PARKS
Colonial Park ....................................................... 3
Duke Island Park .................................................. 3
East County Park .................................................. 5
Lord Stirling Park
   Environmental Education Center ......................... 4
   Lord Stirling Stable .......................................... 3
Mountain View Park ............................................. 5
Natriar Park .......................................................... 5
North Branch Park ................................................. 4
Park Ranger Programs ......................................... 12
Skillman Park ....................................................... 5
Torpey Athletic Complex ..................................... 5
Undeveloped Natural Areas .................................. 5

GOLF
General Information ............................................ 6
Green Knoll .......................................................... 4
Neshanic Valley .................................................... 4
Quail Brook .......................................................... 4
Spooky Brook ....................................................... 4
Warrenbrook ........................................................ 4
Tee Time Reservations ........................................ 6
Junior Golf ........................................................... 6 & 7
Tournaments .......................................................... 7

RECREATION
Bocce ..................................................................... 5 & 8
Canoeing ................................................................. 28 & 29
Colonial Park
   Putting Course & Paddle Boats.......................... 3, 4 & 8
   Colonial Park Tennis .......................................... 3, 4 & 8
Equestrian Activities ............................................. 10 - 11
Naturalist Programs ............................................. 14-31
Picnic & Athletic Field Permits ............................. 8
Special Events ....................................................... 29 & 30
Spray Park ............................................................ 3
Tennis ................................................................... 3, 4 & 8
Therapeutic Recreation ......................................... 4, 9 & 10
Warrenbrook Pool ................................................. 4 & 8
Winter Activities ................................................... 8 & 28
Yoga ..................................................................... 8 & 24

GARDENS
Buck Garden ........................................................ 4
Perennial Garden/Arboretum ................................. 4
Wedding Photo Permits ........................................ 4
Garden Programs .................................................. 12 & 13
Somerset County Park Commission

Mark Caliguire - President
William Crosby - Vice-President
Helen Haines
D.J. Hunsinger
Jim Leonard
Doug Ludwig
Kevin McCallen
Dorothy Paluck
Scott Ross

Geoffrey Soriano - Secretary-Director
Cynthia A. Sullivan - Assistant Director

We Are Here To Serve You

Parks

Headquarters.......................................................... 908 722-1200
Colonial Park Rangers ........................................ 908 722-1200 ext. 5009
Duke Island Park Rangers ......................................... 908 722-1200 ext. 5130
East County Park................................................... 908 722-1200 ext. 5380
Lord Stirling Environmental Education Center .............. 908 722-1200 ext. 5002
Lord Stirling Stable............................................... 908 722-1200 ext. 5010
Mountain View Park.............................................. 908 722-1200 ext. 5901
Naturar Park.......................................................... 908 722-1200 ext. 5140
North Branch.......................................................... 908 722-1200 ext. 5120
Skillman Park......................................................... 908 722-1200 ext. 5824
Torpey Athletic Complex ......................................... 908 722-1200 ext. 5371

Golf Courses

Green Knoll............................................................ 908 722-1200 ext. 5005
Neshanic Valley....................................................... 908 722-1200 ext. 5006
Learning Center..................................................... 908 722-1200 ext. 5020
Pitch & Putt............................................................ 908 722-1200 ext. 5005
Quail Brook............................................................ 908 722-1200 ext. 5004
Spooky Brook.......................................................... 908 722-1200 ext. 5003
Warrenbrook.......................................................... 908 722-1200 ext. 5016
Tee Time Reservation Service.................................. 908 231-1122

Recreation

Colonial Park Putting Course and Paddleboats .............. 908 722-1200 ext. 5023
Colonial Park Tennis.............................................. 908 722-1200 ext. 5021
Green Knoll Tennis................................................. 908 722-1200 ext. 5021
Therapeutic Recreation............................................ 908 526-5650
Warrenbrook Pool................................................... 908 722-1200 ext. 5018
Picnic & Athletic Field Permits ................................. 908 722-1200 ext. 5225

Gardens

Buck Garden/Wedding Photos .................................. 908 722-1200 ext. 5621
Rose Garden.......................................................... 908 722-1200 ext. 5721
Perennial Garden/Arboretum..................................... 908 722-1200 ext. 5721
Wedding Ceremony/ Photo Permits ............................ 908 722-1200 ext. 5721

ADA and Discrimination Notice

Somerset County Park Commission (SCPC) welcomes everyone to participate in its programs and facilities regardless of race, color, gender, disability, age, sexual orientation, national origin, or religious or political affiliation.

