

REGISTRATION BEGINS WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 3

Your guide to Programs, Events, Classes & More

2025 FALL PROGRAM GUIDE & NEWSLETTER

Ocean County Parks & Recreation Natural Lands Trust



PLAYGROUND UPDATES

**Brought to you by the Ocean County Board of Commissioners
Robert S. Arace – Chairman of Parks and Recreation**

John P. Kelly – Director,

Frank Sadeghi – Deputy Director

COMMISSIONERS: Robert S. Arace, Jennifer Bacchione,
Virginia E. Haines, John P. Kelly, Frank Sadeghi

Mary Jane Bavaits

Director of Parks and Recreation

www.oceancountyparks.org

Ocean County Park's Playground Updates Eno's Pond



Eno's Pond County Park Playground Ribbon Cutting Ceremony

(L-R) PeggySue Juliano-Lacey Twsp Committee, Geoffrey Lohmeyer - Senior County Park Manager, Lacey Twsp. Mayor Peter Curatolo, Robert S. Arace – Ocean County Commissioner, Chairman of Parks and Recreation, Micheal J. Fiore Ocean County Administrator, Jennifer Bacchione - Ocean County Commissioner, Mary Jane Bavais - Director, Ocean County Parks and Recreation.

Playgrounds for All

From seesaws and teeter-totters to slides and from swings to monkey bars, Ocean County is upgrading traditional playgrounds in several Ocean County parks in order to make them accessible for all children.

“The playground we are unveiling today is part of a growing initiative across our park system to build all-inclusive play spaces,” said Arace. “It is thoughtfully designed for children of all abilities to learn, play and grow together.”

Ocean County secured grant money from the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection's Jake's Law Grant to fund the construction and installation of the fully inclusive playground at Eno's Pond County Park. Jake's Law, which passed in 2018, encourages counties to build inclusive playgrounds that exceed the standards outlined in the

Americans with Disabilities Act and result in accommodating people with disabilities to the greatest degree possible.

With its pour in play rubber surface, along with a sensory area, swings that can accommodate a child and parent, a slide and other recreational equipment, the upgrades allow children who rely on wheelchairs, need help with mobility or have other disabilities that may hinder them from participating on standard playground equipment the opportunity to enjoy the park with everyone else.

“This new all-inclusive playground is a commitment to creating welcoming and supportive environments for every family,” said Arace. “We are proud to feature it here at Eno's Pond County Park, and we hope it will become a destination playground for generations to come.”

Ocean County has upgraded many of its playgrounds to be more inclusive for children of all abilities. In 2024 upgrades were made to Lake Shenandoah County Park in Lakewood, Freedom Fields County Park in Little Egg Harbor, Tip Seaman County Park in Tuckerton, and Beaver Dam County Park in Point Pleasant. In 2025 upgrades will be completed at two playgrounds in Ocean County Park in Lakewood, Mill Creek County Park in Pine Beach, Patriots Park and Sport Complex in Jackson, Cattus Island County Park in Toms River, Matthews McKinley Park in Lakewood, and phase 2 of the upgrades at Beaver Dam County Park in Point Pleasant.

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Michelle Urban & Carolyn Hofmann

The Ocean County Parks & Recreation Newsletter

is sponsored by the

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and is prepared by the

Ocean County Parks & Recreation Department

Contributors: Active Recreation, Art and Environmental Staff.

Your Ocean County Lands Trust Property

Osborne Island

The now 50.76-acre Osborne Island property in Little Egg Harbor Township is located on the southern tip of Ocean County on Great Bay. Recently Ocean County and Little Egg Harbor Township executed a land swap adding an additional 4.08 acres directly adjacent to Ocean County's current Osborne Island preserve. The land swap from Little Egg Harbor grants Ocean County an extension of additional access points to Osborne Island for all residents and visitors to enjoy. This area was the only unprotected maritime forest on Osborne Island in an area surrounded by both residential development and thousands of acres of protected tidal wetlands in the Edwin B. Forsythe National Wildlife Refuge and the Great Bay Wildlife Management Area. Additionally, it serves as an important stop for migratory birds on the North Atlantic fly-way.

The property contains freshwater wetlands and maritime forest including stands of red cedar, American holly, oak and pine trees. In the past the state of New Jersey recently confirmed nesting black-crowned night herons, a state-threatened species since 1999, with a ten-acre area has been reserved as a rookery. The property is frequented by many other species including osprey, fox and diamond back terrapins that also nest on the site. The property is also thought to contain a Native American burial ground, a site of potentially significant archeological value.

Since preservation Osborne Island has seen many improvements so the public can share in its beauty. These improvements include blazed trails and benches made by an Eagle Scout from Scouting America. Whether you are a birdwatching enthusiast, nature lover, or someone looking for a beautiful walk, Osborne Island is the perfect place for you.



FREE WEEKEND PROGRAMS

These programs are **FREE** and will be on a **first-come first served** basis.

CATTUS ISLAND COUNTY PARK

Scales and Tales

Join a park naturalist as they dispel the myths and fears of native reptiles. You will see some of our live snakes and turtles up close and personal. Learn what makes these native species so special and why they are such an important part of the ecosystem. This program is sure to inspire all young nature lovers. **No registration required.**

LOCATION: Cooper Environmental Center, Cattus Island County Park, Toms River

DATE: Saturdays and Sundays.

TIME: 1:30 -2:00 pm

FEE: FREE

AGE: All

Cattus Island Nature Walks

Be a part of a 40-year Ocean County tradition! Join a park naturalist and follow in the footsteps of such legendary local environmentalists as A. Morton and Betty Cooper, Dorothy Hale and Pete McLain.

Be prepared to discover the fascinating and diverse wonders of the natural world.

***No registration required.**

LOCATION: Cooper Environmental Center, Cattus Island County Park, Toms River

DATE: Saturdays and Sundays (excluding December 13)

TIME: 2:00 – 3:00pm

FEE: FREE

AGE: All

October 4 & 5

Colors of Fall

October 11 & 12

Carnivorous Plants

October 18 & 19

Flora & Fauna of the Pines

October 25 & 26

Cattus Island History

November 1 & 2

Along the Main Trail

November 8 & 9

As the Marsh Prepares for Winter

November 15 & 16

Cattus Island History

November 22 & 23

Hibernation Hike

November 29 & 30

Feeder Birds

December 6 & 7

Down the Boardwalk Trail

December 20 & 21

Cattus Family Holiday Traditions

December 27 & 28

Trees in Winter

Discovery Backpacks at Cattus Island

Cattus Island County Park has discovery backpacks that may be borrowed for **FREE***. The packs include: a pair of binoculars, field guides, an audio guide to bird sounds, a dip net, tools for catching and observing insects, and a list of suggested activities and games. The packs are appropriate for groups of children of any age. ***A member of the group must provide a driver's license for the staff to hold until the pack is returned.**

Tour Cattus Island by Bike

Cattus Island has a small amount of bikes to loan out for use within the park. The bicycles are **FREE*** to use. Twenty-six inch adult bikes and twenty inch children's bikes and helmets are available. Helmets are required. You may borrow a bike for 2 hours, seven days a week between 10:00am and 2:00pm. Bicycles may not be taken out of the park. No baby/toddler seats are permitted. ***A member of the group must provide a driver's license for the staff to hold until the bike is returned.**

Available until November 1st.

JAKES BRANCH COUNTY PARK

The following programs are Free, No Registration Required

Live Animal Talks

Come in and meet the animals of Jakes Branch County Park. Visitors will get an up-close look at the parks inhabitants and learn about each species.

****Talks will last approximately 20 minutes****

LOCATION: Nature Center, Jakes Branch County Park, Beachwood

DATE: Sundays, October 5 – December 21

TIME: 1:30 pm

AGE: All

FEE: Free

Discovery Nature Walks

Join a park naturalist on these brief but informative nature walks through Jakes Branch Park. ****Weather permitting - walks will not exceed 30 minutes.****

LOCATION: Nature Center, Jakes Branch County Park, Beachwood

DATE: Sundays, October 5 – December 21

TIME: 2:00 pm

AGE: All

FEE: Free

Drop In and Discover

What will you discover about nature when you drop by and join us for a FREE activity and craft?

No registration required

LOCATION: Nature Center, Jakes Branch County Park, Beachwood

DATE: Saturdays, beginning October 4 – December 20

TIME: 1:30 – 3:00 pm, ongoing

AGE: 3 - 5 years

FEE: Free



CLOVERDALE FARM COUNTY PARK

Monthly Bird Walks

Learn how Cloverdale Farm County Park's bird population changes month by month.

This informative, one-hour bird walk is perfect for birders of all levels. Adults must remain with child. **Please be prepared to walk a mile. Dress for the weather, wear comfortable sneakers or boots, and bring a pair of binoculars. If inclement weather, the program will be canceled.**

LOCATION: Program Room, Cloverdale Farm County Park, Barnegat

DATES/TIMES: Saturdays,

September 6 8:00 - 9:00 am

October 25 8:00 - 9:00 am

November 15 9:00 - 10:00 am

December 13 9:00 - 10:00 am

FEE: Free

AGES: 9 years - Adult

CLOVERDALE FARM COUNTY PARK

Armchair Birding

During this program, we will set up our chairs on the back porch of our Visitor Center to watch the birds at the feeders. A Naturalist will be at your side to help with bird identification. This program is great for beginning birders and those who may have limited mobility. Adults must remain with child. **Please bring a camp chair. If inclement weather, the program will be canceled.**

LOCATION: Program Room, Cloverdale Farm County Park, Barnegat

DATES/TIMES: Saturdays,

September 6 9:30 - 10:30 am

October 25 9:30 - 10:30 am

November 15 10:30 - 11:30 am

December 13 10:30 - 11:30 am

FEE: Free

AGES: 9 years - Adult

Calling All Artists! Cloverdale Farm's Plein Air Weekend

Some of the most awe-inspiring works of art are associated with nature. Vincent Van Gogh's Starry Night, Claude Monet's Water Lilies, John James Audubon's watercolors of North American birds, and Albert Bierstadt and Georgia O'Keeffe's paintings of landscapes all have left impressions upon our hearts. Cloverdale Farm County Park is opening its gates to all types of artists from dawn to dusk. Bring your own blank canvases and medium materials and get ready to create in this plein air-style (outside in open air) event. Keep in mind your eco footprint. Anything you bring in must be brought back home with you, including solvents or paint water, so be sure to pack containers and plastic bags.

LOCATION: Entire Park, Cloverdale Farm County Park, Barnegat

DATES/TIMES

Friday, September 5 - Sunday, September 7 8:00 am - 6:00 pm

Friday, October 3 - Sunday, October 5 8:00 am - 5:30 pm

Friday, November 7 - Sunday, November 9 8:00 am - 4:30 pm

FEE: Free

AGES: All; children must be accompanied by adult

Solving STEM Problems With LEGOs

Science, technology, engineering, and math, or STEM, are the foundation for many practical problem-solving skills that are useful in life. Fostering a love and respect for STEM can be much easier when it's made a little more creative and fun. Join us at Cloverdale, where we will be using LEGOs and our brains to create simple contraptions to solve practical STEM-related problems.

LOCATION: Program Room, Cloverdale Farm County Park, Barnegat

DATES: Sundays

October 19

November 9

December 28

TIME: 10:00 - 11:00 am

FEE: Free

AGE: 8 years - Adult



FAMILY FUN

Cranberry Ramble & Pick

Join us for a half-hour ramble around the cranberry bogs to learn about how these “Rubies of the Pines” grow. We will hit the bogs for a short time of cranberry picking. **Please bring a quart-size zip-loc bag for cranberries, dress for the weather, and wear old sneakers or boots that can get wet.**

LOCATION: Pavilion, Cloverdale Farm County Park, Barnegat

DATES/TIMES:

Saturday, September 6	2:00 - 3:00 pm.....	376466 – 6A
Sunday, September 7	2:00 - 3:00 pm.....	376466 – 6B
Sunday, September 14	2:00 - 3:00 pm.....	376466 – 6C
Saturday, September 20	10:00 - 11:00 am.....	376466 – 6D
Sunday, September 21	10:00 - 11:00 am.....	376466 – 6E
Saturday, October 4	10:00 - 11:00 am.....	376466 – 6F
Sunday, October 5	10:00 - 11:00 am.....	376466 – 6G
Sunday, October 12	2:00 - 3:00 pm.....	376466 – 6H
FEE: \$6.00 per person		AGE: All

Family Campout at Ocean County Park

Our hope is to give families some outdoor exposure. You should arrive having eaten dinner. We will have a campfire, take an evening nature walk and bed down for the night. You will need a tent, sleeping bag, marshmallows for roasting and a “no-cook” breakfast for the following morning. Children must be accompanied by an adult. If you have questions on what else to bring call 732-506-5122.

LOCATION: Beach Complex, Ocean County Park, Lakewood

DATE: Friday, October 24 - Saturday, October 25.....378466 – 8A

TIME: 6:00 pm Friday - 10:00 am Saturday

FEE: \$5.00 per person

AGE: 5 years – Adult

“Night of the Stars” at Jakes Branch & Patriots Park

Spend the night under the stars with A.S.T.R.A., The Astronomical Society of the Toms River Area. Whether you’re a budding astronomer or simply a casual stargazer, this night is for you. Volunteer members of the club will be on-site to share their out-of-this-world knowledge and answer your questions about the great unknown. They will have telescopes that will leave your mind reeling in amazement for days from the views you see. If you have your own telescope, feel free to bring it along and come a little early. The club members will be happy to give you pointers on how to find the planets and locate constellations. No registration required.

******ENDING TIME APPROXIMATE. WEATHER PERMITTING!******

LOCATION: Sports Field Parking Lot, Jakes Branch County Park, Beachwood

DATE: Saturday, October 11

TIME: 7:00 – 9:00 pm

DATE: Saturday, November 29

TIME: 6:00 – 8:00 pm

LOCATION: Parking Lot, Patriots County Park, Jackson

DATE: Saturday, November 15

TIME: 6:00 – 8:00 pm

FEE: FREE

AGE: ALL

FAMILY FUN

Beach Campfire at Barnegat Lighthouse State Park

Bring a chair or beach blanket, marshmallows and a roasting stick and settle in for a cozy evening around the campfire with beautiful Barnegat Lighthouse in the background. Our entertainment will be storyteller Robin Moore who will enchant you with eerie stories from revolutionary times. Programs are in cooperation with Barnegat Lighthouse State Park. In the event of inclement weather, program will be held indoors at the Lighthouse Interpretive Center.

LOCATION: Barnegat Lighthouse State Park, Barnegat Light

DATE: Saturday, October 25

TIME: 7:00 - 9:00 pm

FEE: FREE

AGE: ALL

Jersey Shore BlueClaws Ballpark Tour *Shoretown Ballpark*

Shoretown Ballpark first opened its gates in 2001 when the BlueClaws came to the Jersey Shore. This state-of-the-art facility features 6,588 reserved seats, 16 luxury suites, 2 party decks, 2 picnic areas, and a new 1,859-square foot video scoreboard. Bring your family and tour the ballpark. Take lots of pictures, as this is a thrill for any baseball fan. This is a great way to enjoy the day while many kids are off from school.

