

**REGISTRATION BEGINS TUESDAY, MARCH 11th**

Your guide to Programs, Events, Classes & More

# **2025 SPRING PROGRAM GUIDE & NEWSLETTER**

## **Ocean County Parks & Recreation Natural Lands Trust**

**80 Miles of Marked Trails**  
in your Ocean County Parks

### **Ocean County Board of Commissioners**

**Robert S. Arace – Chairman of Parks and Recreation**

**John P. Kelly – Director**

**Frank Sadeghi – Deputy Director,**

**Robert S. Arace, Jennifer Bacchione, Virginia E. Haines**

**Mary J. Bavals**

**Director of Parks and Recreation**

**[www.oceancountyparks.org](http://www.oceancountyparks.org)**



One of the best ways to improve your mental and physical health is through outdoor recreation. Studies have shown that spending just 20 minutes outside can boost your mood, energy, and self-esteem. The Ocean County Department of Parks and Recreation offers a multitude of locations and programs highlighted in this program guide to get you outside and active. The department maintains over 80 miles of marked trails and paths at 23 different Parks, Conservation Areas, and Natural Lands Trust properties within Ocean County. Whether you are looking for a short walk, a long hike, a scenic bike ride, or an opportunity to immerse yourself in nature, you can find plenty of options within your Ocean County Parks!

“One of the great things about Ocean County is the abundance of open space and recreational opportunities available to our residents,” said Commissioner Robert Arace.

Most locations are open from 7:00 a.m. to dusk. Hours are posted at park entrances as well as on the Parks Department website. There’s even an award-winning web application called Ocean County Trail Tracker that provides an interactive map, allowing you to use your smartphone to see your location on our trails. Our walking and hiking trails are also marked with visible colored blazes to make navigating the trails simple!

Our trails are designed and maintained for a variety of users and experiences. Compacted stone dust trails like the Barnegat Branch Trail provide a wide, flat, and stable surface for pedestrians and bicycles to travel with ease. This popular linear park stretches nearly 14 miles from Barnegat to Beachwood. Construction of Phase IX of the Barnegat Branch Trail is scheduled for spring 2025. This new section will extend 0.6 miles from Admiral Avenue in Beachwood Borough to Herflicker Boulevard in South Toms River Borough.

Other trails, like our newly blazed Michael T. Mangum Trail at Cedar Bridge Tavern Historic Site in Barnegat Township, provide a more immersive trail experience. This 3.6-mile trail has a natural sand and wood chip surface that winds through towering laurels and over trickling Pinelands streams. If off-road biking is more your speed, you can tackle the hills and cedar swamps of the 6.2-mile multi-use trail at Wells Mills County Park. Families with young children can enjoy the 0.5-mile Play Trail at Jakes Branch County Park, where nature-themed play pockets are just waiting to be discovered along the forested trail. There are also great spots like Cattus Island County Park’s 0.25-mile boardwalk trail, which affords a stunning view of the marsh and is fully accessible to strollers and wheelchairs. Leashed dogs are welcome companions on all of our trails! We ask that you please clean up after your pet and dispose of waste in trash receptacles.

“Our parks and trails are among the county’s greatest assets,” added Commissioner Arace. “From our paved and compacted trails to our more rugged natural paths, Ocean County has a trail for you.”

Our trails are maintained by a network of trained staff and volunteers across the county. Late fall through early spring is the busiest season for trail work thanks to cooler temperatures and fewer biting insects. Routine work includes mowing, lopping, chipping, blazing, and boardwalk repairs. We also utilize our in-house arborists to remove dead and damaged trees that present a hazard to trail users.

Check out page 19 of this guide for our current hiking programs, or visit our trails on your own. We will also be celebrating National Trails Day at Jakes Branch County Park in Beachwood on June 7, 2025, with activities for the whole family.

“I encourage all of our residents to take advantage of our beautiful parks and trails,” Commissioner Arace concluded. “Spending time outdoors is one of the best ways to recharge and stay healthy. I look forward to seeing many of you at our parks this season!”

On behalf of our hard-working trail crews, we invite you to enjoy our trails this season and experience all of the beauty of your Ocean County Parks!

**COVER:**

Wells Mills County Park in Waretown, Wells Mills has the distinction of being the largest park in the Ocean County park system with over 900 acres of pine and oak forest within southern New Jersey’s environmental marvel known as the Pine Barrens. Miles of hiking trails with varying degrees of difficulty can be found here,

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**PLEASE BE ADVISED;  
MAIL-IN REGISTRATION FORMS RECEIVED  
BEFORE THE REGISTRATION DATE OF  
TUESDAY, MARCH 11th WILL BE RETURNED**

**Newsletter Editors:  
Michelle Urban & Carolyn Hofmann  
The Ocean County Parks & Recreation Newsletter  
is sponsored by the  
Ocean County Board of Commissioners  
and is prepared by the  
Ocean County Parks & Recreation Department  
Contributors: Active Recreation, Environmental Staff**

# The Natural Lands Trust Fund Program

## Colliers Mills Ext. II

Colliers Extension II is a 15.80-acre Natural Lands acquisition located in Plumsted Township off Pinehurst Road. This piece of land is located next to Colliers Mills Wildlife Preserve which makes it a wonderful addition to our Natural Lands program. This property is a mix of Pine Barrens and dense upland forests.

This heavily wooded property is home to many endangered species of plants and animals, making this the perfect place for nature enthusiasts to spot rare species. Birdwatchers are specifically drawn to this area due to its over 140 different bird species including waterfowl and migratory species. With this property being located right next to the Colliers Mills Wildlife Preserve it gives the wildlife in the area more room to thrive and grow. Colliers Mill Ext. II is the prime location for residents who appreciate nature and are looking for a peaceful retreat in the heart of Ocean County's diverse landscape.



## Natural Lands Trust

The Ocean County Natural Lands Trust Program was established to acquire and maintain environmentally sensitive lands, natural areas or open spaces that would generally remain in their natural state and for the preservation of farmland. The objective of the program is to establish of a system of protected lands which, in combination with the Farmland Preservation Program, enhance the quality of life in Ocean County by:

**Helping to maintain the County's rural characteristics;  
Protecting critical environmental resources and water supply;  
Maintaining and enhancing active agriculture;  
Buffering areas that are not compatible with development.**

The program generates over \$10 million per year for natural lands acquisitions and farmland preservation. Several important parcels have been preserved and acquired through partnerships with non-profits, municipalities and the US Fish and Wildlife Service.

# Cattus Island WEEKEND PROGRAMS

**These programs will be first-come first served basis.**

## **Scales and Tales**

Join a park naturalist as they dispel the myths and fears of native snakes. You will see some of our live snakes 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 (excluding April 20 & 26)

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 McClain. 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 April 20 & 26)

TIME: 2:00 – 3:00pm

FEE: FREE

AGE: All

**April 5 & 6**

**Signs of Spring**

**April 12 & 13**

**Welcome Back Osprey**

**April 19**

**Every Day is Earth Day**

**April 27**

**Welcome Back Osprey**

**May 3 & 4**

**History of Cattus**

**May 10 & 11**

**Mother's Day Stroll**

**May 17 & 18**

**Kids in the Park Nifty Nature Walk**

**May 24 & 25**

**Herps; A Search for Reptiles**

**May 31 & June 1**

**Hummingbirds at Home**

**June 7 & 8**

**Carnivorous Plants**

**June 14 & 15**

**Pollinators in the Garden**

**June 21 & 22**

**Naturalist's Choice**



### **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](mailto:cclaus@co.ocean.nj.us)

for more information or to set up an appointment.



# Jakes Branch WEEKEND PROGRAMS

## 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.**

**\*No registration required.**

LOCATION: Live Animal Room, Jakes Branch County Park, Beachwood

DATE: Sundays, April 6 – June 29 (No program April 20)

TIME: 1:30 pm

FEE: FREE

AGE: All

## 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.**

**\*No registration required.**

LOCATION: Nature Center Entrance, Jakes Branch County Park, Beachwood

DATE: Sundays, April 6 – June 29 (No program April 20)

TIME: 2:00 pm

FEE: FREE

AGE: All

## 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: Exhibit Room, Jakes Branch County Park Nature, Beachwood

DATE: Saturdays, April 5 – June 28

TIME: 1:30 – 3:00 pm, ongoing

FEE: FREE

AGE: 3-5 years

# Cloverdale Farm WEEKEND PROGRAMS

## 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 all levels of birders.

**Please be prepared to walk a mile, wear comfortable sneakers or boots, dress for the weather, and bring a pair of binoculars. If inclement weather, the program will be canceled.**

**\*No registration required.**

LOCATION: Program Room, Cloverdale Farm County Park, Barnegat

DATES: Saturdays, April 5, May 17, June 7

TIME: 8:00 – 9:00 am

FEE: FREE

AGE: 9 years - Adult

## Armchair Birding

During this program, we will set up our chairs on the back porch to watch the birds at the feeders. A Naturalist will be at your side to help you identify all the birds. This program is great for beginning birders and those who may have limited mobility.

**Please bring a camp chair.**

**\*No registration required.**

LOCATION: Program Room, Cloverdale Farm County Park, Barnegat

DATES: Saturdays, April 5, May 17, June 7

TIME: 9:00 – 10:00 am

FEE: FREE

AGE: 12 years - Adult

# Cloverdale Farm WEEKEND PROGRAMS



## Family Bird Walk

Get those little feet moving and out in nature while learning about the birds that call Ocean County home. 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: Sundays, April 6, May 18, June 1

TIME: 9:00 - 10:00 am

FEE: Free

AGES: All

## Solving STEM Problems With LEGOs

Science, technology, engineering, and math, or STEM, are the foundations 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, April 6, May 18, June 1

TIME: 10:00 - 11:00 am

FEE: Free

AGES: 8 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

DATE: Friday, May 9 - Sunday, May 11

TIME: 8:00 am - 7:00 pm

FEE: Free

AGES: All; children must be accompanied by an Adult

# Cedar Bridge Tavern WEEKEND PROGRAMS

## Northern Cedar Bridge Tavern Trail Walk

Step back in time and discover why Cedar Bridge was the site of the last documented land engagement of the Revolutionary War and how the environment has shaped the history of the site. **Kids must be accompanied by an adult. The terrain will be uneven and may be wet in some sections. Participants should wear hiking shoes and bug spray. This is a 1.1 mile interpretive walk. Registration required.**

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

DATE:

Saturdays, April 12.....	179530 – 9A
April 26.....	179530 – 9B
Thursdays, May 8.....	179530 – 9C
May 22.....	179530 – 9D
Sundays, May 4.....	179530 – 9E
May 18.....	179530 – 9F
June 1.....	179530 – 9G

TIME: 10:00 - 11:00 am

FEE: Free, registration required

AGE: 8 years – Adult



## Kids Craft Days at Cedar Bridge

Get inspired by the art, history, and nature all around us at historic Cedar Bridge Tavern with kids craft days!

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

DATE: Saturday, May 3 – Upcycled Crafts

Monday, April 21 – Folk Art Crafts

Thursday, April 24 – Folk Art Crafts

Saturday, June 14 – Flag Day Crafts

TIME: 1:00 pm - 2:00 pm

FEE: FREE

AGE: 5 – 10 years



# KIDS TO PARKS DAY

Saturday, May 17

**FREE**



Join this national movement designed to encourage kids and families to explore their neighborhood parks and discover science, history, nature and adventure right around the corner!

## Cattus Island County Park

### Seining Demonstration

Meet at the bay beach, 1 mile walk from nature center.

Meet at the Cooper Environmental Center

**TIME: 11am-12pm & 1pm-2pm**

### Meet Jaba, the Common Snapping Turtle

Meet in the Cooper Environmental Center Exhibit Room

**TIME: 10:00am, 11:00am, 12:00pm, 1:00pm, 2:00pm**

### Nifty Nature Walk

Meet in the Nature Center

**TIME: 2:00PM**

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## Cloverdale Farm County Park

### Habitat Exploration Scavenger Hunt

Stop in the visitor center and grab a list for a

Habitat Exploration Scavenger Hunt!

**TIME: 10:00 am - 3:00 pm**

### Pond Critters

We will be taking a closer look at aquatic insects and other invertebrates known as macroinvertebrates. Your family will scoop up these critters that live in park's bogs by using fine mesh nets. You will then learn to identify the species. **Wear waterproof boots.**

**TIME: 1:00 - 2:00 pm**

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## Jakes Branch County Park

### Hidden Clues Scavenger Hunt

Get to know your local county park! Stop in our Nature Center and challenge yourself with our "Clues to Nature" Scavenger Hunt! Search the park for hidden clue cards to find answers that only nature can reveal!

**TIME: 1:00 – 3:00 pm, ongoing**

### Jake Branch Play Trail Challenge

Get outside and get moving! The staff of Jakes Branch will take you through our Play-Trail to explore the animal-themed Play Pockets. We will play, learn and craft our way through this fun trail that winds its way through the woods. Meet at the Nature Center

**TIME: 11:00am - 12:00pm & 1:00pm - 2:00pm**

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## Cedar Bridge Tavern Historic Site

### Have a HOOT with an Upcycled Owl Craft

Learn about NJ's largest and most well-known owl in the Pine Barrens – the Great Horned Owl. In this upcycling project we will make our own Great Horned Owl using recycled materials and colorful supplies.