In accordance with the requirements of title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (“ADA”), the SCPC will not discriminate against qualified individuals with disabilities on the basis of disability in its services, programs, or activities.

Effective Communication: SCPC will generally, upon request, provide appropriate aids and services leading to effective communication for qualified persons with disabilities so they can participate equally in SCPC programs, services, and activities, including qualified sign language interpreters, documents in Braille, and other ways of making information and communications accessible to people who have speech, hearing, or vision impairments.

Modifications to Policies and Procedures: SCPC will make all reasonable modifications to policies and programs to ensure that people with disabilities have an equal opportunity to enjoy all of its programs, services, and activities. For example, individuals with service animals are welcomed in park offices, even where pets are generally prohibited.

Anyone who requires an auxiliary aid or service for effective communication, or a modification of policies or procedures to participate in a program, service, or activity of SCPC, should contact the office of Dina Trunzo, Manager of Therapeutic Recreation, CTRS, PO Box 5327, North Branch, NJ 08876 908 722-1200 ext. 5234 as soon as possible, but no later than three weeks before the scheduled event.

The ADA does not require the SCPC to take any action that would fundamentally alter the nature of its programs or services, or impose an undue financial or administrative burden.

Complaints that a program, service, or activity of SCPC is not accessible to persons with disabilities should be directed in writing to Dina Trunzo, CTRS, ADA Coordinator, PO Box 5327, North Branch, NJ 08876 no later than 60 days after the alleged violation. Further details about the grievance procedure can be found on the website at www.somersetcountyparks.org/genInfo/ADA_NonDiscrimination/ADA_NonDiscrim.html.

Mission Statement

Committed to excellence in promoting stewardship of land and resources, providing outstanding recreation opportunities and leisure services, and fostering an environment which is service oriented and responsive to public needs.
Somerset County Park Commission

Somerset County Park Commission was established in 1956, as a resource management agency designated to provide specialized park areas and facilities that supplement municipal efforts. Sixty-four years later, the mission of the park system today has a more defined focus, accompanied by key components which outline the role to which the park system has been entrusted to improve the quality of life for Somerset County residents and the business community.

The Somerset County Park Commission is committed to excellence in promoting stewardship of land and resources, providing outstanding recreation opportunities and leisure services, and fostering an environment which is service oriented and responsive to public needs.

The park system is home to more than 14,750 acres of open space, and well on its way to achieving its goal of creating a regional scale network of parks and open space in excess of 20,000 acres. As identified in the 2000 update of the 1994 Parks, Recreation, and Open Space Master Plan, the park system has embarked on an aggressive program of land acquisition to provide more parks, a wider variety of recreation activities, and an increased responsibility to protect the County’s critical environmental resources and wildlife.

Facilities now operated by the Park Commission include a wide range of opportunities for leisure pursuits. Golf is a large component with five golf courses, three driving ranges, a pitch and putt course, and a recreational putting course. Specialized facilities include a riding stable, an environmental education center, two tennis facilities, a swimming pool, spray park, and paddle boating. Horticulture activities include a rock formation and rare plant garden, an award winning rose garden, arboretum, and a sensory and fragrance garden. Eight general use parks offer amenities such as picnic facilities, bike paths, athletic fields, and fishing opportunities. The park system also encompasses several natural areas offering more passive pursuits such as bird watching and hiking.

