

NEWS RELEASE

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(RIDGELY, MD—March 1, 2013)

Adkins Arboretum announces spring nature programs for preschoolers

Bunnies, flowers, gardens and nests! Join Adkins Arboretum's spring preschool program, and engage your young child with nature. Led by Arboretum Youth Program Coordinator Jenny Houghton, this popular series of six classes for three- to five-year-olds is offered on Tuesday mornings beginning April 9.

Registration is required for preschool programs. The fee is \$50 for members, \$65 for the general public for all six classes in the series. A \$10 discount is offered for siblings. Classes run from 10 to 11:15 a.m. and include a craft and a healthy snack. Enrollment is limited, so early registration is recommended. For more information or to register, visit adkinsarboretum.org or call 410-634-2847, ext. 0.

Programs include:

Bunny Hop—April 9

Spring is here, and so are the rabbits! Have a thumpin' good time exploring the world of the bouncy cottontail. We'll dance the Bunny Hop, munch on rabbit snacks, and watch a puppet show featuring Hoppity Rabbit.

Garden Days—April 16

Learn how seeds grow, and lend a helping hand in the Funshine Garden. We'll plant vegetables and flowers in the garden beds, enjoy a picnic snack, and decorate flower pots to take home

April Showers—April 23

We all know that "April showers bring May flowers," but what brings April showers? Learn how rain forms, then join in a rainy day symphony! We'll also conduct rainy bag and cloud bottle experiments.



Adkins Arboretum Youth Program Coordinator Jenny Houghton leads preschoolers in discovering the texture of a leaf. The Arboretum's spring preschool programs begin April 9.

Lovely Ladyslippers—April 30

Search for lady slipper flowers in the woods after a lesson on these lovely native orchids. We'll make a bouquet of paper flowers, twirl around a maypole tree, and share flower cookies.

Which Nest is Best?—May 7

Now that spring is here, many birds are busy building nests for their babies. Take a peek inside the Arboretum's bluebird houses, hold a nest in your hands, and learn about the different ways birds build their homes. We'll sample a bird's nest snack and make a nest craft to take home.

Wetland Magic—May 14

The wetland comes alive in spring! Use nets and buckets to discover some of the creatures that call the wetland home, from wiggly tadpole to shy painted turtle. We'll also mix up a batch of froggy goo and read delightfully swampy stories.

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Adkins Arboretum is a 400-acre native garden and preserve at the headwaters of the Tuckahoe Creek in Caroline County. Open year round, the Arboretum offers educational programs for all ages about nature and gardening. Through its [Campaign to Build a Green Legacy](#), it will build the [W. Flaccus and Ruth B. Stifel Center at Adkins Arboretum](#) and a "green" entranceway to broaden educational offerings and research initiatives promoting best practices in conservation and land stewardship. For additional information about Arboretum programs, visit www.adkinsarboretum.org or call 410-634-2847, ext. 0.

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