**TIME: 9:00 am – 4:00 pm**

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## Wells Mills County Park

### Make Your Own Bird Habitat

Learn how we can make our own backyards a better habitat for our local song-birds. We will construct bird houses you can take home and plant seeds that will attract birds to your yard in this hour and a half long program.

**TIME: 10:00 am - 1:00 pm**

# FAMILY FUN

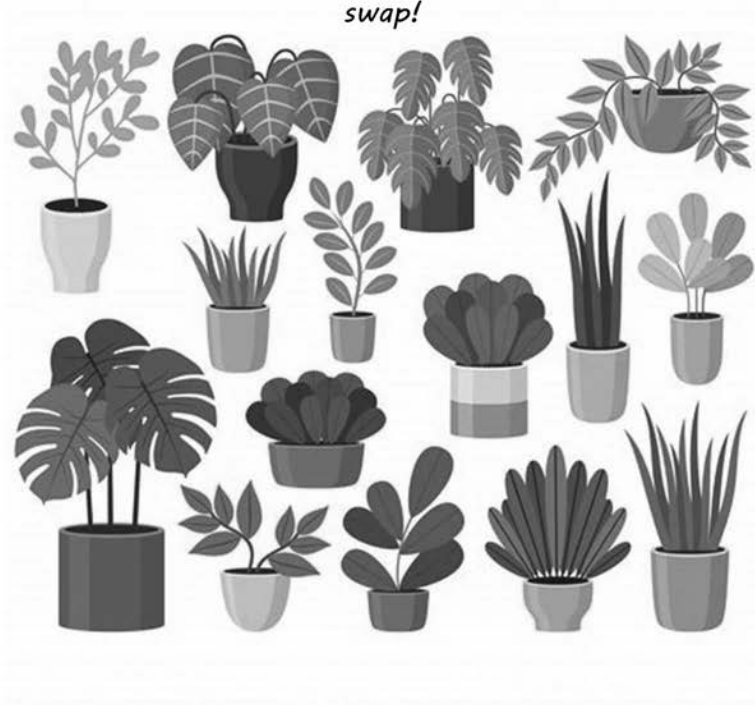
**Jakes Branch County Park**

## Plant & Seed Swap

**April 5th 11am-2pm**

*Entrance Fee: minimum 1 item*

*Feel free to bring more! The more you bring- the more you can swap!*



- ✓ Indoor and outdoor seeds and plants welcome!
- ✓ Please have all items labeled.
- ✓ Bring only healthy, pest-free plants to the swap.
- ✓ Acceptable items include: seeds, bulbs, cuttings, potted plants, etc.
- ✓ This will be a "trade" style swap only, NO CASH SALES will be allowed.

# FAMILY FUN



## 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

DATE: Tuesday, April 1

TIME: 11:00 am.....173466 – 3A

TIME: 12:00 pm.....173466 – 3B

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

## Mega Macroinvertebrates

Do you know what bugs live in the streams, lakes and ponds near you? These bugs are called benthic macroinvertebrates and they are bioindicators which means they can tell you how healthy the water is. Join an Americorps Watershed Ambassadors and learn how to identify the different types of these super important bioindicating bugs and maybe even catch some for yourself as we explore the ponds outside our nature center! Be prepared to get a little wet and dirty.

LOCATION: Nature Center, Jakes Branch County Park, Beachwood

DATE: Sunday, May 18.....175466 – 5A

TIME: 11:00 am – 12:00 pm

FEE: \$5.00 per person AGE: 9 years – Adult

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## Stay tuned to your Ocean County Parks & Recreation



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

**Search: MyOCParks on INSTAGRAM**

**[www.oceancountyparks.org](http://www.oceancountyparks.org)**





# FAMILY FUN



## GREAT AMERICAN CAMPOUT

### 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, June 27- Saturday, June 28.....178466 – 8A

TIME: 7:00 pm Friday - 9:00 am Saturday

FEE: \$5.00 per person

AGE: 5 years - Adult

## Night of the Stars

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

Jakes Branch County Park, Beachwood

DATE: Saturday, April 5 8:30 – 10:30 pm

DATE: Saturday, May 31 9:00 – 11:00 pm

DATE: Saturday, June 28 9:00 – 11:00 pm

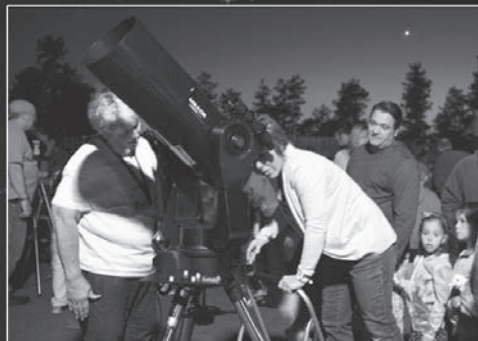
LOCATION: Parking Lot, Patriots County Park

DATE: Saturday, May 17

TIME: 9:00pm – 11:00 pm

FEE: FREE

ALL AGES



## Non-Profit Groups & Vendors Wanted Beach Ball Blast

Our 13th Annual Beach Ball Blast is rapidly approaching. This premier event hosted by the Ocean County Parks and Recreation Department usually draws a large crowd of all ages. The evening will include a variety of food trucks, games, and music by Jimmy and the Parrots, who were named the best “Trop Rock” band in the country. Non-profit groups are invited, free of charge, to use this event as a fundraiser by providing various activities, food, or organizational information. We are also accepting food and craft vendors for a small fee. This year's event will take place on Friday, July 25 from 5:00-8:30 pm.

If you are interested in participating, please contact Jared at 732-506-9090 x 5951 or email [jaredtate@co.ocean.nj.us](mailto:jaredtate@co.ocean.nj.us)

LOCATION: Ocean County Parks & Recreation Administration Office, Toms River

DATE: Thursday, July 24 .....BEACH25

TIME: Vendors must arrive between 3:00 pm – 4:30 pm

FEE: Non-Profits are free, for profit must pay a \$15.00 fee. **The deadline to register is Friday, July 18th. For anyone registering after the 19th, the cost will increase from \$15.00 to \$40.00, if space is still available.**

NOTE: Pre-registration is required, visit our website at [oceancountyparks.org](http://oceancountyparks.org) or email Jared at [jaredtate@co.ocean.nj.us](mailto:jaredtate@co.ocean.nj.us) for an application.

# FAMILY FUN

## WANTED! VOLUNTEERS TO HELP CLEAN UP THE FORKED RIVER MOUNTAIN AREA

DATE: Sunday, April 27, 2025

TIME: 8:00 am – 12:00 pm

### PRE-REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED

Participants will be divided into small groups during registration and instructed where to meet as we get closer to the event. Exact meeting locations, such as Wells Mills County Park or other local facilities, will be sent to each person at the email address provided at the time of registration. First come, first serve. Register on the FRM Coalitions website [www.frmc.org](http://www.frmc.org) starting in early March.

In Cooperation with the Forked River Mountain Coalition and the Pinelands  
Preservation Alliance

Call Wells Mills County Park 609-971-3085 for more information.

Sponsored by:

Ocean County Board of Commissioners

Ocean County Department of Parks and Recreation

## Kids' Stuff Flea Market

Come shop or sell at our Kids' Stuff Flea Market. It's time to clean out those closets and earn some extra cash. Items may include toys, games, clothes, or sporting goods. New and used items may be sold. This event is held rain or shine. Register now, as this event sells out quickly!

LOCATION: Beach Complex parking lot, Ocean County Park, Lakewood

DATE: Sunday, May 4 .....KDFLM25

TIME: Set up begins at 7:15 am. Sell from 9:00 am to 1:00 pm

FEE: \$15.00 for two parking spots (one to sell your stuff, and one to park your vehicle early). No other vehicles are allowed in the lot. **The deadline to register is Friday, May 2nd.** For anyone registering 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 mandatory, visit the website at [oceancountyparks.org](http://oceancountyparks.org) or email Jared at [jaredtate@co.ocean.nj.us](mailto:jaredtate@co.ocean.nj.us) for an application.**



## Celebrate World Turtle Day©

World Turtle Day© on May 23rd, was started in 2000 by the American Tortoise Rescue© to increase the knowledge, respect and protection of turtles and tortoises worldwide. Come "shell-ebrate" with us at the Cooper Environmental Center with crafts, lectures, live animal encounters & learn how you can do your part to save these important species!

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

DATE: Saturday, May 24

TIME: 11:00 am – 3:00 pm.....Drop in crafts

11:30 am.....Turtle Story Time

1:30 pm.....Live Turtle Talk & Feeding Demonstration

FEE: FREE

## FAMILY FUN



### National Trails Day

National Trails Day is a day to enjoy, advocate for, and give back to the trails that connect us to nature, to each other, and to the places where we live, work, play, and go to school.

#### National Trails Day Jaunt

Celebrate National Trails day with a hike through Natural Lands Trust Property Lumley Tract. As we hike and enjoy nature we will do our part to pick up a few things that “don’t belong” along the way. Please bring work gloves.

**Pre-registration is required by calling 732-281-2750.**

**Children must be accompanied by an adult.**

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

DATE: Saturday, June 7

TIME: 9:00 am – 11:00 am

RATING/MILEAGE: **EASY: Some soft sand and small hills – 3.0 miles**

FEE: FREE

AGE: 9 years - Adult

#### Cattus Island Trails and Shoreline Clean Up

Seventy percent of Cattus Island County Park is composed of salt marsh and shoreline. The salt marsh is nature’s filter, catching debris and pollutants floating around Barnegat and Silver Bays. This is a great opportunity to join parks staff as we clean up our shoreline from Paige’s Point to Yellowbank. Please bring gloves, water, and dress for the weather.

**Pre-registration is required by calling 732-270-6960.**

**Children must be accompanied by an adult.**

LOCATION: Parking lot, Cattus Island County Park, Toms River

DATE: Saturday, June 7

TIME: 10:00 am - 2:00 pm

FEE: FREE

AGE: All



#### Youth Fishing Challenge

This free contest is open to children 18 and under but adults can fish alongside them.

All anglers 16 and over must have a current New Jersey fishing license.

The contest is sponsored by New Jersey’s Hooked on Fishing Not On Drugs program and prizes will be given for the 3 longest fish caught.

LOCATION: Visitors Center, Lake Shenandoah County Park

DATE: Saturday, June 7

TIME: 9:00 am – 12:00 pm

FEE: FREE

AGE: 5 - 18 years



# FAMILY FUN

## Celebrate International Horseshoe Crab Day

Did you know? Fossil discoveries have recorded Horseshoe Crabs appearing as early as 450 million years ago. Though the remaining four species of horseshoe crabs living today have evolved from those earlier ancestors into unique species, their overall adaptations and physiology have remained mostly unchanged. Join us at the Cooper Environmental Center as we celebrate these magnificent creatures and learn more about them with crafts, lectures, stories, and live encounters.

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

DATE: Friday, June 20

TIME: 11:00 am – 3:00 pm.....Drop in crafts

11:00 am.....Horseshoe Crab Story time

1:00 pm.....Our Living Fossils: Atlantic Horseshoe Crab Presentation

2:00 pm.....Live Horseshoe Crab encounter

FEE: FREE

AGE: All

## Summer Picnic Party

### At John C. Bartlett Jr. County Park at Berkeley Island

Kick-off the summer with a little fun at this beautiful park overlooking the Barnegat Bay. Enjoy the sun and the cool breezes while you listen to some live music. We will have plenty of activities for both kids and adults. The park features a free spray park, playground, two bocce courts, and two horseshoe pits. We will also have cornhole, giant chess and checker set and a giant twister game available. Food trucks will be available along with a campfire for roasting marshmallows and making s'mores. Please pack your blanket, bring some chairs, and enjoy the day with us.

LOCATION: John C. Bartlett Jr. County Park at Berkeley Island, Berkeley

DATE: Thursday, June 26 .....PIC2025

TIME: 5:00 pm – 8:30 pm

**THIS IS A FREE EVENT**

## Summer Kick-Off Beach Campfire

Saturday, June 28th 7 – 9pm

**Free**

**All Ages**

Barnegat Lighthouse State Park, Long Beach Island

**LIVE MUSIC, SUNSET, MARSHMALLOW ROASTING**

## Summer Kick-Off Beach Campfire

What a better way to kick off the summer season than on the beach in front of a campfire? Enjoy the fire, live music and marshmallows roasting as you watch the sun go down and listen to the waves lap the shoreline – all with Ole' Barney as the backdrop.

**Please bring a beach chair or blanket and some marshmallows and a stick.**

The lighthouse will be open if you are up for a climb! These programs are in cooperation with Barnegat Lighthouse State Park. Limited beach wheelchair access is available with advance 48-hour notice. Rain or shine. **No registration is required.**

LOCATION: Barnegat Lighthouse State Park, Long Beach Island

DATE: Saturday, June 28

TIME: 7:00 – 9:00 pm

FEE: Free

AGE: All

# LECTURES

## Go Native!

Sick of your boring garden? Tired of getting plants from the local “big box” store only to have them die? Discover why gardening with native plants is the answer. Find out how native wildflowers can become the stars of your garden. Beyond beauty, these plants will attract more wildlife while standing up to drought, bugs and bad soil! The presentation includes a short walk on our handicap-accessible Plant Discovery Trail, which includes different demonstration gardens for all types of growing conditions!

