

MAKOSHIKA

STATE PARK

2023 Program Schedule

For more information on programs, please call the Makoshika visitor center at 406-377-6256 or check out our Facebook page.

DATE	PROGRAM	TIME	COST	LOCATION
Saturday April 22 nd	Earth Day Event: Join us for our first volunteer event of the year as we celebrate Earth Day. We will be hosting a unique trash pick-up event with prizes for different categories of trash collected. (Check our Facebook page for more information)	1 pm	Free	Visitor Center
Friday May 5 th	Full Moon Hike: Join us as we hike with the full moon light under the Makoshika night sky. This non-interpretive hike will be led by Makoshika State Park staff. S'mores will also be available!	9 pm	Free	Hiatt Amphitheater
Saturday May 20 th	Kids to Park Day: To celebrate National Kids to Parks Day, Makoshika will be hosting a "Mystery Grab Bag" activity. Each grab bag will include an activity, instructions and supplies, and a sticker.	10 am to 3 pm	Free	Visitor Center
Wednesday May 31 st	Trivia in the Park: Join us every other Wednesday for trivia in the park! These events will cover a wide variety of family friendly topics suitable for all ages. Get your team together and come on out to Makoshika for some trivia competition!	6 pm	Free	Lower Group Use Shelter
Thursday June 1 st	Youth Program: Rainbow Day Children ages 7-13 are invited to join Makoshika State Park staff for an exciting and educational experience! Students will go on a rainbow scavenger hunt in the park. They will learn about the visible light spectrum and how rainbows form.	9:30- 11:30 am	Free	Visitor Center
Friday June 2 nd	Campfire Program: Civil Preparedness & Emergency Response Join Mary Jo Gehmert of Dawson County Disaster & Emergency Services for a discussion on the role of government and of citizens in the prevention, response to, and mitigation of disasters in our local communities.	7 pm	Free	Hiatt Amphitheater
Saturday June 3 rd	Paleo Experience: Makoshika State Park staff will take you on a paleontology experience which will include a visitor center tour, a tour of the paleo lab, and an interpretive hike. These experiences are limited to 20 participants, so please RSVP your spot by calling the visitor center at 406-377-6256.	8:30- 10:30 am	\$10 per person	Visitor Center
Saturday June 3 rd	National Trails Day: Makoshika State Park staff will be hosting a volunteer event. We will be doing some trail work on some of Makoshika State Park's favorite trails. (Area TBD)	10 am	Free	TBD
Saturday June 3 rd	Full Moon Hike: Join us as we hike with the full moon light under the Makoshika night sky. This non-interpretive hike will be led by Makoshika State Park staff.	9 pm	Free	Visitor Center
Thursday June 8 th	Youth Program: Leave No Trace: Children ages 7-13 are invited to join Makoshika State Park staff for an exciting and educational experience! Students will learn the difference between renewable and non-renewable resources as well as the 7 Leave No Trace principles. We will create a "trash timeline" and learn about reducing, reusing, and recycling.	9:30- 11:30 am	Free	Visitor Center



