

ACES Memberships

ACES is a non-profit that relies on member support to achieve its mission, "educating for environmental responsibility." As an ACES member, you will enjoy access to special events and discounted admission to our community programs, lectures, and workshops.

Visit aspennature.org/join to learn more about an ACES membership.



Connect with ACES:

 Sign up for our **email newsletter** at aspennature.org for program and event updates, news, and more.

 @ACESaspen, @ACESrbr

 @AspenCenterForEnvironmentalStudies

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Aspen Center for Environmental Studies (ACES), a non-profit environmental education organization, provides programs for all ages in the areas of ecological literacy, agriculture, forest health, ecosystem restoration, and civic leadership. We have **three sites** in the Roaring Fork Valley, where we offer programs and events all winter long.



Hallam Lake Nature Preserve
100 Puppy Smith Street, Aspen, CO 81611
970.925.5756
Monday - Friday, 9am - 5pm



Rock Bottom Ranch
2001 Hooks Spur Road, Basalt, CO 81621
970.927.6760
Wednesday - Friday, 9am - 4pm



Catto Center at Toklat
11247 Castle Creek Road, Aspen, CO 81611
970.925.9157
Wednesday - Sunday, 12 - 5pm

ACES is an equal opportunity service provider and employer.
ACES operates under a special use permit from the USDA Forest Service, White River National Forest.

Non-Profit Organization
U.S. Postage
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Permit No. 43
Aspen, CO 81612

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100 Puppy Smith Street • Aspen, Colorado 81611

**WINTER
2025-2026**



aspennature.org | 970.925.5756

EVENTS



Olaf the Elf Visits Hallam Lake

Wednesday, December 10, 4 - 5:30pm | **Free**

Hallam Lake

Join us for a magical winter afternoon with Olaf, the winter elf who visits ACES every holiday season!



Audubon Christmas Bird Count

Sunday, December 14, 7:30am -3pm | **Free**

Hallam Lake

Join local birders for the annual Audubon Christmas Bird Count (CBC), the longest-running citizen science survey in the world.



Changemaker Speaker Series: Ronan Donovan - Exploring our Wild Nature, ACES Partner Event

Tuesday, December 16, 7pm | **\$35-\$50**

Wheeler Opera House

Join National Geographic photographer for a captivating look at wolves, wild places, and the intimate connections that define life on our planet.



Winter Solstice Celebration

December 21, 2 - 6pm | **Member Event**

Catto Center at Toklat

Kick off 10 Days of Toklat by celebrating the longest night of the year and gathering around a solstice fire.



10 Days of Toklat: Community Open House

December 22-December 30, 12 - 5pm, daily | **Free**

Catto Center at Toklat

Toklat will be open from 12-5pm daily, offering various winter activities and seasonal celebrations.



Changemaker Speaker Series: Gerlinde Kaltenbrunner- Defying Limits, ACES Partner Event

Tuesday, February 24, 6:30pm | **\$35-\$50**

Wheeler Opera House

The first woman to climb all fourteen 8,000-meter peaks without supplemental oxygen shares her pursuit of high-altitude adventure.



ACES Buttermilk Uphill Social

March 6, 8:45 -10:30am | **Free, breakfast not included**

Buttermilk Ski Area to Cliffhouse

Skin, hike, or ski to the top of Buttermilk Mountain and enjoy a community breakfast at Cliffhouse restaurant with us!



COMMUNITY PROGRAMS (Registration Required)

Winter Explorers Camp

December 22, 30, 31 & January 2 | **Hallam Lake**

9:30am - 12:30pm | **\$70/day**

Outdoor Winter Explorers Camp at Hallam Lake for kids currently enrolled in grades K-4.

Spring Explorers Camp

March 31 & April 2 | **Hallam Lake, April 1 | Rock Bottom Ranch**

9:30am - 12:30pm | **\$70/day**

Outdoor Spring Explorers Camp at Hallam Lake and Rock Bottom Ranch for kids currently enrolled in grades K-4.

Winter Workshop Series

Monthly | **Rock Bottom Ranch**

Join us for a workshop at Rock Bottom Ranch this winter! Hosted on a monthly basis, we will come together to cook, craft, and build community. Visit our website for more details and registration.

Winter Birding

First Tuesday of each Month, November - April | **Hallam Lake**

8 - 11am | **\$25, members receive a 10% discount**

Join ACES on the first Tuesday of each month and discover the joy of birding!

