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Bald Eagles | Greg Silva

The winter months are wonderful for walking in the woods at Oxley! The trees without their leaves show their graceful forms, and all sorts of mammals and birds can be more easily spotted hopping from limb to limb or perched high above you. We have so many opportunities for you to enjoy the winter months here at Oxley Nature Center: there will be Saturday Morning Birding, Plant walks, Discovery Walks, Full Moon Walks and coming in February a chance to draw and paint in nature. Try something new in the New Year!

WINTER IN THE WOODS

BIODIVERSITY OF OKLAHOMA

ARMADILLOS

Winter is a great time to spot armadillos. Even though they are mammals, they don't have much hair to keep them warm. So they come out on warm afternoons to dig around for earthworms and insects.

INSECTS

Not many insects are out and about in the winter. Many spend the cold months buried in the leaf litter as larvae, pupae, or nymphs. Some overwinter as eggs. Praying mantises egg cases that look like a brown styrofoam peanut stuck to a branch.

Fruits are important winter foods for many birds and mammals.

MOSSES

Moss can thrive all winter, if it gets moisture. Mosses are tiny plants that absorb water through their leaves. Look for the little green mounds on the ground or logs. If they are dry, add a little water and watch them perk to life!

USE YOUR EARS

Find a good place to be still. Close your eyes and listen to the woods. If you are quiet for several minutes, you might catch the light tapping of woodpeckers or a mouse scuttling under the leaves. You could hear trees creaking in the wind or the fluttering of the last falling leaves.

Mary K. Oxley Nature Center - January Programs

Call 918-596-9054 to register for any program that requires pre-registration.

Saturday Morning Birding

January 3, 8:00 – 9:45 a.m.

All ages and skill levels are welcome for this free drop-in Birding Walk, guided by a staff naturalist. Bring binoculars if you have them!

***Full Wolf Moon Walk**

January 3, 7:00-8:30 p.m.

Join us as we head out in small, guided groups to experience the nocturnal sights and sounds of Oxley.

***Little Seedlings, January's theme: "Trees Rest during the Cold"**

January 13 and 16, 10:00 – 11:00 a.m.

This program for curious little nature-lovers (ages 1-5) and their caregivers includes a craft and a guided trail walk to explore the theme of the month; (The Tuesday and Friday sessions are the same).

Plant Walk

January 17, 10:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.





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Red Shoulder Hawk | Bryan Tapp



OXLEY NATURE CENTER HOURS

Interpretive Center hours are 10-4:30PM Tuesday through Saturday, and Noon - 4:30PM on Sunday.

After Interpretive Center hours, trails are open for hiking until 9:00 PM.



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