LOCATION: Shoretown Ballpark, New Hampshire, and Cedar Bridge Ave, Lakewood.

Meet under the Tower by the Ticket Booth. **NOTE: Due to possible stadium upgrades this tour may be altered or canceled.**

DATE: Friday, November 7

TIME: 11:00 am.....373466 – 3A

TIME: 12:00 pm.....373466 – 3B

FEE: FREE, must pre-register by mail, or in person with the Ocean County Parks & Recreation Department.

AGE: ALL

Nature Walk With Santa

Let your child experience nature with Santa Claus this holiday season. During this program, Santa and his helpers will read a few stories to the children before taking them on a short ¼-mile nature exploration walk! **Please dress for the weather as this is an outside program!**

LOCATION: Program Room, Cloverdale Farm County Park, Barnegat

DATE: Saturday, December 6.....376466 – 6I

TIME: 10:00 - 11:00 am

DATE: Saturday, December 6.....376466 – 6J

TIME: 11:30 am – 12:30 pm

FEE: \$5.00 per child; Adults are free but must register

AGE: 2 - 7 years



FAMILY FUN

Family/Pet Photos with Santa Claus

FREE



Santa Claus will visit Cattus Island County Park for a fun photo opportunity with your pet.

Bring your own camera, and one of Santa's helpers will be on hand to take your perfect holiday photo.

All Pets Must be on a Leash

This event is "first come first served."

LOCATION: Black (paved) Path to the Cooper Environmental Center
DATE: Sunday, December 14 11:00am-2:00pm FREE All Ages

Photo Opportunity with Santa Claus Families and Pets

Santa Claus will visit Cattus Island County Park for a fun photo opportunity with your family or pet. Bring your own camera, as one of Santa's helpers will be on hand to take your perfect holiday photo.

All pets must be on a leash. This event is first come first served.

LOCATION: Lecture room, Cooper Environmental Center, Cattus Island County Park, Toms River

DATE: Sunday, December 14

TIME: 11:00 am - 2:00 pm

FEE: Free

Cattus Island Gingerbread House Contest and People's Choice Voting

Create and enter your very own Gingerbread House with the theme "Out in Nature". Entries must be mounted on a 12 inch by 12-inch board, and no taller than 12 inches. It must be constructed of edible materials. Entries can be dropped off at the Cooper Environmental Center from December 17-21 from 10am-4:30pm. All entries are displayed in the lecture room from December 26-January 4 from 10am-4pm for People's Choice Voting. Only one entry per person. Only one voting ticket per person. Categories include Youth (0-6) (7-12) Teen (13-17) Adult (18+). Please email nvernachio@co.ocean.nj.us for the official rules. There is no fee or pre-registration.

Cattus Island Gingerbread House Contest

Entries drop off

Dec 17-21

No Houses accepted after 12/21

Youth (0-6) (7-12)

Teen (13-17)

Adult (18+)

In person

**People's Choice
Voting**

12/26 - 1/4

10am-4pm



LECTURES

Sustainability on a Budget

With the cost of just about everything rising steadily, it is becoming increasingly difficult to focus on environmental consciousness. Who can afford to spend twice the amount on products just because they claim to be environmentally friendly?! Join us and explore sustainable practices to create an eco-friendlier household without breaking the bank!

LOCATION: Classroom, Jakes Branch County Park, Beachwood

DATES: Friday, October 3.....375166 – 5A

Saturday, October 4.....375166 – 5B

TIME: 10:30 – 11:30 am

FEE: \$5.00 per person

AGE: All

History of Whaling NEW

Journey back to the age of sail and harpoons. Discover how whaling shaped early American coastal communities, economies, and maritime traditions from the 17th to mid-19th century. This engaging presentation will explore the tools, techniques, and cultural impact of the whaling industry as well as its environmental legacy.

LOCATION: Cooper Environmental Center Lecture Room, Cattus Island County Park, Toms River

DATE: Monday, October 6.....372166 – 2A

TIME: 6:00 - 7:00 pm

FEE: \$5.00 per person

AGE: 12 years – Adult

Wildlife & Witchery

Have you ever wondered why bats are synonymous with Halloween? How ravens became harbingers of death? And who decided toads belong beside witches? Delve into ancient lore of some beloved (and some not-so-loved) creatures of the spooky season, as we learn about traditions past, and gain a new appreciation for some of our local nocturnal wildlife.

LOCATION: Program Room, Wells Mills County Park, Waretown

DATE: Thursday, October 16.....374166 – 4A

TIME: 2:30 – 3:30 pm

DATE: Wednesday, October 22.....374166 – 4B

TIME: 5:00 – 6:00 pm

FEE: \$5.00 per person

AGE: 13 years – Adult

Insect Collecting 101

Insects are everywhere and play a crucial role in the ecosystems in which they occur. Collecting them is how scientists study them, but you don't have to be a scientist to do it yourself as an endlessly rewarding hobby. Come learn how to collect, prepare, pin, label, and store insects to start your very own collection. This program will include a powerpoint demonstration that will cover the topics above as well as a brief overview of the common insect orders and families as well as how to identify them. After the presentation you will be provided with two native insects to pin and identify yourself that you will be able to keep!

LOCATION: Cooper Environmental Center Lecture Room, Cattus Island

DATE: Saturday, October 18.....372166 – 2B

TIME: 1:00 - 2:30 pm

FEE: \$10.00 per person

AGES: 12 years – Adult

LECTURES

Habitat Fragmentation and its Impact on Species Survival

Join us for a thought-provoking lecture on how habitat fragmentation is impacting New Jersey's species survival and biodiversity. Explore the ecological consequences of divided ecosystems and learn about the critical challenges faced by wildlife in isolated habitats. Discover local conservation efforts, including wildlife corridors and restoration projects, aimed at preserving New Jersey's rich biodiversity. Don't miss this opportunity to understand how we can protect the Garden State's natural heritage in a rapidly changing environment!

LOCATION: Classroom, Jakes Branch County Park, Beachwood

DATES: Friday, November 7.....375166 – 5C

Saturday, November 8.....375166 – 5D

TIME: 10:30 – 11:30 am

FEE: \$5.00 per person

AGE: All

The Great War in Ocean County

Explore Ocean County's role in World War I from the heroism of everyday citizens to popular propaganda and rumors of foreign spies in Tuckerton.

LOCATION: Cedar Bridge Tavern Historic Site, 200 Old Half-Way Road, Barnegat

DATE: Sunday, November 16.....379166 – 9A

TIME: 2:00 - 3:00 pm

FEE: \$5.00 per person

AGE: All

Cattus Island Living Shoreline Restoration Project

Cattus Island is the most significant salt marsh and the largest breakwater in the northern portion of Barnegat Bay. The overall goal of this project is to restore critical shoreline areas of Cattus Island County Park to address significant erosion and prevent extreme wetlands and habitat loss in the Barnegat Bay. Some areas of the park have lost more than 300 feet over the past 85 years. This erosion is likely to increase over time, if the shoreline, and especially the northeast peninsula known as "Page's Point," is not stabilized. This power point presentation is an overview of the changes along the shoreline and the plans for restoration.

LOCATION: Cooper Environmental Center, Lecture Room, Cattus Island County Park, Toms River

DATE: Wednesday, November 19.....372166 – 2C

TIME: 6:00 - 7:00 pm

FEE\$ 5.00 per person

AGE: 12 years – Adult

Medicinal Herbs

In this program, we will discuss a variety of medicinal plants and how they can be used to improve health, quality of life and fight illness. Samples of different herbal remedies will be offered for those interested.

Please list any allergies at the time of registration.

LOCATION: Classroom, Jakes Branch County Park, Beachwood

DATE: Saturday, November 22.....375166 – 5E

TIME: 10:30 am – 12:00 pm

FEE: \$10.00 per person

AGE: 14 years – Adult

LECTURES

The War at the Shore

Discover the vital role the Jersey Shore played in the fight for independence and why the last skirmish of the American Revolution happened here on December 27, 1782. New Jersey experienced more military engagements than any other colony throughout the war. Discuss how bitter, personal grudges and local resources made this area a hotbed of activity during the war.

LOCATION: Cedar Bridge Tavern Historic Site, 200 Old Half-Way Road, Barnegat
DATE: Saturday, December 27.....379166 – 9B
TIME: 2:00 - 3:00 pm
FEE: \$5.00 per person
AGE: All

WALKS and TALKS

World Migratory Bird Day Walk With Wild Birds Unlimited

World Migratory Bird Day is held twice a year, once in the spring and the fall. Join staff from Wild Birds Unlimited, Toms River for a fall migration walk through Cattus Island County Park. Plan to walk at least 1 to 2 miles. Binoculars are provided if needed.

LOCATION: Lobby, Cooper Environmental Center, Cattus Island County Park, Toms River
DATE: Saturday, October 4.....372530 – 2A
TIME: 9:00 am - 12:00 pm
FEE: \$6.00 per person
AGE: 12 years – Adult

Mushroom Foray

Mushrooms make a massive impact on the ecosystem no matter where they grow. From decaying the dead, to parasitizing the living, mushrooms are an important part of the ecosystem. Come on an educational nature walk to look for and identify the wild mushrooms of our area. This program will include a power point presentation as well as a foray to identify native mushrooms.

LOCATION: Cooper Environmental Center, Lecture Room, Cattus Island County Park, Toms River
DATE: Saturday, October 11.....372530 – 2B
TIME: 10:00 am – 1:00 pm
FEE: \$10.00 per person
AGE: 10 years – Adult

Reevestown Cemetery History Walk

Traverse the historic “Road to Clamtown” on the way to Reevestown Cemetery with burials dating back to the 18th century (including some local legends). Children must be accompanied by an adult. This is a 2-mile walk. There may be some uneven and wet spots.

LOCATION: Cedar Bridge Tavern Historic Site, 200 Old Half-Way Road, Barnegat
DATE: Friday, December 12.....379530 – 9A
Monday, December 15379530 – 9B
TIME: 10:00 am - 12:00 pm
FEE: \$6.00 per person
AGE: 9 years – Adult



WALKS and TALKS

Cedar Bridge Skirmish History Walk

On the 243rd anniversary of the last documented land engagement of the American Revolution, take a journey on the remnants of the local colonial road taken to reach Cedar Bridge Tavern. Discover the bitter local conflicts of the American Revolution and why this skirmish took place. Children must be accompanied by an adult. This is a 2-mile walk with some uneven areas. There may be wet spots.

LOCATION: Cedar Bridge Tavern Historic Site, 200 Old Half-Way Road, Barnegat

DATE: Saturday, December 27.....379530 – 9C

TIME: 10:00 pm - 12:00 pm

FEE: \$6.00 per person

AGE: 9 years - Adult

WALKS

Maple Root to Long Swamp Moonlight Walk

This lovely property adjacent to Patriots County Park boasts diversity and several water features. The walk will not exceed 2 miles.

PICK UP: Parking Lot, Patriots County Park, Jackson

DATE: Friday, October 31.....375530 – 5A

DEPARTURE/RETURN: 7:30 – 9:30 pm

FEE: \$6.00 per person

AGE: 10 years – Adult

Sip n Stroll

We will begin our stroll by shopping locally at the Lava Java house where we will grab a fresh brew and maybe a snack or two. After, we will head out on a 2-mile walk through part of the borough of Lavallette where we will look for signs of nature and talk a bit about the history of the area.

PICK UP: Parking Lot, Mantoloking Bridge County Park, Mantoloking

DATE: Friday, October 24.....375530 – 5B

DEPARTURE/RETURN: 9:00 – 11:00 am

FEE: \$6.00 per person

AGE: 10 years - Adult

Wednesday Wanders

These wanders are for those that don't quite want to do the mileage of a jaunt but want something a bit more than a nature walk. **All wanders will be between 2 and 3 miles. You can expect mostly flat conditions (unless otherwise noted), possible sugar sand and wet spots. Sturdy footwear is recommended.**

PICK UP: Parking Lot, Jakes Branch County Park, Beachwood

DATE: Wednesday, October 29.....375530 – 5C

Jones Road-Forked River Mountain Natural Lands Trust Property

(there will be inclines leading up to the Mountain)

DEPARTURE/RETURN: 9:00 – 11:30 am

FEE: \$6.00 per person

AGE: 10 years - Adult

DATE: Wednesday, November 19.....375530 – 5D

Structural Management Natural Lands Trust Property

DEPARTURE/RETURN: 9:00 – 11:30 am

FEE: \$6.00 per person

AGE: 10 years - Adult

VAN TOURS

Our Ocean County Parks van tours are held throughout the year. Each trip focuses on a specific theme. Here are some things to keep in mind when signing up for a van tour:

- Pack a lunch (unless otherwise noted). We will try to stop at a picnic/park area to eat, when available.
- Dress for the weather. Layering is best as in most cases we will be in and out of the van.
- Be prepared for some walking (the amount of walking will be indicated by the trip description)
- We often travel on rough unpaved roads to accomplish the goals of the trip. Be sure to wear your seatbelt.
- Read each description carefully so that you are adequately prepared.
- Bug spray with DEET is recommended for our outdoor programs.
- Those under the age of 18 must be accompanied by an adult unless otherwise specified.

Please arrive 15 minutes prior to departure. All return times are approximate. Seating has first come, first choice. Following the van is not permitted.

The History of Hangers and Airships Walking Tour & Borough of Lakehurst Historical Society Museum

Although Navy Lakehurst will forever be remembered as the site of the Hindenburg disaster, many other significant events have taken place here. The all-volunteer Navy Lakehurst Historical Society in cooperation with the Joint Base McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst & NSA Public Affairs Office offers walking tours of the Lakehurst Naval Base. The 3.5 hour walking/standing tour includes: The Cathedral of The Air, The Hindenburg Crash Site, The Navy Lakehurst Heritage Center, The Ready Room, The POW-MIA Room, Historic Hangar One and Gift Shop. We will stop at Lake Horicon for a picnic lunch, then off to the Borough of Lakehurst Historical Society Museum. **Tours may be canceled for the following reasons: military operations, security issues, weather. Participants will be contacted by the trip leader 2 weeks prior to trip for social security number and date of birth for base clearance. Please pack lunch and bring identification. This is a walking tour with limited opportunities for sitting.**

PICK-UP: Cooper Environmental Center, Lobby, Cattus Island County Park

DATE: Wednesday, October 22.....372516 – 2A

DEPARTURE/RETURN: 8:30 am - 3:00 pm

FEE: \$14.00 per person

AGE: 9 years – Adult

Port Republic and Surrounding Area History Van Trip

Traveling to Atlantic County

The history of Port Republic dates to the early 1600s when the area was first settled. We will visit historic sites, graveyards, explore dirt roads that lead to the bay shore to discuss baymen, privateers and revolutionary war battles of the area and maybe even see the possible birthplace of the Jersey Devil. **Pack lunch, dress for the weather and be prepared to walk over uneven ground.**

PICK-UP: Parking Lot, Wells Mills County Park, Waretown

DATE: Thursday, October 30.....374516 – 4A

DEPARTURE/ RETURN: 9:00 am – 3:00 pm

FEE: \$14.00 per person

AGE: 9 years – Adult

VAN TOURS

Great Bay Boulevard Van Tour

Also known as Seven Bridges Road, this road travels the length of Great Bay Wildlife Management Area. We will view the abandoned fish factory, the old Coast Guard station and a historic Native American site. We will also visit several other historic sites in the area, such as the former location of the famous “Tuckerton Tower”, rumored to play a role in our entry into World War I.

