

## FIRST DAY HIKE AND SCAVENGER HUNT

Start your New Year on the right foot with a hike in the park! Hike park trails and find the hidden signs, take a photo of each sign and get a prize at the Nature Center Hunt table. Information available the morning of event from the Ranger Station or the Nature Center. All ages welcome to participate. Easy & accessible trail also available.

**Location:** Various park trails.

**Fee:** Event is FREE. Park fees apply.

DATE	DAY/TIME
January 1	Saturday 9:00am—1:00pm

## 23rd ANNUAL SCRUB JAY 5K/10K RACE

Registration required for the race. Event presented by Friends of Oscar Scherer Park. **ALL** proceeds support Florida Scrub-Jay conservation, habitat restoration. (No pets on course please). Separate courses. 5K hardtop and mostly hard packed trails. New - 10K "Scramble" will be a challenging trail course. Visit [FriendsOfOscarScherer.com](http://FriendsOfOscarScherer.com) or [RunSignUp.com](http://RunSignUp.com) to register.

**Location:** Meet at Lake Osprey Picnic Area. Pre-packet pickup on Friday

**Fees:** Before 12/19/22 5K -\$35, 10K \$40 Adult; // After 12/19/22 5K—\$40, 10K - \$45 // \$15 Youth 18 & under // Everyone—Day of Race \$45 per person. Virtual Option: Virtually Anywhere & Almost Anytime \$40.

DATE	DAY/TIME
January 21	Saturday 5K & 10K start time—8:00am

## TOM FALING MEMORIAL KIWANIS KIDS FISHATHON

In cooperation with the Kiwanis Club of Venice and the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission, come out and catch some fish with us! Open to the first 50 kids, ages 5 to 12 and their guardian. Fishing poles, bait, tackle, and lunch are provided. Prizes will be given in several fishy categories. Park entrance fees will be waived for registered participants. Please call the park to register one month prior to event (941) 483-5956.

**Location:** Lake Osprey

**Fee:** FREE (with registration)

DATE	DAY/TIME
April 1	Saturday 8:00am—12:00am

## 34th ANNUAL EARTH DAY FESTIVAL

Celebrate Earth Day at Oscar Scherer State Park with live music, fun-filled activities for kids, various environmental and informational booths, environmental speakers, juried photo contest, guided hikes and more! Park entrance fees will be waived for event participants.

**Location:** Lake Osprey Picnic Area

**Fee:** FREE

DATE	DAY/TIME
April 22	Saturday 10:00am—4:00pm

### Additional Information (Applies to all programs and events unless otherwise noted):

- Well behaved dogs on leashes are permitted. Please be sure to clean up after your dogs.
- All children under age 18 must be accompanied by an adult
- Equal access to all: Should you need assistance to enable your participation, please contact the Ranger Station in advance.
- Essential Eligibility Criteria information available at [www.floridastateparks.org/things-to-do/events](http://www.floridastateparks.org/things-to-do/events)

Front cover photo credits: Daniel Olson, volunteer

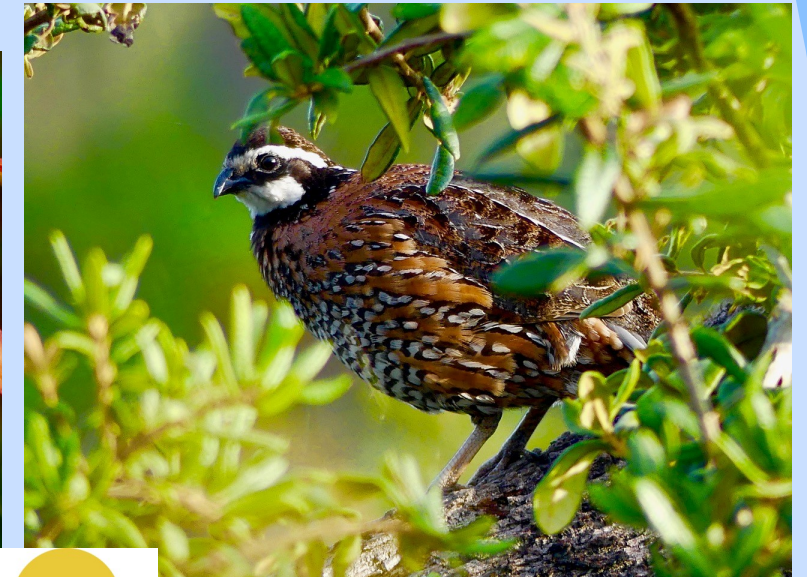
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Available