LOCATION: Classroom , Jakes Branch County Park, Beachwood

DATE: Sunday, April 6.....175166 – 5A

TIME: 1:00 – 2:00 pm

FEE: \$5.00 per person

AGE: 14 years – Adult

## Floriography: the Victorian Language of Flowers

These days, social media and texts make it easy to let someone know how you feel about them. Back in the late 1800s, though, directly expressing your feelings was frowned upon. So what did those straight-laced Victorians do? They developed a “language” of combining flowers to let that special someone know how they were feeling...whether it was love, compassion, jealousy, or even “I can’t stand the very thought of you!” Learn to use flowers to express your emotions with this fun and informative presentation.

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

DATE: Monday, April 7.....172166 – 2B

TIME: 2:00 - 3:00 pm

FEE: \$5.00 per person

AGE: 16 years - Adult

## New Jersey Snake Species

New Jersey is home to 23 different species of snakes. Come by listen to an introduction to each of these diverse species that live in our lovely state. This is perfect for anyone interested in learning more about local ecology.

LOCATION: Classroom, Jakes Branch County Park, Beachwood

DATE: Saturday, April 12.....175166 – 5B

TIME: 10:30 – 11:30 am

FEE: \$5.00 per person

AGES: 8 years - Adult

## Extra! Extra! “Read” All About Cattus Island

Thanks to the magic of Newspapers.com, many interesting facts about Cattus Island can be gleaned from its archives. Take a virtual stroll down memory lane to discover how this gem of a park has evolved into the 500-acre oasis that so many people cherish. Follow the success story of our Ospreys, the many ways that the Cooper Environmental Center has served nature lovers, and other fascinating people and events that have contributed to the success story that is Cattus Island County Park.

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

DATE: Monday, April 28.....172166 – 2C

TIME: 2:00 - 3:00 pm

FEE: \$5.00 per person

AGE: 16 years - Adult

## Pine Barrens Wildfire

Forest fires are part of the history and prehistory of the Pine Barrens ecosystem. In the present day, they pose a wildland interface of hazards and risks to public safety and property in communities, agricultural areas and outdoor recreation. Presenter Horace Somes has lifelong interests and publishes research concerning the natural and cultural history in the Mullica valley, where he resides on the ancestral farmstead on Turtle Creek Neck in Wading River.

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

DATE: Sunday, May 4.....179166 – 9A

TIME: 2:00 pm - 3:00 pm

FEE: \$5.00 per person

AGE: All

# LECTURES

## Shorebirds and Horseshoe Crabs

We will discuss the amazing ornithological phenomenon that occurs every spring when hundreds of horseshoe crabs come onshore to lay their eggs at the exact time that endangered and threatened shorebirds stop over at the Jersey shores to fatten up for their long migrations to their breeding grounds up north.

LOCATION: Lecture Room, Wells Mills County Park, Waretown

DATE: Monday, May 5.....174166 – 4A

TIME: 3:00 – 4:00 pm

FEE: \$5.00 per person

AGE: 9 years – Adult

## Owl Pellet Dissection

Owls are one of the most striking and elusive nocturnal predators that call the Pine Barrens home. One of the ways we learn about owls, particularly their diets, is through owl pellets. Join us to learn about just what is an owl pellet (hint- it's not poop!) and take a closer look at real field-collected owl pellets. You will even have the opportunity to dissect an owl pellet yourself and learn how to identify your findings with a naturalist's help. This unique program will be part lecture and part hands on experience.

LOCATION: Classroom , Jakes Branch County Park, Beachwood

DATE: Saturday, June 14.....175166 – 5C

TIME: 11:30 am – 12:30 pm

FEE: \$5.00 per person

AGE: All

## Unfurling History: The Origins of Flag Day

Explore why the flag is woven into the fabric of American culture with vexillologist Joseph Latshaw. Discover the myths and origins of our flag's history to the early days of the American Revolution. The presentation will also examine how our relationship with the national flag has evolved over time.

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

DATE: Saturday, June 14.....179166 – 9B

TIME: 3:00 - 4:00 pm

FEE: \$5 per person

AGE: All

## The Power of Pollinators

What do birds, bees, bugs, bats, and butterflies have in common? They are all Pollinators! These creatures account for the pollination of 75% of the world's flowering plants. Come join us as we take a look at the world's most important group of creatures and prepare for our summer gardens (and kick off Pollinator week). We will look at ways to protect and enhance your backyard habitat to attract these vital and beautiful creatures.

LOCATION: Classroom, Jakes Branch County Park, Beachwood

DATE: Monday, June 16.....175166 – 5D

TIME: 10:00 – 11:00 am

FEE: \$5.00 per person

AGE: 14 years - Adult

## 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, Cattus Island County Park, Toms River

DATE: Wednesday, June 18.....172166 – 2D

TIME: 2:00 - 3:00 pm

FEE: \$5.00 per person

AGE: 12 years – Adult



# NATURE, HISTORY & BIRDING WALKS

Our nature, history & birding walks offer participants a chance to learn about their surroundings while focusing on a specific theme. These walks are taken at a leisurely pace allowing plenty of time to absorb new information. Walks will not exceed three miles unless otherwise noted. For birding specific programs, please bring your own binoculars if you have them. We only have a few loaner pairs available. Please read walk descriptions for specific information. We recommend you arrive 15 minutes prior to departure time. Return times are approximate. Bug spray with DEET is recommended and dress for the weather. Layering is best.

## Eno's Pond Nature & History Walk

Join us for a fascinating look into the history and ecosystem of this little known park as we meander through the trails of Eno's Pond County Park.

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

DATE: Thursday, April 10.....174530 – 4A

DEPARTURE/RETURN: 9:00 am – 12:00 pm

FEE: \$6.00 per person

AGE: 9 years – Adult

## Woods of New Gretna Nature Walk

We will be exploring a variety of habitats, ranging from pine/oak uplands to dense laurel to open field edge.

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

DATE: Thursday, May 29.....174530 – 4B

DEPARTURE/RETURN: 9:00 – 11:30 am

FEE: \$6.00 per person

AGE: 9 years - Adult

# WALKS

## 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, April 11.....175530 – 5A

DEPARTURE/RETURN: 9:00 – 11:00 am

FEE: \$6.00 per person

AGE: 10 years - Adult

## Osborne Island Moonlight Hike

This hike will take us around this section of Mystic Islands and eventually to view of the bay. Walk will not exceed 2 miles.

PICK UP: Parking Lot, Tip Seaman County Park, Tuckerton

DATE: Saturday, April 12.....175530 – 5B

DEPARTURE/RETURN: 8:00 – 9:30 pm

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 yet want something a bit more than a nature walk. **All wanders will be between 2 and 3 miles. You can expect mostly flat conditions, possible sugar sand and wet spots. Sturdy footwear is recommended.**

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

DATES: Wednesdays,

April 30 Roanoke Natural Lands Trust property.....FULL.....175530 – 5C

May 21 Harbor Group Natural Lands Trust Property.....175530 – 5D

DEPARTURE/RETURN: 9:00 – 11:00 am

FEE: \$6.00 per person

AGE: 10 years - Adult

# WALKS

## World Migratory Bird Day Walk with Wild Birds Unlimited

Join staff from Wild Birds Unlimited, Toms River, for a bird walk through Cattus Island County Park. Learn about local wading birds, as well as some spring migrants. You may even get a glimpse of an osprey or two. Plan to walk at least 1 to 2 miles. Binoculars are provided if needed.

LOCATION: Cattus Island County Park, Lobby, Toms River

DATE: Saturday, May 10.....172530 – 2A

TIME: 9:00 - 12:00 pm

FEE: \$5.00 per person

AGE: 12 years – Adult

## Sunset and Full Moon Hike

Dusk is the perfect time to visit Cattus Island County Park for a hike. We will hike up to the bay beach for a beautiful view of the sunset and all its splendor. Our return from the beach will focus on the full moon and our nocturnal creatures. This 2-mile walk is great for the entire family.

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

DATE: Tuesday, June 10.....FULL.....172530 – 2B

TIME: 7:30 - 9:30 pm

FEE: \$5.00 per person

AGE: 8 years – Adult

# HIKES

## 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 at 609-971-3085

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 break stops. 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.

**\*Spring Hikes: Bug spray with DEET is highly recommended and be sure to bring extra water on warm days.**

## Five Ponds Loop at Ringwood

*Traveling to Passaic County*

This new trail, built in 2020 by the volunteers of the NY-NJ Trail Conference, will take us past five ponds that are located in Ringwood State Park. We will be following woods roads and footpaths, some of which were created with the help of Jersey Off-Road Bicycle Association, along with some steep climbs to gain beautiful vistas of these ponds and the surrounding area.

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

DATE: Sunday, April 6.....174236 – 4A

DEPARTURE/RETURN: 7:30 am – 4:00 pm

RATING & MILEAGE: **Moderate to Strenuous: Some steep, rocky climbs, may be slippery - 5 miles**

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

AGE: 9 years – Adult

# HIKES

## 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, April 11.....**FULL**.....174236 – 4B

DEPARTURE/ RETURN: 8:30 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

## Ghost Lake Trail Hike

*Traveling to Warren County*

Located in Jenny Jump State Forest, Ghost Lake gets its name from the fog that hangs low over a lake that was created in the 1900s by homeowners who dammed a nearby stream. On this out and back hike we should be able to see the Delaware Water Gap and some glacial erratics. Expect a rocky trail with somewhat steep ascents and descents.

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

DATE: Sunday, April 13.....174236 – 4C

DEPARTURE/RETURN: 7:30 am – 4:00 pm

RATING & MILEAGE: **Moderate to Strenuous: Some steep, rocky climbs, may be slippery –5.5 miles**

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

AGE: 9 years - Adult

## Columbia Trail Hike

*Traveling to Hunterdon County*

We will be walking on Hunterdon County's reborn rail bed turned hiking trail of the defunct Columbia RR right-of-way. We will pass over Ken Lockwood Gorge, probably one of the most spectacular in NJ, while walking along a forgiving gravel path that meanders in natural sync with the S. Branch of the Raritan River. This hike is strikingly visual and a historic Jersey Highlands delight.

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

DATE: Sunday, May 18.....**FULL**.....174236 – 4D

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

RATING & MILEAGE: **Moderate (due to length): few hills and rocky areas – 7.5 miles**

FEE: \$12.00 adult/ \$8.00 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 lunch time. For later ending programs, we will have lunch at the location.

**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 at 609-971-3085

## Jamesburg Park Conservation Area Jaunt

*Traveling to Middlesex County*

This jaunt will take us to the Spotswood Outlier of the Pine Barrens. We will walk on a lollipop loop through mixed hardwood forest wetlands and pitch pine forests.

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

DATE: Friday, April 4.....174236 – 4F

DEPARTURE/RETURN: 9:00 am – 1:30 pm

RATING & MILEAGE: **Easy: mostly flat, may be wet – 4.5 miles**

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

AGE: 9 years to Adult

## Cedar Bridge Tavern Trail Jaunt

Walk on former colonial roads now part of the new trail at Cedar Bridge. Explore how industry and folklife have used and changed the landscape of the Pine Barrens over time.

**This is a 3.5 mile interpretive jaunt.**

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

DATE: Fridays, April 11.....179530 – 9H

April 25.....179530 – 9I

May 9.....179530 – 9J

May 23.....179530 – 9K

June 13.....179530 – 9L

TIME: 10:00 am - 12:00 pm

FEE: \$5.00 per person

AGE: 12 years – Adult

## Rancocas State Park Jaunt

*Traveling to Burlington County*

This jaunt will take us along woods roads and trails through forested uplands and open marsh on the north and south branch of the Rancocas Creek.

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

DATE: Friday, May 2.....FULL.....174236 – 4G

DEPARTURE/RETURN: 9:00 am– 1:00 pm

RATING & MILEAGE: **Easy: mostly flat, some hills, may be wet – 4 miles**

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

AGE: 9 years to Adult

## 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, May 9.....FULL.....174236 – 4H

DEPARTURE/ RETURN: 8:30 am – 1:00 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

# JAUNTS

## Hike n Hops

*Traveling to Monmouth County*

Our spring installment of Hike n Hops will take us to the beautiful Clayton Park. After the hike, we will jump in our cars and head 5 minutes up the road to Screaming Hill brewery to sample what's on tap.

MEET AT: Clayton Park, 161 Emley's Hill Road, Cream Ridge

DATE: Saturday, May 10.....**FULL**.....175530 – 5E

DEPARTURE/RETURN: 9:00 – 11:30 am

RATING/MILEAGE: **3.5 miles – flat, some wet areas**

FEE: \$8.00 per adult

AGE: 21 years and up

## Historic Smithville Jaunt

*Traveling to Burlington County*

After we traverse a diverse collection of habitats, ranging from upland forests to the Rancocas Creek shoreline we will walk through this historic village and industrial plant, which is on the National and NJ Registers of Historic Places and home to the bicycle railroad.

