

Nature Adventure Series 2011



Natural Awakenings Magazine
Is sponsoring these classes by providing advertising
and promoting Myakka Friends events..

Class sizes are limited so sign up early.

Fee Discounts:

- * Myakka Friends members get a \$5 discount on each class.
- * Sign up for three classes and get a free Friends membership.
- * Sign up for the series (excluding Painting Class) for \$99.
(Canoe or kayak rental is an additional \$20).
- * Park entrance fees waived for participants on day of the class.

To reserve classes:

1. Call (941) 316-8139, stop by the Ranger Station, or E-mail
Gallery@myakkariver.org.
2. Payment must be received within 10 days of reservation.
3. After making your reservation, mail checks to:

Friends of Myakka River
13208 State Road 72
Sarasota, FL 34241

If you need assistance to enable your participation in
classes, please advise when you make your reservation.

10. In Search of the Elusive Bachman's Sparrow Thursday, March 31, 8:30 until 11:30 a.m.

Don't want to hike four miles into the Myakka prairie to reach the breeding territory of the Bachman's sparrow? Join Senior Volunteer Bird Interpreter Owen Comora in the back of a four-wheel-drive truck on an excursion to the sparrow's breeding grounds. No guarantees, but spring is the prime time to see and hear these special birds. Hat, water, sturdy shoes, long pants, long-sleeved shirt and binoculars are recommended. Short walk on moderate terrain. We will supply the scope. Fee \$25.

11. Myakka Butterfly Walk

Saturday, April 16, 10:00 until 11:30 a.m.

Join Laurel Rhodes on a leisurely one-mile hike to discover how to find, enjoy and identify butterflies in the springtime. Laurel will explain the importance of butterflies as pollinators and as indicators of the health of an ecosystem. Moderate hiking. Fee \$15.

Friends of Myakka River is a not-for-profit community organization formed to protect, preserve and support Myakka River State Park and the Florida Wild and Scenic Myakka River.

The Friends are dedicated to helping Floridians and Florida's visitors appreciate the unique beauty and needs of one of Florida's most significant natural resources, the Myakka Island. Through care and diligence our descendants will enjoy the land in its natural state, a piece of the Real Florida.



Myakka River State Park
13208 State Road 72
Sarasota, Florida 34241
(941) 361-6512



<http://www.MyakkaRiver.org>
<http://www.FloridaStateParks.org/MyakkaRiver>

Myakka River State Park is now on 

1. Surviving the Trail

Saturday, January 15, 9:00 a.m. until 1:00 p.m.

How much thought and preparation do you put into planning a day hike? Do you know how to cope with the unexpected? Spend a few hours with Outdoorsman Larry Roberts to learn what to take and how to use common items that will keep you comfortable for a day on the trails. (Classroom instruction with short walks in picnic area). Fee \$20.

2. Moonlight on the Prairie

Wednesday, January 19, 6:00 until 10:00 p.m.

Enjoy the magic of Myakka by moonlight from the back of a pickup truck as the mysteries of the prairie unfold. Your guide will be Park Ranger Teresa Good. Dress appropriately to ride in the bed of a pickup truck on a winter's evening. Fee \$25.

3. Canoe/Kayak Adventure on the Myakka

Friday, January 28, 10:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m.

Explore the Wild and Scenic Myakka River with River Biologist Natalie Balcer and kayak nature tour guide Dick Pfaff. Bring lunch and drinking water. Intermediate level paddling skills required. Fee \$20 with your own craft or \$40 to rent one.

4. Introduction to the Stars

Thursday, February 3, 7:00 until 9:00 p.m.

Search the star-filled skies unimpeded by city lights. Volunteer Teddie Mulcahy will help you identify prominent stars and constellations. Bug spray and flashlights are suggested. Short walk across parking lot and boardwalk. Fee \$10.

5. Spiders & Other Creepy Crawlers

Saturday, February 12, 9:00 a.m. until 1:30 p.m.

Larry Roberts will focus on creatures that may make your skin crawl--in the coolest sense. You will learn how these special little critters play a big role in nature. You may want to bring water, bug repellent, sun screen. (Classroom instruction with short walks in picnic area). Fee \$15.

6. A Ride on the Wild Side

Friday, February 18, 8:30 a.m. until 12:30 p.m.

Visit the fabled "Deep Hole" of Lower Myakka Lake where alligators often thrive in great numbers with Park Rangers Diana Mangone and Nikki Finehout. You may want to bring water, snacks, binoculars, cameras, sunscreen, a hat and insect repellent. Dress appropriately to ride in the back of a pickup truck and to take short walks in moderately rough terrain. Fee \$25.

7. A Ride on the Wild Side II

Friday, February 25, 8:30 a.m. until 1:00 p.m.

Discover the magic of a real Florida Prairie with Park Ranger Diana Mangone and Myakka's legendary Dr. Mary Jelks. They will take you down the historic Railroad Grade back to the remote wildlife-rich Deer Prairie Slough. You may want to bring water, snacks, binoculars, cameras, sunscreen, a hat and insect repellent. Dress appropriately to ride in the back of a pickup truck and to take short walks in moderately rough terrain. Fee \$25.

8. Painting on Location by Jean Blackburn & Cheryl Moody

Friday & Saturday, March 18 & 19, 10:00 a.m. until 4:00 p.m.

Award-winning artists Jean Blackburn and Cheryl Moody will devote two days to teaching techniques, interpretation, composition, color, materials and other concerns of painting outdoors in natural light. Oil painting techniques will be emphasized but photographers and acrylic and water color painters are also welcome. Bring lunch, painting equipment and supplies (suggested list will be sent upon registration). May require participants to ride in the bed of a truck and a short walk on unlevel ground. Fee for 2 days is \$80.

9. Nature Photography

Wednesday, March 23, 9:00 a.m. until 3:00 p.m.

Join award-winning nature photographer Jim Watson and learn the basics for lighting, exposure and composition. Then venture into the field with Jim to put into practice what you learned. Short walks over grassy picnic area and along river bank. Bring your camera and don't forget to pack a lunch. Fee \$20.