The Park Commission has established a tradition of providing quality and unique programs. Therapeutic Recreation provides year-round activities and events for children and adults with developmental disabilities, as well as a summer camp for children who have a learning disability or Asperger’s Syndrome. Environmental Education offers programs focusing on local environmental issues, archaeology, outdoor education, and bringing nature to children of all ages. Lessons and clinics are offered at many of the facilities, aimed at introducing people to a variety of recreation skills.

Special events are also conducted by the Park Commission. The most known of these include the Free Summer Concert Series, the 1770s Festival, and the Golf Tournaments. Twenty others are also held each year, each with its own distinctive focus. We invite you to examine the events, programs, and facilities listed within.

Colonial Park

Colonial Park, located in Franklin Township, offers a spectacular variety of features and activities for park visitors. Acquired in 1965, this 651-acre facility includes scenic frontage on both the historic Delaware and Raritan Canal and the Millstone River. Recreation facilities, prize winning horticultural displays, and pristine natural areas are spaced amid the broad lawns and ponds of this diverse Somerset County park.

Picnic and Playground Areas

Colonial Park offers two picnic areas available by reservation to groups of 25 people or more. The Knob Hill picnic pavilion can accommodate up to 150 people, and is located just off the main park drive near a playground and other family recreation facilities. The Pine Grove picnic pavilion can accommodate up to 250 people, and is adjacent to a softball field. Additional picnic tables and grills are located throughout the park for use on a casual basis. The Morgan Pellowski playground features equipment that is accessible and inclusive.

Athletics and Lifetime Sport Opportunities

A 1.4 mile fitness parcourse is laid out along a paved path used by walkers, joggers, and bicyclists. Eight bocce courts are located near the gardens. The Pine Grove softball field is available by reservation to leagues, tournaments, and those wanting a family game. The Howe Athletic Complex features youth and adult soccer fields, as well as a cricket field. The Lois Howe Nature Trail is a remnant of the oak, hickory, and beech forests which characterized this area in the past. A main trail and several smaller branch trails lead visitors into areas rich in varied plant and animal life. In winter, cross-country skiing and supervised ice skating are offered when weather permits.

Putting Course and Paddleboats

The Putting Course is a challenging family fun activity, which offers players fairways from 25 to 70 feet long in naturally landscaped water and garden settings. The Putting Course is accessible to accommodate players with physical disabilities. The popular duck-themed paddleboats are located on Powder Mill Pond, and are available for rent for a cruise around the water. A boat with hand pedals is available for persons with limited mobility.

Spray Park

The Spray Park is the newest facility in Colonial Park. The busy bee, spill tower, and mushroom maze are just some of the 20+ water features that will keep all children entertained! The park is designed for children who must be accompanied by an adult.

Tennis Center

Eight all-weather courts are available at the tennis center, for classes, leagues, varsity competitions, as well as walk-on matches.

Horticulture

Colonial Park’s horticultural area features a variety of displays for the public to enjoy. The Rudolf W. van der Goot Rose Garden offers a formal display of more than 3,000 roses. The formal garden is adjacent to a 5.5 acre arboretum. The Fragrance and Sensory Garden is designed for easy accessibility for individuals with physical disabilities. The Perennial Garden is a popular site for wedding ceremonies.

Duke Island Park

Duke Island Park, located in Bridgewater Township, is a site of rich natural beauty which offers varied recreational experiences. Truly an “island” park, it is traversed by the historic Raritan Power Canal. The Somerset County Park Commission acquired this 343-acre site in 1958, and has developed it to provide a wide variety of active and passive recreational opportunities and special events for park visitors.

Picnic and Playground Areas

Duke Island Park offers five picnic areas, available by reservation for groups of 25 people or more. Each of these picnic groves has at least 12 tables and 8 grills and three of them have covered pavilions. Additional picnic tables line the picturesque river trail, and are available on a casual basis. Among these is an accessible area, with a paved path, concrete patio, and tables which accommodate wheelchair seating. The new Raymond Willis Brown playground features creative play experiences and is barrier free.

