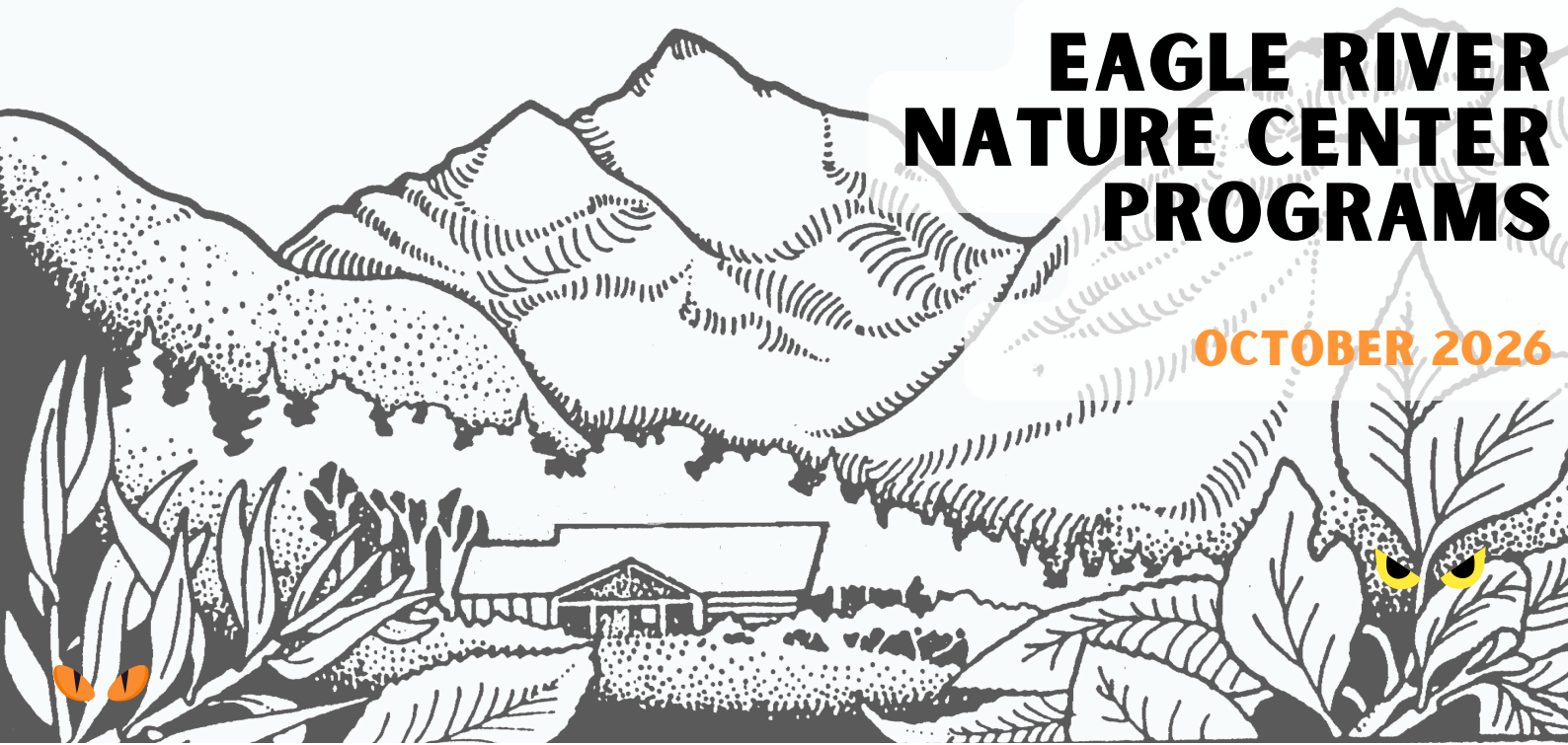


EAGLE RIVER NATURE CENTER PROGRAMS

OCTOBER 2026



WINTER BUILDING HOURS:

October thru April:
Friday-Sunday
10am-5pm

Trails are always open!

Find out more about us @
www.ernc.org

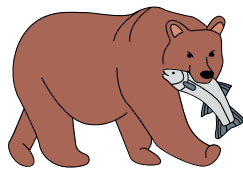
Contact us at:
907-694-2108 or
info@ernc.org

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



First Saturday Night Astronomy:
Starts in November! Doors open
@ 6pm, join us for an all ages
astronomy focused program
followed by a Mission to Mars
kids activity & star gazing (if the
weather cooperates)

ERNC NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS



Albert Loop remains CLOSED until further notice!

Yep, the Albert Loop is still closed! Chugach State Park closes the Albert Loop due to the salmon run and bear activity. This seasonal closure is strictly enforced! Trail usually reopens sometime in November. All other trails remain open.

A huge thank you to everyone who participated in our auction fundraiser! Your bids and generous donations make a real difference, helping us protect Chugach State Park, connect people with nature, and support our outdoor education programs. Whether you're a longtime supporter or joined us for the first time, your contributions help keep the trails wild, the programs inspiring, and the adventures accessible for all. We couldn't do it without you!

Auction

THANK YOU!



HALLOWEEN HIKE

Join us on Saturday, 12/31, 1pm-3pm and visit a series of fun, creepy, gross and educational stations along the Rodak Trail! More info on the reverse side.