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Friday June 9 th	Campfire Program: Dinosaurs of Makoshika State Park Some of the coolest and most successful dinosaurs ever to live called eastern Montana home. Ashely Hall, Museum of the Rockies Outreach Program Manager, will introduce you to the dinosaur species found in Makoshika, the evidence of their mass extinction, and how the partnership between Makoshika and Museum of the Rockies helps us best share our treasures with the world.	7 pm	Free	Visitor Center
Friday June 9 th and Saturday June 10 th	Buzzard Days: Join us for our annual Buzzard Day events. Activities to include 5K, 10K, and half marathon runs, disc golf, corn hole, a movie under the stars, bluebird hike, Native American exhibits, archery, atlatl, paleo hike and presentations, bouncy house, and much more. Brought to you by Friends of Makoshika.	Fri 4-8 pm Sat 7 am - 3 pm		Lower Group Use Shelter
Wednesday June 14 th	Trivia in the Park: Join us every other Wednesday for trivia in the park! These events will cover a wide variety of family friendly topics suitable for all ages. Get your team together and come on out to Makoshika for some trivia competition!	6 pm	Free	Lower Group Use Shelter
Thursday June 15 th	Youth Program: Build a Campsite Children ages 7-13 are invited to join Makoshika State Park staff for an exciting and educational experience! Students will plan and prepare for a camping trip in the Makoshika Badlands! Participants will learn the 10 essentials and simulate a camping trip. Like every good camping trip, dessert will be served while enjoying campfire stories.	9:30- 11:30 am	Free	Lower Group Use Shelter
Friday June 16 th	Campfire Program: Disc Golf in Makoshika Lloyd Smith, President of the Makoshika Disc Golf Association, will speak about the history of disc golf in Makoshika, our current offerings and successes, and what the future holds for enjoying this fun and healthy activity in our park.	7 pm	Free	Lower Group Use Shelter
Saturday June 17 th	Paleo Experience: Makoshika State Park staff will take you on a paleontology experience which will include a visitor center tour, a tour of the paleo lab, and an interpretive hike. These experiences are limited to 20 participants, so please RSVP your spot by calling the visitor center at 406-377-6256.	8:30- 10:30 am	\$10 per person	Visitor Center
Thursday June 22 nd	Youth Program: Grow a Tree Children ages 7-13 are invited to join Makoshika State Park staff for an exciting and educational experience! We will learn the different types of trees commonly found in Montana and about the structure of trees. Students will work together to build a human model of a tree and learn about forest management.	9:30- 11:30 am	Free	Visitor Center
Friday June 23 rd	Campfire Program: Bob "The Crowbar Man" Watts From the murals of Forsyth to his 3-D art and unique style of painting with a crowbar, Bob "The Crowbar Man" Watts is famous in eastern Montana for his approach to art. Join Bob as he shares his art and stories of acclaim.	7 pm	Free	Hiatt Amphitheater



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Saturday June 24 th	Paleo Experience: Makoshika State Park staff will take you on a paleontology experience which will include a visitor center tour, a tour of the paleo lab, and an interpretive hike. These experiences are limited to 20 participants, so please RSVP your spot by calling the visitor center at 406-377-6256.	8:30-10:30 am	\$10 per person	Visitor Center
Wednesday June 28 th	Trivia in the Park: Join us every other Wednesday for trivia in the park! These events will cover a wide variety of family friendly topics suitable for all ages. Get your team together and come on out to Makoshika for some trivia competition!	6 pm	Free	Lower Group Use Shelter
Thursday June 29 th	Youth Program: Kids on the Air Children ages 7-13 are invited to join Makoshika State Park staff for an exciting and educational experience! Radios have been an important method of communication since 1893. In this program students will have a chance to create their own call signs, learn how radio waves work, and operate their own radios to make contacts.	9:30-11:30 am	Free	Lower Group Use Shelter
Friday June 30 th	Campfire Program: Dark Skies-Light Pollution and the Story of Montana's Night Sky Sabre Moore, a founding board member of the Montana Chapter of the International Dark Sky Association, shares the history and culture of the Dark Skies movement and the effects of light pollution. Listen to night sky stories, learn about Montana's dark sky places, and discover how you can join global citizen science efforts to reduce light pollution and support dark skies. Funding for the Montana Conversations program is provided by Humanities Montana through grants from the National Endowment for the Humanities, Montana's Cultural Trust, and private donations.	7 pm	Free	Hiatt Amphitheater
Saturday July 1 st	Paleo Experience: Makoshika State Park staff will take you on a paleontology experience which will include a visitor center tour, a tour of the paleo lab, and an interpretive hike. These experiences are limited to 20 participants, so please RSVP your spot by calling the visitor center at 406-377-6256.	8:30-10:30 am	\$10 per person	Visitor Center
Monday July 3 rd	Full Moon Hike: Join us as we hike with the full moon light under the Makoshika night sky. This non-interpretive hike will be led by Makoshika State Park staff. S'mores will also be available!	9 pm	Free	Lower Group Use Shelter
Thursday July 6 th	Youth Program: Lakota Legends Children ages 7-13 are invited to join Makoshika State Park staff for an exciting and educational experience! In this program we will read Lakota Legends and learn about oral traditions and the history of the tribe. Students will learn how the legends relate to present day and create art inspired by the legends.	9:30-11:30 am	Free	Visitor Center



