



Nature

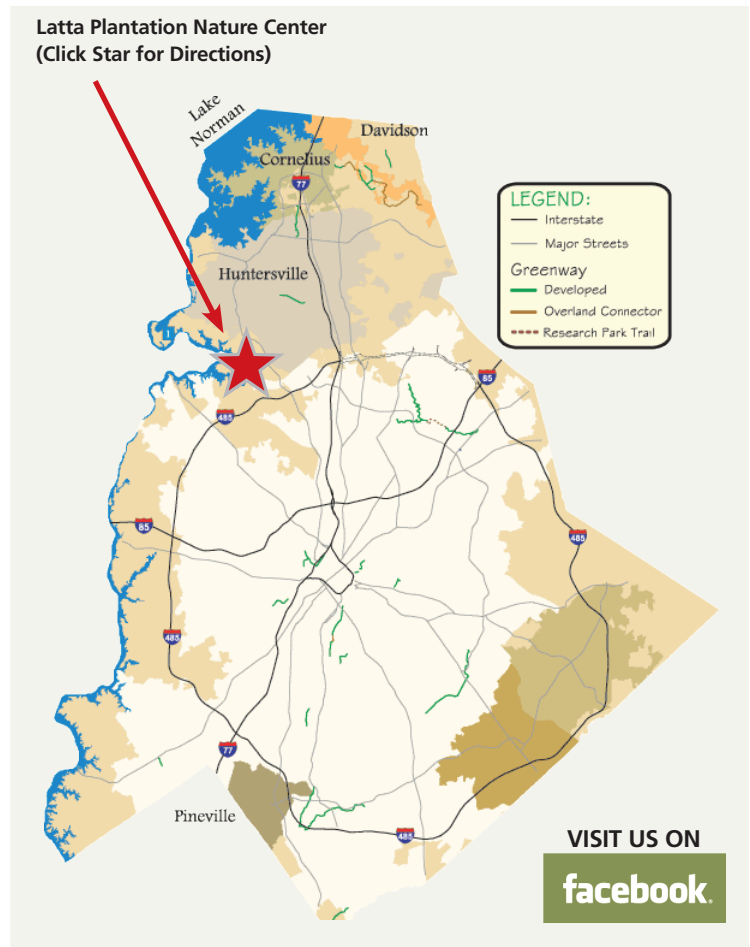
Latta Plantation Nature Center

6211 Sample Road • Huntersville • 704-875-1391 Open Mon-Sat, 9:00am to 5:00pm and Sun 1:00pm to 5:00pm

Latta Plantation Nature Center serves as the gateway to the 1,351 acres of Latta Plantation Nature Preserve. It is the source for many educational programs and information on the preserve's natural communities, flora and fauna. Mecklenburg County's largest preserve; it forms a green peninsula extending into Mountain Island Lake and protects a natural heritage site and several endangered plants.

- **Covers over 1,350 Acres**
- **16 miles of Hiking Trails**
- **Nature Center & Gift Shop**
- **Carolina Raptor Center**
- **Latta Plantation Equestrian Center**
- **Historic Latta Plantation**
- **Lakeview Picnicking**
- **Canoe and Kayak Landing Areas**

Latta Plantation Nature Center features live native animals, a discovery hall, an outdoor amphitheater and a gift shop. Latta Plantation Nature Preserve also has the Carolina Raptor Center, an education and rehabilitation facility dedicated to the conservation of birds of prey and home to the Southeast's largest eagle aviary. In addition, the park is also home to the Latta Plantation Equestrian Center, a facility providing guided horseback rides, pony rides, horse shows, lessons and a tack store; and the Historic Latta Plantation, a restored 19th century federal-style home and living history farm of James Latta, open to public tours and interpretive programs.



Summer 2014 Programs & Activities





Latta Plantation Nature Center

Environmental Education

Dragonflies and Damselflies

What are those large insects flying around our streams and lakes during the summer? Come out and learn about common dragonflies and damselflies, when they are active, and where they can be found. Join us to identify these magnificent fliers and find out why they are important to the ecosystem. Terrain: Easy, 2.0-3.0 miles.

Ages 7 and up **FREE**

Latta Plantation Nature Center

(Meet at the Horse Trailer Park)

#59422 Jun 8 Sun 2:00pm to 4:00pm



Bottle Boats and Cereal Canoes

Pack a picnic and bring the family out for some post-July 4th fun! We'll be making small boats out of recycled materials, duct tape, popsicle sticks, and whatever else we can think of. Bring your own recycled materials or use some of ours. Drop by anytime during the program to join the fun! No registration required.

All Ages **FREE**

Latta Plantation Nature Center

(Meet at the Canoe Rental Facility)

#59423 Jul 5 Sat 1:00pm to 4:00pm

Busy Bees

Join us for an interactive lesson about honeybees! We'll learn how they make honey and what we can do to attract them to our garden. We'll also sample some different types of honey from both near and far.

