



# PATHWAYS THROUGH NATURE, A LIFETIME JOURNEY SPEAKER SERIES

The Green Center presents a series of speakers who will share stories and recollections of their experiences in nature and the impact it had on their lives.

## *“Raccoons, Weasels and Bears. Oh My!”*

with

**Laura Conlee**

*Furbearer Biologist, Resource Scientist  
MO Department of Conservation*

**Tuesday, July 23, 2019**

**6:00p.m.**



**The Green Center  
8025 Blackberry Ave  
St. Louis, MO 63130**

Admission: \$5 donation  
Reservations required by **July 19**  
*Limited Seating!*

314-725-8314 Ext. 105 or  
[classes@thegreencenter.org](mailto:classes@thegreencenter.org)

Growing up in the western suburbs of Chicago, Laura developed a love for nature through Girl Scouts and family trips to state and national parks. As a kid, she always thought she would be a park ranger when she grew up. In college, she realized that her true passion was wildlife management and she was particularly interested in carnivores. Laura received a BS from Northern Illinois University in Biology and an MS at Southern Illinois University. At SIU, she studied space use and habitat selection of long-tailed weasels. While not the most well-known carnivore, long-tailed weasels were an exciting and extremely challenging critter to study. Following graduate school, she went to the Massachusetts Division of Fisheries and Wildlife to work as the Furbearer and Black Bear Project Leader and in 2016 took a very similar position here in Missouri as the Furbearer Biologist for the Department of Conservation. Little did Laura know that those raccoons that stole food and clamored around her tent as a kid would spark an interest that led to a career crawling into bear dens.