- NATURE CENTER PROGRAM SCHEDULE ON REVERSE -

OCTOBER 2026 PROGRAMS



FRIDAY, OCTOBER 2, 9, 16, 23, & 30, 11AM

LITTLE EXPLORERS

Join in for an hour(ish)-long hike on or near the Rodak Trail at a toddler's pace! No registration 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. Please leave furry friends at home. Note: 10/30 Little Explorers will be the last for the season!*

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 3, 1PM-3PM

JUNIOR NATURALIST | REGISTRATION REQUIRED

EIGHT ARMS TO HOLD YOU: A LOOK AT THE SPIDERS OF ERNC

Spiders can conjure fear and mystery, but they're also incredible engineers and play a key role in pest management! Swing by the Education Yurt to investigate which spiders live at Eagle River Nature Center and how they fit into the WEB of life! Register online at www.ernc.org/public-programs.

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 4, 5PM-7PM

AGES 16+ PROGRAM

WILD READS - ERNC BOOK CLUB

Do you like curling up with a book on a dreary day? Expanding your mind and learning about the many facets of science and the nature world past, present, and future? We would love to have you join the new ERNC book club! Each month we will discuss a novel that focuses on a science inspired topic. **This month we will be discussing *Every Living Thing* by Jason Roberts.** Bring along your insights, some snacks and maybe a book idea for next month!

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 9, 6PM

ALL AGES PROGRAM

BEAVERS WITH GUEST SPEAKER SEBASTIAN ZAVOICO

Calling all beaver enthusiasts! This week UAF doctoral student Sebastian Zavoico will be stopping by to tell us about his research into how beaver colonization of the Alaskan Arctic is impacting geophysical and ecological aspects of the north's unique systems. Sebastian's work deals with how beavers in areas underlain by permafrost impact the frozen substrate and stream ice, as well as the living communities that depend on them - from the plants to the fish to the birds.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 10, 1PM-3PM

JUNIOR NATURALIST | REGISTRATION REQUIRED

BATTY ABOUT BATS

Did you know Alaska is home to seven different species of bats? Stop by the Education Yurt to learn more about these elusive creatures, bust common bat myths and discover what challenges they face. Register online at www.ernc.org/public-programs.

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 11, 1PM-5PM

ALL AGES PROGRAM

BOOK SIGNING: ALASKA MEANDERINGS - 70 YEARS OF OUTDOOR ADVENTURES

Stop in and meet local author Frank Baker and discuss his new book, *Alaska Meanderings - 70 Years of Outdoor Adventures*. Frank Baker's book is a collection of stories that recount his lifetime of Alaskan adventures. Whether you enjoy hiking, biking, skiing, camping, climbing or a good anecdote, this book has a story for you! Baker will present some firsthand accounts of his adventures in the backcountry at 3pm, however he will have a table set up with some refreshments from 1-5pm, so feel free to stop in any time throughout the afternoon.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 17, 1PM-3PM

JUNIOR NATURALIST | REGISTRATION REQUIRED

WHERE THE WILD THINGS ARE

Have you ever encountered something in the woods you couldn't explain? A mysterious shape, an unusual sound or an unexpected experience could be a cryptid legend in the making. Stop by the Education Yurt to dive deep into the significance of these legends and create your own legend for the ages. Register online at www.ernc.org/public-programs.



SATURDAY, OCTOBER 17, 7PM-8PM

AGES 12+ HIKE | REGISTRATION REQUIRED | FEE

CREEPY CRYPTID NIGHT HIKE

Suspend your scientific mind and explore the creepy world of cryptids. What creatures lurk in the woods on a dark night, and what significance do these legendary creatures hold for cultures around the world? Join us to find these answers and discover what else might be prowling the woods. Participation is limited to the first 15 registrants, 12 years and up. No fee for ERNC members, \$5 non-refundable fee for non-members. Register online at www.ernc.org/public-programs.

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 18, 10AM-5PM

ALL AGES PROGRAM

HALLOWEEN SCAVENGER HUNT

Check in at the front desk and pick up your spooky scavenger hunt check list! Explore the trails with your crew and see what evidence you can find that fall is here!

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 24, 1-3PM

JUNIOR NATURALIST | REGISTRATION REQUIRED

HOOT-ENANY

Become a "know-it-owl" about these incredible birds! Discover what makes these birds such a hoot and dissect the leftovers from an owl's lunch. Meet in the Education Yurt. Register online at www.ernc.org/public-programs.

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 25, 2PM

ALL AGES PROGRAM

THE WITCH AND HER OWL

Why are owls associated with Halloween? Learn all about owls from volunteer Ginamaria Smith, who will bring her educational great horned owl, Archimedes, to visit the Nature Center. Costumes are encouraged!



WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 28, 3PM

ALL AGES PROGRAM AT THE EAGLE RIVER LIBRARY

THE WITCH AND HER OWL

Why are owls associated with Halloween? Learn all about owls from volunteer Ginamaria Smith, who will bring her educational great horned owl, Archimedes, to visit the Eagle River Library. Costumes are encouraged! Please note this program is at the Eagle River Library.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 31, 1PM-3PM

GUIDED HIKE | NO REGISTRATION

HALLOWEEN HIKE

Families with pre-k to elementary age children are invited to hike the Rodak Trail at their own pace. Visit animals, insects, and plants stationed along the trail to learn about the fun, creepy, gross, and incredible creatures Alaska is home to. Costumes encouraged but remember to dress for the weather! This event is all outdoors.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 31, 7PM-9PM

AGES 18+ | REGISTRATION REQUIRED | FEE

HALLOWEEN HOEDOWN - COSTUME PARTY

Halloween is not "just for the kids!" Come and show off your Halloween spirit at the Nature Center's inaugural Halloween Costume Party. There will be prizes for the best costumes, spooky nature trivia along with food and drinks. Registration is limited to 40 people. ERNC Member fee \$5, Non-member fee \$10. 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.