

## self-guided outdoor adventures

Explore at your own pace with these convenient, budget-friendly, outdoor activities during building hours. Children should be accompanied by an adult.

### TRAIL PACKS ages 3 - 8

Try a variety of fun, themed, seasonal activities and tools to guide your explorations. Packs available for a \$2 rental fee.

### WOODLAND BINGO ages 7 & up

Explore along the Emily Oaks trails with a seasonal scavenger-hunt game card. One kit for 10 people is \$5.

### GEOCACHING ages 8 & up

Use a hand-held GPS unit to find hidden geocaches throughout the Nature Center! Guidebooks are \$1 each; GPS units available for a \$5 rental fee (or bring your own).



### SNOWSHOEING ages 6 & up

Get out and actively enjoy the wonders of winter! With a snow base of four inches or more, snowshoes are available to use on-site for a \$4-\$5 hourly rental fee (or bring your own).

## service projects

Emily Oaks is the perfect local natural area for a group volunteer work day or an independent Eagle Scout project! Opportunities include planting shrubs, improving trails, maintaining picnic tables, constructing fences and helping with land restoration.



## seasonal special events

Learn and play at an Emily Oaks event! Celebrate each season with casual fun and fellowship. Per-person admission fee may apply. For all ages.

### APRIL *Earth Day Celebration*

Participate in themed games and activities, eat wholesome food, and purchase native plants.

### JULY *Pancake Breakfast in the Woods*

Take a walk on the trails, and then get your fill of delicious pancakes in the great outdoors.

### OCTOBER *Things That Go Bump in the Night*

Watch costumed characters tell about local plants and animals in a fun and non-frightening way! Conclude with campfire snacks and songs.

### FEBRUARY *Winter Chilly Fest*

Enjoy outdoor ice skating (weather permitting) and winter fun and games under the stars, as well as a cozy chili dinner indoors.

You're invited to create Winter Treats for local wildlife!

## plan your visit

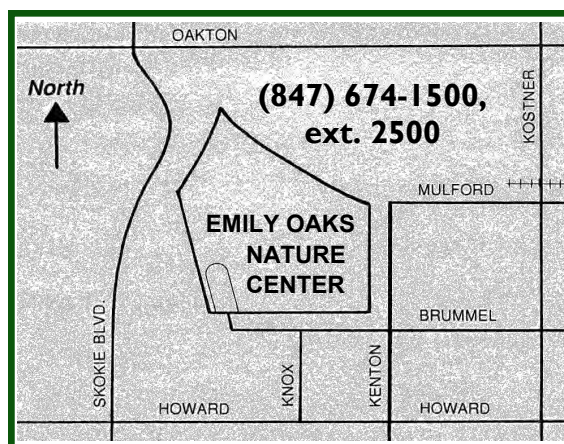
Reservations are required for all groups. Please make reservations as early as possible, but no later than one week in advance of the desired activity date. Campout dates are limited; registration opens at noon at the beginning of each season (August 15th and March 15th).

To schedule an activity, call  
Emily Oaks Nature Center at  
(847) 674-1500, ext. 2500.

See individual activity listings for fees. Minimum fees are calculated by multiplying the minimum number of participants by the per-child fee. Residency is based on the location where the group regularly meets.

Please note that when activities take place outdoors, alternative indoor activities may not be available in the event of rain or inclement weather. We will do our best to reschedule your visit should you need to cancel.

For more information, e-mail School-age Program Coordinator Cassie Schaeffer at [CSchaeffer@SkokieParks.org](mailto:CSchaeffer@SkokieParks.org).



4650 Brummel Street  
Skokie IL 60076  
[www.SkokieParks.org](http://www.SkokieParks.org)



*Building Relationships  
with the Natural World*

## Scout & Youth Group Activities



Enjoy outdoor skills & nature exploration to earn badges!

SKOKIE PARK DISTRICT  
(847) 674-1500, ext. 2500

Visit our website! [www.SkokieParks.org/emily-oaks-nature-center](http://www.SkokieParks.org/emily-oaks-nature-center)

## nature discovery

These activities are limited to 25 participants.  
Minimum fees apply to groups of 10 children or less.

### EARTHWALK

ages 6-10 **1 hour**

Reawaken your senses on a special walk in the woodland! Use Rainbow Chips to see incredible colors outdoors, and Scratch 'n Sniff wonderful smells, among other seasonal activities.

Fee: Res \$3.50/child NR \$4.25/child

### WOODLAND BINGO

ages 7-10 **1 hour**

Explore outdoors while searching for specific natural items with a scavenger hunt list. After making Bingo cards with pictures of the items found, play the game with your group.