Please pack a lunch, bring binoculars and dress for the weather.

PICK-UP: Nature Center Parking Lot, Jakes Branch County Park, Beachwood

DATE: Wednesday, November 19.....374516 – 4B

DEPARTURE/RETURN: 9:00 am – 3:00 pm

FEE: \$14.00 per person

AGE: 9 years – Adult

Wheaton Arts and Cultural Center

Traveling to Cumberland County

Wheaton Arts is a historically significant cultural & heritage center located within the Pine Barrens. In addition to glass blowing, artistic demonstrations and several museum stores, it is home to the Museum of American Glass. For those looking to holiday shop, we will also be visiting during their annual studio sale.

Dress for the weather and be prepared for short walks on uneven ground. Bring lunch and drink. Additional costs are approximately \$12 adults, \$11 seniors (62+) for admission to the museum.

PICK-UP: Parking Lot, Wells Mills County Park, Waretown

DATE: Friday, December 5.....374516 – 4C

DEPARTURE/ RETURN: 8:30 am – 4:30 pm

FEE: \$14.00 per person

AGE: 9 years – Adult



Early Winter Birds: Barnegat Lighthouse State Park and Edwin B. Forsythe Wildlife Refuge

December offers Jersey birders opportunities to view waterfowl in their breeding plumage, as ducks and geese arrive on our shores to pair-up during the long winter. A 1-mile trek by foot over the sandy beach and jetty at Barnegat Lighthouse State Park allows for the best views. We will also bird-by-van around the auto-loop at Forsythe, which offers excellent views of a variety of ducks.

Wear appropriate shoes, dress for the weather, pack lunch, bring binoculars. Must be prepared for walks in sand for up to one mile.

PICK-UP: Parking Lot, Wells Mills County Park, Waretown

DATE: Tuesday, December 23.....374516 – 4D

DEPARTURE/RETURN: 8:30 am - 4:00 pm

FEE: \$14.00 per person

AGE: 9 years - Adult

OCEAN COUNTY HIKING CLUB

When you register and participate in any hike or jaunt offered below, we automatically begin to record and keep track of your mileage. Pins and credits for free hikes are earned at the 50, 100, 250, 500 and 1000 mile marks. Join us as we get outdoor exercise, learn about our natural history, and make lasting friendships!

For more information call Wells Mills County Park on 609-971-3085

HIKING

Our naturalists cover the diverse terrain of New Jersey through our hiking programs. Pack your lunch and dress for the weather. **Trail ratings follow each departure time.** Please read them carefully to determine the best program for your endurance level.

Unlike our nature walks, these are recreational programs with minimal interpretation and breaks. You should be able to walk at a continuous pace on the given terrain of the hike. Please wear hiking shoes and be sure of your abilities.

We recommend you arrive 15 minutes prior to departure time. All return times are approximate. Bug spray with DEET is highly recommended. Staff reserves the right to deny a participant entry into a program if they are deemed physically unfit or inadequately prepared to participate in said program.

If you have any questions, please call Wells Mills County Park at 609-971-3085.

Estell Manor Hike

Traveling to Atlantic County

Our hike will take us through this 1,700-acre park, home to the Warren E. Fox Nature Center, and bordered by the Great Egg Harbor River/ South River. Estelle Manor was once the site of an 1800's glassworks, then a munitions plant during World War I.

PICK-UP: Parking Lot, Wells Mills County Park, Waretown

DATE: Friday, October 17.....374236 – 4A

DEPARTURE/RETURN: 8:30 am – 3:30 pm

RATING & MILEAGE: Easy to Moderate (due to length): Flat, may be wet – 6.5 miles

FEE: \$12.00 per adult/ \$8.00 per child (ages 9-16) AGE: 9 years- Adult

Black River Hike

Traveling to Morris County

We will start our hike at one of New Jersey's few remaining water-powered gristmills. After powering the Cooper Mill, the Black River descends into a scenic rocky gorge. The trail also takes over an abandoned railroad grade and passes an old iron mine that the railroad once served.

PICK-UP: Beach Complex Parking Lot, Ocean County Park, Lakewood

DATE: Sunday, October 26.....374236 – 4B

DEPARTURE/RETURN: 7:30 am – 3:30 pm

RATING & MILEAGE: Moderate: Hills, rocky footing at times - 6.5 miles

FEE: \$12.00 per adult/ \$8.00 per child (ages 9-16) AGE: 9 years – Adult



HIKING

Black Run Preserve

Traveling to Burlington County

Black Run Preserve is a 1300 acre preserve with a mix of Pine Barrens Forest, wetlands and old cranberry bogs. We will be walking on old sand roads and along the bogs. Portions of the trail may be wet.

PICK-UP: Parking Lot, Wells Mills County Park, Waretown

DATE: Friday, November 14.....374236 – 4C

DEPARTURE/ RETURN: 9:00 am – 2:00 pm

RATING & MILEAGE: Easy: Flat, some sugar sand, may be wet– 5 miles

FEE: \$12.00 per adult / \$8.00 per child (ages 9-16) AGE: 9 years- Adult

Huyler's Landing Hike/Palisades

Traveling to Bergen County

This moderate hike features both walks atop the Palisades cliffs and along the riverfront. We will pass the interesting ruins of several former estates that were acquired when the park was created.

PICK-UP: Beach Complex Parking Lot, Ocean County Park, Lakewood

DATE: Saturday, November 22.....374236 – 4D

DEPARTURE/RETURN: 7:30 am - 3:00 pm

RATING & MILEAGE: Moderate to strenuous, some steep climbs– 5.5 miles

FEE: \$12.00 per adult/ \$8.00 per child (ages 9-16) AGE: 9 years – Adult

Surprise Lake Hike

Traveling to Passaic County

Surprise Lake is perched high atop Bearfort Ridge and located within Abram Hewitt State Forest. This strenuous hike will start off with a 600 ft climb and takes us through dense thickets of rhododendron and over expanses of bare rock face, with breathtaking views of Greenwood Lake and the surrounding countryside. **You will need to use your hands as well as your feet on some portions of this hike.**

PICK-UP: Beach Complex Parking Lot, Ocean County Park, Lakewood

DATE: Sunday, December 14.....374236 – 4E

DEPARTURE/RETURN: 7:30 am - 4:00 pm

RATING & MILEAGE: Strenuous to extreme: steep, rocky, may be slippery– 4.5 miles

FEE: \$12.00 per adult/ \$8.00 per child (ages 9-16) AGE: 9 years – Adult

South Mountain Reservation Hike

Traveling to Essex County

Located in the Watchung Mountains, this hike combines both natural beauty and views of the New York City skyline (on a clear day!) We will also follow some of the footsteps of George Washington during the American Revolution. We will pass waterfalls and cross some streams on rocks. **May be wet, wear appropriate footwear.**

PICK-UP: Beach Complex Parking Lot, Ocean County Park, Lakewood

DATE: Sunday, December 21.....374236 – 4F

DEPARTURE/RETURN: 7:30 am – 4:00 pm

RATING & MILEAGE: Moderate: Hilly, steep, rocky, stream crossings on rocks – 6 Miles

FEE: \$12.00 per adult / \$8.00 per child (ages 9-16) AGE: 9 years- Adult

JAUNTS

Jaunts are shorter and/or traverse easier terrain than most of our hikes. These programs are well suited for beginners or those simply seeking a shorter walk. Feel free to bring along a snack or lunch to eat at the end of the jaunt as we will generally be finished with our walk by lunchtime. For later ending programs, we will have lunch at the location. Unlike our nature walks, these are recreational programs with minimal interpretation and breaks. You should be able to walk at a continuous pace on the given terrain of the jaunt. Please wear shoes appropriate for hiking and dress for the weather. We recommend you arrive 15 minutes prior to departure time. All return times are approximate. Bug spray with DEET is recommended.

If you have any questions, please call Wells Mills County Park on 609-971-3085.

Hike n Hops

Our fall installment of Hike n Hops will take us to Collier Mills for a hike through the management area. After, we will jump in our own cars for a quick 2-minute drive or 5-minute walk up the road to the new Booterbeer Brewery located in New Egypt. Adjacent to a horse farm, this brewery has pretty views overlooking the pastures.

PICK-UP: Colliers Mills Wildlife Management Area, 401 Hawkin Road, New Egypt

DATE: Saturday, October 25.....375236 – 5A

DEPARTURE/RETURN: 10:30 am – 12:00 pm

RATING/MILEAGE: Easy flat, some sugar sand 3 – 3.5 miles

FEE: \$8.00 per adult

AGE: 21 years and up

Whitesbog Jaunt

Whitesbog is not only a historic and still-active cranberry farm but is also the birthplace of the cultivated blueberry. This easy jaunt will trace the dikes outlining several of the old cranberry bogs and allow us to view the remaining structures from the once-bustling company town.

PICK-UP: Parking Lot, Wells Mills County Park, Waretown

DATE: Friday, October 24.....374236 – 4G

DEPARTURE/ RETURN: 9:00 am – 2:00 pm

RATING & MILEAGE: Easy: Flat, some sugar sand, may be wet– 4 miles

FEE: \$8.00 per adult / \$6.00 per child (ages 9-16)

AGE: 9 years- Adult

Tatum Park Jaunt

Traveling to Monmouth County

Tatum Park was once the summer home to Charles Tatum, a glass manufacturer, whose descendants donated their summer house and part of the property to Monmouth County Parks in 1973. We will walk along meadows and over rolling hills on this jaunt.

PICK-UP: Nature Center Parking Lot, Jakes Branch County Park, Beachwood

DATE: Tuesday, November 25.....374236 – 4H

DEPARTURE/RETURN: 9:00 am - 1:00 pm

RATING & MILEAGE: Easy to Moderate: Hilly - 4 miles

FEE: \$8.00 per adult/ \$6.00 per child (ages 9-16)

AGE: 9 years – Adult

Huber Woods Jaunt

Traveling to Monmouth County

This jaunt will take us through a less traveled Monmouth County Park, not far off the banks of the Navesink River. We will be walking through dense mountain laurel, along high coastal ridges and beside old fields and meadows dotted with old growth cedar and dogwoods.

PICK-UP: Nature Center Parking Lot, Jakes Branch County Park, Beachwood

DATE: Tuesday, December 16.....374236 – 4I

DEPARTURE/ RETURN: 9:00 am - 2:00 pm

RATING & MILEAGE: Easy to Moderate: hilly – 4 miles

FEE: \$8.00 per adult/ \$6.00 per child (ages 9-16)

Age: 9 years – Adult

KAYAK TOURING TRIPS

On all kayak trips, you **must have previous kayak paddling experience – preferably in a “sit-in” style kayak**. Expect to paddle anywhere from 3-5 hours on ALL trips regardless of the rating. We will supply the kayaks and all related gear. All trips are subject to change per the discretion of the trip leaders. It is the participant’s responsibility to consult the ratings listed below for each trip and match their skills accordingly. On all trips come expecting to get wet.

Please read the following considerations BEFORE signing up for a program:

- All participants who choose to bring their own boat must have a kayak that measures at least 12 feet in length and is a “sit-in” style boat. ***** NO Sit On Top Kayaks *****
- Please avoid cotton clothing. Synthetic-fiber clothing is preferred. Come prepared with water shoes No flip-flops or Crocs.
- It is strongly recommended that participants have practiced a wet exit (turning the kayak over, releasing spray skirt and swimming out of boat) PRIOR to signing up for a trip.** As with all recreation programs, we reserve the right to deny a participant entry into a program if we deem the participant is not physically fit, does not match the skill level of the program or is ill-prepared. A participant will be turned away the day of the trip if the criteria listed here is not met.

If you have specific questions or concerns regarding any of the kayak programs, please call Jakes Branch County Park at 732-281-2750.

******ALL RETURN TIMES APPROXIMATE******

RATING SYSTEM

- A. Prior experience demonstrating a wet exit is preferred
- B. Prior participation in either OCPR Beginner Kayaking class OR participation in 2 OCPR trips required
- C. Full day trip – 4 to 5 hours - pack lunch/snacks/water
- D. Trip will be in mostly protected waters. May experience small waves and current/tide, obstacles/portages. Boats and other watercraft may be present.
- E. May experience larger waves and/or stronger current/tide. Trip will have more open water paddling; possible portages/obstacles. Boats and other watercraft may be present.
- F. Open water paddling: Possible large waves and strong current/tides. Boats and other watercraft may be present.
- G. Cold Water Trip: Wetsuits recommended. NO cotton clothing. Must bring a full change of clothes in a waterproof bag
- H. Spray skirts required
- I. Plan to eat in your boat or exit on uneven ground for the lunch stop.

Fall Foliage Kayak Trip

Join us for this down and back paddle on the Wading River where fall colors will decorate the scenery.

PICK UP: Soccer Lot, Freedom Fields County Park, Little Egg Harbor

DATE: Sunday, October 26.....375126 – 5A

DEPARTURE/RETURN: 9:00 am – 2:30 pm

RATING: A, B, D, I

FEE: \$25.00 per person / \$10.00 if bringing own boat

AGE: 16 years - Adult



VETERAN'S IN NATURE

Ocean County has the largest population of veterans in New Jersey. Our goal is to create a Veterans in Nature series of programs each season. These programs are designed to provide an outdoor experience for our military veterans. Studies show that nature based programs can help veterans with stress, anxiety, focusing, resilience and PTSD. Veterans Services Department will have a representative available to assist our veterans and to provide information on necessary resources they may need.
Veterans may bring one non-veteran guest and will need to provide their military ID for registration.

Birding Basics

Interested in birding, but not sure where to start? This introduction will give you the tools to use in the field. Learn about bird feeders, binoculars, and basic bird identification. We will go on a short birding walk after a brief lecture.

LOCATION: Cooper Environmental Center Lecture Room, Cattus Island County Park, Toms River

DATE: Wednesday, October 29.....372466 – 2Z

TIME: 3:00 - 4:30 pm

FEE: \$5.00 per person AGES: Adult

Ocean County Natural Lands Trust Hike

Don't miss an opportunity to explore one of these hidden gems! These NLT properties are acquired to preserve environmentally sensitive lands, natural areas or open spaces that could be considered for development. Many areas support threatened and endangered species and also are critical to watershed protection. Pack a lunch, water and insect repellent. Wear proper footwear suitable for hiking and dress for the weather. Please have military ID when registering.