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Friday July 7 th	Campfire Program: Managing Paleontology in Makoshika State Park Makoshika State Park's 2023 paleo intern will discuss the process and requirements of managing onsite paleontological resources. From discovery, collaboration and excavation through preparation, accessioning and interpretive use, join us as we walk through how a dinosaur bone goes from the ground to its place in our scientific community.	7 pm	Free	Hiatt Amphitheater
Saturday July 8 th	Paleo Experience: Makoshika State Park staff will take you on a paleontology experience which will include a visitor center tour, a tour of the paleo lab, and an interpretive hike. These experiences are limited to 20 participants, so please RSVP your spot by calling the visitor center at 406-377-6256.	8:30-10:30 am	\$10 per person	Visitor Center
Wednesday July 12 th	Trivia in the Park: Join us every other Wednesday for trivia in the park! These events will cover a wide variety of family friendly topics suitable for all ages. Get your team together and come on out to Makoshika for some trivia competition!	6 pm	Free	Lower Group Use Shelter
Thursday July 13 th	Youth Program: Disc Golf Children ages 7-13 are invited to join Makoshika State Park staff for an exciting and educational experience! Students will learn the proper techniques, methods and equipment that is used in disc golf. We will learn the rules of the game and play a few holes of the Makoshika Disc Golf Course.	9:30-11:30 am	Free	Lower Group Use Shelter
Friday July 14 th	Campfire Program: Paddlefish, Sturgeon & Intake-Early Successes and Challenges Montana FWP Region Seven Fisheries Manager Mike Backes visits Makoshika to talk about the early successes and challenges of managing fish species of concern on the lower Yellowstone River, and how recent changes at the Intake Diversion Dam will contribute to their long-term health.	7 pm	Free	Lower Group Use Shelter
Saturday July 15 th	Paleo Experience: Makoshika State Park staff will take you on a paleontology experience which will include a visitor center tour, a tour of the paleo lab, and an interpretive hike. These experiences are limited to 20 participants, so please RSVP your spot by calling the visitor center at 406-377-6256.	8:30-10:30 am	\$10 per person	Visitor Center
Thursday July 20 th	Youth Program: Critter Scene Investigation Children ages 7-13 are invited to join Makoshika State Park staff for an exciting and educational experience! Student will put on their investigation hat for the day as they explore different scenes of animal tracks, scat and learn about predator/prey relationships. Students will have to use the clues available to decide which animals were most likely on the scene and what happened.	9:30-11:30 am	Free	Visitor Center



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Wednesday July 26 th	Trivia in the Park: Join us every other Wednesday for trivia in the park! These events will cover a wide variety of family friendly topics suitable for all ages. Get your team together and come on out to Makoshika for some trivia competition!	6 pm	Free	Lower Group Use Shelter
Thursday July 27 th	Youth Program: Game Day Students will win prizes as we play various games.	9:30-11:30 am	Free	Visitor Center
Friday July 28 th	Campfire Program: The Bats of Makoshika Brandi Skone, Montana FWP Nongame Wildlife Biologist for Region Seven, brings one of our perennially favorite programs back to Makoshika this summer. Learn about the fascinating bats found in Makoshika and the important ways they contribute to a healthy ecosystem.	8:30 pm	Free	Hiatt Amphitheater
Saturday July 29 th	Paleo Experience: Makoshika State Park staff will take you on a paleontology experience which will include a visitor center tour, a tour of the paleo lab, and an interpretive hike. These experiences are limited to 20 participants, so please RSVP your spot by calling the visitor center at 406-377-6256.	8:30-10:30 am	\$10 per person	Visitor Center
Tuesday August 1 st	Full Moon Hike: Join us as we hike with the full moon light under the Makoshika night sky. This non-interpretive hike will be led by Makoshika State Park staff.	9 pm	Free	Caprock Trailhead
Wednesday and Thursday August 2 nd - 3 rd	Youth Program, Overnight Campout - Eligible participants are invited to a night packed with fun as we camp in Makoshika! We will go on a hike, play games, and much more to conclude this summer's Youth Program.	5:30 pm (Wed) To 11:00 am (Thur.)	Free	Lion's A-Frame
Friday August 4 th	Campfire Program: Weather in Makoshika Join Brandon Bigelbach, Program Lead for Fire Weather and Hazard Services with the National Weather Service Field Office in Glasgow, MT as he discusses the environmental and economic impacts of drought and fire in Montana and what you can do to help mitigate their impacts.	7 pm	Free	Hiatt Amphitheater