Winter Soundbath & Forest Bathing

November 5, January 26, February 25, May 6 & 20 | **Hallam Lake**

January 12, February 9, March 9, April 8 & 22 | **Catto Center at Toklat**

5:15 - 6:30pm | **\$30**

Slow down and reconnect through breath and sound, while enjoying the snow-covered nature preserve.

Children's Storytime with ACES

Second Thursday of each Month | **Pitkin County Library**

10:30 -11am | **Free**

Caregiver and Child storytime series. Best suited for ages 1-4 years old. *In Partnership with Pitkin County Library.*

SPEAKER SERIES

Potbelly Perspectives

Wednesdays, 6pm | **Hallam Lake | Free**

Join us for inspiring evening talks where adventurers and storytellers share powerful journeys, discoveries, and connections to the natural world. *Sponsored by Aspen Chamber Resort Association.*

January 14

"The Ashcrofters' Legacy: Stories of Mountain Joy and Mentorship" with Dave and Sherry Farny

January 28

"Flavor Hunter: Where Great Flavor Emerges" with Barclay Dodge

February 11

"Participatory Science: Exploring the Peruvian Amazon" with Patricia Goudvis

March 11

"The Thorny Path: A Mountain Boy's Quest to Sail Around the World" with Nick Devore

Naturalist Nights

Wednesdays, 6pm | **Third Street Center, Carbondale | Free**

Thursdays, 6pm | **Hallam Lake, Aspen | Free**

This year's 27th annual winter speaker series presents a great lineup of experts exploring topics of the natural world relevant to our community. *In Partnership with Wilderness Workshop and Roaring Fork Audubon.*

January 7 & 8

"A Crisis of the Commons: Uncovering the Impacts of Federal Neglect of Public Lands" with Elizabeth Steward-Severy & Scott Fitzwilliams

January 21 & 22

"Ecology and Resilience of Pinyon-Juniper Woodlands Under Global Change" with Dr. Miranda Redmond

February 4 & 5

"Life After Dead Pool: Lake Powell's Last Days and the Rebirth of the Colorado River" with Zak Podmore

February 18 & 19

"Sagebrush-Obligate Birds in Western Colorado: Unexpected Patterns and New Discoveries" with Dr. Brett Walker

March 4 & 5

"Douglas-fir Beetle in the Roaring Fork Watershed: Current Conditions and Future Outlook" with Dr. Dan West

Wild Perspectives

Tuesdays, 6pm | **The Collective, Snowmass | Free**

Wild Perspectives, launched in January 2020, features exciting accounts of world travel, adventure, and the natural world through stories and visual media. This series provides an opportunity for community-building and story-telling. *In Partnership with The Collective.*

January 27

"Edible and Medicinal Plants of the Roaring Fork Valley" with Penelope Thorton

February 10

"The Elks Traverse: Time for the Ladies to Lead" with Marian Krogh and Carly Valerious

March 3

"Science on Skis: Traversing the Juneau Ice Field" with Izzo Steenrod

March 10

"Don't Pack Your Fears: A Camino Story" with Nellie Conboy

NATURALIST TOURS

Aspen and Snowmass Mountains

Daily, 10am & 1pm | *Reservations Required*

\$85 adults, \$63 children and seniors

Explore the snow-covered beauty of Richmond Ridge on Aspen Mountain or Rabbit Run Trail on Snowmass Mountain. These Naturalist-led tours weave through spruce and fir forests providing a glimpse into the amazing ecosystems this valley has to offer. Tours are two hours long. **Tickets are available at aspensnowmass.com.**

Ashcroft Snowshoe Tour

Daily, 10am - 2:30pm | *Reservations Required*

Explore the serene Castle Creek Valley with a Naturalist guide. Tours take place on gentle terrain and arrive at Pine Creek Cookhouse for an optional lunch. Email naturalist@aspennature.org or call 970-925-5756 to learn more.

Free Snowmass Ski Tour

Daily, 11am & 1pm | **Free, lift tickets not included**

Ski a run with a Naturalist guide and learn about Snowmass wildlife and natural history. Meet inside the Wapiti Wildlife Center at the top of the Elk Camp lift on Snowmass Mountain.

Private Guided Tours

Reservations Required

Join a Naturalist for a guided hike or snowshoe adventure, at a time and location that is best suited for you. Booking is dependent upon guide availability. Email naturalist@aspennature.org or call 970-925-5756.

Visit aspennature.org to sign up for a program today!