PICK UP: Parking Lot, Jakes Branch County Park, Beachwood

DATE: Sunday, November 23.....375236 – 5Z

TIME: 9:00 am – 1:30 pm

**RATING/MILEAGE: Easy to moderate: some sand, small hills, wet spots
4.5 miles**

FEE: \$5.00 per person AGES: Adult

Waterfowl of Brigantine

We will visit the Brigantine Division of the Forsythe National Wildlife Refuge, which will hopefully offer excellent views of a variety of waterfowl species, thousands of Snow Geese, over-wintering Tundra Swans and a chance sighting of a Bald Eagle.

Bring your binoculars, pack a lunch, dress for the weather. Layering is best.

PICK-UP: Parking Lot, Wells Mills County Park, Waretown

DATE: Friday, December 12.....374516 – 4Z

DEPARTURE/RETURN: 9:00 am – 2:00 pm

FEE: \$5.00 per person AGES: Adult



PARENT/CHILD FUN

Maker Monday's Kids Craft Drop In

Nature Crafts and activities are an easy way to inspire kids to develop a love and appreciation of the outdoors. Drop by with your child any time between 10 and 11 am and help them create their own natural wonder!

LOCATION: Nature Center, Jakes Branch County Park, Beachwood

DATE: Mondays,

October 6	Happy Harvest
October 27	Fall Fun
November 10	Paw Prints
November 24	Turkey Time
December 8	Silly Snakes
December 22	Wonderful Winter

TIME: 10:00 – 11:00 am

FEE: Free

AGE: 3 – 5 years

Drop-in Storytime and More!

Join your child as we gather around, read a few stories and engage in an activity or a craft related to the stories. No registration required.

Story reading will begin promptly at 10:00 am

LOCATION: Classroom, Jakes Branch County Park, Beachwood

TIME: 10:00 - 11:00 am

FEE: Free

AGE: 3 - 5 years

Buggin Out!

Bugs, big and small are interesting and important! Have fun learning what they look like and what they do. We will have fun reading stories and playing buggy games!

DATE: Tuesday, October 28

Excellent Eagles, Outrageous Owls and how-cool Hawks!

Let your imagination soar as we learn about our feathered friends! We will read about birds who live at the top of the food chain through a few stories and then take part in some high-flyin activities!

DATE: Tuesday, November 18

PRESCHOOL PROGRAMS

The following programs are designed for preschool children without parent participation. These are drop-off programs only.

Please Note: children must be Potty-Trained

ALL CLASSES ARE HELD AT THE PROGRAM ROOM at the Park's Administration Office in Toms River. They are 10:00 to 11:00am. They are \$5.00 per class.

AGES: 3-5 years old.

Pumpkin Patch

Welcome to the Pumpkin Patch! We will listen to stories, play games and make all sorts of pumpkin crafts. We will also share a tasty pumpkin treat.

Please advise all allergies at the time of registration.

DATE: Wednesday, October 8.....371021 – 1A

Silly Scarecrows

Scarecrows have a busy job, chasing birds from the fields. Join us for some silly fun with scarecrow crafts and games.

DATE: Thursday, October 9.....371021 – 1B

PRESCHOOL PROGRAMS

The following programs are designed for preschool children without parent participation. These are drop-off programs only.
Please Note: children must be Potty-Trained
ALL CLASSES ARE HELD AT THE PROGRAM ROOM at the Park’s Administration Office in Toms River. They are 10:00 to 11:00am. They are \$5.00 per class.
AGES: 3-5 years old.

My Little Monster

Red, yellow, green or blue, soft and fuzzy, cuddly too! We've got a monster just for you. Everyone needs a little monster to call their own, so let's make silly monsters and listen to funny monster stories!
DATE: Wednesday, October 15.....371021 – 1C

Away We Go

Children have a fascination with things that go! Your child will go on an imaginary journey, exploring many different forms of transportation through stories, games, and crafts.
DATE: Wednesday, October 22.....371021 – 1D

Pumpkin Painting

What could be more fun than painting pumpkins for Halloween? While they dry, we will make a seasonal craft and listen to a tasty pumpkin story.
DATE: Thursday, October 23.....371021 – 1E

Halloween Fun and Games

Come dressed in your Halloween costume and join us for some spooky fun and games. We will play several Halloween-themed games and prizes will be awarded to all participating. Please wear sneakers and bring a drink.
LOCATION: Open Field Waterside, Parks Administration Office, Toms River
DATE: Tuesday, October 28.....373021 – 3A

Spooky Fun

Calling all good little goblins and monsters! We will make silly, spooky crafts, listen to Halloween stories and play tricky games. There will be Halloween treats for all children! Kids are welcome to wear their costumes.
Please advise all allergies at the time of registration.
DATE: Wednesday, October 29.....371021 – 1F

Here we go round the Year

Why does it snow in the winter? Why is summer so hot? In this program, we will look at the four seasons.
DATE: Wednesday, November 5.....371021 – 1G

Is There a Worm in My Apple?

Who doesn't like apples? We will make themed crafts, hear stories, and have a tasty treat! We promise, No worms!
DATE: Tuesday, November 18.....371021 – 1H

PRESCHOOL PROGRAMS

The following programs are designed for preschool children without parent participation. These are drop-off programs only.
Please Note: children must be Potty-Trained
ALL CLASSES ARE HELD AT THE PROGRAM ROOM at the Park’s Administration Office in Toms River. They are 10:00 to 11:00am. They are \$5.00 per class.
AGES: 3-5 years old.

“T” is for Thanksgiving

Thanksgiving Day will soon be here, it comes around just once a year. Pilgrims, turkey, and pumpkin pie! We will have fun making Thanksgiving crafts.
DATE: Wednesday, November 19.....371021 – 1I

Who Lives in the Forest

Whoo lives in the forest? We will look at our feathered and furry friends of the forest through stories, games and crafts.
DATE: Tuesday, December 2.....371021 – 1J

Little Ace’s Tennis

This program is designed to teach children the basics of the game of tennis. Children will get a feel for a racket and will learn the basic groundstrokes and footwork for the game. Drills and games will be incorporated so that kids will have loads of fun learning a new sport. Rackets will be provided. This class may be held inside if the weather is not favorable. Please wear sneakers and bring a drink.
LOCATION: Tennis Courts 5 & 6, Ocean County Park, Lakewood
DATE: Monday, December 8.....373021-3B

The Gingerbread Man

“Run, run as fast as you can” but can’t catch the gingerbread man. After reading The Gingerbread Man, we will make some gingerbread crafts and play a game. Maybe even catch a gingerbread treat!
DATE: Thursday, December 11.....371021 – 1K

A Pinch of Grinch

He’s a green meanie but we’ll soften him up. After reading How the Grinch Stole Christmas, we will make Grinch crafts and share a special “green Grinchy” treat.
Please list any allergies at the time of registration.
DATE: Tuesday, December 16.....371021 – 1L

Elf Magic

Let’s start the holiday season with a little elf magic! Our little elves will have a holly, jolly time with elfin crafts, games and a story or two. There will be a special treat for all the elves. Please list any allergies at the time of registration.
DATE: Thursday, December 18.....371021 – 1M

Giant Flea Market

Ocean County Park, Lakewood



Sunday, September 14
9:00am - 1:00pm



Early registration ends Friday, September 12. For anyone registering on the day of the Flea Market, the cost will increase from \$15.00 to \$40.00 per unit if space is still available.

NOTE: Pre-registration is highly recommended.

Visit our website at www.oceancountyparks.org or email

Jake at JHaug@co.ocean.nj.us for an application.

Brought to you by the Ocean County Board of Commissioners Robert S. Arace – Chairman of Parks and Recreation
Jennifer Bacchione, Virginia E. Haines, John P. Kelly, Frank Sadeghi



There are now 3
Ocean County
Parks & Recreation
Off-Leash Dog Parks:

Freedom Fields
Little Egg Harbor Township

Ocean County Park
Lakewood

**Robert J. Miller
Air Park**
Berkeley Township

For more information contact:
(732) 506-9090

**Stay tuned to your
Ocean County Parks & Recreation**



**Search: Ocean County Parks & Recreation
on FACEBOOK**

Search: MyOCParks on INSTAGRAM

www.oceancountyparks.org



43rd OLD TIME BARNEGAT BAY DECOY and GUNNING SHOW

Contest Schedule: Saturday, September 27, 2025

Skeet/Dog Area

Preliminary Skeetshoot from a Sneakbox	7:00 am-10:30 am
Women's Skeetshoot from a Sneakbox	10:30 am
Youth Skeetshoot from a Sneakbox	11:00 am
Retriever Contest- Puppy	12:30 pm
Retriever Contest- Novice	1:30 pm
Preliminary Skeetshoot from a Sneakbox	3:00 pm-5:00 pm

Decoy Tent

Traditional Shorebird Rig Contest	10:30 am
Delaware River Gunning Decoy Contest	11:00 am
Contemporary Gunning Decoy Contest	12:00 pm
Youth Shorebird Contest	12:30 pm
Youth Decoy Contests	12:30 pm
Shorebird Decoy Contests (Decorative Slick & Traditional)	1:00 pm
Miniature Decoy Contest	1:30 pm
Barnegat Bay Gunning Decoy Contest - Traditional	2:00 pm

Park Community Center

Model Boat Contest	10:00 am
Art & Photo Contests	11:00 am
Decorative Contests	12:00 pm

Park

Boat Building Contests (Judging)	10:00 am-12:00 pm
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Stage

Duck & Goose Calling Contest-Adult	10:00 am
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Contest Schedule: Sunday, September 28, 2025

Skeet/Dog Area

Preliminary Skeetshoot from a Sneakbox	7:00 am-11:00 am
World Championship Skeetshoot Finals	11:30 am
Retriever Contest-Advanced	1:00 pm

Decoy Tent

Working Fish Decoy Contest	8:30 am
Delaware River Gunning Decoy Rig Contest	9:00 am
Barnegat Bay Gunning Decoy Rig Contest	9:30 am
Cork Gunning Decoy Contest	10:00 am
Head Whittling Contest	10:00 am-12:00 pm
Barnegat Bay Gunning Decoy Contest - Decorative Slick	11:00 am
Master Carver Contest	12:00 pm

Park Athletic Field

Archery Contest-Youth	10:30 am
Archery Contest- Adult	11:30 am

Stage

Duck & Goose Calling Contests-Youth	10:00 am
Awards Ceremony & Conklin Presentation	3:30 pm-4:00 pm

NOTE: All contest entries must be checked in at event site by 10:00 am the day of the contest.

***see show program for exact schedule.**



WEATHER UPDATES WILL BE POSTED ON SOCIAL MEDIA
and www.oceancountyparks.org





43rd Annual Old Time Barnegat Bay Decoy & Gunning Show

Music Schedule*

SATURDAY, SEPTMEBER 27, 2025

Gary Struncius & Debbie Lawton
Jackson Pines
Basement Musicians Guild

TIME

9:00 am – 11:00 am
11:30 am – 1:30 pm
2:00 pm - 4:00 pm

LOCATION

Park
Park
Park

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 28, 2025

Gary Struncius & Debbie Lawton
Jackson Pines
Basement Musicians Guild

TIME

9:00 am – 11:00 am
11:30 am – 1:30 pm
2:00 pm - 4:00 pm

LOCATION

Park
Park
Park

Activity Schedule*

SATURDAY, SEPTMEBER 27, 2025

Family Fun & Heritage Tent Demonstrations
Advanced Dog Obedience Demonstration
Tuckerton Creek Boat Rides

TIME

All Day
TBA
See Program

LOCATION

Park
Park
Tuckerton Seaport

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 28, 2025

Family Fun & Heritage Tent Demonstrations
Advanced Dog Obedience Demonstration
Tuckerton Creek Boat Rides

TIME

All Day
TBA
See Program

LOCATION

Park
Park
Tuckerton Seaport

***Music & Activities subject to change.
Please check official show program when available.**



31st Annual Pine Barrens Jamboree

FREE! Saturday, October 11 10am - 4:30pm
Wells Mills County Park in Waretown



The Affair at Cedar Bridge

22nd Commemoration of the 1782 (243 years ago)

**Affair at Cedar Bridge, at Cedar Bridge Tavern,
200 Old Halfway Road in Barnegat**

Sunday, December 7th from 10:00 am - 4:00 pm

~ Skirmishes at 12:00pm & 2:00pm ~ SNOW DATE: Sunday 1/4/2026



Lighting Up Nature

**Heading out to drive through your neighborhood to look at
Holiday Lights?... swing by Jakes Branch County Park for their
NEIGHBORHOOD-Style
Drive Thru Display**

December 12 thru 15

6 - 8 pm

FREE!!

JAKES BRANCH COUNTY PARK

1100 Double Trouble Road, Beachwood

Awesome Autumn FUN

JAKES BRANCH COUNTY PARK

1100 Double Trouble Road, Beachwood



Saturday, Nov 1 1 pm - 4 pm

FREE Family Event ~ All Ages

HAYRIDES, PETTING ZOO, LAWN GAMES

LIVE MUSIC, KIDS CRAFTS, FOOD TRUCK ON SITE

WINTER SOLSTICE CELEBRATION

Cattus Island County Park Cooper Environmental Center

**FREE
EVENT**

**Saturday
December 13
10am - 2pm**

Games ~ Crafts ~ Live Animal Talks ~ Horse Carriage Rides (11am-2pm) ~ Campfire Storytime
Food ~ A Visit from Santa ~ Candy Cane Nature Walk

Cattus Island Gingerbread House Contest

Entries drop off

Dec 17-21

No Houses accepted after 12/21

Youth (0-6) (7-12)

Teen (13-17)

Adult (18+)

In person

**People's Choice
Voting**

12/26 - 1/4

10am-4pm





FALL INTO GOLF

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Forge Pond Golf Course

- Brick, NJ

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Little Egg Harbor, NJ 0807
609-296-2444



This Fall: “Up To Par” Golf Clinics with Chris Nelson

~ Atlantis Golf Course ~

Women’s Clinic

October 13th @ 2:00 PM – 3:30 PM

October 21st @ 12:00 PM – 1:30 PM

Short Game Clinic

October 27th @ 2:00 PM – 3:30 PM

~ Forge Pond Golf Course ~

Women’s Clinic

October 14th @ 4:00 PM – 5:30 PM

Short Game Clinic

October 14th @ 2:00 PM – 3:30 PM

Call or text Chris at (908) 278-2775

or

Email: chris@uptopargolf.com

or

signup directly online at www.bookutpg.com

Visit oceancountyparks.org for Course Details, Rates & More
Book Online or Call the Pro Shop for more.