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

DATE: Friday, June 6.....**FULL**.....174236 – 4I

DEPARTURE/RETURN: 9:00 am - 1:30 pm

RATING & MILEAGE: **Easy: flat- 4 miles**

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

AGE: 9 years – Adult

# LIFEGUARDS WANTED



## CERTIFIED LIFEGUARDS

Wanted for

OCEAN COUNTY PARKS BEACH

2025

A. PAUL KING COUNTY PARK  
MANAHAWKIN

Competitive  
Salary



Reimbursement  
for  
Certifications

Applicants must be fully certified in  
Advanced Lifesaving, First Aid and CPR

Apply: Ocean County Department of Parks and Recreation  
1198 Bandon Road  
Toms River, NJ 08753

Call: (732) 506-9090 x5956 or Email: [BCostigan@co.ocean.nj.us](mailto:BCostigan@co.ocean.nj.us)  
for information/application

# VAN TOURS

Our 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 trip:

- \* 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 (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 is first come, first choice. Following the van is not permitted.**

**\*\*NEW\*\***

## **Recycling Our Resources: Tours of Ocean County Northern Recycling and the Ocean County Utilities Authority Water Treatment Plant**

Have you ever wondered what happens to your recycling or water after it leaves your house? We will tour Ocean County Northern Recycling Center and the Ocean County Utilities Authority to find out. At the Northern Recycling Center in Lakewood we will get a hands-on tour of its 60-acre facility and learn about the Materials Recovery Facility (MRF), resident drop-off centers for non-curb-side recyclables and composting operations with a visit to a demonstration garden and composting techniques, including building compost piles and indoor worm bins. Then we will travel to Brick OCUA where we will get a tour of their facility. We will follow the path of water through the treatment process and check out the labs to discuss water testing and compliance with DEP regulations. **This is a walking tour. Close-toed shoes are mandatory. Pack a lunch, be prepared to walk on uneven ground and dress for the weather. Layering is best.**

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

DATE: Wednesday, April 30.....174516 – 4A

DEPARTURE/RETURN: 8:15 am – 4:00 pm

FEE: \$14.00 per person

AGE: 9 years – Adult



## **RECYCLE 1-2-3!**

1. PAPER & CARDBOARD
2. METAL FOOD & DRINK CANS
3. PLASTIC BOTTLES, TUBS, & JUGS



# VAN TOURS

## A Saturday in Old Monmouth

*Traveling around Monmouth County*

We will be heading to Monmouth County to explore some of the historical sites that are open and free to the public on this weekend. This year we will be following the Western route. **Dress for the weather, be prepared to walk on uneven ground and pack a lunch.**

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

DATE: Saturday, May 3.....**FULL**.....174516 – 4B

DEPARTURE/RETURN: 9:00 am – 4:30 pm

FEE: \$14.00 per person

AGE: 9 years – Adult

## Back Bays of Cape May Boat Tour: Shorebirds and Horseshoe Crabs

*Traveling to the Delaware Bayshore and Cape May County*

We will board the Osprey for an exploration of the Cape May Coastal Wetlands Wildlife Management Area. After lunch on land, we will seek out shorebirds as they gorge themselves on horseshoe crab eggs before they continue their journey to the Arctic. **Dress for the weather, bring your camera and binoculars and pack a lunch with drinks. Also bring sunscreen, insect repellent and a hat. There will be an additional charge of \$30.00 for the Osprey. Please bring exact change. Be prepared to walk on uneven ground and sand.**

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

DATE: Wednesday, May 7.....**FULL**.....174516 – 4C

DEPARTURE/RETURN: 8:00 am – 4:30 pm

FEE: \$14.00 per person

AGE: 9 years – Adult

## \*NEW\* Port Republic and Surrounding Area History Van Trip

*Traveling to Atlantic County*

The history of Port Republic dates back 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 a lunch, dress for the weather and be prepared to walk over uneven ground.**

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

DATE: Thursday, May 15.....**FULL**.....174516 – 4D

DEPARTURE/ RETURN: 9:00 am – 3:00 pm

FEE: \$14.00 per person

AGE: 9 years – Adult

## Shorebirds and Horseshoe Crabs Van Trip

*Traveling to Cape May County*

Join us for the greatest ornithological spectacle in New Jersey! We will hopefully view a variety of shorebirds, including endangered Red Knots, gorging themselves on horseshoe crab eggs to double their weight and continue their 3,000+ mile migration to their breeding grounds in the Arctic.

**Pack a lunch, dress for the weather and bring your binoculars.**

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

DATE: Thursday, June 12.....174516 – 4E

DEPARTURE/RETURN: 8:30 am – 4:00 pm

FEE: \$14.00 per person

AGE: 9 years – Adult

# RIVER PADDLING

There's no better way to see the natural areas of our state than on the water! With our canoe instructors and naturalist guides, you can enjoy a guided tour with environmental/historical interpretation along the way. We provide one canoe for every two people or a limited number of single person river kayaks. The \$14 fee includes a canoe or river kayak, paddle, life vest and transportation. If you bring your own canoe or kayak, the fee is \$8 per person. Kayaks appropriate for smaller rivers are welcome. Please pack a lunch and wear appropriate clothing that can get wet and/or dirty. Quick drying fabrics are best. If you have never canoed before or would like to sharpen your skills, sign up for a class (listed below when in season). **Registration is required. Please consult the ratings below and be sure to select a trip that matches your skill level. \*Children must be 9 years or older and accompanied by an adult to participate. Each child ages 9-13 must be in a canoe with an adult. Older children may rent a kayak.** We recommend you arrive 20 minutes prior to departure time. All return times are approximate. If you have any questions, please call Wells Mills County Park at 609-971-3085.

**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. Be prepared for portages (carrying your boat over obstacles) on all trips.**

## Canoe Difficulty Rating

- A. Continual paddling for several hours
- B. Must negotiate quick river turns
- C. Must paddle in open water and be able to handle wind, waves and/or tide
- D. May encounter portages (must be able to lift your boat over obstacles)
- E. Many portages
- F. DANGER! Cold water. Please bring a change of clothes in a waterproof bag
- G. General paddling experience required
- H. River paddling experience required

**\*\* YOU MUST HAVE RIVER PADDLING EXPERIENCE AND BE ABLE TO NEGOTIATE RIVER TURNS and OBSTACLES/PORTAGES TO PARTICIPATE ON RIVER TRIPS\*\***

*We now have a limited number of river kayaks to rent, in addition to our canoes, for our river trips. Please indicate which type of vessel you would like by using the corresponding registration number below. We will provide you with a PFD and kayak paddle. All other rules above apply.*

## Oswego River (Oswego Lake to Harrisville Lake) -7.5 miles

*Traveling to Burlington County*

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

DATE: Thursday, April 24

CANOE (rental) or BRING OWN BOAT.....**FULL**.....174126 – 4A

RIVER KAYAK (rental).....174126 – 4B

DEPARTURE/RETURN: 8:30 am – 4:00 pm

RATING: A, B, D, F, H,

AGE: 9 years\* - Adult

FEE: \$14.00 per person, \$8.00 if bringing own boat

## Wading River (Hawkins Bridge – Beaver Branch) - 9.5 miles

*Traveling to Burlington County*

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

DATE: Saturday, May 10

CANOE (rental) or BRING OWN BOAT.....174126 – 4C

RIVER KAYAK (rental).....174126 – 4D

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

RATING: A, B, D, F, H

AGE: 9 years\* - Adult

FEE: \$14.00 per person, \$8.00 if bringing your own boat

# RIVER PADDLING

## Great Egg Harbor River (Penny Pot to Weymouth) - 10 miles

*Traveling to Atlantic County*

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

DATE: Thursday, May 22

CANOE (rental) or BRING OWN BOAT.....174126 – 4E

RIVER KAYAK (rental).....174126 – 4F

DEPARTURE/RETURN: 8:30 am – 4:00 pm

RATING: A, B, D, F, H

AGE: 9 years\* - Adult

FEE: \$14.00 per person, \$8.00 if bringing your own boat

## Beginners Canoe Clinic & River Paddle

We will start our day with a short clinic on a local lake to get you acquainted with canoe gear, paddling strokes and get comfortable on the water. Then we will head to the Wading River to get some river paddling experience, which is required for our other trips. This program is canoeing only.

PICK-UP: Nature Center, Wells Mills County Park, Waretown

DATE: Saturday, June 14.....174126 – 4G

TIME: 8:30 am - 4:00 pm

RATING: Beginners. Must be able to swim

AGE: 9 years\* - Adult

FEE: \$14.00 per person

# RIVER PADDLING JAUNTS

Would you like to go canoeing but not paddle for as long as our regular trips? Then try our canoeing jaunts. The mileage will be shorter and we should end our day a little earlier but the rating of the river will not change from our longer stretches. Please have river paddling experience when signing up for these trips. Bring water and a snack or lunch in case the trip takes longer than expected.

**See general paddling description and ratings above for important information.**

## National Canoe Day Paddle

### Wading River Jaunt (Evans Bridge – Beaver Branch) -4 miles

Traveling to Burlington County

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

DATE: Thursday, June, 26

CANOE (rental) or BRING OWN BOAT.....174126 – 4H

RIVER KAYAK (rental).....174126 – 4I

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

RATING: A, B, D, H

AGE: 9 years - Adult

FEE: \$12.00 per person, \$6.00 if bringing your own boat





# Cattus Island

~ Nature Festival ~

Celebrating

**45** YEARS

Connecting Community with Nature

FREE EVENT FOR ALL AGES

**April 26 10am - 3pm**

at the Cooper Environmental Center

(732) 270-6960

Seining,, Live Animal Talks, The Great Bug Race, Crafts  
Nature Games, Lectures, Environmental Groups & Vendors



# JAKES BRANCH COUNTY PARK

**Friday, June 27 10am-1pm**

\*sensory friendly hour (10:00-11:00) no horns, sirens or  
flashing lights for community members with special needs

**FREE!**



**TOUCH**

**-A-**

**TRUCK**

**Festival**

**Crafts & Snacks Available**



Kids will be allowed to  
touch, get behind the wheel,  
climb, explore,  
learn and have fun  
~ALL IN ONE PLACE~

Jakes Branch County Park  
1100 Double Trouble Rd.  
Beachwood







# FISHING CONTEST

AT LAKE SHENANDOAN  
COUNTY PARK, LAKEWOOD

**Saturday  
May 3rd**

**3 Weigh-In Locations  
Door Prizes  
2 Age Groups  
(732) 506-5122**



**The Ocean County Parks and Recreation Annual Fishing Contest  
May 3, 7:30am-2pm**



**Sign up at Lake Shenandoah before heading out.  
Lake Shenandoah, Forge Pond and Lake Carasalio,**



**\$2 for kids under 16.....\$4 for 16 and up**

For more information (732) 506-5122 or visit [www.oceancountyparks.org](http://www.oceancountyparks.org) for complete rules

## **Vendors Wanted for the Annual BEACH BALL BLAST July 24**

**at Ocean County Parks & Recreation Administration  
Offices Bayfront Field**

**Call (732) 506-9090 for more information**

**Clean out those closets...**

## **KIDS' STUFF**



# **FLEA MARKET**



**Ocean County Park ~ Lakewood  
Sunday, May 4 9:00am - 1:00pm**

**Items must be child related Vendor spots \$15**

For more information call: (732)- 506-9090



Come shop or sell at our Kids' Stuff Flea Market. It's time to clean out those closets and earn some extra cash. Items may include toys, games, clothes, or sporting goods. New and used items may be sold. This event is held rain or shine. **Register now!**

**LOCATION:** Beach Complex parking lot, Ocean County Park, Lakewood

**DATE:** Sunday, May 4 **TIME:** Set up begins at 7:15 am. Sell from 9:00 am to 1:00 pm

**FEE:** \$15.00 for two parking spots (one to sell your stuff, and one to park your vehicle).

The deadline to register is Friday, May 2nd. For anyone registering the day of the flea market, \$40.00

**NOTE:** Pre-registration is mandatory, visit the website at [oceancountyparks.org](http://oceancountyparks.org) or email [JaredTate@co.ocean.nj.us](mailto:JaredTate@co.ocean.nj.us) for an application.

# 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.*

## Introduction to Stand Up Paddleboarding

This introductory class will give you the basics on this amazing sport. We will review the types of paddleboards and equipment needed. We will then venture out into the lagoon to learn how to paddle. Paddleboard, paddle & PFDs are provided. You must be able to swim and must be able to kneel for long periods. Please wear bathing suit, water shoes, and bring water. This class is weather and wind dependent. Paddleboards are rated with a weight limit of 275lbs.

LOCATION: Boat Dock, County Parks Administration Office, Toms River

DATE: Monday, June 30.....172123-2C

TIME: 9:00-10:30am

FEE: \$5.00 per person

## Birds at Brigantine

*Traveling to Atlantic County*

This time of year the migrants that visit the Forsythe National Wildlife Refuge's Brigantine Unit are on the move. We will drive the 8-mile auto-loop in search of late ducks, early shorebirds and other water-loving birds that call the refuge home. We will also discuss the history and reason why the refuge is home to such a plentiful amount of species. Pack a lunch, dress for the weather and bring binoculars. Most viewing will be done sitting in the van. Long sleeves and insect repellent are recommended for short walks outside. If you don't have binoculars we have a few pair to loan out.