# Oscar Scherer State Park

## Programs & Events

December 2022 - April 2023






### Park Hours:

8:00am to Sunset  
365 Days a Year

1843 S. Tamiami Tr  
Osprey, FL 34229  
Phone: (941) 483-5956  
Fax: (941) 480-3007

### Visit Us Online!

 Friends of Oscar Scherer Park  
 @OscarSchererSP  
 Oscar.scherer.state.park

<http://friendsofoscarscherer.com/>  
<http://www.floridastateparks.org/park/Oscar-Scherer>



# Saturday

## CRITTER CRAFTS FOR KIDS

Learn about the plants and animals at Oscar Scherer. Materials are provided. **Location:** Nature Center

**Fee:** Free with camping or standard park entrance fee

**DATES** **DAY/TIME**  
Year-round Saturdays 10:00am—11:00am

## JUNIOR RANGER

Become a Junior Ranger and work on your Junior Ranger core packet or passport activities! **Location:** Nature Center

**Fee:** Free with camping or standard park entrance fee

**DATES** **DAY/TIME**  
Dec 10—Mar Saturdays 9:00am—12:00pm

## POP-UP RANGER PROGRAM

Join one of our rangers for a variety of topics of their choice and learn about an animal, a favorite place or just to answer your questions. **Location:** Nature Center

**Fee:** Free with camping or standard park entrance fee

**DATES** **DAY/TIME**  
Dec—Mar Saturdays 1:30pm—2:30pm

## WATERCOLOR FELLOWSHIP—1st Saturday

Learn new tips and tricks or just paint with fellow enthusiasts. Space is limited. Materials provided. **Location:** Nature Center

**Fee:** Free with camping or standard park entrance fee

**DATES** **DAY/TIME**  
Dec—Mar 1st Saturdays 10:00am—12:00pm

## GUIDED NIGHT PADDLE—MONTHLY

Paddle South Creek under the moonlight. Experienced paddlers only. Bring your own vessel or rent one from the park.

Preregister in person, up to 1 month in advance. Arrival and start times vary monthly. **Location:** South Creek Canoe Launch

**Fee:** \$20 / Person (cash only). Contact park for dates.

**DATES** **DAY/TIME**  
Dec—Mar Saturdays - monthly at Sunset



WINTER 2022 – 2023

# Sunday

## EAGLE VIEWING

Join us to see how our pair of nesting bald eagles are doing. High-powered scope set up. Comfortable shoes, camera and binoculars are suggested.

**Location:** Green Trail. Self-Guided 20-minute walk to eagle viewing station.

**Fee:** Free with camping or standard park entrance fee

**DATES** **DAY/TIME**  
Dec—Mar Sundays 9:00am—11:00am

941-483-5956 | www.floridastateparks.org

# Monday

## CO-ED EXERCISE / LOW IMPACT

Wear comfortable shoes and wake up with a morning exercise session led by our talented volunteers! Exercises do not require participants to sit or lay down and program is considered accessible.

**Location:** Nature Center Screen Room

**Fee:** Free with camping or standard park entrance fee

**DATES** **DAY/TIME**  
Dec—Mar Monday 8:30am—9:15am

# Tuesday

## CAMPER COFFEE

Wake up with tea or coffee, assorted pastries and your fellow campers.