Giant Flea Market

Ocean County Park, Lakewood



Sunday, September 14
9:00am - 1:00pm



Early registration ends Friday, September 12. For anyone registering on the day of the Flea Market, the cost will increase from \$15.00 to \$40.00 per unit if space is still available.

NOTE: Pre-registration is highly recommended.

Visit our website at www.oceancountyparks.org or email

Jake at JHaug@co.ocean.nj.us for an application.

Brought to you by the Ocean County Board of Commissioners Robert S. Arace – Chairman of Parks and Recreation
Jennifer Bacchione, Virginia E. Haines, John P. Kelly, Frank Sadeghi

Family/Pet Photos with Santa Claus

FREE



Santa Claus will visit Cattus Island County Park for a fun photo opportunity with your pet.

Bring your own camera, and one of Santa's helpers will be on hand to take your perfect holiday photo.

All Pets Must be on a Leash

This event is "first come first served."

LOCATION: Black (paved) Path to the Cooper Environmental Center

DATE: Sunday, December 14 11:00am-2:00pm FREE All Ages



TEACHERS!...Borrow-A-Naturalist

Calling all Ocean County teachers. Sick of fluorescent lights? Tired of cutting through the red tape to run a field trip? Invite a naturalist to do a nature walk on your school's grounds. Most of Ocean County's schools are located in some of the richest and most unique natural areas in the county. The naturalist can also answer questions and provide program ideas. Perfect for all grade levels.

Contact Christopher Claus at (732) 506-5122

or

cclaus@co.ocean.nj.us

for more information or to set up an appointment.

FUN FOR KIDS

NEW! Creepy Crawly Crafts – Pinecone Wolf Spider!

Wolf spiders are a common spider in the New Jersey Pine Barrens. For this craft we will turn a pinecone into our very own creepy - but friendly wolf spider!

LOCATION: Cedar Bridge Tavern Historic Site, 200 Old Half-Way Road, Barnegat

DATE: Monday, October 13

Saturday, October 25

Friday, October 31

TIME: 2:00 pm - 3:00 pm

FEE: Free

AGE: All

Homeschool Gym - North

This class is designed for children who are being homeschooled but still want that gym class atmosphere. Every week, fun new activities will be introduced to allow children the opportunity to get some exercise, learn new skills, and play and interact with other children. The instructors will bring various pieces of equipment for all to use depending on the activity planned for the day. **Please wear sneakers and bring a drink. We will have two instructors from 10:30 – 11:30 am teaching separately.**

LOCATION: Soccer Field, Beaver Dam Creek County Park, Point Pleasant

DATE: Mondays, October 27 – December 1373332 – 3A

TIME: 10:30 – 11:30 am AGE: 5 – 6 years

DATE: Mondays, October 27 – December 1373332 – 3B

TIME: 10:30 – 11:30 am AGE: 7 – 8 years

DATE: Mondays, October 27 – December 1373332 – 3C

TIME: 12:00 – 1:00 pm AGE: 9 – 14 years

FEE: \$14.00 per child

Pre- K Mommy and Me Dance & Play

Get some exercise while you move, shake, and have fun with your little one. Please wear sneakers and bring some water. **Please have a check for \$15.00 made payable to Gabrielle Molino on the first day of class.**

LOCATION: Beach Complex Program Room, Ocean County Park, Lakewood

DATE: Fridays, December 5- December 12.....373021-3C

TIME: 12:00 pm – 12:45 pm

FEE: \$5.00 registration fee per person

AGE: 4 - 5 years

Nature Mobile Workshop

Bring the beauty of nature into your own home. A park naturalist will lead a scavenger hunt nature walk to collect the various unique pieces from nature. You will then create a unique wall hanging or nature mobile for your home. **Be prepared to go outside.**

LOCATION: Cooper Environmental Center Lecture Room, Cattus Island County Park, Toms River

DATE: Thursday, November 6.....372466 – 2A

TIME: 10:00 - 11:30 am

FEE: \$10.00 per person

AGE: 5 - 8 years

Make Your Own Lenape Jackstraw Game

Listen to a Lenape story and create a set of Jackstraws, a game similar to pick up sticks created by the Lenape. **Children must be accompanied by an adult. All materials are provided**

LOCATION: Cedar Bridge Tavern Historic Site, 200 Old Half-Way Road, Barnegat

DATE: Thursday, November 13.....379332 – 9A

TIME: 1:00 pm - 2:00 pm

FEE: \$5.00 per person

AGE: 5 years – Adult

FUN FOR KIDS

Yarn Dream Catcher

Let your imagination run wild with this fun DIY dreamcatcher using chunky yarn and an array of craft supplies.

LOCATION: Classroom, Jakes Branch County Park, Beachwood

DATE: Saturday, November 29.....375332 – 5A

TIME: 10:30 – 11:30 am

FEE: \$5.00 per child

AGE: 5 – 10 years

Acorn Marble Necklaces

Sign your child up for this unique and sustainable craft. Kids will make a beautiful necklace out of an acorn and a recycled marble. Other beads and decorations will be offered to further decorate and make each necklace unique.

LOCATION: Classroom, Jakes Branch County Park, Beachwood

DATE: Sunday, November 2.....375332 – 5B

TIME: 10:00 – 11:30 am

FEE: \$5.00 per child

AGE: 6 - 10 years

Homeschool Family Zumba

Let's dance! Sweat and smile during this 45-minute class. One adult per child please.

Please have a check for \$30.00 made payable to Gabrielle Molino on the first day of class.

LOCATION: Beach Complex Room, Parks Ocean County Park, Lakewood

DATE: Mondays, November 24 – December 8.....373332-3D

TIME: 11:15 am – 12:00 pm

AGE: 6-10 years

FEE: \$5.00 per child

Homeschool Musical Muscles

Children will explore multiple forms of fitness throughout this 4-week session. From dance to cardio drumming to kickboxing, students will enjoy learning a variety of ways to exercise to music. We may go outdoors for one of the classes. Please wear sneakers and bring a mat. **Please have a check for \$35.00 made payable to Gabrielle Molino on the first day of class.**

LOCATION: Program Room, Parks Administration Office, Toms River

DATE: Tuesdays, October 7 – October 28.....373332-3E

TIME: 11:30 am – 12:20 pm

AGE: 7-10 years

FEE: \$5.00 per child

Spooky Story Time: Legend of the Jersey Devil

It's time for a spooky story time about the Jersey Devil! Listen to a story about the Jersey Devil and create your own Jersey Devil sculpture. Children must be accompanied by an adult. All materials are provided.

LOCATION: Cedar Bridge Tavern Historic Site, 200 Old Half-Way Road, Barnegat

DATE: Sunday, October 12.....379332 – 9B

TIME: 1:00 - 3:00 pm

FEE: \$5.00 per person

AGE: 7 – 10 years

Miniature Pirate Ship

Listen to tales of the Jersey Shore Pirates and Privateers! We'll assemble our own wooden ships to take home too! Children must be accompanied by an adult. All materials are provided

LOCATION: Cedar Bridge Tavern Historic Site, 200 Old Half-Way Road, Barnegat

DATE: Sunday, December 14.....379332 – 9C

TIME: 1:00 pm - 2:30 pm

FEE: \$5.00 per person

AGE: 5 -13 years

FUN FOR KIDS

Beginner Tennis for Kids & Teens

This program is designed for children who are beginners in tennis. This two-session program will incorporate all of the basics needed for a child to get a feel for the sport. Groundstrokes, volleying, and more will be taught through fun drills and games to introduce a child to the wonderful game of tennis. Please wear sneakers and bring a drink. Rackets will be provided.

LOCATION: Tennis Courts 1 & 2, Ocean County Park, Lakewood

DATE: Thursdays October 2 & 9.....373332-3F

TIME: 4:30 - 5:30 pm

FEE: \$8.00 per person

AGE: 8 - 15 years

Create your own Pine Tree Planter and Pine Barrens Q & A

Learn about our globally biodiverse Pine Barrens before planting your very own pine tree seeds! Participants will also design and paint a small pot for their pine tree seeds. Please wear work clothes. Children must be accompanied by an adult. All materials are provided.

LOCATION: Cedar Bridge Tavern Historic Site, 200 Old Half-Way Road, Barnegat

DATE: Mondays, November 10.....379332 – 9D

December 29.....379332 – 9E

TIME: 1:00 pm - 2:00 pm

FEE: \$5.00 per person

AGE: 4 - 8 years

Youth Pickleball

Pickleball is the newest sports sensation taking the country by storm, and it is loved by all age groups. This class is designed for children and teens to get to know the basics of this wonderful game. Dinking, serving, volleying, and scoring are some of the topics of instruction in this class. Come out and learn to play pickleball with your peers! Please wear sneakers and bring a drink. Paddles and balls will be provided.

LOCATION: Pickleball Courts 3 & 4, Jakes Branch County Park, Beachwood

DATE: Tuesdays, October 7 & 14.....373332-3G

TIME: 4:30-5:30 pm

FEE: \$8.00 per person

AGE: 10 – 16 years

Archery for Kids

Be a part of the exciting world of archery by learning the essentials, including safety, equipment and technique. This class is suitable for beginners and all equipment is provided. Our NASP certified instructor will get you hitting the bullseye in no time! Students will practice what they have learned on our outdoor range. Participants should wear sneakers and bug spray.

LOCATION: Cedar Bridge Tavern Historic Site, 200 Old Half-Way Road, Barnegat

DATE: Sunday, November 23.....379332 – 9F

TIME: 10:00 - 12:00 pm

FEE: \$10.00 per person

AGE: 10 – 17 years



Ocean County Parks Nature Lessons

YouTube

<https://bit.ly/NatureLessonVideos>



Keeping Wildlife WILD

Ocean County Parks & R...



Cranberries: Ocean County History &...

Ocean County Parks & R...



Virtual Nature Lessons: Meet th...

Ocean County Parks & R...



Seining Silver Bay at Cattus Island...

Ocean County Parks & R...



Cattus Salt Marsh Revisited as...

Ocean County Parks & R...



OCParks: Cuban Tree Frogs

Ocean County Parks & R...



KIDS CRAFTS: NATURE PICTURE...

Ocean County Parks & R...



Snapping Turtles of Cattus Island

Ocean County Parks & R...



Cattus Island's Carnivorous Plants

Ocean County Parks & R...



051520WellsFeeder

Ocean County Parks & R...



Plants of Wells Mills County Park

Ocean County Parks & R...



Page's Point...Science...

Ocean County Parks & R...



Pine Barrens Industries

Ocean County Parks & R...



Short Hike on the Blue Trail at Cattus...

Ocean County Parks & R...



Meet the Northern Pine Snake

Ocean County Parks & R...



Tour of the Cooper Environmental...

Ocean County Parks & R...



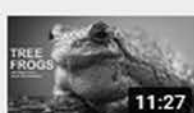
NATURE LESSONS: Owls are a HOOT!

Ocean County Parks & R...



Early Spring on the Salt Marsh

Ocean County Parks & R...



The Eastern Tree Frog

Ocean County Parks & R...



Science Lesson: Doctor Dude

Ocean County Parks & R...

HORTICULTURAL HAPPENINGS

Planting Spring Flowering Bulbs

Don't put away those garden tools just yet. Now is the time to start thinking about how you want your garden to greet you in the spring. Learn about choosing and planting an array of bulbs from tulips to crocus, and daffodils. Outdoor event, please dress accordingly.

LOCATION: Ocean County Tree Nursery, Jackson

DATE: Wednesday, September 10.....377186 – 8A

TIME 10:30 – 11:30 am

FEE: \$5.00 per person

AGE: Adult

Tips for Growing Garlic

Learn how to introduce a wide variety of garlic to your summer veggie harvest. Growing your own garlic is rewarding, low cost and a tasty addition to your kitchen creations. Outdoor event, please dress accordingly.

LOCATION: Ocean County Tree Nursery, 499 South Stump Tavern, Jackson

DATE: Wednesday, October 8.....377186 – 8B

TIME: 11:00 am - 12:00 pm

FEE: \$5.00 per person

AGE: Adult

Growing Microgreens for the Home Gardener

Microgreens are packed with nutrition and flavor but can be expensive to buy at the store. Join us for this fun hands on class and learn how to grow fresh microgreens throughout the year. Outdoor event, please dress accordingly.

LOCATION: Ocean County Tree Nursery, 499 South Stump Tavern, Jackson

DATE: Wednesday, October 22.....377186 – 8C

TIME: 11:00 am - 12:00 pm

FEE: \$10.00 per person

AGE: Adult

CREATIVE EXPRESSIONS

Pottery Classes

Enjoy the exciting world of pottery. You will study hand building techniques, use of the potter's wheel, and glazing techniques.

LOCATION: Pottery Barn, Ocean County Park, Lakewood

DATES: Tuesdays, September 16 – December 2

TIMES: 10:00 am -12:00 noon.....371384 – 1A

5:00 – 7:00 pm.....371384 – 1B

7:00 – 9:00 pm.....371384 – 1C

DATE: Wednesdays, September 17 – December 3

10:00 am – 12:00 noon.....371384 – 1D

FEE: \$185.00, includes expert instruction, firing and glazing

AGE: Adult

Chunky Yarn Pumpkins

Let's make some new pumpkin decorations using chunky yarn. Chunky yarn is an easy material for beginners and their trendy crafts. Join us as we guide you step-by-step on how to make pumpkins by hand crocheting yarn. This crafty DIY project will give you something new to decorate your fall festive home. No knitting experience is needed, and all supplies will be provided.

LOCATION: Cooper Environmental Center Lecture Room, Cattus Island County Park, Toms River

DATE: Monday, September 29.....372186 – 2A

TIME: 5:30 – 7:30 pm

FEE: \$25.00 per person

AGE: 14 years - Adult

CREATIVE EXPRESSIONS

Colonial Roots:

Dig into Printmaking with Root Vegetables!

Learn about the root cellar and how colonial families kept their food fresh without the use of refrigerators while we turn real root veggies into colorful one-of-a-kind prints! This class will be held outside. Please dress for painting.

LOCATION: Cedar Bridge Tavern Historic Site, 200 Old Half-Way Road, Barnegat

DATE: Thursday, October 2.....379186 – 9A

TIME: 2:00 – 3:00 pm

FEE: \$5.00 per person

AGE: All

Adult Drawing & Painting

Come and join us for an afternoon of creativity! In this 8-week course we will touch on a short drawing lesson and then spend the rest of the time exploring acrylic painting. This class will cover and practice some color theory, and we will do some experimenting with various techniques and mediums. Participant input is highly encouraged.

Participants must bring basic paints, brushes and canvas boards, all will be discussed on the first day of class.

LOCATION: Program Room, Parks Administration Office, Toms River

DATE: Thursdays, October 2 – November 20.....371186 – 1F

TIME: 1:30 – 3:00 pm

FEE: \$70.00 per person

AGE: Adult

Hunter Moon Wreath

October's full moon, the Hunter moon gets its name from the Algonquin Native American Tribe and signifies the time to hunt and store for the coming winter months. Join us as we create our own Moon Wreath adorned with various natural materials to celebrate Halloween and the time of harvest.

