

EAGLE RIVER NATURE CENTER PROGRAMS

August 2026

SUMMER BUILDING HOURS:

May thru September
Wednesday-Sunday
10am-5pm

Find out more about us
@ www.ernc.org

Contact us at:
907-694-2108 or
info@ernc.org

Location:
32750 Eagle River Rd.
Eagle River, AK 99577

ERNC NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

SEPTEMBER NIGHTS 30TH ANNIVERSARY AUCTION FUNDRAISER

Saturday, September 19 @

Odd Man Rush Brewing in Eagle River!

Let us know if you would like to donate an item
or service to the auction, thank you!

Email Betsy at admin@ernc.org for more info.



CALL FOR FIREWEED!

Each year, we are so lucky to team up with the crew at Odd Man Rush Brewing to produce a Nature Center fireweed beer. But we need your help to harvest fireweed blooms and this year raspberries, too!!! Some tips:

- Be sure you are harvesting in an area where it's allowed!
- Only harvest the blooms; don't pull up the whole plant (and don't harvest all the blooms from one plant).
- Bring blooms in a plastic zip lock bag to Odd Man Rushing Brewing in Eagle River by 8/31/2026.



FIREWEED HALF MARATHON

SATURDAY, AUGUST 22, 10AM

Eagle River Nature Center → Odd Man Rush Brewing

Run 13.1 miles through the heart of Eagle River, from the trailhead at Eagle River Nature Center all the way to Odd Man Rush Brewing. Proceeds benefit the Eagle River Nature Center. More info at www.eagleriver.run.



Anchorage
School District
BACK TO SCHOOL
on August 19!

- NATURE CENTER PROGRAM SCHEDULE ON REVERSE -

AUGUST 2026 PROGRAMS

SATURDAY, AUGUST 1, 1PM-3PM

JR NATURALIST

SOMETHING'S FISHY

It's o-fish-al, we are in salmon season! We love to see them swimming through our waters, but do we know where they came from and where do they go? Come join us in the Education Yurt to test your knowledge with our salmon game and see if you can survive the great salmon run!

SUNDAY, AUGUST 2, 10AM

GUIDED HIKE | REGISTRATION REQUIRED | FEE

GROUP HIKE ON THE DEW MOUND TRAIL

Join us for an extended hike on the Dew Mound Trail (6 miles). Ask our ERNC naturalists questions about the plants and wildlife along the way and meet new hiking buddies! *Attendees must be over 18 years old; registration is limited to 15 people. Please leave your furry friends at home. There is a \$2 cancellation fee for all cancellations; no refunds with less than 48 hours notice. Registration is free for ERNC members and children under the age of 5. Register online at www.ernc.org/public-programs.*

THURSDAY, AUGUST 6, 12PM-3PM

ALL AGES PROGRAM

TRAILSIDE TALK: FUNGUS AMONG US

Stop by the back deck of the nature center and chat with one of our volunteer naturalists about a different topic (almost) every Thursday! This week: Alaskan fungi.

FRIDAY, AUGUST 7, 14, 21, & 28, 11AM

GUIDED HIKE | NO REGISTRATION

LITTLE EXPLORERS

Join in for an hour(ish) long hike on or near the Rodak Trail at a toddler's pace! No registration is necessary, just check in by 11am in the main ERNC building. *The target audience for this program is babies and children up to age 6 accompanied by an adult. Older siblings are welcome to join in. Please leave furry friends at home.*

SATURDAY, AUGUST 8, 1PM-3PM

JUNIOR NATURALIST

WELCOME TO THE FUNGAL JUNGLE

Join us on the back deck to investigate the organisms that lurk among us that are neither plant nor animal. Go on a fungal safari and learn about the life cycle of a mushroom. Create a spore print and learn how to use a mushroom identification key! This program is designed for elementary school-aged children.

SUNDAY, AUGUST 9, 2PM-4PM

ALL AGES PROGRAM | NO REGISTRATION

SOLAR SUNDAY

Join members of the Southcentral Alaska Astronomical Society to learn about solar astronomy! Conditions allowing, we will practice solar observation skills with support from the Anchorage Museum.

THURSDAY, AUGUST 13, 12PM-3PM

ALL AGES PROGRAM

TRAILSIDE TALK: SALMON LIFE CYCLE

Stop by the back deck of the nature center and chat with one of our volunteer naturalists about a different topic (almost) every Thursday! This week: the salmon life cycle.

SATURDAY, AUGUST 15, 1PM-3PM

JUNIOR NATURALIST

CRAFTERNOON: SALMON PRINTS AND NATURE COLLAGE

Stop in at the Education Yurt for a cozy crafternoon. We will be creating salmon prints in honor of the returning salmon and creating collages of your favorite natural things. This program is designed for elementary school-aged children.

SUNDAY, AUGUST 16, 2PM-4PM

ALL AGES PROGRAM | REGISTRATION | FEE

WANDER & WRITE - NATURE JOURNALING

Explore the Rodak Loop through the lens of nature journaling. Take time to observe, draw and write about nature's treasures large and small with the help of a local artist and one of our naturalists. *Supplies will be provided. Registration is limited to 15 people. \$10 Fee for Members, \$15 for Non-members. Register online at www.ernc.org/public-programs.*

THURSDAY, AUGUST 20, 12PM-3PM

ALL AGES PROGRAM

TRAILSIDE TALK: BERRIES

Stop by the back deck of the nature center and chat with one of our volunteer naturalists about a different topic (almost) every Thursday! This week: berries.

SUNDAY, AUGUST 23, 2PM

ALL AGES PROGRAM | REGISTRATION

SOW IT BEGINS: NATIVE SEED COLLECTING

Have you ever wanted to incorporate more native plant species in your garden, but weren't sure where to begin? Now is your chance to learn more about how to collect seeds from Alaskan plants. Join us on a hike to learn about what seeds we can find nearby! *Registration is limited to 15 people. Register online at www.ernc.org/public-programs.*

THURSDAY, AUGUST 27, 12PM-3PM

ALL AGES PROGRAM

TRAILSIDE TALK: HIBERNATION PREPARATION

Stop by the back deck of the nature center and chat with one of our volunteer naturalists about a different topic (almost) every Thursday! This week: learn what bears do to prepare for the long winter.

SATURDAY, AUGUST 29, 1PM-3PM

JUNIOR NATURALIST | REGISTRATION

DECOMPOSER DISCO

From worms to mushrooms to bacteria, decomposers keep the cycles of life and death in motion. Discover the unique adaptations and functions of these unsung heroes in the Education Yurt!

SUNDAY, AUGUST 30, 5PM-7PM

ALL AGES PROGRAM | REGISTRATION REQUIRED

KNOT YOUR AVERAGE MOVIE NIGHT!

Get ready for a cozy night of crafting and connections! Bring a craft project (or start a new one with us!) and settle in to watch a nature-related kid's movie. *We'll have yarn, hooks, snacks, and chill vibes. Registration limited to 20 people. Register online at www.ernc.org/public-programs.*



Scan the QR code & it will take you to our online program schedule where you can view more info and register for programs.