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

DATE: Tuesday, April 15.....174516-4F

DEPARTURE/RETURN: 9:00 am – 2:00 pm

FEE \$5.00 per person

## PHOTOGRAPHY 101:

In this class you'll be introduced to photography through your cell phone and an actual camera. In the changing times we are in, the cell phone has replaced an actual camera for many, if not most of the images you see on a daily basis, but within those phone images there are the same elements of design, lighting and composition needed to create a successful image. This class will discuss the basic do's and don'ts of photography in general and while there are many strong suggestions, you will find that there are no actual rules.

LOCATION: Program Room, Parks Administration Office, Toms River

DATE: Saturday, May 10.....171166-1G

TIME: 9:00 - 11:00am

FEE: \$5.00 per person

## “Just the Basics” Kayak Class and Short Paddle

For those who want to learn the basics of kayaking, this class is for you! We will emphasize safety paddling techniques, paddling gear and other related equipment. We will include both “classroom” and on-the-water instruction. Participants will need to demonstrate a wet exit from their kayak (turning the kayak over and swimming out) as part of the safety portion of the class. After instruction, we will explore the lake and put our new skills to the test.

All of our boats are SINGLE PERSON sea kayaks - also referred to as touring kayas - designed for open water paddling conditions. They average between 14 and 16 ½ feet in length and are all decked or “sit-in” style boats.

\*Avoid wearing cotton clothing. Quick-drying fabrics such as a bathing suit or nylon water shorts are preferred. If you have a wet suit you may bring that. Please come prepared with water shoes/sandals (No flip-flops or Crocs.) Other items to bring: towel, sunscreen, bug repellent, and a change of clothes. Pack your lunch.

PICK-UP: Parking lot, A. Paul King County Park, Manahawkin

DATE: Sunday, June 15.....175306-5E

DEPARTURE/RETURN: 8:30 AM – 3:30PM

FEE: \$5.00 per person



# Atlantis

261 Country Club Road  
Little Egg Harbor  
(609) 296-2444

# Forge Pond

301 Chambers Bridge Road  
Brick  
(732) 920-8899

We're excited to announce that **Nite Golf** will be returning for **two unforgettable nights!**  
**Friday, May 16<sup>th</sup>** and again on **Saturday, June 14<sup>th</sup> @ Forge Pond!** Visit the Pro Shop or call **732-920-8899** to register. Please note, there will be **NO refunds** for this event.  
**This event fills up quickly, so don't miss out!**

## Golf Clinics

Sign up for the Up To Par Golf Clinic at both Forge Pond and Atlantis Golf Courses

**Intro to Golf** - Perfect for anyone with limited or no experience playing golf. In this class, we'll cover all the basics to help you get started on your golfing journey

**Women's Beginner Clinic** - designed for women of all ages who have some previous playing experience. This clinic offers a perfect opportunity to refresh and refine your skills, covering key areas such as full swing, chipping, and putting.

**Short Game Clinic** - designed for men and women of all ages with some previous playing experience. This comprehensive clinic will cover essential short game skills, including chipping, pitching, putting, and bunker play.

Call or text Chris Nelson at 908-278-2775 email [chris@uptopargolf.com](mailto:chris@uptopargolf.com)  
or sign up directly online at [www.uptopargolf.com](http://www.uptopargolf.com)

### ~Forge Pond Golf Course~

#### Women's Clinic

April 15th @ 4:00PM—5:30PM

#### Intro To Golf

June 10th @5:00PM—6:30PM

#### Short Game Clinic

April 15th @2:00PM—3:30PM

June 10th @3:00PM—4:30PM

### ~Atlantis Golf Course~

#### Women's Clinic

April 8th @ 3:00PM – 4:30PM

April 22nd @ 4:00PM – 5:30PM

May 8th @ 4:00PM – 5:30PM

May 31st @ 1:00PM – 2:30PM

#### Intro to Golf

April 8th @ 5:00PM – 6:30PM

May 17th @ 1:00PM – 2:30PM

May 31st @ 11:00AM – 12:30PM

#### Short Game Clinic

April 22nd @ 2:00PM – 3:30PM

May 17th @ 11:00AM – 12:30PM

June 6th @2:00PM—3:30PM

## Atlantis Spring Golf Tournament - Thursday May 1st

- **Putting Contest, Long Drive Contest & Closest to the Pin**
- **Prizes for 1st 2nd & 3rd Place. Lunch on the Patio after.**
- **Register at AGC. Call Pro Shop for details (609) 296-2444**

**Green and Fairway Aeration is scheduled for early March**



### Cuisine on the Green at Atlantis

261 Country Club Blvd, Tuckerton, NJ  
(609) 296-2137

[cuisineonthegreen.com](http://cuisineonthegreen.com)

We Serve Culinary Inspired Creations in a lively environment where post secondary culinary students actively pursue their career goals as an extension of OCVTS as a restaurant at Atlantis Golf Course as a training, Dining and Banquet Facility in One.

# 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.

### Late Afternoon - Early Evening Spring Paddle

Join us for a down and back paddle on the lovely lower Wading River. The sights and sounds of spring should be abundant! **Pack sunscreen, insect repellent and plenty of water. NO BATHROOM FACILITIES ALONG TRIP ROUTE.**

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

DATE: Saturday, April 26.....175306 – 5A

DEPARTURE/RETURN: 5:00 – 8:30 pm

RATING: B, D

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

AGE: 16 years - Adult

### Forge Pond – Metedeconk River

The Metedeconk River's North and South Branches meet at Forge Pond, where the river widens and then flows into Barnegat Bay. We will explore the pond and then poke our way upstream in hopes of spotting some wildlife. **Pack sunscreen, insect repellent and plenty of water. NO BATHROOM FACILITIES ALONG TRIP ROUTE.**

PICK-UP: Parking Lot, Lake Shenandoah County Park, Lakewood

DATE: Saturday, May 17.....175306 – 5B

DEPARTURE/RETURN: 9:00 am – 3:00 pm

RATING: A, B, C, D, I

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

AGE: 16 years - Adult

# KAYAK TOURING TRIPS

## Graveling Point

This lovely area off the end of Mystic Island should provide beautiful views and diverse bird life. This is mostly open water paddling so please be prepared for wind, waves and light boat traffic. We will hug the shoreline and maybe duck in a creek or two. **Pack a lunch, plenty of water, sunscreen and insect repellent. NO BATHROOM FACILITIES ALONG TRIP ROUTE.**

PICK UP: Parking Lot, Tip Seaman County Park, Tuckerton

DATE: Saturday, June 14.....175306 – 5C

DEPARTURE/RETURN: 9:00 am – 3:00 pm

RATING: A, B, C, E, I

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

AGE: 16 years - Adult

## “Just the Basics” Kayak Touring Course

For those who want to “wet” their appetite and learn the basics of kayaking, this class is for you! The class will emphasize safety, paddling techniques, paddling gear and other related equipment. We will include both “classroom” and on-the-water instruction. Participants will have the option of completing a wet exit from their kayak (turning the kayak over and swimming out) as part of the safety portion of the class.

All of our boats are SINGLE PERSON sea kayaks – also referred to as touring kayaks – designed for open water paddling conditions. They average between 14 and 16 ½ feet in length and are all decked or “sit-in” style boats. Spray skirts are worn over the cockpit and are provided with the class.

**\*Avoid wearing cotton clothing. Quick-drying fabrics such as a bathing suit or nylon water shorts are preferred. If you have a wet suit you may bring that. Please come prepared with water shoes/sandals (no flip-flops or Crocs.) Other items to bring: towel, sunscreen, bug repellent, and a change of clothes. Pack your lunch.**

LOCATION: Parking Lot, A. Paul King County Park, Manahawkin

DATE: Sunday, June 29.....175306 – 5D

TIME: 9:00 am – 3:30 pm

FEE: \$25.00 per person

AGE: 16 years - 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,

April 7.....Mighty Migration

April 21 .....April Showers

May 5 .....Glorious Gardening

May 19 .....Seeds and Sunflowers

June 2 .....Fabulous Frogs

June 23.....Marvelous Monarchs

TIME: 10:00 – 11:00 am

AGE: 3 – 5 years

FEE: FREE

## Down the Bunny Trail

Here comes Peter Cotton tail, hopping down the bunny trail. Come follow the clues he left behind for an Easter surprise. Join us as a team and follow Easter Egg clues around the park to earn an Easter themed treat at the end. Whether you run, skip or hop, it’s sure to be an Egg-cellent time!

LOCATION: Program Room, Jakes Branch County Park, Beachwood

DATE: Saturday, April 19.....175266 – 5A

TIME: 11:00 am – 12:00 pm

FEE: \$10.00 per team (1-2 children per adult)

AGE: 5 years - Adult



# 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 FEE: \$5.00 Per Child AGES: 3-5 years**

## Jellybean, Blue or Green

Jellybeans come in all the colors of the rainbow. Let's have some colorful fun with colorful jellybeans, through stories, games and crafts.

LOCATION: Program Room, Parks Administration Office, Toms River

DATE: Wednesday, April 2.....171021 – 1A

TIME: 10:00 - 11:00 am

## Busy, Buzzing Bumble Bees

Come join us as we explore the world of bumblebees. Did you know that they wear a fuzzy coat? We will make busy bee crafts, and listen to buzzing stories.

LOCATION: Program Room, Parks Administration Office, Toms River

DATE: Thursday, April 10.....171021 – 1B

TIME: 10:00 - 11:00 am

## Funny Bunnies

Spring is the time for hopping down the bunny trail. We will make some fluffy bunny crafts and enjoy bouncy bunny tales.

LOCATION: Program Room, Parks Administration Office, Toms River

DATE: Wednesday, April 16.....**FULL**.....171021 – 1C

TIME: 10:00 - 11:00 am

## Alphabet Avalanche

"A told B and B told C, I'll race you to the top of the coconut tree!"

Letters are hiding everywhere. Let's try to find all 26 letters using crafts, games and stories.

LOCATION: Program Room, Parks Administration Office, Toms River

DATE: Tuesday, April 22.....171021 – 1D

TIME: 10:00 - 11:00 am

## Butterfly, Flutter by

Spread your wings and fly like a beautiful butterfly. We will explore the amazing journey from caterpillar to butterfly with colorful crafts, stories and games.

LOCATION: Program Room, Parks Administration Office, Toms River

DATE: Wednesday, April 23.....171021 – 1E

TIME: 10:00 – 11:00 am

## Time for Turtles

Big turtles, small turtles, green turtles, all turtles! Through stories, games, and crafts, we will find out about this interesting animal who carries his house on his back.

LOCATION: Program Room, Parks Administration Office, Toms River

DATE: Wednesday, April 30.....171021 – 1F

TIME: 10:00 - 11:00 am

## May Flowers

Spring has sprung and flowers are blooming everywhere. We will create bouquets of colorful flowers and other floral May crafts.

LOCATION: Program Room, Parks Administration Office, Toms River

DATE: Tuesday, May 6.....171021 – 1G

TIME: 10:00 – 11:00 am

## "MOM" you ROCK

Kids will love making their own Mother's Day surprise for that special someone. We will use various materials to create a keepsake for Mom.

LOCATION: Program Room, Parks Administration Office, Toms River

DATE: Thursday, May 8.....171021 – 1H

TIME: 10:00 – 11:00 am



# 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 FEE: \$5.00 Per Child AGES: 3-5 years

## Bug-A-Boo

They fly, they crawl and they are everywhere! Children have a natural curiosity about bugs. We will explore our tiny bugs through stories and crafts.

LOCATION: Program Room, Parks Administration Office, Toms River

DATE: Thursday, May 15.....171021 – 1I

TIME: 10:00 – 11:00 am

## The Shape of Things

Shape recognition is an important cognitive step for children. Through stories, crafts and activities, we will make learning shapes fun.

LOCATION: Program Room, Parks Administration Office, Toms River

DATE: Wednesday, May 21.....171021 – 1J

TIME: 10:00 – 11:00 am

## Jungle Roar

Take an imaginary safari through the jungle with us. We will discover wild animals through stories, games and crafts.

LOCATION: Program Room, Parks Administration Office, Toms River

DATE: Tuesday, May 27.....171021 – 1K

TIME: 10:00 – 11:00 am

## Down on the Farm

Oink, moo and cock-a-doodle-doo! Come on down to the farm and see what's going on. We will make barnyard crafts and listen to a story or two.

LOCATION: Program Room, Parks Administration Office, Toms River

DATE: Wednesday, May 28.....171021 – 1L

TIME: 10:00 – 11:00 am

## Unicorns are Cool

Dancing, prancing, sparkle and shine, Unicorns rule because unicorns are cool!

We will make cool unicorn crafts.

LOCATION: Program Room, Parks Administration Office, Toms River

DATE: Tuesday, June 3.....171021 – 1M

TIME: 10:00 – 11:00 am

## When I Grow Up

Firefighter, doctor, teacher and so many other occupations to choose. What will you be when you grow up? Through stories, games and crafts, we'll take a look.

