



## Wetland Explorers Itinerary

**Date:** July 7-9, 2026

**Time:** 8:30 am-11:30 am

**Location:** Independence Grove Forest Preserve, *North Bay Pavilion*

**What to wear:** Sturdy closed toe shoes that can get wet and muddy. Clothing that is appropriate for the weather, movement, and exploration, including hat and sunglasses (optional). (Please apply sunscreen and/or bug spray prior to program).

**What to bring:** Snack, reusable water bottle, sunscreen and bug spray (optional).

**Tuesday, July 7:** *Meet at Independence Grove North Bay Pavilion*

*What is a Wetland?*

Discover what a wetland is and the features that help plants and animals survive. We will go on a hike to see the difference between wetlands and other types of habitats.

**Wednesday, July 8:** *Meet at Independence Grove North Bay Pavilion*

*Wetland Benefits*

Learn about the importance of wetlands for plants, animals and people. Investigate soil types and meet some wetland residents up close.

**Thursday, July 9:** *Meet at Independence Grove North Bay Pavilion*

*Life Beneath the Water*

Explore the creatures below the water's surface. Using pond nets and microscopes, participants will be immersed in the world of macroinvertebrates and learn how to identify them using scientific tools.

**Program Instructors:** Marcela Martinez, [mxmartinez@lcfpd.org](mailto:mxmartinez@lcfpd.org), 847-276-0745

Please email [AskAnEducator@LCFPD.org](mailto:AskAnEducator@LCFPD.org) for general questions.

*\*Please complete and return all forms prior to the start of the program.*

*\*Please note that some activities may be substituted or modified due to time constraints, site resources, participant interests, or inclement weather. Cancellations of this program will be sent to the email(s) listed on the form.*

