the Backcountry Film Festival will inspire you to grab your buddies to embrace the fun and beauty of winter. Event is co-sponsored by The Mountaineers. **Ages:** All ages. **Cost:** Advanced tickets - \$12 for Mountaineers members and Bellevue residents. Day of show tickets - \$15. **To buy tickets:** www.brownpapertickets.com . **Info:** jwalenga@bellevuewa.gov or <http://winterwildlands.org/what-we-do/backcountry-film-festival/> .
- Feb 6** **Going Batty (Children’s Activity)**, two sessions – choose one:
11 a.m. – noon and 1:30 p.m. – 2:30 p.m.
Lewis Creek Park Visitor Center, 5808 Lakemont Blvd SE
What does it mean to go batty?! Come find out what bats do! We always make a fun craft to take home. **Ages:** 3 years and older. **Cost:** \$2/resident and \$3/non-resident. **Pre-registration:** Required. **To register:** 425-452-6885, course 90866 or 90867. **Info:** 425-452-4195.
- Feb 7** **Lewis Creek Park 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 with a Park Ranger. 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.

Bellevue Parks & Community Services

Events List

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

- Feb 7** **Mason Bees (Garden Class)**, 10 a.m. - noon
Bellevue Botanical Garden Education Center, 12001 Main Street
Join us for this class with Dave Hunter of Crown Bees, Woodinville. Learn about the gentle nature of these amazing pollinators. Creating safe havens for bees also protects our environment, food supply, water and even our pocketbooks! **Cost:** \$45 for Bellevue Botanical Garden Society members; non-BBGS members - \$55. **Pre-registration:** Required. **Info and to register:** <http://www.bellevuebotanical.org/classes.html>
- Feb 7** **I Painted That! (Part 3)**, 12:30 p.m. – 2 p.m.
Bellevue Botanical Garden Education Center, 12001 Main Street
This three-class series is for children 7 to 10 years old, and is an introductory watercolor class taught by Carol McKinney. All supplies are included. This is Part 3 of this series. **Cost:** \$60 for Bellevue Botanical Garden Society members; non-BBGS members - \$75. **Pre-registration:** Required. **Info and to register:** <http://www.bellevuebotanical.org/classes.html>
- Feb 8** **“Growing Up Wild: Crazy Croakers” (Children’s Movie)**, 2 p.m. – 2:30 p.m.
Lewis Creek Park Visitor Center, 5808 Lakemont Blvd SE
“Growing Up Wild” gives fun and entertaining insight into the animal kingdom. In this episode, learn all about amphibians from frogs and toads to salamanders! Running time is 30 minutes. **Ages:** 3 years and older. **Cost:** Free! Donations will be gratefully accepted. **Pre-registration:** Not required. **Info:** 425-452-4195.
- Feb 8** **Ranger Program: Creatures of the Night**, 2 p.m. – 3 p.m.
Mercer Slough Environmental Education Center, Douglas Fir Community Room, 1625 118th Avenue SE
At night when people go to sleep, the forest comes to life! Many nocturnal creatures make their home in the northwest and have amazing adaptations that allow them to success in a world with no light. Whether it’s a group of bats, a silent owl, or even a sneaky raccoon, the world of darkness is a fascinating place! **Ages:** All ages welcome. **Cost:** Free! **Pre-registration:** Not required. **Info:** mseec@bellevuewa.gov or 425-452-2565.
- Feb 11** **Farm Hands – Happy Valentine’s Day to our Animal Friends**,
1:30 p.m. – 3 p.m.
Kelsey Creek Farm Park, 410 130th Place SE
Create Valentine’s Day treats for our animal friends and deliver the goodies around the barnyard with Farmer Jayne. We’ll use our imaginations with card making for our favorite people too, and end up our time with a special holiday treat for ourselves. **Ages:** 5 to 8 years old. **Cost:** \$25/residents and \$30/non-residents. **Pre-registration:** Required. **To register:** 425-452-7688, course #90765. **Info:** kelseycreekfarm@bellevuewa.gov or 425-452-7688.

