



Jekyll Island Mother Nature Festival

Schedule of Events

Friday, April 17, 2009

Beach Sweep – 10 AM – Noon

Jekyll Island Beachdeck

Join your friends to help us clean Jekyll Island's beach in preparation for Earth Day.

Saturday, April 18, 2009

Kids Eco-Craft Zone & Green Friendly Exhibitor Area – 10 AM – 4PM

Georgia Sea Turtle Center

Make eco-friendly crafts and peruse through the numerous arts and crafts vendors, local ecology groups, and green friendly businesses displaying their items and information. Also, step inside the Georgia Sea Turtle Center to learn about sea turtles and their habitat, watch a fun-filled puppet show, listen to a variety of speakers, and watch the veterinarians as they take care of the numerous patients at the Center. Live entertainment and concessions available.

Eco-craft Zone is free with paid admission to the Georgia Sea Turtle Center. Exhibitor area is free.

Reduce, Reuse, Recycle – Regift Silent Auction – 10 AM – 4PM

Georgia Sea Turtle Center

This silent auction with a twist is in addition to our standard silent auction taking place the same day. Items in the auction are "re-gifts". They have never been used and are in good condition, but are not wanted or needed by the donor. Now they can be your treasure.

Free with paid admission to the Georgia Sea Turtle Center

Family Fishing Day at Rixen Pond – 10 AM – 2 PM

Rixen Pond, behind Tidelands Nature Center

Staff from the Georgia Department of Natural Resources (DNR) will be on-site from to give fishing tips, loan free children's fishing rods, provide bait, and help children identify the fish they catch. Rixen Pond is a salt-water fishing lake rich in red fish, speckled trout, and Atlantic croaker.

Free admission.

Eco-Book Fair at the Jekyll Island Bookstore – 10 AM – 4 PM

Jekyll Island Books at the Old Infirmary

Meet a selection of nationally-known and local best-selling authors from the genres of nature and environmental writing, naturalists guides, environmentally-related fiction, living "green" titles, and children's books.

Free admission.

Helicopter Tours by Dragonfly Helicopter – 10 AM – 4 PM

Jekyll Island Airport

Take a bird's eye tour of Jekyll Island. These 8-10 minute tours will give you a new perspective on Jekyll Island and the ecosystems that make it so special.

\$25 per person. Register on site.

Nature Walk on the Beach – 10:30 AM -12:00 Noon

Glory Boardwalk, Jekyll Island Soccer Complex

Join a Jekyll 4-H staff member for an educational and fun beach stroll. Discuss local ecology and all the beach creatures we discover. See Outdoor Excursion list for more details.

Free. Reservations are required. Call (912) 635-3636 to make reservation.

Kite Flying Demonstration – 11 AM – 1 PM

Beach at Blackbeard's Restaurant

Watch the amazing skills of the Coastal Windsports team as they maneuver their kite buggies along the beach using only wind power.

Free

Herpetology Session – 2:00 PM

Tidelands Nature Center

Touch, see, and learn about the reptiles and amphibians that make their home on Jekyll Island. See Outdoor Excursion list for more details.

Free.

Guided Kayak Trip – 2:00 PM – 4:00 PM

Tidelands Nature Center

Join us for a guided kayak tour in the salt marshes around Jekyll Island! Our guided kayak tours offer you a crab's-eye view of Jekyll's tidal creeks. As you paddle, you might see herons and wood storks feeding along the banks, diving pelicans and terns, and fiddler crabs by the thousands. Dolphins are frequently sighted as is the occasional manatee. Our guides are experienced naturalists who will teach you about the plants, wildlife, and ecology of this fascinating ecosystem.

Our trips are suitable for beginners as well as experienced paddlers. Each trip includes an orientation and basic paddling instruction. All equipment is provided. All you need to bring is water to drink and shoes that can get wet. (Expect your feet to get wet as you enter and exit the boat.) We also recommend a hat, sunglasses, and sunscreen. Please dress comfortably for your on-water excursion.

\$25/person. Reservations are required. Please call (912) 635-5032 for reservations or additional information.

Bird Ramble with Lydia Thompson – 3:00 PM - 4:30/5:00 PM

Meet at the Information Booth at the festival and join guide Lydia Thompson as she takes you on a first-hand bird watching experience.

Special festival day rates: \$5 for ages 8-12, \$15 for ages 13 and older. Reservations required call (912) 635-3636 for reservations.

Be sure to check out our List of Outdoor Excursions for more outdoor trips and activities on Jekyll Island.