Birthday Party Guidelines*

- Birthday Parties at Montgomery Parks Nature Centers and Brookside Gardens are held on weekends and include three-hours of party-room use.
- The three-hour rental fee of $225** includes setup and cleanup (30-minutes each), a one-hour hands-on nature program, and one-hour of party time for your child’s guests. The rental fee is due at the time of scheduling.
- Nature Center parties can accommodate up to 20 children. Birthday parties at Brookside Gardens can accommodate a maximum of 16 children.
- Refreshments are not provided, and there is no access to a refrigerator, freezer or cooking appliances. Table decorations are allowed; balloons and piñatas are not.
- We’ve created a number of party themes for you to select from, but you’re welcome to suggest a theme that suits your birthday boy or girl. Parties often have an outdoor component, so please ask guests to dress for the weather.
- Our facilities are eco-friendly and we encourage visitors to plan waste-free events. We are happy to provide tips on hosting a waste-free event, and to answer any questions you may have regarding your event.

* Please call the facility you are interested in for more details and to reserve your child’s party.

** The fee for Locust Grove’s Campfire Birthday Party is $300.

Brookside Gardens will not host parties in 2014 due to Visitors Center parking lot renovations. Keep us in mind for 2015!
Black Hill Nature Programs

An Eagle Wish
Learn about Black Hill’s resident eagles, play games, make a craft, and keep your eyes’ peeled for an eagle sighting! Year-round. Ages 5-12

Campfire Birthday
Each season brings a different campfire theme, but always includes S’mores, campfire songs, stories, and games! Year-round. Ages 5-16

Water Play Party
Water is the essence of life and what better way to celebrate the birthday of your little one than with water! We’ll make birthday boats, play a water relay, and explore the different watery habitats that make up Black Hill Regional Park. May-September. Ages 4-7

Pontoon Boat Rental
For a real birthday splash consider renting the pontoon boat for a private tour of Little Seneca Lake. Time slots for private tours are dependent upon previously scheduled programming and public rides. Thirty people maximum allowed on the boat. Lifes jackets are provided. Pricing: $5/person for a minimum of 10 people. April-October

Critter Scene Investigations
Be a C.S.I. and learn how to identify skulls, tracks, and signs to help solve mysteries taking place in the woods and at the pond. Year-round. Ages 6-12

Harper Homestead Celebrations
Visit a real 1870’s homestead cabin and learn about the way children might have celebrated a birthday through work and play. Year-round. Ages 4-10

It’s Sweet!
Learn how to tap trees, collect sap and make maple syrup in this very sweet adventure! We’ll see the process from beginning to end and enjoy a taste of syrup too! January-February. Ages 4+

Nature’s Superheroes
Who can grip with the strength of a superman? Who can leap great distances in a single bound? Who can tangle with Viper? Have fun looking for nature’s superheroes in this super party. Year-round. Ages 4+

Snakes, Turtles & Frogs – Oh My!
Meet some of our resident creatures and search outside for slimy and scaly friends. Year-round. Ages 4-10

Woodland Fairies
Where would a fairy be without a toadstool to hide from rain? Fungi and small creatures abound in the woods and this is a fun way to understand their important role. Year-round. Ages 4-10

See our website for additional party themes.

Brookside Nature Programs

Birthday Splash!
Splash around in the Cabin John Creek! Search for fish, crayfish, aquatic insects, and other animals that live in and around the water. April-November. Ages 3+

Campfire Birthday
Celebrate your big day around the campfire! Roast marshmallows by the fire, then enjoy a nature walk with one of our naturalists. Booking includes fire-ring rental, room rental, marshmallow-roasting and a nature walk. Year-round. Ages 3+

Dinosaurs
Let’s hunt for dinosaur fossils in the Park! Make a model fossil of your own to take home. March-December. Ages 3+

Frog & Toad
Hop your way to a happy birthday party! Learn about frogs and toads and go on a tadpole hunt. April-July. Ages 3+

Remarkable Reptiles
Houdini and Seeker, our resident snakes, will come to the party! Learn about other local reptiles and search outside to see if you can find some. Year-round. Ages 3+

The Monarch’s Court
Learn all about this ‘kingly’ butterfly and its amazing journey to Mexico. Catch butterflies in our gardens and meadows and watch them fly free! August-October. Ages 3+

Terrific Trees & Tees
If your child loves the forest, they’ll love learning about the wonders of trees. Use a tree-key to identify native trees around the garden and paint a tee shirt with real leaf imprints to take home. Year-round. Ages 5-12

Paint a Pot Party
Who doesn’t love a colorful garden? Guests will custom-design their own terra-cotta pot, enjoy a scavenger hunt through the gardens and pot a plant to grow throughout the year. Year-round. Ages 5-12

Garden Tea
Tea Parties don’t have to be pretend! Learn tea party etiquette while enjoying treats and socializing with your friends. Play games and make a “Grow Buddy” craft to take home. Dress-up is encouraged. Year-round. Ages 5-12

Snakes, Turtle & Frogs – Oh My!
Meet some of our resident creatures, search outside for slimy and scaly friends, and make a crafty critter. Year-round. Ages 3+

Parties Full of FUN & learning.

Black Hill Nature
301-528-3492
BlackHillNature.org

Brookside Nature Center
301-962-1480
BrooksideNature.org

Locust Grove Nature Center
301-765-8668
LocustGroveNature.org

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