Athletics and Lifetime Sport Opportunities

A softball field is available by permit for leagues and tournaments. When not reserved for this use, the field is available for those who wish to practice or have a friendly pickup game. In the winter, supervised ice skating and general cross country skiing are offered when weather permits. The Raritan River is stocked by the New Jersey Division of Fish and Wildlife, and offers prime fishing locations for beginner and expert anglers. Hikers, walkers, and birdwatchers may take advantage of the trails which follow along the river and pass through the extensive wooded areas.

Visitors Center

The Visitors Center is located near the main parking area, and houses the Park Ranger office and the restroom facilities. Rangers are available for information on the park’s recreation activities, and brochures and maps of the Park Commission facilities and programs are available.

Lord Stirling Park

Lord Stirling Park encompasses 990 acres in Bernards Township, and is the second largest public facility in the county park system. This beautiful natural resource occupies the western portion of the Great Swamp Basin. Lord Stirling Park has been designated solely for environmental and equestrian activities.

Lord Stirling Stable

The riding stable conducts a full program of equestrian instruction in English horsemanship for youth and adults from beginner through jumper. Several clinics are held annually, as are a full complement of special events and horse shows. An extensive 16-mile scenic trail system has been established, and an indoor arena and outdoor rings are available for horse rentals by the hour. The Harry O. Case Room of the indoor arena may be rented for meetings and themed pony parties.
Environmental Education Center

The Environmental Education Center offers an 8.5 mile trail system, including 2.5 miles of boardwalk that allows easy access to wetter portions of the park. Naturalists are available to answer questions and provide information. The 18,000 square foot building includes classrooms, an auditorium, a nature art gallery with temporary exhibits, an environmental book and gift shop, and a library with natural history and environmental materials. An exhibit hall features interactive displays and archeological artifacts highlighting the history and ecology of the Great Swamp. An extensive range of programs is conducted focusing on local environmental issues, natural history, archeology, and outdoor recreation. Environmental and science/technology camps and classes are held during the summer and vacation breaks. Trails are open every day of the week from dawn to dusk. Several special events are conducted throughout the year.

Natifar Park

Natifar is a 411-acre property located in the scenic hills of the boroughs of Peapack-Gladstone, Far Hills, and Bedminster. Formerly the estate of the Walter and Kate Macy Ladd, the property is rich in culture and history. The property features two 1-mile trails and one 1.5-mile trail that pass along the North Branch of the Raritan River, through wooded areas and across open fields. The Raritan River offers prime fishing locations for beginner and expert anglers. The large open fields are ideal for casual passive recreation activities.

North Branch Park

North Branch Park, located in Bridgewater Township, is the home of the Somerset County Park Commission administrative offices and the Therapeutic Recreation Activity Center. This 185-acre park, acquired in 1961, offers nearly a mile of frontage along the North Branch of the Raritan River. In addition to being the host location of the annual 4-H Fair, the park is used extensively for major exhibits, shows, and fairs.

Picnic and Playground Areas

North Branch Park offers two picnic areas, available by reservation for corporations and family groups of 25 people or more. Brook Grove, located near one of the softball fields, contains at least 14 tables and grills, and has a children's playground nearby. River Grove, adjacent to a large playing field, has 8 tables and grills. A pavilion is located on the fairgrounds, and may be reserved for group use. A number of picnic tables are located along the river, and are available on a casual basis.

Athletics and Lifetime Sport Opportunities

The North Branch of the Raritan River offers prime fishing locations, and is stocked each year by the New Jersey Division of Fish and Wildlife. Two softball fields are available for rental for leagues, tournaments or pickup games. The park also has a lighted soccer field, and a flying field for model aircraft enthusiasts. Model rocket hobbyists may launch their crafts on a section of the park grounds dedicated for their use. Two horse show rings are used for fairs, shows, and training.

Special Events

North Branch Park is home to several county-wide special events. In August, North Branch Park hosts the Somerset County 4-H Fair. Areas of the park are also rented to special groups wishing to host events such as dog shows and bicycle road races.