LOCATION: Classroom, Jakes Branch County Park, Beachwood

DATE: Saturday, October 4.....375186 – 5A

TIME: 6:00 – 7:00 pm

FEE: \$10.00 per person

AGE: 14 years – Adult

Create Your Own Walking Stick

Hiking season is here, and what better way to kick it off than to make your very own, personalized walking stick? Join us for an afternoon with Brad Koller, who will teach us how to handcraft a beautiful walking stick. Wood, tools, gloves, and aprons will be provided and sanitized. **Please bring the exact cash or check payable to instructor Brad Koller for \$30.00. Children aged 11-13 must be accompanied by an adult. Dress for the weather.**

LOCATION: Cooper Environmental Center Lecture Room, Cattus Island County Park, Toms River

DATE: Sunday, October 5.....372186 – 2B

TIME: 1:30 - 3:30 pm

FEE: \$5.00 per person registration fee

AGE: 11 years – Adult

Halloween Candy Wreath

This fun, festive and yummy craft is sure to please! Pick out some of your go-to sweet treats to decorate this seasonal wreath – which you can eat!!

Please bring candy of your liking. We will have a few items to supplement. Wreath rings, glue, and other decorations will be provided.

LOCATION: Classroom, Jakes Branch County Park, Beachwood

DATE: Sunday, October 5.....375186 – 5B

TIME: 10:00 – 11:30 am

FEE: \$10.00 per person

AGE: 10 years - Adult

CREATIVE EXPRESSIONS

2D Felting: Ghost

During this beginner-level class led by Lisette of The Needling Fox, you will learn how to create a 2D wool-felt ghost that truly pops out at you while holding an adorable pumpkin!

Please have \$25 in exact change to cover instructor fees. You will need to bring your tool kit if you attended class before or you can purchase one the day of class for \$25. (See page 44 for picture reference)

LOCATION: Program Room, Cloverdale Farm County Park, Barnegat

DATE: Saturday, October 11.....376186 – 6A

TIME: 10:00 am - 12:30 pm..

FEE: \$5.00 per person registration fee

AGE: Adult

Denim Re-do

Using old jeans, we will create some easy, no sew projects. All supplies provided but feel free to bring any bits and bobs from home to personalize your projects.

LOCATION: Program Room, Administration Office, Toms River

DATE: Thursday, October 16371186 – 1A

TIME: 6:30 – 8:30 pm

FEE: \$20.00 per person

AGE: Adult

Rag Strip Pumpkin

In this simple DIY project, we will be using scraps of fabric and recycled materials to create unique pumpkins in all the colors of fall. Materials will be provided by the instructor.

LOCATION: Classroom, Jakes Branch County Park, Beachwood

DATE: Saturday, October 18.....375186 – 5C

TIME: 10:30 – 11:30 am

FEE: \$10.00 per person

AGE: 16 years – Adult

Make Your Own Magic Wand!

Come join the magical fun! Please wear work clothes. Children aged 8-13 must be accompanied by an adult. **Please bring the exact cash or check payable to instructor Brad Koller for \$30.00.** All materials are provided. Participants may make a second wand if time permits, at no additional cost.

LOCATION: Cedar Bridge Tavern Historic Site, 200 Old Half-Way Road, Barnegat

DATE: Sunday, October 19.....379186 – 9B

TIME: 12:00 pm - 3:00 pm

FEE: \$5.00 per person registration fee

AGE: 8 years – Adult

DIY Chunky Blanket

Would you love to cozy up this winter with a big chunky blanket? Do you love to give handmade gifts for the holidays? Join us as we guide you step-by-step on this new trend in DIY.... knitting your own chunky blanket! This class will make you want to create more and more until everyone in the family has one. No knitting experience is needed, and all supplies will be provided to get your blanket started.

LOCATION: Cooper Environmental Center Lecture Room, Cattus Island County Park, Toms River

DATE: Tuesday, October 21.....372186 – 2C

TIME: 5:00 – 8:00 pm

FEE: \$40.00 per person

AGE: 14 years – Adult

CREATIVE EXPRESSIONS

Wooly Pine Tree

We are all so lucky to have the Pine Barrens of New Jersey in our own backyards. Celebrate the beauty of “The Pines” by creating a handcrafted Wooly Pine Tree. During this relaxed class, you will learn how to fringe and twirl wool strips to make the branches for your tree come to life! **Please have \$55 in exact change to cover instructor fees and material costs.** (See page 44 for picture reference)

LOCATION: Program Room, Cloverdale Farm County Park, Barnegat

DATE: Wednesday, October 22.....376186 – 6B

TIME: 11:00 am - 3:00 pm

FEE: \$5.00 per person registration

AGE: Adult

Halloween Wood Decor

Come and make a BOO wood block sign for your mantle, end table or even for your bathroom décor. You will also be making two cute little wood ghosts that would make the perfect touch alongside your BOO sign or on a tiered tray.

You will paint and decorate both wood crafts with Halloweenie decorations.

LOCATION: Program Room, Parks Administration Office, Toms River

DATE: Thursday, October 23.....371186 – 1B

TIME: 6:30 – 8:30 pm

FEE: \$25.00 per person

AGE: Adult

Herbal Brooms

Join us as we make brooms using various dried herbs, leaving your home smelling fresh while adding an eye-catching piece sure to spark conversations with all your guests.

LOCATION: Classroom, Jakes Branch County Park, Beachwood

DATE: Friday, November 7.....375186 – 5D

TIME: 6:00 – 7:00 pm

FEE: \$10.00 per person

AGE: 14 years – Adult

Autumn Pressed Leaf Bookmarks

Create your very own bookmark utilizing beautiful, pressed autumn leaves. This will be great for cozying up with your favorite book as the fall chill settles in. Make one for yourself and another as a gift! This is a wonderful opportunity for anyone interested in learning a new hobby. We will give a brief demonstration on how to press your own plants/flowers/leaves for your future projects.

LOCATION: Classroom, Jakes Branch County Park, Beachwood

DATE: Sunday, November 9.....375186 – 5E

TIME: 10:00 – 11:30 am

FEE: \$10.00 per person

AGE: 10 years - Adult

Dream Catcher Weaving

Catch bad dreams and let the good ones fall through. Learn how to weave your own dream catcher while learning about its sacred significance in Native American culture.

The class is led by members of the Lenapehoking Reestablishment Project. **Please bring exact cash or check payable to instructor Ty “Dancing Wolf” Ellis for \$25.00.**

LOCATION: Cedar Bridge Tavern Historic Site, 200 Old Half-Way Road, Barnegat

DATE: Sunday, November 9.....379186 – 9C

TIME: 2:00 – 3:00 pm

FEE: \$5.00 per person registration fee

AGE: 12 years – Adult

CREATIVE EXPRESSIONS

Fall Needle Felting

Needle felting is the art of using specialized needles to condense wool fibers in order to create beautiful soft sculptures. Join us for our fall needle felting class, where the theme will be “pumpkins”. You will learn basic needle felting techniques and leave with your very own felted pumpkin. No experience necessary, all supplies will be provided by the instructor.

LOCATION: Classroom, Jakes Branch County Park, Beachwood

DATE: Saturday, November 15.....375186 – 5F

TIME: 10:30 am – 1:30 pm

FEE: \$10.00 per person

AGE: 16 years - Adult

Chunky Yarn Snowman

Love a cute DIY project? Join our staff to learn how to knit snowman decorations with chunky yarn by hand. Fill your home with these cute items or give them as gifts this holiday season. All supplies will be provided, and no experience is necessary.

LOCATION: Cooper Environmental Center, Cattus Island County Park, Toms River

DATE: Monday, November 17.....372186 – 2D

TIME: 5:30 – 7:30 pm

FEE: \$25.00 per person

AGE: 14 years – Adult

Introduction to Card Making

Greeting cards are so thoughtful to send and such a treat to receive, but today’s store-bought cards have become SO expensive. No matter what your skill level, this workshop will help you create greeting cards that will put a smile not only on your recipients’ faces, but yours as well! We will explore many greeting card options, from embellishments to pop-up and pull-tab creations. All materials will be provided.

LOCATION: Cooper Environmental Center, Lecture Room, Cattus Island County Park, Toms River

DATE: Tuesday, November 18.....372186 – 2E

TIME: 6:00 - 8:00 pm

FEE: \$15.00 per person

AGE: 14 years - Adult

Wheat Weaving: Wreath

During this program, Christine Metzler will teach you the gorgeous spiral wheat weaving pattern to create a beautiful 4-inch wreath ornament. Your woven wheat wreath will be a perfect Christmas gift or can be used as an ornament to adorn your tree. No prior experience is needed. **Please have \$25 in exact change to cover instructor fees and material cost.** (See page 44 for picture reference)

LOCATION: Program Room, Cloverdale Farm County Park, Barnegat

DATES: Tuesday, November 18.....376186 – 6D

TIME: 10:00 am - 1:00 pm

FEE: \$5.00 per person registration fee

AGES: 15 years - Adult

Shorebird Decoy: Dunlin

Kevin Hammell, a local carver, will teach you the fine art of carving a Dunlin through step-by-step instructions. The first day of class will focus on carving. The second day of class will entail putting finishing touches on your carving and learning how to paint your shorebird decoy. Pack a bagged lunch or snack. **Please bring \$90.00 in exact change for the instructor and materials on the first day of class.**

(See page 44 for picture reference)

LOCATION: Program Room, Cloverdale Farm County Park, Barnegat

DATES: Sunday, November 16 & November 23376186 – 6C

TIME: 9:00 am - 4:00 pm

FEE: \$5.00 per person registration fee

AGE: Adult

CREATIVE EXPRESSIONS

Harvest Corn Basket

Fall leaves, wooden beads and burlap pumpkins will make a unique centerpiece or mantle display for the season. All supplies are provided but feel free to bring any bits and bobs from home to personalize your projects.

LOCATION: Program Room, Administration Office, Toms River

DATE: Thursday, November 20.....376186 – 1C

TIME: 6:30 – 8:30 pm

FEE: \$20.00 per person

AGE: Adult

Decoy Painting Skills

During this program, instructor Kevin Hammell will help you hone your painting skills as you learn how to accurately portray the finer details of a species. Please bring your own decoy you have carved or a blank and a bagged lunch. **Please bring \$45.00 in exact change for the instructor and materials.**

LOCATION: Program Room, Cloverdale Farm County Park, Barnegat

DATE: Friday, November 21.....376186 – 6E

TIME: 10:00 am - 4:00 pm

FEE: \$5.00 per person registration

AGE: Adult

Natural Christmas Ornaments

Join our staff as we create a variety of ornaments made from natural materials such as sticks, peels, berries, nuts and cones. These ornaments can be hung on a tree or used to decorate your home all year long.

LOCATION: Classroom, Jakes Branch County Park, Beachwood

DATE: Friday, November 28.....375186 – 5G

TIME: 6:00 – 7:00 pm

FEE: \$10.00 per person

AGE: 14 years – Adult

Sea Glass Christmas Tree

Sea glass is just as beautiful in the winter as it is in the summer, especially when adorning a tabletop tree. Join us and create your own winter tree made of various colors of sea glass topped with a starfish tree topper. If you would like to illuminate your tree, please bring a set of battery-operated fairy lights.

Call Jakes Branch Nature Center at 732-281-2750 if you have any questions on where to purchase.

LOCATION: Classroom, Jakes Branch County Park, Beachwood

DATE: Friday, November 28.....375186 – 5H

TIME: 7:30 – 8:30 pm

FEE: \$10.00 per person

AGE: 14 years – Adult

Holiday Porch Décor

Come and make your own vintage wooden skis. These 2 holiday skis will make for a great holiday porch display. Some paint, some greenery and a buffalo checked bow is just what this outdoor décor needs.

LOCATION: Program Room, Parks Administration Office, Toms River

DATE: Thursday, December 4.....371186 – 1D

TIME: 6:30 – 8:30 pm

FEE: \$30.00 per person

AGE: Adult

CREATIVE EXPRESSIONS

Evergreen Holiday Wreaths

Everybody loves the scent of holiday greens, and making your own homemade wreath is even more enjoyable. Evergreens cut from some of our Ocean County Parks will be provided along with wire and a wreath frame. Please bring your own pair of hand pruners and gloves. Celebrate the holiday season with us and go home with a great-looking wreath.

LOCATION: Cooper Environmental Center Lecture Room, Cattus Island County Park, Toms River

DATE: Tuesday, December 2.....372186 – 2F
 Wednesday, December 3.....372186 – 2G
 Friday, December 5.....372186 – 2H

TIME: 5:00 - 7:00 pm

DATE: Tuesday, December 2.....372186 – 2I
 Wednesday, December 3.....372186 – 2J
 Friday, December 5.....372186 – 2K

TIME: 7:00 - 9:00 pm

LOCATION: Program Room, Jakes Branch County Park, Beachwood

DATE: Monday, December 1.....375186 – 5I

TIME: 7:00 - 9:00 pm

LOCATION: Beach Complex, Ocean County Park, Lakewood

DATE: Wednesday, December 3.....378123 – 8A

TIME: 1:00 – 3:00 pm

FEE: \$12.00 per person

AGE: 10 years - Adult

2D Felting: Winter Scene

During this advanced class, Lisette of The Needling Fox will teach you how to layer colors to create the rustic charm of an old-time Christmas in the country winter landscape. This program be a perfect way to spend a morning crafting with your friends. Your finished product will catch the eyes of your guests as they visit you this holiday season.

Please have \$25 in exact change to cover instructor fees. You will need to bring your tool kit if you attended class before or you can purchase one the day of class for \$25. (See page 44 for picture reference)

LOCATION: Program Room, Cloverdale Farm County Park, Barnegat

DATE: Sunday, December 7.....376186 – 6F

TIME: 10:00 am - 1:00 pm

FEE: \$5.00 per person registration

AGE: Adult

Farmhouse Holiday Rag Tree

Create a warm, homespun tree for the holidays. All supplies are provided but feel free to bring any bits and bobs from home to personalize your projects.