Fee: Res \$3.50/child  
NR \$4.25/child



### EARTH STUDIOS

ages 7-10 **1 hour**

Create your own artistic masterpieces in a special outdoor space, using natural materials and inspiration from the environment.

Fee: Res \$3.50/child NR \$4.25/child

### MICRO-PARKS

ages 8-10 **1 hour**

Use a magnifying lens to set up a mini park (2'x2') with flags marking the tiny natural wonders you find there. Then take tours of other Micro-Parks.

Fee: Res \$3.50/child NR \$4.25/child

### TWILIGHT HIKE & CAMPFIRE

ages 8-11 **1 1/4 hours**

Travel the trails with a naturalist to discover unique sights and sounds of the evening, and end by a campfire to roast marshmallows.

Fee: Res \$4.25/child NR \$5.25/child

## outdoor skills

These activities are limited to 12 participants,  
except as noted. Minimum fees apply to  
groups of eight children or less.

### LET'S GO HIKING!

ages 6-9 **2 hours**

Prepare for a fun hike on the Emily Oaks trails! First we'll choose the right gear, plan a route, practice safety strategies, and prepare a healthy trail mix snack. Then we'll follow our maps and play hiking games. *Maximum 25 participants.*

Fee: Res \$5.50/child NR \$6.75/child

### BUILD A BIRD HOUSE or FEEDER

ages 7-12 **1 1/4 hours**

Use a hammer and nails to build your own wooden project to benefit local birds. Learn about bird nesting habits and needs after building a small bird house. For your small bird feeder, discover how different birds find food in cold weather. All materials provided. *This activity takes place indoors.*

Fee: Res \$10.00/child NR \$12.50/child

### CAN YOU CANOE?

ages 8-12 **2 hours**

**May to mid-October**

Learn basic canoe safety and practice paddling skills with a trained instructor. Then load the canoes with a partner and paddle around the Emily Oaks pond! All equipment is provided.

Fee: Res \$7.00/child NR \$8.75/child



### FIRE BUILDING

ages 8-12 **1 1/2 hours**

Practice important outdoor fire safety, then learn how to build and tend an A-frame fire. Roast marshmallows over your fire before safely extinguishing the flames.

Fee: Res \$4.25/child NR \$5.25/child

### CLASSIC COMPASS

ages 8-12 **1 1/2 hours**

Navigate like historic explorers! Learn how to read a compass to find your direction, and then follow an orienteering trail.

Fee: Res \$4.25/child NR \$5.25/child



### GEOCACHING

ages 8-12 **2 hours**

Discover the science behind global positioning systems, and then use hand-held GPS units on an outdoor treasure hunt! Follow coordinates to caches in secret locations around Emily Oaks.

Fee: Res \$5.00/child NR \$6.25/child

### TIED UP IN KNOTS

ages 8-12 **1 1/2 hours**

Learn how to tie useful, basic knots. Practice the overhand knot, square knot, slip knot, double half hitch, and more. Conclude with a knot-tying challenge. *This activity takes place indoors.*

Fee: Res \$4.25/child NR \$5.25/child

### POCKET KNIVES

ages 10-12 **1 1/2-2 hours**

Learn basic knife safety and care, and practice techniques for using a knife to cut and shave wood. *This activity takes place indoors.*

Fee: Res \$4.25/child NR \$5.25/child

## campfires

### GROUND'S RENTALS **2 hours**

Make your next group gathering or ceremony extraordinary! Three separate fire rings with adjoining shelters can be rented by non-profit groups for two hours. Campfire snacks are permitted. Firewood is provided.

**Rental hours:** Monday-Saturday 9 a.m.-10 p.m.  
Sunday 11 a.m.-10 p.m.

<b>Rental rates:</b>	<u>Resident</u>	<u>Non-resident</u>
Under 50 people	\$35.00	\$45.00
Over 50 people	\$60.00	\$75.00

Reservations are accepted no earlier than three months in advance of the desired rental date and must be made in person. Proof of non-profit status is requested.



## campouts

### OVERNIGHT CAMPOUT / CAMP-IN

ages 8-12 **6 p.m.-10 a.m.**

**Spring, Winter & Fall Weekends**

Enjoy outdoor tent camping at a site close to home! An Emily Oaks staff leads all activities, including tent setup, hiking and campfire; all camping equipment and food provided. In winter, tents are set up indoors for a camping-themed sleepover. *Dates are limited each season.*

Fee: Res \$28.00/child NR \$36.00/child