Golf Courses

Green Knoll Golf Course

This regulation, 18-hole, 6,443 yard course is a challenge to the experienced golfer, as well as the novice player. Green Knoll is known for its tight fairways and rolling contours. The facility also operates a lighted 9-hole par three Pitch and Putt Course. A golf shop is available. Green Knoll is located at 587 Garretson Road, Bridgewater Township. Phone: 908 722-1200 ext. 5431

Neshanic Valley Golf Course

Neshanic Valley Golf Course features a 27-hole Championship Course, the 9-hole Academy Course, the Learning Center, and the Callaway Golf Performance Center. The Championship course features five tees with 18-hole layouts ranging from 5,050 yards to 7,108 yards. The 9-hole, par 32, Academy Course, an Executive-style layout, plays from 1,420 yards to 2,019 yards, with thee tees per hole. The Clubhouse has a fully stocked Pro Shop featuring brand name equipment and golf apparel. The grille room is available for sandwiches, snacks, and beverages. Neshanic Valley Golf Course is located at 2301 South Branch Road in Branchburg. Phone: 908 722-1200 ext. 5441

Quail Brook Golf Course

Selected one of the top public courses in Central Jersey, this 18-hole, 6,611 yard course is heavily wooded and is known for its rolling front nine and tight, hilly back nine. A driving range is also located at the facility. A golf shop is available. Quail Brook is located at 625 New Brunswick Road, Franklin Township. Phone: 908 722-1200 ext. 5452

Spooky Brook Golf Course

This relatively flat, 6,634 yard, 18 hole course is known for its spacious greens, tees, and fairways. Easy to walk, it is a favorite of senior golfers. A driving range is also operated at the facility. A golf shop is available. Spooky Brook is located at 582 Elizabeth Avenue, Franklin Township. Phone: 908 722-1200 ext. 5461

Warrenbrook Golf Course

Warrenbrook is a heavily wooded and extremely tight, 6,372 yard, 18-hole course. The contours provide plenty of uphill and downhill lies. Gas cars are recommended. A golf shop is available. Warrenbrook is located at 500 Warrenville Road, Warren Township. Phone: 908 722-1200 ext. 5471

Recreation

Colonial Park Putting Course and Paddleboats

Each of the 18 holes on this “golf course in miniature” offers a challenge to players of any age. The putting course is accessible to players with physical disabilities. On nearby Powder Mill Pond, duck-themed paddleboats are available for rent. For persons with limited mobility, there is a boat with hand operated pedals. The duck boats seat four people and cost $15 for 30 minutes.

Colonial Park and Green Knoll Tennis Centers

Eighteen all weather composition courts comprise the two outdoor tennis facilities. Each center is open for day and night play. Green Knoll Tennis Center, located in Bridgewater Township, features instructional clinics and a variety of youth and adult tournaments throughout the season. Colonial Park Tennis Center, in Franklin Township, is accessible to persons with physical disabilities, and is ideal for organized league play.

Warrenbrook Pool

Warrenbrook Pool, located in Warren Township, is an outdoor swimming facility offering patrons a choice of seasonal passes or daily admissions. Swim instruction is offered from toddler level classes through advanced instruction. A snack bar offering snacks and ice cream is available.

Therapeutic Recreation

This cooperative effort with Somerset County municipalities provides year-round recreational opportunities to children, teens, and adults with developmental disabilities. Included are seasonal programs and Summer Explorations, six one-week themed summer programs for children with learning disabilities, Aspergers Syndrome, high functioning autism or a mild intellectual disability. Additionally, the department provides inclusion support services to other Park Commission departments and municipal recreation departments.

Picnic, Athletic Field, and Special Use Permits

Somerset County Park Commission offers permits for rental of county facilities for a variety of outdoor uses, including picnics, athletic events, scout events, dog shows, horse shows, overnight group camping, and other special events. Somerset County Park Commission also rents the Showmobile, a portable stage complete with a sound system, to county groups producing concerts, parades, and community day events.

Gardens

Leonard J. Buck Garden

Located in Far Hills, this 33-acre naturalistic garden features planted rock outcroppings, wood-land trails lined with wildflowers, stream, and lakeside plantings, as well as displays of azaleas, ferns, heaths, and heathers. The garden is at peak bloom in spring, and offers a spectacular display of fall foliage. A wide variety of naturalistic plantings may be enjoyed year round.