LOCATION: Program Room, Administration Office, Toms River

DATE: Thursday, December 11.....376186 – 1E

TIME: 6:30 – 8:30 pm

FEE: \$ 20.00 per person

AGE: Adult

Wheat Weaving: Harp

Christine Metzler will teach you the practice of wheat weaving to make a beautiful harp ornament. This harp will make a perfect gift or keepsake for years to come. **Please have \$24.00 in exact change to cover instructor fees and material costs.**

LOCATION: Program Room, Cloverdale Farm County Park, Barnegat

(See page 44 for picture reference)

DATE: Saturday, December 13376186 – 6G

TIME: 10:00 am - 1:00 pm

FEE: \$5.00 per person registration fee

AGES: 15 years - Adult

Snowman

Bring your child, a family member or a friend and get into the winter spirit by creating your own snowman. You will love how his hat is anchored giving your snowman his unique style! **Please bring \$25.00 in exact change for the instructor and materials.**

LOCATION: Program Room, Cloverdale Farm County Park, Barnegat

DATE: Sunday, December 14.....376186 – 6H

TIME: 10:00 am - 4:00 pm

FEE: \$5.00 per person registration

AGE: 8 years – Adult

CREATIVE EXPRESSION

Holiday Centerpiece

Bring nature inside and showcase its radiate beauty with this holiday-inspired, gorgeous centerpiece. **Please have \$30 in exact change for the instructor and materials.**

LOCATION: Program Room, Cloverdale Farm County Park, Barnegat

(See page 44 for picture reference)

DATES: Saturday, December 20.....376186 – 6I

TIME: 9:30 - 11:30 am

FEE: \$5.00 per person registration fee

AGE: Adult

South Jersey Basket Making

Join us as Mary May, a local basket maker, speaks about South Jersey basket traditions and demonstrates how to create a basket. Be prepared to weave, as you will be creating your very own basket.

Indian Corn

These two beautifully woven Indian corn decorative pieces will offer a bit of fall to your doorstep and will be a perfect addition to your autumn décor. **Please have \$60.00 in exact change to cover instructor fees and material costs.**

(See page 44 for picture reference)

LOCATION: Program Room, Cloverdale Farm County Park, Barnegat

DATE: Friday, September 19.....376186 – 6J

TIME: 10:00 am - 3:00 pm

FEE: \$5.00 per person registration fee

AGE: Adult

Single Wine Basket

Swing your wine bottle right out of this basket on your next big night out with your friends. Impress them with this unique over one-under one twill pattern! This class is great for beginner weavers. Pack a bagged lunch. **Please have \$60 in exact change the day of class for the instructor and materials.**

(See page 44 for picture reference)

LOCATION: Program Room, Cloverdale Farm County Park, Barnegat

DATE: Friday, October 17.....376186 – 6K

TIME: 10:00 am - 4:00 pm

FEE: \$5.00 per person registration fee

AGE: Adult

Nesting Footstools

When you leave this program, you will have two beautiful versatile yet practical footstools of solid oak construction. These varnished footstools are meant to last for generations.

This is a limited seating class! Please bring a bagged lunch. **You must pre-pay instructor \$175 for material costs and instruction fees in advance of class.**

(See page 44 for picture reference)

LOCATION: Program Room, Cloverdale Farm County Park, Barnegat

DATE: Friday, November 14.....376186 – 6L

TIME: 10:00 am - 4:00 pm

FEE: \$5.00 per person registration fee

AGE: Adult

Christmas Stocking Basket

Learn a new technique called twining as you create your own keepsake Christmas stocking basket. This adorable, fillable basket can be hung from your mantle with care just in time for Saint Nicholas to appear! Pack a bagged lunch. **Please bring \$65.00 in exact change for the instructor and materials.**

(See page 44 for picture reference)

LOCATION: Program Room, Cloverdale Farm County Park, Barnegat

DATE: Friday, December 5.....376186 – 3M

TIME: 10:00 am - 4:00 pm

FEE: \$5.00 per person registration fee

AGE: Adult

CREATIVE EXPRESSTION



**2D Felting
Ghost
Pg 38**



**Holiday
Centerpiece
Pg 43**



**Wooly
Pine Tree
Pg 39**



**Indian
Corn
Pg 43**



**Wheat
Weaving
Wreath
Pg 40**



**Single
Wine Basket
Pg 43**



**Shorebird
Decoy
Dunlin
Pg 40**



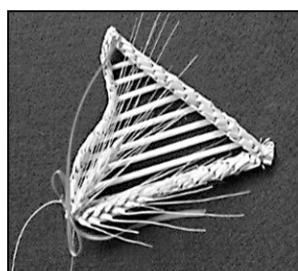
**Nesting
Footstools
Pg 43**



**2D Felting
Winter
Scene
Pg 42**



**Christmas
Stocking
Basket
Pg 43**



**Wheat
Weaving
Harp
Pg 42**



ACTIVE RECREATION

Seniорcise Exercise

Let's get moving! This gentle exercise class includes low-impact aerobics, stretching, and strengthening routines. Improve your joint flexibility, balance, range of motion, and muscular strength. Participants may perform these exercises while seated. Some equipment will be supplied. Linda is an AAI-certified personal trainer with over 20 years of experience.

LOCATION: Program Room, Jakes Branch County Park, Beachwood

DATE: Tuesdays and Fridays

SESSION 1: Oct 3 – Oct 24 7 total classes.....373123 – 3A

DATE: Tuesdays and Fridays

LOCATION: Program Room, Parks Administration Office, Toms River

SESSION 2: Dec 2 – Dec 23 7 total classes.....373123 – 3B

TIME: 9:15 - 10:00 am

FEE: \$60.00 per person

AGE: Adult

Chair Stretch

This exciting stretch class will improve balance, strength, mobility, flexibility, and reduce stress. All movements will be safely performed in and around a chair. Adaptable for all fitness levels and physical challenges. In this class, you will be doing exercises that involve multiple body parts and muscle groups. You will be working the FULL BODY, not just body parts. The Tai Chi part of the class will be actual Tai Chi-inspired movements in a fluid way. **Please have a check for \$60.00 made payable to Linda Osowski on the first day of class.** Linda is an AAI-certified personal trainer with over 20 years of experience.

LOCATION: Program Room, Parks Administration Office, Toms River

DATE: Tuesdays and Fridays

SESSION 1: Oct 3 – Oct 24 7 total classes.....373123 – 3C

SESSION 2: Dec 2 – Dec 23 7 total classes.....373123 – 3D

TIME: 1:30 – 2:00 pm

FEE: \$5.00 per person registration fee

AGE: Adult

Tai Chi with a Yoga Twist

This program improves the quality of life for people with joint pain without any knowledge of Tai Chi. This ancient practice combines agile steps, joint safe exercise, and mental strength to improve mobility, breathing, and relaxation in ways that help you feel better. In this class, you will learn warm-up and cool-down exercises, and eight basic movements, along with some meditation. **Please have a check for \$60.00 made payable to Linda Osowski on the first day of class.** Linda is an AAI-certified personal trainer with over 20 years of experience.

LOCATION: Program Room, Parks Administration Office, Toms River

DATE: Tuesdays and Fridays

SESSION 1: Oct 3 – Oct 24 7 total classes.....373123 – 3E

SESSION 2: Dec 2 – Dec 23 7 total classes.....373123 – 3F

TIME: 2:00 - 2:45 pm

FEE: \$5.00 per person registration fee

AGE: Adult

Gentle Yoga

Join us for this class teaching the essentials of yoga. These 6 week-long classes is for anyone new to yoga, as well as those with experience. Exercise, meditation, and breathing are key components of this practice. Connect with yourself...relax. **Please wear loose comfortable clothing and bring a yoga mat.** Lores Way is a registered yoga instructor with the Yoga Alliance.

LOCATION: Program Room, Parks Administration Office, Toms River

DATE: Mondays, October 27 – December 1.....373123 – 3G

TIME: 5:30 - 6:30 pm

FEE: \$40.00 per person

AGE: 16 years – Adult

ACTIVE RECREATION

Yoga after Work

Keep calm and try yoga. These 6 week-long classes is designed for students of any level interested in furthering their yoga knowledge. The practice of yoga benefits the body, mind, and spirit. Focus on exercise, breathing, and meditation for a transforming experience. Feel free to move at your comfort level. **Please wear loose, comfortable clothing and bring a yoga mat.** Lores Way is a registered yoga instructor with the Yoga Alliance.

LOCATION: Program Room, Parks Administration Office, Toms River

DATE: Thursdays, October 2 – November 13 (no class 10/30)373123 – 3H

TIME: 5:00 - 6:00 pm

FEE: \$40.00 per person

AGE: 16 years – Adult

Walk N' Workout

Calling all energetic adults! If you love being social and being out in nature, then this is the perfect class for you. We will walk up to an hour and experience the beautiful trails of Cattus Island County Park. This class will include some warm-up exercises, and end with a few stretches. In each class, we will walk a different trail, weather permitting. Please wear comfortable clothing and proper footwear. **Please have a check for \$60.00 made payable to Linda Osowski on the first day of class.** Linda is an AAI-certified personal trainer with over 20 years of experience.

LOCATION: Meet outside Nature Center, Cattus Island County Park, Toms River

DATE: Tuesdays and Fridays

SESSION 1: Oct. 3 – Oct 24 7 total classes.....373123 – 3I

SESSION 2: Dec 2 – Dec 23 7 total classes.....373123 – 3J

TIME: 11:00 am – 12:00 pm

FEE: \$5.00 per person registration fee

AGE: Adult

A Walk in the Park “Central Edition”

Have you been interested in exploring some new parks within the Ocean County Parks system but just didn't know where to start? Then this is the class for you. We will meet at a new park every week and explore the unique beauty each park has to offer. We will be walking at a brisk pace to get some cardiovascular exercise for no more than an hour. Walking is a great low-impact exercise that can help manage your weight, relieve stress, and improve your mood. Please wear comfortable sneakers or boots and bring a drink.

LOCATIONS WHERE WE WILL BE MEETING:

11/18: Pavilion, John C. Bartlett Jr. County Park at Berkeley Island, Berkeley Twp.

11/25: Pavilion, Mill Creek County Park, Berkeley Twp.

12/2: Outside Nature Center, Jakes Branch County Park, Beachwood

12/9: BB Trail Parking Lot, Serpentine Dr. & Princeton Ave, Berkeley Twp.

12/16: Outside Restrooms, Eno's Pond County Park, Lacey Twp.

DATE: Tuesdays, November 18 – December 16373123 – 3K

TIME: 10:00 -11:00 am

FEE: \$14.00 per person

AGE: Adult

Intro to Disc Golf

Disc Golf is played much like traditional golf, but instead of clubs and balls, players use specialized flying discs much like a Frisbee. This class is for people who have never played and are curious about the sport. Ocean County Park hosts a magnificent 18-hole disc golf course amongst the many trees and paths. Players must practice their skills to avoid hazards and score as low as possible. All equipment will be provided.

LOCATION: Disc Golf Course, Ocean County Park, Lakewood

DATE: Thursdays, November 6 – November 20.....373123 – 3L

TIME: 11:30 am – 1:00 pm

FEE: \$10.00 per person

AGE: 16 years - Adult

ACTIVE RECREATION

Intro to Pickleball

Join in on the fastest-growing sport in the country. Pickleball is a sport that combines tennis, badminton, and ping pong. The game is played with a solid pickleball paddle and a plastic ball on a court about 1/3 the size of a tennis court. Learn how to play the game in this fun and exciting 4-day clinic. Pickleball is a social sport you can learn quickly. All equipment will be supplied. **Please wear sneakers and bring a drink. You must complete this class BEFORE taking the Pickleball Rally Class.**

LOCATION: Pickleball Courts 1-3, Ocean County Park, Lakewood

DATE: Thursdays, October 23 – November 13.....373123 – 3M

TIME: 9:00 – 10:30 am

LOCATION: Pickleball Courts 1,2 & 3, Stanley H. "Tip" Seaman County Park, Tuckerton

DATE: Tuesdays, November 18– December 9.....373123 – 3N

TIME: 3:00 – 4:30 pm

FEE: \$10.00 per person

AGE: Adult

Pickleball Rally

This 3-day Pickleball Rally class is designed for newer players who have some experience playing pickleball but want to play more matches to practice their newly acquired skills. Players should have a basic understanding of the rules of pickleball before signing up for this class. Staff will be available to answer questions and go over positioning and strategy to help get you on your way. Equipment will be available if needed.

Please wear sneakers and bring a drink. You must have taken the Intro to Pickleball BEFORE taking this class.

LOCATION: Pickleball Courts 2, 3, & 4, Ocean County Park, Lakewood

DATE: Wednesdays, October 29 – November 12.....373123 – 3O

TIME: 3:00 – 4:30 pm

LOCATION: Pickleball Courts 1,2 & 3, Stanley H. "Tip" Seaman County Park, Tuckerton

DATE: Tuesdays, November 18 – December 2.....373123 – 3P

TIME: 5:00 – 6:30 pm

FEE: \$10.00 per person

AGE: Adult

Sunday Pickleball Social

Come join us on Sunday mornings here at Ocean County Park for some friendly competition and to practice your pickleball skills. This 3-week social will allow you to meet up with other pickleballers and play matches against a variety of opponents. This is a great opportunity for newer players to practice and improve their newly acquired skills with others with similar experience. Participants should have some experience playing pickleball, and have a working knowledge of the rules and how to keep score. Staff will be available to organize matches and answer questions. Snacks and water will also be available to all who are participating.

LOCATION: Pickleball Courts 1-4 Ocean County Park, Lakewood

DATE: Sundays, October 5 – October 19373123 – 3Q

TIME: 9:00 – 11:00 am

FEE: \$10.00 per person

AGE: Adult

Archery for Adults

This class is suitable for beginners and all equipment is provided. Be a part of the exciting world of archery by learning the essentials, including safety, equipment and technique. Our NASP certified instructor will get you hitting the bullseye in no time! Students will practice what they have learned on our outdoor range.

Participants should wear sneakers and bug spray.

LOCATION: Pottery Barn, Ocean County Park, Lakewood

DATE: Friday, November 7.....378123 – 8B

TIME: 1:00 – 2:30 pm

LOCATION: Cedar Bridge Tavern Historic Site, 200 Old Half-Way Road, Barnegat

DATE: Sunday, November 23.....379123 – 9A

TIME: 2:00 - 3:30pm

FEE: \$10.00 per person

AGE: Adult

HEALTH & WELLNESS

Awaken Your Soul with Meditation

If you've ever considered introducing a meditation practice into your life, this is the class for you! You'll learn different styles of meditation and take-home methods to begin an at-home practice of your own. Meditation done daily reduces stress, improves memory as well as your ability to focus, improves the quality of sleep and helps you develop the mental discipline needed to avoid unhelpful habits. If you think you don't have the time, let me change your mind! (Please bring a mat, blankets, and pillows and wear comfortable clothes. Aromatherapy will be provided.)

Please bring exact cash or check payable to Instructor, Karen English for \$50.00.

LOCATION: Program Room, Parks Administration Office, Toms River

DATE: Session 1: Tuesdays, September 30 – October 28.....371544 – 1A

DATE: Session 2: Tuesdays, November 18 – December 16.....371544 – 1B

TIME: 6:00 - 7:00 pm

FEE: \$5.00 per person registration fee

AGE: Adult

Crystal Singing Bowls with Reiki and Aromatherapy

Join us for a transformative 90-minute session where we blend the resonant sounds of crystal singing bowls with the healing energies of Reiki and the soothing scents of aromatherapy. This class is designed to guide you into deep relaxation, balance your chakras and elevate your overall well-being.

