EMILY OAKS NATURE CENTER

Emily Oaks Nature Center is a 13-acre natural oasis located at 4650 Brummel Street, Skokie. Owned and operated by the Skokie Park District, the Nature Center features an extensive visitor facility and two walking trails that wind through a restored oak savanna and around a large pond. Guided by the purpose of helping people build relationships with the natural world, Emily Oaks offers a wide variety of programming through-out the seasons.

Registration note: Students who are residents of Skokie Park District should register through the Park District. Senior discounts do not apply to this series.

GREENER HOUSEHOLD CLEANERS  FEE: $18
Many commercial cleaning products contain chemicals that are harmful to humans and the planet. Discover how to replace toxic products with simple, inexpensive alternatives made from common ingredients found in the kitchen. Prepare some of these alternative products and test their effectiveness. A recipe booklet for making safe and environmentally friendly alternative products will be provided.
ORN E98-01, EONC, 1 Tue., 2/26, 7-9 pm, Hansen  CRN 40590

HOW TO USE A GPS  FEE: $18
Discover what the excitement is all about and demystify the use of a Global Positioning System (GPS). A GPS receiver is the high-tech alternative to a compass and uses a network of orbiting satellites to pinpoint locations on land and water. Get the hang of using a GPS unit and learn how to use functions such as altimeter, internal maps, travel speed, and saving waypoints. Come dressed for the outdoors as we'll practice with a GPS unit on the grounds of the Nature Center. Bring your own or borrow one from Emily Oaks.
REC E51-01, EONC, 1 Sat., 3/29, 2-4 pm, Hansen  CRN 40598

GARDENING OPTIONS:

BUTTERFLIES & WILDFLOWERS  FEE: $39
Enjoy both workshops listed below at a $5 savings.
ORN E99-01, EONC, 2 Wed., 4/30, 7-9 pm, Hansen  CRN 40591

GARDENING FOR BUTTERFLIES  FEE: $22
Attract butterflies to your own backyard by growing the plants they prefer. Review the life cycle of butterflies, to better understand their needs throughout development. Then see slides of the plants—natives and ornamentals included—that caterpillars and butterflies depend on for food and shelter. Go beyond milkweed, and bring the joy and beauty of butterflies to your backyard!
ORN E99-02, EONC, 1 Wed., 4/30, 7-9 pm, Hansen  CRN 40592

GARDENING WITH WILDFLOWERS  FEE: $22
This class introduces the basics of wildflower gardening and provides hands-on experience in the greenhouse and gardens at Emily Oaks Nature Center. What qualifies as a wildflower? What soil and sunlight conditions do various species prefer? What are the different methods of care and propagation? Answers to these questions as well as height and bloom descriptions, sources for native plants, and wildflower reference guides will be covered. Participants will receive free native seeds and seedlings to plant in their own gardens. Dress for the outdoors.
ORN E99-03, EONC, 1 Wed., 5/7, 7-9 pm, Hansen  CRN 40593

INTRODUCTION TO ORGANIC GARDENING  FEE: $45
This course is co-sponsored by the Alliance for Lifelong Learning, Emily Oaks Nature Center, and Whole Foods Market.
Organic gardening is based on knowledge and techniques gathered over thousands of years. Study the science and art of growing fruits, vegetables, flowers, and plants by following natural processes and using a holistic approach.
ORN E97-01, OC/SK, 2 Sat., 4/19, 9 am-12 pm  CRN 40589