Ages 4 to 6 **\$2.00**

Latta Plantation Nature Center

#59424 Jul 12 Sat 10:00am to 11:00am

Full Moon Hike

Are you afraid of the dark? Test your trail skills (and your night sight!) as we hike around the nature preserve by the light of the stars and the full moon. Terrain: Easy, 2.0 miles.

Ages 7 and up **FREE**

Latta Plantation Nature Center

#59425 Jul 12 Sat 9:00pm to 10:00pm

Reptile and Amphibian Hunt

Interested in all things creepy and crawly? Do you love snakes, toads, lizards, salamanders and the like? Join the hunt as we look under cover boards for these and other animals. Learn how to identify these creatures and why they are important.

All Ages **FREE**

Latta Plantation Nature Center

(Meet at the Cowan's Ford Wildlife Refuge)

#59426 Aug 3 Sun 2:00pm to 3:30pm

Tracking Basics

Do you want to actually see wildlife when you go on a walk in the woods? Learn how to be stealthy with a few tips and tricks, as well as how to identify some common tracks and other wildlife signs.

Ages 9 and up **FREE**

Latta Plantation Nature Center

#59427 Aug 9 Sat 2:00pm to 3:30pm

Healthy Homes, Healthy Environment

Do you want to get rid of all of the chemical cleaners in your house but don't know where to start? Or, better still, which homemade cleaners actually work? Learn how to save money and make your home and local environment healthier by whipping up some tried-and-tested homemade cleaners. You'll go home with recipes and samples of everything made in the class. Children are welcome to attend with their parents but the class content is geared towards adults.

Ages 18 and up **\$5.00**

Latta Plantation Nature Center

#59428 Aug 16 Sat 10:00am to 11:30am

Fantastic Fish

This is a chance for you to learn more about fish and go fishing all in the same day. First we will talk about why fish are unique and then we will go fishing on Mountain Island Lake.

Ages 5 to 12 **\$4.00**

Latta Plantation Nature Center

(Meet at the Waterfront Parking Lot)

#59430 Aug 24 Sun 2:00pm to 4:00pm

Family Campfire

Join us after dinner around the campfire! We'll have field games set up (far from the fire!) as well as marshmallows, songs, and stories. Please bring your own chairs and blankets. Drop by anytime during the program. No registration required.

All Ages **FREE**

Latta Plantation Nature Center

#59431 Aug 30 Sat 6:00pm to 9:00pm



Wild Edibles and Medicinal Plants

Animals are not the only ones who can benefit from the plants of the forest! Man has always had a connection with edible and medicinal plants and we still depend on them for our health and well-being. Join us for a 2-3 mile hike to learn about some of these plants.

Ages 7 and up **FREE**

Latta Plantation Nature Center

#59432 Aug 31 Sun 2:00pm to 4:00pm

Outdoor Recreation

Segway Adventure Tour

Explore the trails of Latta Plantation Nature Preserve on an all-terrain Segway! Learn to ride these self-balancing machines and see nature like never before! Highlights include Shady and Catawba Trails, the Buzzard Rock Overlook and beautiful views of Mountain Island Lake. Call for details and rider restrictions.

Ages 18 and up **\$35.00**

Latta Plantation Nature Center

(Meet at Segway Building, Waterfront Parking Lot)

#59434	Jul 7	Sat	2:00pm to 5:00pm
#59435	Jul 8	Sun	2:00pm to 5:00pm
#59436	Jul 15	Sun	1:00pm to 4:00pm
#59437	Jul 5	Sat	9:00am to 12:00pm
#59438	Jul 5	Sat	2:00pm to 5:00pm
#59439	Jul 6	Sun	1:00pm to 4:00pm
#59440	Jul 12	Sat	2:00pm to 5:00pm
#59441	Jul 13	Sun	2:00pm to 5:00pm
#59442	Aug 2	Sat	2:00pm to 5:00pm
#59443	Aug 3	Sun	2:00pm to 5:00pm
#59444	Aug 9	Sat	2:00pm to 5:00pm
#59445	Aug 10	Sun	2:00pm to 5:00pm



Latta Plantation Nature Center

Sunset Segway Adventure Tour

Explore the trails of Latta Plantation Nature Preserve at sunset! Learn to ride these self-balancing all-terrain Segways and see nature like never before! Highlights include Shady and Catawba Trails, the Buzzard Rock Overlook and beautiful views of Mountain Island Lake. Call for details and restrictions.

Ages 18 and up **\$35.00**

Latta Plantation Nature Center

(Meet at Segway Building, Waterfront Parking Lot)

#59446	Jun 4	Wed	5:00pm to 8:00pm
#59447	Jun 18	Wed	5:00pm to 8:00pm
#59448	Jul 2	Wed	5:00pm to 8:00pm
#59449	Jul 16	Wed	5:00pm to 8:00pm
#59450	Aug 6	Wed	5:00pm to 8:00pm
#59451	Aug 20	Wed	5:00pm to 8:00pm



Canoe Rentals

Hourly canoe rentals will be available at Latta Plantation Nature Preserve on Saturdays and Sundays, Memorial Day weekend through Labor Day weekend. Rental dates and times are subject to change. Canoe rentals are on a first come, first served basis. Payment by Credit/Debit Card only. Call 704-875-1391 for details.