Bellevue Parks & Community Services

Events List

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

- Feb 14** **My Little Valentine**, 10 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.
Northwest Arts Center, 9825 NE 24th Street
Bring your mom or dad and make a special box-lunch for both of you to share. Together, make a special gift to take home. Sing songs, do a little dance, and complete the morning by decorating a sweet Valentine treat. **Ages:** 2 to 5 years old. **Cost:** \$25/residents and \$30/non-residents. **Pre-registration:** Required. **To register:** 425-452-4106, course 90609. **Info:** NWAC@bellevuewa.gov or 425-452-4106.
- Feb 14** **Sweetheart Hike**, noon – 1 p.m.
Lewis Creek Park Visitor Center, 5808 Lakemont Blvd SE
Get outside before your dinner date! Bring your sweetheart or best friend and join a Park Ranger on a hike to celebrate Valentine’s Day. Learn about native animal pairs as we wander through Lewis Creek Park. **Ages:** All ages welcome. **Cost:** Free! **Pre-registration:** Not required. **Info:** 425-452-4195.
- Feb 15** **Ranger Program: Creatures of the Night**, 2 p.m. – 3 p.m.
Mercer Slough Environmental Education Center, Douglas Fir Community Room, 1625 118th Avenue SE
At night when people go to sleep, the forest comes to life! Many nocturnal creatures make their home in the northwest and have amazing adaptations that allow them to success in a world with no light. Whether it’s a group of bats, a silent owl, or even a sneaky raccoon, the world of darkness is a fascinating place! **Ages:** All ages welcome. **Cost:** Free! **Pre-registration:** Not required. **Info:** mseec@bellevuewa.gov or 425-452-2565.
- Feb 21** **Now You See Me, Now You Don’t**, 1 p.m. – 2 p.m.
Lewis Creek Park Visitor Center, 5808 Lakemont Blvd SE
Why are deer brown? Why are frogs green? Why do owls have spots? Discover how various animals disguise themselves and “disappear” into their environment using camouflage. **Ages:** 5 years and older. **Cost:** Free! **Pre-registration:** Not required. **Info:** 425-452-4195.
- Feb 21** **Bat Hike**, 5 p.m. – 6 p.m.
Mercer Slough Environmental Education Center, Douglas Fir Community Room, 1625 118th Avenue SE
Discover what types of bats live in Mercer Slough, and then take a short Night Hike to look and listen for bats and other nocturnal wildlife. Bring a flashlight or a headlamp, as well as good shoes for the journey! **Ages:** All ages welcome. **Cost:** Free! **Pre-registration:** Not required. **Info:** mseec@bellevuewa.gov or 425-452-2565.

Bellevue Parks & Community Services

Events List

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

- Feb 22** **Crows (Living with Wildlife)**, 1 p.m. – 2 p.m.
Lewis Creek Park Visitor Center, 5808 Lakemont Blvd SE
Crows are one of our most common wildlife residents – they have more advanced cognitive abilities than many mammals, have amazing memory and are very social. Find out why crows gather at Factoria Mall, and what the fuss is all about. Learn what crows know, and discover how we can get along together. **Ages:** 8 years and older. **Cost:** Free! **Pre-registration:** Not required. **Info:** 425-452-4195.
- Feb 25** **Animal Enrichment – Valentine Surprise**, 1:30 p.m. – 3 p.m.
Kelsey Creek Farm Park, 410 130th Place SE
This program is for 8-10 year-olds on early release Wednesdays. Help Farmer Jayne create opportunities to actively engage and entertain our farm animals. Learn how they think and which activities animals need to stay busy. Let's make our farm animals' habitats rewarding and fun. **Ages:** 8 to 10 years old. **Cost:** \$25/residents and \$30/non-residents. **Pre-registration:** Required. **To register:** Call 425-452-7688 to register for course 90786. **Info:** kelseycreekfarm@bellevuewa.gov or 425-452-7688.
- Feb 27** **Now You See Me, Now You Don't**, 1 p.m. – 2 p.m.
Lewis Creek Park Visitor Center, 5808 Lakemont Blvd SE
Why are deer brown? Why are frogs green? Why do owls have spots? Discover how various animals disguise themselves and “disappear” into their environment using camouflage. **Ages:** 5 years and older. **Cost:** Free! **Pre-registration:** Not required. **Info:** 425-452-4195.
- Feb 27** **“The Secret World of Bats” (Nature Movie)**, 5 p.m. - 6 p.m.
Mercer Slough Environmental Education Center, Douglas Fir Community Room, 1625 118th Avenue SE
This 48-minute film, originally shown on CBS television, captures all aspects of bat behavior across five continents with remarkable slow-motion photography. We'll provide the popcorn! **Ages:** All ages welcome. **Cost:** Free! **Pre-registration:** Not required. **Info:** mseec@bellevuewa.gov or 425-452-2565.
- Feb 27** **Night Hike**, 7:30 p.m. – 9 p.m.
Lewis Creek Park Visitor Center, 5808 Lakemont Blvd SE
When the sun sets and the dark of night creeps in, Lewis Creek Park comes alive! Learn about the different nocturnal and crepuscular species that call Bellevue home, and join a Ranger on a hike through the woods after dark. Bring a flashlight or headlamp, as well as good shoes and warm clothes, for the journey. **Ages:** 5 years and older. **Cost:** \$2/resident and \$3/non-resident. **Pre-registration:** Required. **To register:** www.MyParksandRecreation.com or 425-452-6885, course #90887. **Info:** 425-452-4195.

