



Tygart Lake State Park Activities

July 6 through July 19, 2026

All activities will meet at the Nature Center unless otherwise specified. Come check out our NEW Junior Naturalist program!



Monday, July 6

9:30AM-4:30PM: Open Nature Center

11AM: Searching for Sallies. Salamanders are some of the most unique and interesting critters out in the woods. We'll talk about how important they are, plus we'll go looking to see what kinds can be found and safely observed. (45 Mins)

1PM: Beautiful Butterflies. All about the importance of butterflies and other pollinators, plus a fun butterfly craft! (25 Mins)

Tuesday, July 7

9:30AM – 4:30PM: Open Nature Center

1PM: Mountain Medicinals. There are herbs and trees all around us that have been used for centuries in traditional medicines. We will look at a few and talk about some of the things that likely grow in your own back yard. (45 Mins)

almost heaven

Wednesday, July 8

9:30AM – 4:30PM

1PM: Talking Trout. Learn about this ubiquitous Mountain State fish, along with their colors and behavior. Plus, you can make your own trout keychain out of beads in the form of a rainbow, brook, golden, or brown variety! (30 Mins)

Thursday, July 9

9:30AM – 4:30PM: Open Nature Center

11AM: Learning Lures. With this fun nature craft, you can create your own ‘fishing lure’ style keychain. Or, you can make it into a functional lure! (20 Mins)

2PM: Skins and Skulls. You can learn a lot about the creatures of the woods by the pelts and bones they have left behind. (30 Mins)

Friday, July 10

9:30AM – 5:30PM: Open Nature Center

9:30AM: Backyard Birding Basics. Meet at the Lodge back deck area. What kind of birds can be spotted on the lake or around it? Let’s look and listen to see what can be found. **Meet at the Lodge back deck area. (30 Mins)**

3PM: Meet the Beetles! What is a beetle? Is it different than a bug, or a fly? We’ll answer these questions and learn about some of the different kinds of beetles you might encounter. Plus, a fun beetle craft! **(25 Mins)**

4:45 PM – 6PM: Meet a Naturalist. One of our park naturalists will be on-hand at the Lodge front area to meet and answer your questions about the park or nature. Come say hi!

Saturday, July 11

10AM – 6PM: Open Nature Center

10AM: Friendship Bracelets. Join us in making this fun craft to remember your trip to the park by. **Meet Addi at the Campground. (30 Mins)**

2PM: Field Guide 101. Have you ever wondered how to use a field guide to identify things in nature? We'll go over the basics and some of the different types of guides you can use. **(30 Mins)**

3PM: Flint and Steel Fire-Striking. Learn to use this 'old school cool' method of striking a fire. Can you make a flame? Yes, you can! **(30 Mins)**

7PM: Wings of Wonder: WV Birds of Prey. Welcome back to Ron and Wendy of Three Rivers Avian Center as they showcase some of our live birds of prey! Owls, falcons, a bald eagle, and more. **Lodge conference room (upstairs).**

Sunday, July 12

Noon – 4PM: Open Nature Center

1PM: In Search of the Spiral. What is a Fibonacci Spiral and how does it relate to the outdoors? Learn about how nature uses this golden ratio and how it can be found in everyday things all around us. **(20 Mins)**

Monday, July 13

9:30AM – 4:30PM: Open Nature Center

1PM: Into the Spider-verse! All about SPIDERS! The eight-legged crawlies are everywhere. We'll talk about some native to the state and the webs they weave. **(30 Mins)**

1:30: Web-Weavers. You can put your new spider-knowledge to the test with this craft all about spider webs. **(20 Mins)**

Tuesday, July 14

9:30AM – 4:30PM: Open Nature Center

11AM: Roaming Naturalist. Our seasonal Naturalist Addi will be roaming about the campground area to answer your questions about nature or the park.

1PM: Awesome 'Possums. All about these oddly cute forest critters, their role and importance, and a fun 'possum craft. **(30 Mins)**

Wednesday, July 15

9:30AM – 4:30PM: Open Nature Center

11AM: Backyard Tree Stroll. We'll take a walk around the Nature Center lawn area to see what common trees can be found and how people use them. **(30 Mins)**

1PM: Paint a Birdhouse. Learn about the birds that commonly use birdhouses in WV, and why. You can paint your own birdhouse craft to take home, too. **(30 Mins)**

Thursday, July 16

9:30AM – 4:30PM: Open Nature Center

11AM: K-Cup Flowerpots. All about sustainability and how to re-use this common by-product of breakfast. Start a flower from seed and learn about your flower of choice! **(20 Mins)**

2PM: Beautiful Butterflies. All about the importance of butterflies and other pollinators, plus a fun butterfly craft! **(25 Mins)**

Friday, July 17

9:30AM – 5:30PM: Open Nature Center

9:30AM: Backyard Birding Basics. Meet at the Lodge back deck area. What kind of birds can be spotted on the lake or around it? Let's look and listen to see what can be found. **Meet at the Lodge back deck area. (30 Mins)**

2PM: Moth Magnets. We'll talk about the importance of these night creatures, plus we'll make a fun moth-themed craft. **(20 Mins)**

4:45 PM – 6PM: Meet a Naturalist. One of our park naturalists will be on-hand at the Lodge front area to meet and answer your questions about the park or nature. Come say hi!

9PM-10:30PM: Moth Meet '26! The park welcomes back moth expert Tucker Cooley and crew! We will have a sheet and UV lights set up, so come by as you like and see what stops by.

Saturday, July 18

10AM – 6PM: Open Nature Center

10AM: Hike – School Bus Loop Trail. Join the Park Naturalist crew for this hike through some of the back areas of the park. Trail is 2.0 miles and includes some moderately hilly terrain. Be sure to wear good shoes and bring water! **(2 Hours)**

2PM: Everybody Loves Ruby! Come out and say ‘hello’ to our resident painted turtle, Ruby! All about her and some of our other commonly encountered WV turtles, and ways you can help them out. **(30 Mins)**

8PM – 9PM: Campfire Cookery. Meet at the campfire ring by the cabin/campground play area. Gather at the campfire for some treats! Jacob will be demonstrating how to use a Dutch oven to bake cakes right on the open flame.

Sunday, July 19

Noon – 4PM: Open Nature Center

1PM: Flint and Steel Fire-Striking. Learn to use this ‘old school cool’ method of striking a fire. Can you make a flame? Yes, you can! **(30 Mins)**