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Wednesday August 9 th	Trivia in the Park: Join us every other Wednesday for trivia in the park! These events will cover a wide variety of family friendly topics suitable for all ages. Get your team together and come on out to Makoshika for some trivia competition!	6 pm	Free	Lower Group Use Shelter
Friday August 11 th	Campfire Program: Capture the Flag-Zombie Style What could be better than a game of Capture the Flag in Makoshika State Park? How about if zombies are getting in the way of your win? Spread the word; let's have a monster showing of participants for a crazy new way to enjoy an old favorite game. Fun, prizes, bragging rights. Did I mention Zombies?	7 pm	Free	Hiatt Amphitheater
Saturday August 19 th	Wild Montana Wilderness Walk Guided by Makoshika State Park staff, this 4 mile hike follows a road-to-trails route along a plateau in the undeveloped portion of Makoshika, providing close up views of the badlands and distant views of adjacent valleys. The trail is moderate in difficulty but little or no shade is available and daytime temperatures can be extreme. Go to https://wildmontana.org/ to reserve your spot.	10 am	Free (please register)	Meet at Visitor Center Hike will be on Vista Trail
Wednesday August 23 rd	Trivia in the Park: Join us every other Wednesday for trivia in the park! These events will cover a wide variety of family friendly topics suitable for all ages. Get your team together and come on out to Makoshika for some trivia competition!	6 pm	Free	Lower Group Use Shelter
Wednesday August 30 th	Full Moon Hike: Join us as we hike with the full moon light under the Makoshika night sky. This hike will be led by Makoshika State Park staff. S'mores will also be available!	8 pm	Free	Visitor Center
Saturday September 16 th	Special Event: Makoshika Music & Arts Festival Join us for Makoshika State Park's 3 rd annual music and arts festival! This free event will run all day and will feature local musicians, craft vendors, wine and beer vendors, food trucks, and many other activities. Visitors will have the chance to view art displays from local artists and participate in community-created murals. Other activities such as live paintings and guided hikes will occur throughout the day. Overall, this is a celebration of music and arts in the community!	All Day	Event is free, but vendors will be selling their products	Hiatt Amphitheater
Saturday September 16 th -17 th	Special Event: Makoshika Open Disc Golf Tournament This tournament will PDGA-sanctioned singles tournament and will be run by the Makoshika Disc Golf Club. Registrations will be handled by discgolfscene.com . This tournament will be a Montana Point series tournament.	All Day	TBD	Makoshika Disc Golf Course (Upper and Lower)



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Saturday September 23 rd	National Public Lands Day Event Join Makoshika State Park staff for a Public Lands cleanup day. We will be asking for volunteers to help us clean and do minor maintenance tasks at Black Bridge Fishing Access Site. Check the Makoshika Facebook page closer to this event for more information.	TBD	Free	Black Bridge FAS
Friday September 29 th	Full Moon Hike: Join us as we hike with the full moon light under the Makoshika night sky. This non-interpretive hike will be led by Makoshika State Park staff.	8 pm	Free	TBD
Saturday October 7 th	National Fossil Day: Join us for our annual National Fossil Day Event. Come be a paleontologist for a day. We will have several fossil and paleontology activities for all ages.	1 – 3 pm	Free	Visitor Center