Bellevue Parks & Community Services

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- Feb 28** **Discover the Birds of Lake Hills Greenbelt – Nature Walk with Hugh Jennings**, 8:30 a.m. – 10 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, an avid birder since 1988, to explore our wetland waterfowl, native songbirds, and woodland edge woodpeckers. 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, feel free to bring them along! Meet at the kiosk in front of the Master Gardener’s Demonstration Garden at 15500 SE 16th Street. **Ages:** All ages; we encourage families to attend. **Cost:** Free! **Pre-registration:** Required. **Info and to register:** ParkRangerProgram@bellevuewa.gov or 425-452-6993, course 90750.
- Feb 28** **Bringing the Living Space into the Garden (Garden Class)**, 10 a.m. - noon
Bellevue Botanical Garden Education Center, 12001 Main Street
This class will be taught by Karen Stefonick, award-winning landscape designer. Learn how to enhance your indoor living space into the garden. **Cost:** \$45 for Bellevue Botanical Garden Society members; \$55 for non-BBGS members **Pre-registration:** Required. **Info and to register:** www.bellevuebotanical.org .

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

YEAR-ROUND EVENTS

Daily, times vary

Kelsey Creek Farm Pioneer Days

Kelsey Creek Farm Park, 410 130th Place SE

Experience life in the 1800s by visiting our historic log cabin. Tour includes grinding wheat and coffee, turning butter, and other living history activities. These tours are for preschool and school groups. **Ages:** 2 years and older. **Cost:** Varies according to group size (up to \$5 per person). **Pre-registration:** Required. **Info and to register:** kelseycreekfarm@bellevuewa.gov or 425-452-7688.

Daily, times vary

Fall on the Farm – Group Tours

Kelsey Creek Farm Park, 410 130th Place SE

Experience harvest season in a traditional way. Visit a pony, feed the chickens and work on barn “chores” with child-sized pails and rakes. Tour the garden and pumpkin patch. Children finish up by choosing a pumpkin from our harvest-themed indoor pumpkin patch! Extra fee for pumpkins. **Ages:** Preschool and school groups, 2 years and older. **Cost:** Varies according to group size (up to \$5 per person). **Pre-registration:** Required. **Info and to register:** kelseycreekfarm@bellevuewa.gov or 425-452-7688.

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.

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 hstephens@bellevuewa.gov.

1st and 3rd Wednesday each month

Youth Link 25th Anniversary & Community Leadership Awards Event Planning Meeting, 4 p.m. - 5 p.m.

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

Assist in planning our 25th anniversary celebration scheduled for May 2015, and help set the theme, program and marketing of the youth recognition event. Students will help plan and will gain experience in planning the community event from concept to delivery. **Info:** Youth Link: 425-452-5254 or palina@bellevuewa.gov. Visit www.youthlink.com for program and updated schedule.

Bellevue Parks & Community Services

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

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 palina@bellevuewa.gov . Visit www.youthlink.com for program and updated schedule.

1st and 3rd Wednesday each month

Youth Link Marketing Committee, 6 p.m. – 7 p.m.

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

Learn marketing through hands-on training and activities! Marketing team members work on the Bellevue Patch, YouthConnect, an online youth publication, develop marketing materials for the program and develop other marketing strategies using social media. **Info:** call Youth Link at 425-452-5254 or email palina@bellevuewa.gov . Visit www.youthlink.com for program and updated schedule info.

1st and 3rd Wednesday each month

Youth Link University Project Planning Meeting, 6 p.m. - 7 p.m.

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

Assist in the development of a youth business training course during the school year. Students will work with other adult volunteers and business professionals in the planning of the training curriculum, marketing and delivery of the program. **Info:** Youth Link: 425-452-5254 or palina@bellevuewa.gov . Visit www.youthlink.com for program and updated schedule.

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-120

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

Every Thursday

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

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

Help plan an annual city-wide coat drive for families in Bellevue. **Info:** Youth Link at 425-452-5254 or palina@bellevuewa.gov . Visit www.youthlink.com for program and updated schedule info.

Every Saturday

Lake Hills Greenbelt Ranger 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 migratory visitors? Can you spot a nurse log? Join a Park Ranger for a free guided tour of the Greenbelt. Discover the history of the park, view community gardens, and share stories about our local wildlife. **Ages:** All ages welcome. **Cost:** Free! **Pre-registration** is not required.

Info: 425-452-7225.

Bellevue Parks & Community Services

Events List

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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! **Pre-registration:** not required. **Info:** mseec@bellevuewa.gov or 425-452-2565.

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.