Colonial Park Gardens

A wide variety of horticultural displays are found in Colonial Park, Franklin Township. The arboretum contains labeled specimens of flowering trees, evergreens, shade trees, and flowering shrubs that grow well in central New Jersey. The arboretum serves as a valuable resource for homeowners, gardeners, and landscape professionals.

The Perennial Garden

Located near parking lot F, provides year-round interest for the enjoyment of gardeners and park visitors alike. A gazebo in the center of the garden is surrounded by beds displaying a selection of flowering bulbs, perennials, annuals, and flowering trees and shrubs.

Rudolf W. van der Goot Rose Garden

offers a formal display of more than 3,000 roses. This accredited All America Rose Selections garden won an international award in 2015 from the World Federation of Rose Societies, and features labeled specimens of a wide variety of roses. Located behind the Rose Garden is a Fragrance and Sensory Garden. This circular garden with raised beds is accessible for persons with disabilities so that all of our visitors can enjoy the flowers, shrubs, herbs, and scented plants that grow there.

Wedding photographs are allowed by permit only. Please contact the Horticulture offices: Buck Garden at 908 722-1200 ext. 5621 and Colonial Park at 908 722-1200 ext. 5721.
Undeveloped Natural Areas and Other Parkland

Frank “Nap” Torpey Complex
This park facility is located on Nimitz Street in the Finderne Section of Bridgewater. It contains one lighted baseball field, one lighted softball field, two soccer fields, and a multi-purpose sports synthetic turf field. A concession building is available to groups who have a permit to use the fields.

Mountain View Park
Mountain View Park in Hillsborough has seven fields, including youth and adult baseball fields and a challenger field for use by individuals with disabilities. There is a playground, walking paths, and a concession building. For more information, please call 908 722-1200 ext. 5225.

East County Park
The facilities within the park system are a dog park, picnic pavilion, and two walking trails. It is located in Warren Township.

Skillman Park
This 275-acre tract, located in Montgomery Township, provides passive recreational opportunities for park patrons. A 2-mile walking trail offers visitors the chance to run through the park. A leash-free dog area is also available.

Greenway Park
Greenway Park is a nine-acre tract located on Milltown Road in Bridgewater, housing a lighted inline skating rink, two basketball courts, and an open play field. Access to fishing locations on the North Branch of the Raritan River is provided.

Sourland Mountain Preserve
Sourland Mountain Preserve is the largest facility in the county park system, encompassing 6,253 acres through Hillsborough and Montgomery Townships. The Preserve provides passive recreational opportunities in an undisturbed natural setting.

Washington Valley Park
Washington Valley Park consists of approximately 720 acres which lie along the First Watchung Ridge in Bridgewater Township. The park contains the former Bound Brook Elizabethtown Reservoir which will become the focal point of the park along a network of trails.

Washington Rock Park
One of the oldest parks in New Jersey, Washington Rock was originally purchased by the state of New Jersey in 1913 to commemorate the historical events of June 1777. The strategic location of Washington Rock made it a valuable lookout point during the American Revolution for General George Washington when the British army under General William Howe was moving toward Westfield. From the vantage point of this natural rock outcropping, General Washington was able to instruct his troops to circle behind Howe’s troops and cut off their retreat. Today, the park still offers panoramic views and family picnic sites.

Little Brook Sanctuary
This unique 115-acre sanctuary, located in Bernardsville, has a meandering brook that runs through the habitats of a wide variety of wildlife. It remains undeveloped in order to further its role in conserving for future generations lands that have unique or special value because of their natural beauty and ecological features.

Online Program Registration
Register online! Somerset County Park Commission has an online registration system for many of our programs. Now you will be able to view detailed information on programs currently being offered, check availability, register, and receive an e-mail confirmation of your registration!

