WildWood
Western New York

Seasonal Outreach Programs - Winter '26/'27

Backyard Birding: Winter Edition (Ages 10 & up)
Interested in identifying the birds that you've been seeing around your yard, neighborhood, or favorite hiking trail this winter? Then this is the program for you! Join us to learn how to use clues like color, shape, field marks, and behavior to identify local species. We'll also share tips, tricks, and resources so that even brand-new birdwatchers can feel confident and prepared for birding this winter - and beyond!

Winter Wildlife: Mammals of WNY (Ages 6 & up)
Winter can be frosty and frigid, but it's one of the best times to look for mammal signs, such as tracks and scat! Join us to learn about the mammals that call Western New York home, explore our collection of furs, and discover what clues you can use to identify the mammals living in your yard, neighborhood, or favorite park. All program participants can take home a small piece of pelt from a local species!

Note: Compared to our standard "Mammals of WNY" program, "Winter Wildlife" includes more information about identifying animal signs, such as scat and tracks, since winter is a great time for people to find real-life examples of those signs out in the wild! "Winter Wildlife" also discusses how different local mammals survive the cold weather, through methods such as physical adaptations, food caching, and behavioral changes.

The Art and Science of Snowflakes (Ages 4 & up)
Discover how a snowflake forms, learn why snow falls on some winter days but not others, and investigate the idea that all snowflakes are unique. After we've explored their scientific side, we'll make paper snowflake garlands that you get to take home!

Owl Pellet Investigators (Ages 8 & up)
Join us for a hands-on owl pellet dissection workshop! Learn about the lives of some of the fiercest predators in the bird world, explore what they eat, and discover what's left after a meal is finished. We provide the owl pellets, tools, and prey identification resources - all you need to bring is your curiosity! This program is best suited for ages 8 and up.

Owl Pellet Investigators has two booking options:
Small group (includes 10 owl pellets) - $160 plus round-trip mileage
Large group (includes 20 owl pellets) - $180 plus round-trip mileage

Note: Not every program registrant may want an owl pellet to dissect (ex. an adult and child register, but only the child is interested in dissecting a pellet) so it's worth asking registrants how many of the people in their group will be dissecting a pellet. Each "dissector" is limited to one pellet. More than one person may work on a pellet if two people or a small group wants to share one. We suggest setting the maximum capacity for the 10 pellet program at 25-30 people total, and 35-40 people for the 20 pellet program. This allows each pellet dissector to have another person with them. If you want to put a lower capacity limit on your program, that's no problem!

Please contact Syd Mecca (Syd@WildWoodWNY.org) if you would like more information or to submit a program booking request!
You can also use the contact form on our website: wildwoodwny.org/contact-us/

What is WildWood Western New York?
WildWood Western New York is a small business based out of South Wales, NY that offers environmental education programming, primarily through outreaches in settings like schools, libraries, and community events. Our mission is to provide quality, accessible education through nature exploration to learners of all ages, abilities, and backgrounds.
Please visit WildWoodWNY.org to learn more!