LOCATION: Program Room, Parks Administration Office, Toms River

DATE: Thursday, June 5.....171021 – 1N

TIME: 10:00 – 11:00 am

## Never Smile at a Crocodile!

Let's take a romp through the swamp and see what we can find. We'll make some swampy crafts, read a story and play a swampy game. But, watch out for Mr. Crocodile!

LOCATION: Program Room, Parks Administration Office, Toms River

DATE: Wednesday, June 11.....171021 – 1O

TIME: 10:00 – 11:00 am

## Glad You're My Dad!

Dads and granddads do so much for us every day. So, today is our turn to do something special for them. We will make some unique treasure that shows how much we care.

LOCATION: Program Room, Parks Administration Office, Toms River

DATE: Thursday, June 12.....171021 – 1P

TIME: 10:00 – 11:00 am

# 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 FEE: \$5.00 Per Child AGES: 3-5 years

## 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. Please wear sneakers and bring a drink.

LOCATION: Tennis Courts 1 & 2, Jakes Branch County Park, Beachwood

DATE: Thursday, June 12.....173021 – 3A

TIME: 10:00 – 11:00 am

## Lucky Ladybug

“Ladybug, Ladybug, fly away home” Did you know Ladybugs are a sign of good luck? We'll try our luck playing cute Ladybug games and making crafts.

LOCATION: Program Room, Parks Administration Office, Toms River

DATE: Wednesday, June 18.....171021 – 1Q

TIME: 10:00 – 11:00 am

## Pre-K Gym

Play a variety of fun games that will help improve your child's coordination and physical development while interacting with other children. We will finish the class with a giant parachute which is always a fan favorite. Children will also practice sportsmanship, sharing, and taking turns. **Please wear sneakers and bring a drink.**

LOCATION: Soccer Field, Jakes Branch County Park, Beachwood

DATE: Thursday, June 19 .....173021 -3B

TIME: 10:00 – 11:00 am

## Summer Fun!

Summer's finally here, and so is some summer fun! Through stories, crafts and games, we will dive into summer!

LOCATION: Program Room, Parks Administration Office, Toms River

DATE: Wednesday, June 25.....171021 – 1R

TIME: 10:00 –11:00 am

## Red, White and Blue

The 4th of July is just around the corner and we are celebrating. There will be red, white and blue crafts, Patriotic stories, and a tasty blueberry treat!

**\*Please list any food allergies at the time of registration**

LOCATION: Program Room, Parks Administration Office, Toms River

DATE: Thursday, June 26.....171021 – 1S

TIME: 10:00 - 11:00 am



# FUN FOR KIDS

## Seeds Away for Earth Day Drop In

From mighty oaks to sunny sunflowers, seeds hold the potential to provide an array of plant life for us to enjoy and the earth to enrich. Join us for this Earth Day Drop-In as we create some simple crafts using the simple seed that you can plant (or toss) outside to grow a garden of your own.

LOCATION: Nature Center, Jakes Branch County Park, Beachwood

DATE: Tuesday, April 22

TIME: 9:00 – 11:00 am.....Seed Paper

TIME: 1:00 – 3:00 pm.....Seed Bombs

FEE: FREE

AGE: All

## NEW Kids Dance

Spring into dance! Children will explore various types of movement during this fun, 45-minute class. Appropriate music will be used. Please have your child wear sneakers and bring water. This is a drop off program. **Have a check for \$35.00 made payable to Gabrielle Molino on the first day of class.**

LOCATION: Program Room, Parks Administrative Office, Toms River

DATE: Fridays, May 2 – May 16.....173332 – 3A

TIME: 11:30 am – 12:15 pm

FEE: \$5.00 registration fee per person

AGE: 5 – 6 years

## 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. Not only is exercise good for your physical well-being. Exercise also helps decrease stress and anxiety levels, and helps improve self-esteem, among many other health benefits. 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.**

LOCATION: Beach Complex, Ocean County Park, Lakewood

DATE: Mondays, June 2 – June 30.....173332 – 3B

TIME: 10:30 – 11:30 am

AGE: 5 – 6 years

DATE: Mondays, June 2 – June 30.....173332 – 3C

TIME: 10:30 – 11:30 am

AGE: 7 – 8 years

DATE: Mondays, June 2 – June 30.....173332 – 3D

TIME: 12:00 – 1:00 pm

AGE: 9 – 14 years

FEE: \$14.00 per child

## Homeschool Gym - South

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. Not only is exercise good for your physical well-being. Exercise also helps decrease stress and anxiety levels, and helps improve self-esteem, among many other health benefits. The instructor 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.**

LOCATION: Softball Field 1, Stanley "Tip" Seamen County Park, Tuckerton

DATE: Wednesdays, May 21 – June 18.....173332 – 3E

TIME: 10:30 – 11:30 am

AGE: 5 – 7 years

DATE: Wednesdays, May 21 – June 18.....173332 – 3F

TIME: 12:00 – 1:00 pm

AGE: 8 – 13 years

FEE: \$14.00 per child

# FUN FOR KIDS

## Growing a Gardener

Like the seed, gardeners start small and grow into a mighty force of good for our environment and earth itself! Join us as we nurture our growing gardeners and learn why plants and the insects who pollinate them are so vital to our planet. We will play a game, do a craft, hear a story, eat a snack and use our different senses to learn all about plants, pollinators and what they produce for us!

LOCATION: Nature Center, Jakes Branch County Park, Beachwood

DATE: Saturday, May 10.....175262 – 5E

TIME: 11:00 am – 12:00 pm

FEE: \$8.00 per child

AGE: 5 – 7 years

## NEW Generation Pound

Generation Pound combines fitness with fun! The kids will be making lots of noise with lightly weighted ripstix while building confidence and coordination. Sneakers, a mat, and water are needed for this class. This is a drop off program. **Have a check for \$35.00 made payable to Gabrielle Molino on the first day of class.**

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

DATE: Mondays, June 2 – June 16.....173332 – 3G

TIME: 11:30 am – 12:15 pm

FEE: \$5.00 registration fee per person

AGE: 6 – 9 years

## Binary Code Keychains

Calling all kids interested in STEM! Use the binary coding system to create a unique keychain. Kids will “code” their own initials using beads following the binary code. We will also have a short lesson on coding, its history, and how it is used.

LOCATION: Nature Center, Jakes Branch County Park, Beachwood

DATE: Sunday, April 13.....175262 – 5F

TIME: 12:30 – 1:30 pm

FEE: \$5.00 per child

AGE: 6 – 12 years

## Beginner Tennis for Kids & Teens

This program is designed for children who are beginners in tennis. This three-week program will incorporate all of the basics needed for a child to get a feel for the sport. Groundstrokes, serving, 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, Jakes Branch County Park, Beachwood

DATE: Wednesday, May 7 – May 21.....173332 – 3H

TIME: 4:30 - 5:30 pm

FEE: \$10.00 per child

AGE: 8 - 15 years





# FOR FOR KIDS

## Spring Break Fun

Want to keep your child engaged during spring break? These short but fun programs are designed to do just that. Sign up for one or all!

LOCATION: Nature Center, Jakes Branch County Park, Beachwood

DATES:

Crazy Crafting	April 21.....175262 – 5A
Icky But Nifty	April 22.....175262 – 5B
Mad Science	April 23.....175262 – 5C
Radical Ramble (HIKE)	April 24.....175262 – 5D

TIME: 10:00 am – 12:00 pm

FEE: \$10.00 per child

AGE: 9 – 12 years

## Archery for Kids

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. This class is suitable for all archery experience levels and all equipment is provided. Participants should wear sneakers and bug spray.

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

DATE: Saturday, May 24.....176123 – 9B

TIME: 1:00 - 3:00pm

FEE: \$10 per person

AGE: 10 – 15 years

# HORTICULTURAL HAPPENINGS

## Growing Vegetables in Containers

If you have limited space in your yard and would like to grow vegetables, container gardening is a great option to consider. Sign up for this fun program and learn how to use containers to grow an array of vegetables. **Outdoor event, please dress accordingly.**

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

DATE: Wednesday, April 2.....177186 – 7A

TIME: 10:00 - 11:00 am

FEE: \$5.00 per person

AGE: Adult

## Making Compost and Leaf Mold

Reap the rewards from making compost and leaf mold at home. Reduce household waste, while creating wonderful, nutrient rich compost and soil conditioner for your flowers, vegetables and lawn. **Outdoor event, please dress accordingly.**

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

DATE: Wednesday, April 23.....177186 – 7B

TIME: 10:00 -11:00 am

FEE: \$5.00 per person

AGE: Adult

## Straw Bale Gardening

Are you interested in learning about different methods of vegetable gardening that you can apply in your own yard? Straw bale gardening can eliminate all kinds of gardening problems such as limited space and poor soil. Come learn about growing a productive garden without the high cost and maintenance.

**Outdoor event, please dress accordingly.**

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

DATE: Wednesday, May 7.....177186 – 7C

TIME: 10:00 - 11:00 am

FEE: \$5.00 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, June 3 – August 19

TIMES: 10:00 am -12:00 noon.....171384 – 1A

5:00 – 7:00 pm.....171384 – 1B

7:00 – 9:00 pm.....171384 – 1C

DATE: Wednesdays, June 4 – August 20

10:00 am – 12:00 noon .....171384 – 1D

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

## Home Sweet Home

Calling all flower decor lovers! This floral tin basket will be attached to a beautiful piece of rustic wood. You will be using vibrant spring artificial flowers to fill your tin basket with. This project will make the perfect house accent.

LOCATION: Program Room, Parks Administration Office, Toms River

DATE: Thursday, April 10 .....FULL.....171186 – 1A

TIME: 6:00 – 8:00 pm

FEE: \$30.00 per person AGE: Adult

## Every Bunny Needs Some Bunny

Hop on down the bunny trail and welcome spring with bunnies galore. We will create adorable bunnies and a carrot or two.

LOCATION: Program Room, Parks Administration Office, Toms River

DATE: Thursday, April 17 .....FULL.....171186 – 1B

TIME: 6:00 – 8:00 pm

FEE: \$20.00 per person AGE: Adult

## Paper Hydrangea Wreath

Enjoy the iconic look of hydrangeas year-round! This chunky wreath is bursting with spring cheer and bound to brighten up whatever space it's hung in. We will be using pre-cut paper flowers and tissue paper to create our wreaths in pink, blue, purple, white, or a mix of all four!

LOCATION: Nature Center, Jakes Branch County Park, Beachwood

DATE: Saturday, April 19.....FULL.....175186 – 5A

TIME: 10:30 am – 12:30 pm

FEE: \$10.00 per person AGE: 16 years – Adult

## Create Your Own Walking Stick

Spring 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. The program will be held outside so please dress for the weather.

**Please bring exact cash or check payable to instructor Brad Koller for \$30.00.**

**Children age 8-13 must be accompanied by an adult.**

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

DATE: Sunday, April 27.....179186 – 9A

Sunday, June 8.....179186 – 9B

TIME: 12:00 - 3:00 pm

FEE: \$5.00 per person registration fee AGE: 8 years – Adult

# CREATIVE EXPRESSIONS

## Spring Needle Felting

Needle felting is the art of using specialized needles to condense natural wool fibers in order to create beautiful soft sculptures. Join us for our spring needle felting class, where the theme will be "garden gnomes". You will learn basic needle felting techniques and leave with your very own adorable garden gnome! No experience necessary, all supplies will be provided by the instructor.

LOCATION: Nature Center, Jakes Branch County Park, Beachwood

DATE: Saturday, May 3.....**FULL**.....175186 – 5B

TIME: 10:30 am – 12:30 pm

FEE: \$10.00 per person

AGE: 16 years - Adult

## Mother's Day Paper Flower Bouquet

Come by and enjoy making a beautiful decorative bouquet of paper flowers. We will be using a variety of construction paper and recycled paper to make unique paper flowers that never wilt! Perfect to take home and set up in a vase as a nice hand-made gift for Mom.

LOCATION: Classroom, Jakes Branch County Park, Beachwood

DATE: Sunday, May 4.....175186 – 5C

TIME: 11:00 am – 12:30 pm

FEE: \$10.00 per person

AGE: 16 years – Adult

## Candlestick Apothecary Jars

Create a trio of nostalgic apothecary jars, both decorative and functional. Feel free to bring bits and bobs from home to add a personal touch.

LOCATION: Program Room, Parks Administration Office, Toms River

DATE: Thursday, May 15 .....171186 – 1C

TIME: 6:00 – 8:00 pm

FEE: \$20.00 per person

AGE: Adult

## Following the Seasons Wreath

Spring, Summer, Fall and Winter, Each season offers a variety of treasures to be found within our local forest known as the Pine Barrens. Individuals who lived off this land, known as Pineys, collected a variety of items from their surrounding environment for themselves and companies they worked for to sell for profit. From cones to berries to moss, the Pine Barrens holds a variety of treasures for those who look hard enough. Join us as we make a wreath celebrating the many Pine Barrens Industries from things you can find right outside your door.