Online registration is available for the following programs and facilities:
- Yoga
- Tennis
- Warrenbrook Pool
- Naturalist Programs at the Environmental Education Center
- Equestrian lessons
- Garden programs at Buck Garden and Colonial Park

To register online, you must have a Household Number and Password. First time users of this system must establish an account. Please note that some of our programs require county residency, and therefore we will need to confirm your information, and will mail you an email confirmation with your household number. To create an account, visit our website at www.somersetcountyparks.org.

BOCCE
2020 SPRING LEAGUE - REGISTRATION FORM
Colonial Park Bocce Facility Tuesday, May 5, 12, 19, 26, June 2, 9 at 6:00pm followed by a week of playoffs. Championship Finals on Tuesday, June 23, 2020.

Name: ____________________________________________

Address: __________________________________________

Phone: ___________________________ Cell: ___________________________

E-mail: _____________________________________________

Team Name: __________________________________________

Team Members: _______________________________________

Team Substitute: _______________________________________

*Teams must consist of two players. At least one substitute player per team is encouraged. $10 registration fee per team. All equipment is provided by the Recreation Department of the Somerset County Park Commission.

Make checks payable to Somerset County Park Commission

Mail to: Dina Fornataro-Healey, Recreation Manager
Somerset County Park Commission
PO Box 5327
North Branch, New Jersey 08876
Phone: 908 722-1200 x 5226
**General Golf Information**

Golf Identification Card

Somerset County residents may purchase a Park Commission Golf Identification Card, entitling them to play at each of the five county courses for a reduced in-county rate. The card now also includes a subscription to the Tee Time Reservation Service. The card is renewable each calendar year and is nontransferable. Proof of residency is required (current driver’s license, vehicle registration or tax bill) when purchasing an I.D. Card. Registration must be done in person. Golfers must present their card upon purchase of greens fee each time they wish to play.

Reserved Tee Times

Golfers can reserve tee times through the Tee Time Reservation Service. Somerset County residents may make a tee time reservation 24 hours a day, up to 7 days in advance, at any one of the five golf courses. Golfers may also check course conditions, as well as modify, cancel or review their existing reservation.

There is a $75 annual subscription fee for non-registered golfers. This service is included as part of the annual registration fee for all others. Subscriptions are offered on a calendar-year basis beginning January 1. Application forms are available in each of the golf shops. Non-subscribers may make reservations one day in advance, and walk-ons will be scheduled in any open spaces. Reservations may be made by phone by calling 908 231-1122 or online at www.somersetcountyparks.org

**Junior Golf Program**

The longest running and most experienced junior golf program in central Jersey, this program has produced several PGA professionals, including one currently touring PGA professional and one LPGA touring professional. The program is led by the Director of Instruction, Fred Glass, PGA and Lead Instructor, David Chung, PGA.

The Somerset County Park Commission offers several different junior instruction programs to include clinics, camps, and course play. All take place at the world class Neshanic Valley Learning Center in a safe and secure environment. All activities are supervised and the goal of the program is to give girls and boys the chance to learn the basics of a game they can play and enjoy for a lifetime. Registration will be conducted at the Neshanic Valley Golf Course Learning Center on March 7, 2020. For additional information, please call the Park Commission at 908 369-1458 ext. 5428.

**CLINICS**

**Drive, Chip & Putt:** a 90-minute clinic that will expose participants to the three main elements of the golf game. It will start with putting and work back from the green to chipping and driving. This clinic will help prepare individuals for the National Drive, Chip, and Putt competition. A qualifier for the National event will be held at Neshanic Valley. The clinics will be held at Neshanic Valley Learning Center and are for ages 7 to 15. The fee is $160.