During this 90-minute session, the two Instructors (Karen English and Kathy Gabrielli) will use crystal bowls to produce harmonic tones. These sounds wash over you as a Reiki practitioner will channel healing energy to promote physical, emotional and spiritual healing. Carefully chosen essential oils will be diffused throughout the space to help with stress. ****Please bring a yoga mat or blanket for comfort and wear comfortable clothing***Please bring exact cash or a check for \$30.00****

LOCATION: Program Room, Parks Administration Office, Toms River

DATE: Wednesday, October 1.....371544 – 1C

DATE: Wednesday, November 12.....371544 – 1D

DATE: Wednesday, December 10.....371544 – 1E

TIME: 6:00 – 7:30 pm

FEE: \$5.00 per person registration fee

AGE: Adult

Laughter Yoga: Lightening the Life Journey

Come and share fun, playful moments as you learn and experience how to bring play and joy more actively into your life. You will explore the Ten Loves from The Heart of Healing: Discovering the Secrets of Self-Care and leave feeling lighter, enlightened, and renewed through a Laughter Yoga session.

Please bring exact cash or check payable to Licensed Physical Therapist Regina Rosenthal for \$20.00

LOCATION: Conference Room, Parks Administration Office, Toms River

DATE: Monday, October 20374544 – 1F

TIME: 6:30 – 8:30 pm

FEE: \$5.00 per person registration fee

AGE: Adult



HEALTH & WELLNESS

Essential Oil Rollerball & Aromatic Room Spray with Crystals

Dive into the fascinating world of essential oils and crystals. These tools have been found to offer therapeutic wellness with a touch of spiritual connection. We will explore their uses and benefits. Participants will create their personal 10 ml. rollerball bottle and a 1-ounce room spray with essential oils and crystals to enhance balance and promote wellness. ***Please bring exact cash or a check payable to Certified Holistic Aromatherapist Kathy Gabrielli for \$25.00***

LOCATION: Program Room, Parks Administration Office, Toms River

DATE: Wednesday, October 22371544 – 1G

TIME: 6:00 – 8:00 pm

FEE: \$5.00 per person registration fee

AGE: Adult

Trusting and Bringing Forth the Wisdom Within

Cultural anthropologist Angeles Arrien taught simple wisdom tradition practices to bring insights for empowerment, balance, and grounding ourselves, our relationships, and our environment. Bring your curiosity and in-sights as we explore soul work through the Maori drawing that Angeles taught after living and studying with the Maori Indians of New Zealand. No artistic background or talents needed for this workshop.

Please bring exact cash or check payable to Licensed Physical Therapist Regina Rosenthal for \$20.00

LOCATION: Conference Room, Parks Administration Office, Toms River

DATE: Monday, November 3371544 – 1H

TIME: 6:30 – 8:30 pm

FEE: \$5.00 per person registration fee

AGE: Adult

Solid Beeswax Perfume & Massage Body Oil Using Essential Oils

Unlock the enchanting art of crafting personalized scents designed to nurture both your body and soul. Participants will experiment with premium essential oils and simple ingredients to create a 1- ounce tin of solid beeswax perfume. Additionally, you will blend a luxurious body oil with skin nourishing carrier oils in a 5 ml. dropper bottle. Perfect for moisturizing and elevating your self-care rituals. Nice for yourself or gift giving.

Please bring exact cash or a check payable to Certified Holistic Aromatherapist Kathy Gabrielli for \$25.00

LOCATION: Conference Room, Parks Administration Office, Toms River

DATE: Monday, November 17.....371544 – 1I

TIME: 6:30 – 8:30 pm

FEE: \$5.00 per person registration fee

AGE: Adult

Cultivating the Healer Within for Stress Relief, Balance and Joy

Ancient cultures used self-healing practices for therapeutic benefits that we can learn and use today to promote health and well-being. During this program you will learn simple self-care practices to cultivate, enhance, and balance the flow of energy through your body and mind, supporting and strengthening the healer within.

Please bring exact cash or check payable to Licensed Physical Therapist Regina Rosenthal for \$20.00

LOCATION: Conference Room, Parks Administration Office, Toms River

DATE: Monday, December 1371544 – 1J

TIME: 6:30 – 8:30 pm

FEE: \$5.00 per person registration fee

AGE: Adult

CPR & Basic Life Support

Adult/Child/Infant CPR AED Certification

Did you know that four out of five cardiac arrests happen at home? If called on to administer CPR in an emergency, the life you save is likely to be that of a child, spouse, parent or friend. Prepare yourself!! Come and learn life-saving CPR and AED use, as well as how to relieve choking in adults, children and infants. This hands-on course is taught in a relaxed and comfortable environment by certified instructors and is designed for anyone with limited or no medical training. Upon completion, participants will receive a CPR AED Course Completion Card.

Please bring a check for \$55.00 payable to Ocean Side CPR.

LOCATION: Program Room, Parks Administration Office, Toms River

DATE: Wednesday, October 8371166 – 1A

DATE: Wednesday, November 5.....371166 – 1B

DATE: Wednesday, December 3.....371166 – 1C

TIME: 6:30 – 9:00 pm

FEE: \$5.00 per person registration fee

AGE: 14 years – Adult



Basic Life Support (BLS) for the Healthcare Provider

Designed for the health care professional, this extensive hands-on course will prepare you to recognize and confidently respond to several life – threatening emergencies. Participants will actively engage in simulated clinical scenarios mastering CPR, use of an AED, and relieving choking in a safe, timely, and effective manner. Certified instructors will guide you through various learning stations to test ability and ensure proficiency in performing these life – saving skills. Upon the conclusion of skills testing, participants must also complete a written exam. Participants will receive a BLS for the Healthcare Provider Completion Card.

Please bring a check for \$85.00 payable to Ocean Side CPR.

LOCATION: Program Room, Parks Administration Office, Toms River

DATE: Wednesday, October 15371166 – 1D

DATE: Wednesday, November 19371166 – 1E

DATE: Wednesday, December 17371166 – 1F

TIME: 6:30 – 9:00 pm

FEE: \$5.00 per person registration fee

AGE: 14 years – Adult

**Stay tuned to your
Ocean County Parks & Recreation**



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on FACEBOOK**

Search: MyOCParks on INSTAGRAM

www.oceancountyparks.org



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Moblie app:

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- **All Parks' info**
- **Registration forms**
- **Things to do & more...**



(732) 506-9090



Recreation Program Policy and Information

1. Recreation personnel in charge of each program will have the final decision in all matters, especially where participant safety is concerned.
2. Due to the strenuous nature of some of our activities, recreation personnel reserve the right to deny a participant entry into a program. If the participant has already paid a fee, this fee will be reimbursed in accordance with our refund/credit policy.
3. Alcoholic beverages are strictly prohibited on all recreational programs.
4. All participants and their guardians must realize there may be some unavoidable hazards involved in all recreation programs. At the start of the program you will be asked to sign a Waiver of Liability Form, which is mandatory in order to attend the program and must be signed.
5. It is the participant's or guardian's responsibility to inform staff members of any medical problems that may inhibit your participation in a program. Please consult your doctor if you are not sure.
6. Please be advised that all return times are approximate. The actual times depends on the ability of the participants, prevailing weather, field conditions, and unforeseen circumstances.
7. All children under 18 years of age must be accompanied by an adult, except programs specifically designed for young children.
8. Age range for programs have been designated according to program content and will be strictly adhered to.
9. **WARNING!** Ticks may be present on all outdoor programs. To protect yourself from Lyme Disease, we recommend participants spray clothing with insect repellent which contains DEET, wear light color clothes, tuck pants into your boots or socks, always change clothes as soon as you return home and check yourself over closely for ticks. Deer ticks are present all year round.
10. **WARNING!** The rabies epidemic is present throughout the state. For your safety, please enjoy wildlife from a distance, report any wildlife behaving strangely to park staff.

REGISTRATION INFORMATION

Unless otherwise stated, all programs require registration along with payment in full at time of **registration**. Anyone attending a program or trip, without registering in advance, must pay by check or money order (cash is unacceptable). Participants will only be permitted upon availability. When a program/trip has been advertised in a previous newsletter we will accept enrollment prior to the registration date listed in this newsletter issue.

SPECIAL ASSISTANCE/ACCOMMODATIONS available upon request

For program availability or a program guide please call:

(732) 506-9090

MAIL-IN REGISTRATION IS PREFERRED (early mail-ins will be returned)

REGISTRATION LOCATIONS:

Monday – Friday 8:30am to 3:30pm

Jakes Branch County Park, Beachwood (732) 281-2750

Parks & Recreation Administrative Office, Toms River (732) 506-9090

Wells Mills County Park, Waretown (609) 971-3065

PROGRAM REGISTRATION APPLICATION

When registering by mail or in person, you must complete and sign the entire **Program Registration Application**. For your convenience you can print our “**Program Registration Application**” right from our website or you may copy this application; however, an original signature must be on each application. Incomplete and unsigned applications will be returned unprocessed. Please return your completed Program Registration Application along with your payment to:

Ocean County Parks & Recreation Administrative Offices

1198 Bandon Road, Toms River, N.J. 08753-3138

MAKE CHECK PAYABLE TO “COUNTY OF OCEAN”

If you would like to register in person, please visit one of our three locations listed above. Mail ins are also accepted.

Refund and Cancellation Policy

****Once a program has started, fees will not be refunded nor credit issued, regardless of the reason.****

REFUND POLICY

1. When the **Department** reschedules or cancels a program costing \$15 or more per person, a full refund will be issued by means of a **properly completed and signed Program Registration Application**.
2. When the **Customer** cancels participation in a program costing \$15 or more per person, having given **at least two weeks notice prior to the scheduled program start date**, a full refund will be issued by means of a **properly completed and signed Program Registration Application**.
3. Vouchers or credits will only be issued to the **individual whose name appears on the check and/or reservation**.

CREDIT POLICY

1. When a program costing less than \$15 per person is cancelled or rescheduled by the **Department**, the customer will receive a credit which is valid up to one year from the original date of that program. The credit will be applied to the household that the class was registered to.
2. When the **Customer** cancels participation in a program costing less than \$15 per person, having given **at least two weeks notice prior to the scheduled program start date**, the customer will receive a credit which has no expiration date.
3. If a Customer cancels a program less than two weeks prior to the scheduled program start date, regardless of the cost per person, the customer **does not** receive a credit or a refund on that program.
4. Once a credit has been issued, it may not be **exchanged for a cash refund**. This includes all credits applied to future registrations. **NO EXCEPTIONS**.

The Department of Parks & Recreation reserves the right to cancel or postpone any trip or program. NOTE: See application for Refund and Cancellation Policy.

REGISTRATION FORM

Each of the undersigned, with the intention of binding himself or herself and any other persons for whom his or her signature is requested as parent or legal guardian, and the heirs, executors, administrators, and assigns of the undersigned or said other persons, does hereby knowingly and voluntarily release and discharge the County of Ocean and its officers, employees and agents, from any and all claims, demands, actions, judgments, and executions which each of the undersigned or the persons for whom his or her signature has been requested ever had, or now has, or may have or claim to have out of participation or any activity conducted, sponsored or approved by the Ocean County Parks and Recreation Department or the County of Ocean whether occasioned by the negligence of the county, its officers, agents or employees, or otherwise.

This Release and Waiver is given in consideration of the efforts of the County of Ocean in making these activities available to undersigned of the person for whom his or her signature is requested as parent or legal guardian and allowing the undersigned or such person to participate in these activities.

Each undersigned declares that prior to the execution of this Release he or she apprised him or herself of sufficient relevant data in order to intelligently exercise his or her own judgement in deciding whether to execute this Release and he or she further declares that this decision was not predicated on or influenced by any declarations or representations of the County of Ocean or its agent, officers or employees.

Each undersigned expressly agrees that the foregoing Release and Waiver is intended to be as broad as is permitted by the laws of the State of New Jersey and that if any portion thereof is held invalid, it is agreed that the balance shall notwithstanding, continue in full legal force and effect.

EACH UNDERSIGNED ACKNOWLEDGES THAT HE/SHE HAS READ AND VOLUNTARILY SIGNS THIS RELEASE AND WAIVER OF ALL LIABILITY.

I need a reasonable modification for a disability to enjoy this activity
_____ Yes _____ No

Upon completion of this application, please sign the Claimant's Certification & Declaration box below. In the event a program refund is necessary, for programs costing more than \$15.00 per person, this application will serve as a County Refund Voucher.

County of Ocean - Parks & Recreation Vendor Claimant's Certification & Declaration I do solemnly declare and certify under the penalties of the law that the within bill is correct in all its particulars; that no bonus has been given or received by any person or persons within the above claim; that the amount therein stated is justly due and owing.

It is understood and agreed that park visitors and participants in Ocean County Park System programs, activities, and events may have their names and pictures used, without fee, in broadcast, telecast, and print media accounts for promotional and publicity purposes.

Participant's Signature

____/____/____
Today's Date

Event #: _____ Refund Amount _____ Refund Date ____/____/____

Event #: _____ Refund Amount _____ Refund Date ____/____/____

**OCEAN COUNTY PARKS & RECREATION
PROGRAM REGISTRATION APPLICATION**

Total Amount Enclosed: \$ _____ Check # _____

Mail in registration preferred. REGISTRATION WILL BE ACCEPTED BEGINNING WEDNESDAY SEPTEMBER 3 FOR PROGRAMS IN THIS ISSUE

YOU MUST SIGN THE OPPOSITE SIDE OF THIS FORM



Save The Dates!

GIANT FLEA MARKET

Sunday, September 14
Ocean County Park, Lakewood

OLD TIME BARNEGAT BAY DECOY & GUNNING SHOW

Saturday & Sunday, September 27-28
Tip Seaman County Park, Tuckerton

PINE BARRENS JAMBOREE

Saturday, October 11
Wells Mills County Park, Waretown

AWESOME AUTUMN FUN

Saturday, November 1
Jakes Branch County Park, Beachwood

AFFAIR at CEDAR BRIDGE

Sunday, December 7
Cedar Bridge Tavern, Ocean County Historical Site, Barnegat

LIGHTING UP NATURE

Friday - Monday, December 12-15
Jakes Branch County Park, Beachwood

WINTER SOLSTICE

Saturday, December 13
Cattus Island County Park, Toms River



**OCEAN COUNTY PARKS & RECREATION
ADMINISTRATION OFFICE**

1198 Bandon Road

Toms River, New Jersey 08753-3138

(732) 506-9090

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**Mail in Registration is Preferred
REGISTRATION WILL BE ACCEPTED BEGINNING
WEDNESDAY SEPTEMBER 3 FOR PROGRAMS IN THIS ISSUE**

Early Mail-Ins Will Be Returned

Parks & Recreation Administrative Office, Toms River 732-506-9090

www.oceancountyparks.org



Vistis our website: www.oceancountyparks.org
for full information on all our parks, trail maps,
rental forms, rules and regulations, etc.

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