

# PRESS RELEASE



## City of Bristol Tennessee

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### **20<sup>th</sup> Annual Wildlife Weekend highlights diverse wildlife and Nature Center expansion**

Local nature lovers and outdoor enthusiasts are encouraged to attend the 20<sup>th</sup> annual Wildlife Weekend, hosted by the Bristol, Tennessee Parks and Recreation Department along with the Friends of Steele Creek Nature Center & Park. Organizers of the event have planned a full slate of activities, beginning with a welcome reception at 6:30 PM on Friday, October 13<sup>th</sup>, followed by a photography show with awards and exhibition of competition entries. At 7:30 PM, Nature Center Manager, Jeremy Stout will present a program on the new Nature Center expansion, which will officially open to the public earlier that afternoon. The weekend resumes on Saturday, October 14<sup>th</sup> at 8:30 AM. Nature walks and activities will continue through the afternoon highlighting a variety of topics including birds, arthropods, salamanders, snakes, mushrooms, fall flowers, and fossils. Check-in for all hikes will be at the Steele Creek Park Lodge adjacent to the Nature Center, and program participants are encouraged to pack a lunch.

The first Wildlife Weekend was held in 1998, just a few years after the initial opening of the Nature Center, and continues today in its 20<sup>th</sup> year as a way to showcase the natural history and biodiversity of Steele Creek Park to visitors from throughout the region.

For more information about Wildlife Weekend, including a full schedule of activities, please visit [www.bristoltn.org](http://www.bristoltn.org), or call the Nature Center at 423-989-5616. The Nature Center will be closed to visitors until the ribbon cutting for the new expansion on Friday at 3:00 PM.

