

Croydon Creek Nature Center: Spring Festival and Native Plant Sale

Innovative Programs – Natural Resources

On April 27, 2019, the City of Rockville hosted its annual Spring Festival and Native Plant sale through Croydon Creek Nature Center (CCNC) under the direction of Nature Center Director Elissa Totin. The event features native plant sales, woodland hikes, sustainability exhibits, and nature games and crafts. The native plant sale provides residents with educational opportunities relating to Rockville's environment and engages residents in increasing native plant populations and improving local biodiversity. The sale is open to the public and engages Rockville residents and surrounding communities in Montgomery County. The plant sale is promoted through many avenues including posters displayed in local public libraries and community centers, pamphlets at local grocery stores, the Rockville Recreation Guide, the City website, and City email and print newsletters. The events are also promoted on social media by the City of Rockville and Croydon Creek Nature Center's Facebook and Instagram pages. The annual budget of the plant sale is between \$1,000 and \$1,500, which is primarily spent on plants. The sale recuperates all the costs of the plants, so the program is self-sustaining. While the event is not formally evaluated, it attracts many residents and is a popular with families in Rockville. The sale has helped to facilitate the start of a native plant garden at the Croydon Creek Nature Center that is maintained by resident volunteers.

Due to COVID-19, the Spring Festival and Native Plant Sale were cancelled in 2020 and 2021. In lieu of the event, Croydon Creek Nature Center developed innovative ways to engage residents at home and virtually during the pandemic, including Nature to Go Mini-Kits, Saving Nature Now Activity Booklets, an Earth Month Facebook campaign, and virtual and socially distant classes and hikes. The in-person spring festival and native plant sale is expected to resume in spring 2022.

CROYDON CREEK NATURE CENTER'S 17th ANNUAL

Spring Festival and Native Plant Sale

Saturday, April 27 • 10 a.m.-noon

Bring the entire family and enjoy the wonders of nature in an urban setting:

- *Woodland Hikes* • *Spring Native Plant Sale* •
- *Nature Games and Crafts* • *Face Painting* •
- *Animal Show by Reptiles Wonders* • *Sustainability Exhibits* •

FREE EVENT!



City of
Rockville
Get Into It

Croydon Creek Nature Center
852 Avery Road • 240-314-8770
www.rockvillemd.gov/croydoncreek



Croydon Creek Nature Center

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Experience nature at home with one of our Nature To Go kits. Each kit includes at least 9 activities to get your child outdoors exploring their yard or nearby park. Register for your kit today!

<https://secure.rec1.com/MD/city-of-rockville-md/catalog>



334
People Reached

44
Engagements

Boost Post

10

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