LOCATION: Program Room, Jakes Branch County Park, Beachwood

DATE: Friday, May 16.....**FULL**.....175186 – 5D

TIME: 6:00 – 7:00 pm

FEE: \$10.00 per person

AGE: 14 years – Adult

## Pressed Flower Bookmarks

Create your very own bookmark utilizing beautiful pressed flowers – just in time for your summer reading! Make one for yourself and another for 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 plants/flowers for your future projects. **\*\*\*Please note that we will be using real dried flowers for allergy planning purposes\*\*\***

LOCATION: Classroom, Jakes Branch County Park, Beachwood

DATE: Saturday, May 17.....175186 – 5E

TIME: 10:30 – 11:30 am

FEE: \$10.00 per person

AGE: 8 years - Adult

# CREATIVE EXPRESSIONS

## Seashore Centerpiece

The sea has captivated many who gaze upon its almost immeasurable depths. From sailors to shore-goers, the shore holds a variety of treasures just waiting to be found for those who seek them. Join us as we take some of the treasures of the sea and shore and create a sea glass inspired mason jar centerpiece sure to be the talk of your summer guests!

LOCATION: Program Room, Jakes Branch County Park, Beachwood

DATE: Saturday, June 7.....**FULL**.....175186 – 5F

TIME: 10:00 – 11:00 am

FEE: \$10.00 per person

AGE: 14 years - Adult

## Pinecone Bouquet Wall Hanging

Using all natural materials painted in floral hues, we will create a wall hanging with pinecone “flowers” and a tree bark “vase” that is full of rustic charm.

LOCATION: Nature Center, Jakes Branch County Park, Beachwood

DATE: Saturday, June 21.....175186 – 5G

TIME: 10:30 – 11:30 am

FEE: \$10.00 per person

AGE: 12 years - Adult

## Something’s Fishy

Something’s fishy with this unique coastal, wooden bonefish craft.

Using wooden pieces, beads, shells and more, you will create a personal masterpiece.

LOCATION: Program Room, Parks Administration Office, Toms River

DATE: Thursday, June 19 .....171186 – 1D

TIME: 6:00 – 8:00 pm

FEE: \$20.00 per person

AGE: Adult

## God Bless America

This 3 piece wood stacked patriotic decor will bring your home a great touch for the July 4th season. Cute patriotic blocks will sit perfectly on a mantle, tuck on a shelf or add to your tiered tray.

LOCATION: Program Room, Parks Administration Office, Toms River

DATE: Thursday, June 26 .....**FULL**.....171186 – 1E

TIME: 6:00 – 8:00 pm

FEE: \$20.00 per person

AGE: Adult

## Pysanky: Ukrainian Egg Decorating

Pysanky is the folk art of Ukrainian egg decorating. The designs are “written” on the eggs using natural bees wax, and the eggs are submerged in beautiful dyes. This craft is thousands of years old and a large part of the Ukrainian tradition. Learn about the history and symbolism of the pysanky designs and how to create your very own egg to take home.

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

DATE: Saturday, April 5.....**FULL**.....172186 – 2B

TIME: 1:00 - 3:30 pm

FEE: \$10.00 per person

AGE: 12 years – Adult



For full information on Your Ocean County Parks visit:  
[www.oceancountyparks.org](http://www.oceancountyparks.org)



# CREATIVE EXPRESSIONS

## Natural Dyes

This spring and summer, the Cloverdale staff is diving into various types of natural dyes and experimenting with different techniques. Each month will offer either a new type of dye, new technique or application process. Join us for this fun and exploratory journey as we brighten your world and learn right alongside you!

**Please dress for the weather as this program will take place outside.**

LOCATION: Program Room, Cloverdale Farm County Park, Barnegat

DATES:

Monday, April 7.....176186 – 6A

Friday, May 16.....176186 – 6B

Saturday, June 14.....176186 – 6C

TIME: 10:00 am – 12:00 pm

FEE: \$10.00 per person

AGE: 12 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 exact cash or check payable to instructor Brad Koller for \$30.00. Children age 11-13 must be accompanied by an adult.**

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

DATE: Sunday, April 13.....172186 – 2A

TIME: 12:00-3:00pm

FEE: \$5.00 per person registration fee

AGE: 11 years – Adult

## Wheat Weaving: Spring Wreath

During this program, Christine Metzler will teach you a gorgeous spiral wheat weaving pattern to create a beautiful hanging wreath 4-inch ornament. Your woven wheat wreath will be a perfect Mother's Day gift or can be used to display in your kitchen window to brighten your day. No prior experience needed. **Please have \$25 in exact change to cover instructor fees and material cost.**

LOCATION: Program Room, Cloverdale Farm County Park, Barnegat

DATE: Friday, May 2 .....176186 – 6D

TIME: 10:00 am - 2:00 pm

FEE: \$5.00 per person registration fee

AGE: Adult



## Bluebird Carving

Join us as Kevin Hammell, a local carver, teaches you the fine art of carving an Eastern Bluebird, the songbird of happiness, 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 bluebird. **Pack a bagged lunch or snack. Please bring \$90.00 in exact change for the instructor and materials the first day of class.**

LOCATION: Program Room, Cloverdale Farm County Park, Barnegat

DATE: Friday, April 11 &

Saturday, April 12 .....176186 – 6E

TIME: 10:00 am - 4:00 pm

FEE: \$5.00 per person registration fee

AGE: Adult



# CREATIVE EXPRESSIONS



## Kid's Shorebird Flattie

Kevin Hammell, a local decoy carver, will teach you how to carve and paint your own shorebird flattie to take home. This program is great for Boy Scouts looking to complete their wood carving merit badge.

**Please bring \$25.00 in exact change for the instructor and materials.**

LOCATION: Program Room, Cloverdale Farm County Park, Barnegat

DATE: Friday, April 25 .....176186 – 6F

TIME: 9:00 am - 1:00 pm

FEE: \$5.00 per person registration fee      AGES: 9 - 17 years (parents welcome to stay)

## Shorebird Flattie

Interested in carving but not sure you are up to the task? If so, this program led by Kevin Hammell, a local decoy carver, will give you a mini session to explore the basics of carving, sanding, and painting techniques. **Please bring \$25.00 in exact change for the instructor and materials.**

LOCATION: Program Room, Cloverdale Farm County Park, Barnegat

DATE: Friday, April 25 .....176186 – 6G

TIME: 1:30 - 5:00 pm

FEE: \$5.00 per person registration fee

AGE: Adult

## Wooden Spoon Carving Class

Join us as Kevin Hammell, a local carver, teaches you the fine art of carving a wooden cooking spoon through step-by-step instructions. We know the chef in your family will love receiving this cherished handmade gift. Even more if that chef is you!

**Please bring \$30.00 in exact change for the instructor and materials.**

LOCATION: Program Room, Cloverdale Farm County Park, Barnegat

DATE: Saturday, May 10.....176186 – 6H

TIME: 9:00 am - 1:00 pm

FEE: \$5.00 per person registration fee

AGE: Adult



# CREATIVE EXPRESSIONS



## Piping Plover Carving

Kevin Hammell, a local carver, will teach you the fine art of carving a Piping Plover through step-by-step instructions. The first day of class will focus on carving. The second day 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 the first day of class.**

LOCATION: Program Room, Cloverdale Farm County Park, Barnegat

DATE: Friday, June 6 & Saturday, June 7.....176186 – 6I

TIME: 10:00 am - 4:00 pm

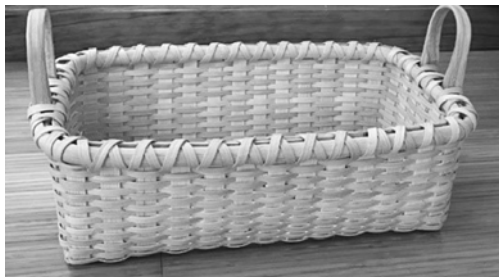
FEE: \$5.00 per person registration fee

AGE: Adult

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## 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.



## Low Profile Market Basket

This two-oak bushel-handled rectangular basket makes a perfect counter tray for fruit, muffins, and other treats. This mold-woven basket will have runners. All skill levels are welcomed. **Please pack a bagged lunch and have \$55 in exact change for instructor fees and material costs.**

LOCATION: Program Room, Cloverdale Farm County Park, Barnegat

DATES: Saturday, April 5.....**FULL**.....176186 – 6J

TIME: 10:00 am - 3:00 pm

FEE: \$5.00 per person registration fee

AGES: 15 years - Adult

## Shaker Tub

This elegantly designed basket has a star-shaped cheese weave pattern at its base, which transforms into a classic continuous weave. This mold-woven basket is for intermediate basket weavers who have experience weaving at least five baskets. **Please pack a bagged lunch and have \$60 in exact change for instructor fees and material costs.**

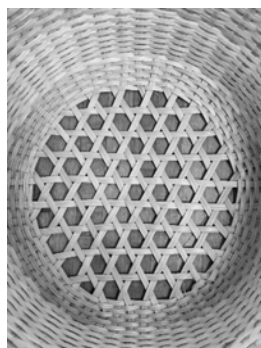
LOCATION: Program Room, Cloverdale Farm County Park, Barnegat

DATES: Friday, May 9.....**FULL**.....176186 – 6K

TIME: 10:00 am - 4:00 pm

FEE: \$5.00 per person registration fee

AGE: Adult





# CREATIVE EXPRESSIONS

## Woven Stemmed Flowers

Create two adorable, woven long-stemmed flowers that will brighten any room décor this spring and summer. Great for a beginner weaver. **Please have \$28 in exact change for instructor fees and material costs.**

LOCATION: Program Room, Cloverdale Farm County Park, Barnegat

DATES: Friday, May 30.....176186 – 6L

TIME: 10:00 am - 2:00 pm

FEE: \$5.00 per person registration fee

AGES: 15 years – Adult



# HEALTH & WELLNESS

## Crystal Bowl Meditation

6 weeks of sound and music can be powerful tools in the healing process. The sound vibrations emanating from the crystal singing bowls re-tune the listener's body by opening and rebalancing chakras. The bowl meditation will bring about a deeper sense of well-being and help reduce negative effects of stress. We will use aromatherapy from time to time. (Please bring a yoga mat, pillow or blanket for comfort)

**Please bring exact cash or check payable to Instructor Karen English for \$60.00.**

LOCATION: Program Room, Parks Administration Office, Toms River

DATE: SESSION 1: Mondays, April 14 – May 19 .....171544 – 1A

DATE: SESSION 2: Mondays, June 2 – July 7.....171544 – 1B

TIME: 6:15 – 7:15 pm

FEE: \$5.00 per person registration fee

AGE: Adult

## NEW! 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 on a daily basis 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 \$60.00.**

LOCATION: Program Room, Parks Administration Office, Toms River

DATE: Session 1: Tuesdays, April 15 – May 20.....171544 – 1C

DATE: Session 2: Tuesdays, May 27 – July 1 .....171544 – 1D

TIME: 6:00 - 7:00 pm

FEE: \$5.00 per person registration fee

AGE: Adult

# HEALTH & WELLNESS

## Movement Meditation using Chakra Tai Chi

Chakra Tai Chi is a simple, powerful self-care practice for activating and aligning energy from the base of the body to the crown. In this program, you will practice movement meditations to access your thoughts and emotions of your body, mind and soul. You will leave this program with a better understanding and connection to yourself and others.

**\*Please bring exact cash or a check payable to Advanced Practitioner and Instructor of Acupressure Regina Rosenthal for \$20.00\***

LOCATION: Program Room, Parks Administration Office, Toms River

DATE: Wednesday, April 9.....171544 – 1E

TIME: 6:00 – 8:30 pm

FEE: \$5.00 per person registration fee

AGE: Adult

## Acupressure Self-Care Program

In this class you will learn and practice Seva Acupressure for Self-Care on yourself through demonstration and hands-on practice. This simple acupressure program can be used to reduce stress, anxiety, pain and promote relaxation. You will also learn about using an Awareness Journal.

**\*Please bring exact cash or a check payable to Advanced Practitioner and Instructor of Acupressure Regina Rosenthal for \$20.00\***

LOCATION: Conference Room Upstairs, Parks Administration Office, Toms River

DATE: Wednesday, April 16 .....171544 – 1F

TIME: 6:00 – 8:30 pm

FEE: \$5.00 per person registration fee

AGE: Adult

## NEW!!! 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 exact cash or a check for \$30.00\***

**\*\*Please bring a yoga mat or blanket for comfort and wear comfortable clothing\*\***

LOCATION: Program Room, Parks Administration Office, Toms River

DATE: Wednesday, April 23 .....FULL.....421544 – 2J

TIME: 6:00 – 7:30 pm

DATE: Wednesday, MAY 14 .....421544 – 2K

TIME: 6:00 – 7:30 pm

FEE: \$5.00 per person registration fee

AGE: Adult

## Body Balm and Body Mist Spray with Essential Oils

We will use nourishing body butters and essential oils to create a solid lotion bar in a twist up tube that can be applied to your face and body. Convenient to use for moisturizing your skin.

Discover different skin supporting hydrosols, (aromatic waters) to make a

One ounce mist spray to help the skin appear more glowing and radiant.

