

Celebrate National Frog Month

Schramm Education Center

Frog Fun in the Maker Space Daily 2:30—4:30 pm

Make a foldable frog lifecycle booklet in the maker space & discover some fun facts & information about these awesome amphibians.

Admission required. SEC is open daily from 10:00 am to 5:00 pm.

\$10 Adults, \$7 Seniors & Ages 4-12, 3 & Under are free



Go Frogging! Try out a new activity as we leap into spring!

Try a frog hike this spring. It is mating season for frogs and the right time of year to hear their calls after dusk. Male frogs use their calls to attract a mate and can also use alarm calls to signal a predator. Listen to their chorus and try to identify a few of the 11 different types of frogs and toads that we have in Nebraska. Observe the time of day you hear them start calling and listen to see if you can hear more than one type of call at the same time. Frogs are most active at night and prefer areas with emerging vegetation and stagnant water. Your likelihood of hearing frogs is greater with warmer temperatures, low wind and with little to no precipitation.

- Boreal Chorus Frogs are about the size of a quarter. They can be heard in the early spring. They are small and camouflaged, making them hard to see, but their loud voices can be heard for ¼ of a mile. Their call is a series of rapid short notes that sound like running your fingers down the length of a comb.
- Northern Leopard Frogs have a long, deep croaking call. It sometimes is one long call “raa-aa-aa-aa” (like a squeaky door opening in a haunted mansion) other times it is more of a repetitive sound “ra-ra-ra-ra.” The best time to hear them calling is at night, in late April.
- Blanchard’s Cricket Frogs have a loud clicking sound, like tapping marbles together “click click click.” The sound starts out slow, then gets faster.
- Cope’s Gray Tree Frogs make a fast, angry sounding “blaaaapt!” or yell, “blah! blah!”
- Bullfrogs are the bass section of the chorus, with a deep sounding “jug-o-rum” call.

When frogging, consider these safety pointers: Frogging is best with a buddy. When frogging, be sure to select a location that is open to the public and where you have permission to be at night. Wear visible colors and stay away from roadways. Be considerate of nocturnal wildlife by remaining quiet, not using bright lights and listening from a shelter.

Serenity Garden Open House & Nature Journaling on Earth Day

Saturday, April 22nd, 10:00 am to 12:00 pm, located between Schramm Education Center and Schramm Park SRA

Join us in our new Serenity Garden, located just to the left of the main park entry behind the service road; look for our orange Nature Program flag. The garden includes signage which encourages activities that can support serenity in the outdoors, an art feature which includes the work of local artisans & stone benches that tie in to the geological significance of the setting here at Schramm. Master Naturalist, Writer & Educator Jeff Lacey will be available to share his wealth of knowledge about nature journaling & we will begin a guided hike at 11:00 am to try out nature journaling in the park. A park sticker is required to drive into the park. The program is free.