**Location:** Nature Center

**Fee:** Free with camping or standard park entrance fee, donations are appreciated.

**DATES** **DAY/TIME**  
Dec—Mar Tuesdays 8:00am –10:00am

## CAMPFIRE PROGRAM

Join park rangers or a special guest around the campfire to learn about specific park topics. Programs will be posted. Program is limited to registered campers only. **Location:** Camp Fire Circle (between sites 35 & 36)

**Fee:** Free for registered campers.

**DATES** **DAY/TIME**  
Dec—Mar 2nd Tuesdays 7:00pm –8:00pm

# Wednesday

## GUIDED PADDLE (OR WALK if tide is too low)

Paddle along South Creek and learn about the park and its estuarine critters. Please register between 8:00am and 8:45am at the Ranger Station. May bring own vessel or rent one from the park. Some paddling experience recommended as it is a group tour. Note: South Creek is a tidal creek, therefore if water is too shallow for a paddle a walk will be offered instead.

**Location:** South Creek

**Fee:** Rentals \$16.05 per craft (park entrance fees apply)

**DATES** **DAY/TIME**  
Year-Round Wednesdays 9:00am—10:30am

## CO-ED EXERCISE / FOLK FIT

Wake up with a morning low impact aerobic exercise adding bits of fun and variety with folk dance steps. These easy repetitious steps help improve cognitive ability and blast away Brain Fog. Exercises do not require participants to sit or lay down and program is considered accessible. Wear comfortable shoes, bring water. Hand weights (if desired).

**Location:** Nature Center Screen Room

**Fee:** Free with camping or standard park entrance fee

**DATES** **DAY/TIME**  
Dec—Mar Wednesdays 8:30am—9:15am

941-483-5956 | www.floridastateparks.org

## The Nature Center

- Please note that programs inside the Nature Center are limited to space available.
- While the park is pet friendly, dogs are not allowed inside the Nature Center.
- \*\*If inclement weather, outdoor programs will be moved to Nature Center or cancelled.
- The Nature Center is staffed by park volunteers. If you are interested in volunteering please contact the park.

PROGRAMS ARE FIRST-COME, FIRST SERVED

# Thursday

## PANCAKE BREAKFAST WITH A RANGER

Enjoy a breakfast consisting of pancakes, sausage, tea, coffee, and juice. Park Ranger available 8:30am—9:00am for questions, information or just a chat.

**Location:** Nature Center

**Fee:** \$7.00 /person; \$3.00/child (12 years and younger)

**DATES** **DAY/TIME**  
Dec 8—Mar Thursdays 8:00am—10:00am

## AUDUBON SOCIETY GUIDED BIRD WALK

Walk led by the local Audubon Society (Sarasota or Venice Chapter). Comfortable footwear, camera, binoculars, and bird guide recommended. No pets please.

**Location:** Meets outside Nature Center

**Fee:** Free with paid camping or standard park entrance fee

**DATES** **DAY/TIME**  
Nov 3—Apr 6 Thursdays 8:30am—10:00am

\*No walk on Thanksgiving Day Nov. 24

941-483-5956 | www.floridastateparks.org

# Friday

## RANGER HIKE OF THE WEEK

Explore the park with a ranger on a guided walk. A chance to learn about park history, the flora & fauna that can be found and what makes Oscar Scherer a special place. Comfortable hiking shoes, water, & sunscreen recommended.

**Location:** Meet outside Nature Center

**Fee:** Free with camping or standard park entrance fee

**DATES** **DAY/TIME**  
Dec—Mar Fridays 8:30am—9:30am

Take Nothing but Pictures, Leave Nothing but Footprints

Reduce Single Use Plastics, Water fill Stations Available

Leave the road and hike the trails to immerse in nature

Find that 1 thing in nature and preserve it

WINTER 2022 – 2023