**\*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, April 30.....FULL.....171544 – 1G

TIME: 6:00 – 8:00 pm

FEE: \$5.00 per person registration fee

AGE: Adult

# HEALTH & WELLNESS

## Summer First Aid Kit with Essential Oils and Aloe Vera Gel

Create a Band-Aid in a bottle aloe vera gel for cuts and scrapes to help them heal quicker and an all-natural mosquito repellent with essential oils. Great for summertime travel, hiking and being outdoors. All supplies and handouts will be provided.

**\*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, June 25.....171544 – 1H  
TIME: 6:00 – 8:00 pm  
FEE: \$5.00 per person registration fee AGE: Adult

# ACTIVE RECREATION

## Seniorcise 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: April 1 – April 25 (no class 4/18) .....173123 – 3A  
SESSION 2: April 29 – May 20 .....173123 – 3B  
SESSION 3: May 23 – June 13.....173123 – 3C  
TIME: 9:15 am - 10:00 am  
FEE: \$60.00 per person AGE: 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: April 1 – April 25 (no class 4/18) .....173123 – 3D  
SESSION 2: April 29 – May 20 .....173123 – 3E  
SESSION 3: May 23 – June 13.....173123 – 3F  
TIME: 11:00 am - 12:00 pm  
FEE: \$5.00 registration fee per person AGE: Adult

## Chair Stretch

This new and 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. **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: April 1 – April 25 (no class 4/18) .....173123 – 3G  
SESSION 2: April 29 – May 20 .....173123 – 3H  
SESSION 3: May 23 – June 13 .....173123 – 3I  
TIME: 1:30 pm – 2:00 pm  
FEE: \$5.00 registration fee per person AGE: Adult



# ACTIVE RECREATION

## 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 AAAI-certified personal trainer with over 20 years of experience.

LOCATION: Program Room, Parks Administration Office, Toms River

DATE: Tuesdays and Fridays

SESSION 1: April 1 – April 25 (no class 4/18) .....173123 – 3J

SESSION 2: April 29 – May 20 .....173123 – 3K

SESSION 3: May 23 – June 13.....173123 – 3L

TIME: 2:00 pm - 2:45 pm

FEE: \$5.00 registration fee per person

AGE: Adult

## Yoga after Work

Keep calm and try yoga. This class 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: Mondays, May 12 – June 23 (no class 5/26).....173123 – 3M

TIME: 5:00 –6:00 pm

**FULL**

FEE: \$40.00 per person

AGE: 16 years – Adult

## Introduction to Stand Up Paddleboarding

Have you ever wanted to try paddleboarding? This introductory class will give you the basics on this amazing sport. We will review the types of paddleboards and equipment needed. We will then venture out into the lagoon to learn how to paddle. Paddleboard, paddle and PFDs are provided. You must be able to swim and must be able to kneel for long periods. Please wear bathing suit, water shoes, and bring water. This class is weather and wind dependent. Paddleboards are rated with a weight limit of 275lbs.

LOCATION: Boat Dock, County Parks Administration Office, Toms River

DATE: Saturday, June 14.....172123 – 2A

TIME: 9:00 - 10:30 am

DATE: Wednesday, June 25.....172123 – 2B

TIME: 5:30 - 7:00 pm

FEE: \$10.00 per person

AGE: 14 years – Adult

## Zumba Gold

Zumba Gold is the low-impact version of the dance and fitness program Zumba. While the class is designed for active older adults, all are welcome to join. No experience is necessary! Various genres of music will be incorporated. Please wear sneakers and bring some water. **Have a check for \$35.00 made payable to Gabrielle Molino on the first day of class.** Gabrielle is a licensed Zumba instructor and has been teaching Zumba for over 10 years.

LOCATION: Program Room, Parks Administrative Office, Toms River

DATE: Mondays, April 28 – May 19.....173123 – 3N

TIME: 11:30 am – 12:15 pm

FEE: \$5.00 registration fee per person

AGE: Adult

# ACTIVE RECREATION

## A Walk in the Park “Northern Edition”

Have you been interested in exploring some new parks within the Ocean County Parks system but just don'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 one has to offer. We will be walking at a brisk pace to get some cardiovascular benefits 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:

4/3: Tennis Courts, Beaver Dam County Park, Point Pleasant

4/10: Nature Center, Lake Shenandoah County Park, Lakewood

4/17: Tennis Courts, Ocean County Park, Lakewood

4/24: Pavilion, Patriots County Park, Jackson

5/1: Open Field Waterside, Parks Administration Office, Toms River

5/8: Nature Center, Cattus Island County Park, Toms River

DATE: Wednesdays, April 2 – May 7.....173123 – 30

TIME: 10:00 am – 11:00 am

FEE: \$14.00 per person

AGE: Adult

## Beginner's Disc Golf

Disc Golf is played 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. Please wear sneakers and bring a drink.

LOCATION: Disc Golf Course, Ocean County Park, Lakewood

DATE: Mondays, June 9 – June 23.....173123 – 3P

TIME: 1:00 – 2:30 pm

FEE: \$10.00 per person

AGE: Adult

## Archery for Adults

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. This class is suitable for all archery experience levels and all equipment is provided. Participants should wear sneakers and bug spray.

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

DATE: Friday, June 27.....179123 – 9A

TIME: 1:00 - 3:00pm

FEE: \$10.00 per person

AGE: Adult

## 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 fun and 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 Stanley “Tip” Seaman County Park, Tuckerton

DATE: Mondays, March 31 – April 21.....173123 – 4A

TIME: 5:30 – 7:00 pm

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

DATE: Tuesdays, April 15 – May 6.....173123 – 4B

TIME: 12:00 – 1:30 pm

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

DATE: Thursdays, May 15 – June 5.....173123 – 4C

TIME: 3:30 – 5:00 pm

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

DATE: Tuesdays, June 10 – July 1.....173123 – 4D

TIME: 10:00 – 11:30 am

FEE: \$10.00 per person

AGE: Adult

# ACTIVE RECREATION

## 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 1-3 Stanley "Tip" Seaman County Park, Tuckerton

DATE: Wednesdays, April 9 – April 23.....173123 – 4E

TIME: 3:00 – 4:30 pm

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

DATE: Tuesdays, April 15 – April 29.....173123 – 4F

TIME: 10:00 – 11:30 am

LOCATION: Pickleball Courts 2-4, Ocean County Park, Lakewood

DATE: Thursdays, April 17 – May 1.....**FULL**.....173123 – 4G

TIME: 5:00 – 6:30 pm

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

DATE: Thursdays, May 15 – May 29.....**FULL**.....173123 – 4H

TIME: 5:30 – 7:00 pm

FEE: \$10.00 per person

AGE: Adult

## NEW Pickleball Skills and Drills

Calling all pickleballers! Are you ready to take the next step in developing your Pickleball prowess? If so, this class is for you. In this three week program, we will participate in drill and gameplay that will help hone your skills and build good habits for when you're out on the court. Please wear sneakers and bring a drink. **You should complete Intro to Pickleball before taking this class.**

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

DATE: Mondays, May 5 - May 19.....**FULL**.....173123 - 4I

TIME: 3:00 - 4:30 pm

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

DATE: Mondays, May 5 - May 19.....173123 – 4J

TIME: 5:00 - 6:30 pm

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

DATE: Wednesdays, June 4 - June 18.....**FULL**.....173123 – 4K

TIME: 1:00 - 2:30 pm

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

DATE: Wednesdays, June 4 - June 18.....173123 – 4L

TIME: 3:00 - 4:30 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 pickleball skills with others with similar experience. Participants should have some experience playing Pickleball, and have a working knowledge of the rules and know how to keep score. Staff will be available to organize matches and answer questions.

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

DATE: Sundays, April 27 - May 12.....173123 – 4M

TIME: 9:00 – 11:00 am

FEE: \$10.00 per person

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, April 2 .....171166 – 1A

DATE: Wednesday, May 7 .....171166 – 1B

DATE: Wednesday, June 11.....171166 – 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, April 16 .....171166 – 1D

DATE: Wednesday, May 21 .....171166 – 1E

DATE: Wednesday, June 18 .....171166 – 1F

TIME: 6:30 – 9:00 pm

FEE: \$5.00 per person registration fee

AGE: 14 years – Adult

## 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.

**MAIL IN REGISTRATION IS PREFERRED. ANY MAIL IN REGISTRATIONS RECEIVED PRIOR TO MARCH 11th WILL BE RETURNED.**

**SPECIAL ASSISTANCE/ACCOMMODATIONS** available upon request.

For program availability or a newsletter please call:

**1-877-0CPARKS (627-2757) TOLL FREE**

**REGISTRATION LOCATIONS:**

**TIME: 8:30a.m. • 3:30p.m. Monday-Friday**

**Jakes Branch County Park, Beachwood 732-281-2750**

**Parks & Recreation Administration Office, Toms River 732-506-9090**

**Wells Mills County Park, Waretown 609-971-3085**

**Visit our WEBSITE: [www.oceancountyparks.org](http://www.oceancountyparks.org)**

## 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.

**MAIL IN REGISTRATION PREFERRED**

## 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.*

**MAIL IN REGISTRATION PREFERRED**

# 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, judgements, 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 \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_



# MAIL-IN REGISTRATION PREFERRED REGISTRATION FORM

**CUSTOMER:** please print the following information and return the entire signed and completed application to the address noted below.

## OCEAN COUNTY PARKS & RECREATION PROGRAM REGISTRATION APPLICATION

LAST \_\_\_\_\_ FIRST \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

APT #/BUILDING \_\_\_\_\_ TOWN \_\_\_\_\_

STATE \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_ 4 DIGIT EXT. \_\_\_\_\_

HOME # ( ) \_\_\_\_\_

WORK # ( ) \_\_\_\_\_ EXT #. \_\_\_\_\_

EMERGENCY # ( ) \_\_\_\_\_ CELL # ( ) \_\_\_\_\_

EMAIL ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

Total Amount Enclosed: \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Check # \_\_\_\_\_

*Make check payable to "COUNTY OF OCEAN" and mail to: Ocean County Parks & Recreation,  
ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE 1198 Bandon Road, Toms River, N.J. 08753-3138*

**REGISTRATION WILL BE ACCEPTED BEGINNING  
Tuesday, March 11th FOR PROGRAMS IN THIS ISSUE**

PROGRAM #	TITLE	LOCATION	TIME / DATE
Last Name/First: Date of Birth:			FEE:
Staff Use:			
PROGRAM #	TITLE	LOCATION	TIME / DATE
Last Name/First: Date of Birth:			FEE:
Staff Use:			
PROGRAM #	TITLE	LOCATION	TIME / DATE
Last Name/First: Date of Birth:			FEE:
Staff Use:			
PROGRAM #	TITLE	LOCATION	TIME / DATE
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Staff Use:			
PROGRAM #	TITLE	LOCATION	TIME / DATE
Last Name/First: Date of Birth:			FEE:
Staff Use:			
PROGRAM #	TITLE	LOCATION	TIME / DATE
Last Name/First: Date of Birth:			FEE:
Staff Use:			

**YOU MUST SIGN THE OPPOSITE SIDE OF THIS FORM**



# Save The Dates!

## Mark Your Calendars

**CATTUS ISLAND NATURE FEST** April 26

Cattus Island County Park  
Toms River

**GOLF TOURNAMENT** May 1

Ocean County Golf Course at ATLANTIS  
Little Egg Harbor Township

**FISHING CONTEST** May 3

Lake Shenandoah County Park  
Lakewood

**KIDS TO PARKS DAY** MAY 17

Multiple Ocean County Parks Locations

**PAWS IN THE PARKS** JUNE 14

Robert J. Miller Air Park  
Berkeley Township

**SUMMER PICNIC PARTY** June 26

John C. Bartlett Jr. County Park at Berkeley Island  
Berkeley Township

**TOUCH A TRUCK** June 27

Jakes Branch County Park  
Beachwood

**BARNEGAT LIGHT CAMPFIRE** June 28

Barnegat Light State Park  
Long Beach Island

**BEACHBALL BLAST** July 24

Ocean County Parks & Recreation Administration Office Bayfront Field  
Toms River

**CRABBING CONTEST** July 26

Mantoloking Bridge County Park  
Brick

"LIKE" us on Facebook  
Follow us on Instagram

& [www.oceancountyparks.org](http://www.oceancountyparks.org)  
for DAILY UPDATES

Trail Conditions, Weather Related Closings etc...



**OCEAN COUNTY PARKS & RECREATION  
ADMINISTRATION OFFICE**

1198 Bandon Road

Toms River, New Jersey 08753-3138

(732) 506-9090

**PRSPT STD**  
U.S. POSTAGE  
**PAID**  
PERMIT #544  
LAKEWOOD, NJ  
08701

**Mail in Registration is Preferred  
REGISTRATIONS WILL BE ACCEPTED BEGINNING  
Tuesday, March 11th FOR PROGRAMS IN THIS ISSUE  
Early Mail-Ins Will be Returned  
Parks & Recreation Administrative Office, Toms River  
(732) 506-9090  
[www.oceancountyparks.org](http://www.oceancountyparks.org)**



**Visit our website: [www.oceancountyparks.org](http://www.oceancountyparks.org)  
for full information on all our parks, trail maps,  
rental forms, rules and regulations.  
FOLLOW US ON SOCAIL MEDIA**