\$8.00/Canoe/Hour

Latta Plantation Nature Center

Saturdays	10:00am to 6:00pm
Sundays	12:00pm to 6:00pm

Visit Us On **facebook.**

Kayaking Tour on Mountain Island Lake

Join us as we paddle on Mountain Island Lake, the oldest lake in the Charlotte area. Learn the basics of flat water kayaking and then enjoy a guided tour of the lake. Discover its history, significance and what you can do to help protect it. All equipment provided. Please wear appropriate clothing, and bring water and snacks.

Ages 12 and up **\$15.00/Single \$20.00/Tandem**

Latta Plantation Nature Center

(Meet at Horse Trailer Overflow Parking Lot)

#59452	Jun 7	Sat	9:00am to 11:00am
#59453	Jun 8	Sat	9:00am to 11:00am
#59454	Jun 28	Sat	9:00am to 11:00am
#59455	Jun 28	Sat	12:00pm to 2:00pm
#59456	Jun 29	Sun	12:00pm to 2:00pm
#59457	Jun 29	Sun	3:00pm to 5:00pm
#59458	Jul 12	Sat	9:00am to 11:00am
#59459	Jul 13	Sun	9:00am to 11:00am
#59460	Jul 19	Sat	9:00am to 11:00am
#59461	Jul 19	Sat	12:00pm to 2:00pm
#59462	Jul 20	Sun	12:00pm to 2:00pm
#59463	Jul 20	Sun	3:00pm to 5:00pm
#59464	Jul 26	Sat	9:00am to 11:00am
#59465	Jul 26	Sat	12:00pm to 2:00pm
#59466	Jul 27	Sun	12:00pm to 2:00pm
#59467	Jul 27	Sun	3:00pm to 5:00pm
#59468	Aug 2	Sat	9:00am to 11:00am
#59469	Aug 3	Sun	9:00am to 11:00am
#59470	Aug 9	Sat	9:00am to 11:00am
#59471	Aug 10	Sun	9:00am to 11:00am
#59472	Aug 16	Sat	9:00am to 11:00am
#59473	Aug 16	Sat	12:00pm to 2:00pm
#59474	Aug 17	Sun	12:00pm to 2:00pm
#59475	Aug 17	Sun	3:00pm to 5:00pm
#59476	Aug 24	Sun	12:00pm to 2:00pm
#59477	Aug 24	Sun	3:00pm to 5:00pm
#59478	Aug 30	Sat	9:00am to 11:00am
#59479	Aug 30	Sat	12:00pm to 2:00pm
#59480	Aug 31	Sun	12:00pm to 2:00pm
#59481	Aug 31	Sun	3:00pm to 5:00pm



Sunset Kayak Tour of Mountain Island Lake

Join us as we paddle on Mountain Island Lake, taking in the sunset as it goes down over the Catawba River. Learn the basics of flat water kayaking and then enjoy a guided tour of the lake. Discover its history, significance and what you can do to help protect it. All equipment provided.

Ages 12 and up **\$15.00/Single \$20.00/Tandem**

Latta Plantation Nature Center

(Meet at Horse Trailer Overflow Parking Lot)

#59483	Jun 11	Wed	6:30pm to 8:30pm
#59484	Jun 25	Wed	6:30pm to 8:30pm
#59485	Jul 9	Wed	6:30pm to 8:30pm
#59486	Jul 23	Wed	6:30pm to 8:30pm
#59487	Aug 13	Wed	6:30pm to 8:30pm
#59488	Aug 27	Wed	6:30pm to 8:30pm

Orienteering at Night

Want to learn how to find your way at night in the woods with just a map and compass or already know how to find your way and just want some practice? Join us at Latta Plantation Nature Preserve and test your skills at night time navigation. Classes will be provided for beginners and all skills levels are invited. We will have both a beginning and advanced course. Each team of two to four people must carry a cell phone, and at least one extra light source. Compasses can be provided upon request. Scouting and club organizations are welcome. Pre-Registration is required. Call 704-875-1391 for details.

Ages 11 and up **\$10.00 per person**

Latta Plantation Nature Center

(Meet at Shelter #3)

#59547	Sept 12	Fri	6:30pm to 11:30pm
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Register 1 of 3 Ways:

Registration is required for most programs whether or not there is a fee. *Select an option:*

1. **CLICK on Eparks** at www.parkandrec.com and use the course code number.
2. **CALL 311 (704-336-7600)** or the number listed for that program.
3. **COME to the location** where the program is offered.

Recreation & Nature Center addresses and phone numbers listed on pgs. 32, 36 and 39. Phone and Web registration requires payment with Visa or MasterCard only.