Clinic I  Saturdays April 4, 11, 18, 25  Noon – 1:30pm
Clinic II  Sundays April 5, 12, 19, 26  Noon – 1:30pm

---

**2020 Golf Rates**

**For Neshanic Valley Golf Course**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Mon-Thurs</th>
<th>Fri-Sun/Hol</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Championship Course Greens Fees (Registered Golfers)</td>
<td>$55.00</td>
<td>$65.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Adult - 18 holes (fee includes power cart)</td>
<td>$55.00</td>
<td>$65.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Senior - 18 holes (fee includes power cart)</td>
<td>$45.00</td>
<td>$55.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Junior - 18 holes * (fee includes power cart)</td>
<td>$45.00</td>
<td>$55.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* note: must have drivers license to get a power cart

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Daily</th>
<th>Replay</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Academy Course (Registered Golfers)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>All ages - 9 holes (Monday - Thursday)</td>
<td>$15.00</td>
<td>$12.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>All ages - 9 holes (Friday – Sunday/Holidays)</td>
<td>$17.00</td>
<td>$12.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Mon-Thurs</th>
<th>Fri-Sun/Hol</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Non-registered Greens Fees</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Championship Course - 18 holes daily (Adults)</td>
<td>$70 M-Th</td>
<td>$85 Fri-Sun/Hol</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(rate includes power cart)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Championship Course - 18 holes daily (Sr./Jr.)</td>
<td>$65 M-Th</td>
<td>$85 Fri-Sun/Hol</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(rate includes power cart)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Academy Course - 9 holes daily (Mon-Thurs)</td>
<td>$25.00</td>
<td>$10 Replay</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Academy Course - 9 holes daily (Fri-Sun/Holidays)</td>
<td>$27.00</td>
<td>$10 Replay</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

---

**2020 Golf Rates**

**For Green Knoll, Quail Brook, Spooky Brook, and Warrenbrook**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Mon-Thurs</th>
<th>Fri-Sun</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Greens Fees (Registered Resident Golfers)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Adult</td>
<td>$27.00</td>
<td>$31.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Junior</td>
<td>$19.00</td>
<td>$25.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Senior</td>
<td>$19.00</td>
<td>$25.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Mon-Thurs</th>
<th>Fri-Sun</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Greens Fees (Non-registered/Non-resident)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Adult</td>
<td>$45.00</td>
<td>$54.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Junior</td>
<td>$35.00</td>
<td>$50.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Senior</td>
<td>$35.00</td>
<td>$50.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Gas cars, mobility impaired single rider golf carts, hand carts, and golf club rentals are also available.

* Senior golfing begins at age 62. Registered County Seniors between the ages of 75 and 84 receive a 20% discount on greens fees. Registered County Seniors ages 85 and older receive free greens fees.
**Introduction to Golf:** a one-hour clinic that is designed for juniors with no golf experience. It includes very basic fundamentals to expose juniors to the game and encourage future participation. Included are posture, grip, alignment, swing and explanation of what the different clubs do. The clinics will be held at Neshanic Valley Learning Center. The fee is $100. See Ages Below.

| Clinic I | Saturdays | May 2, 9, 16, 23 | 11am – Noon | Ages 7 to 10 |
| Clinic II | Saturdays | May 2, 9, 16, 23 | Noon – 1pm | Ages 11 to 15 |
| Clinic III | Sundays | May 3, 10, 17, 24 | 11am – noon | Ages 7 to 10 |
| Clinic IV | Sundays | May 3, 10, 17, 24 | Noon – 1pm | Ages 11 to 15 |

**SCHOOLS**

Two different levels of golf schools are available throughout the summer. The basic two-hour 5-day a week school is designed for juniors with limited to very little experience. Players are grouped by age and experience, and rotate through four stations each day. The four stations include putting, chipping, irons, and woods. Instruction is provided by professional staffers who are aided by accomplished high school and college players. Student to instructor ratio is approximately 5 to 1. Loaner clubs are available. Students can “Stay and Play” at the conclusion of each two-hour school on the Academy Course under the supervision of staff for an additional cost of $20 per day.

The second level school is a six-hour program designed for intermediate and advanced juniors. The morning hours are spent in small groups by age and/or skill level rotating through stations. Stations are expanded from level I to include pitching and sand play. Instruction is provided by professional staff with a student to instructor ratio of approximately 4 to 1. Video will be shot of students as a visual aid in the instruction process. After a short lunch break (lunch can be brought or purchased at the main clubhouse) students then play nine holes each day under the supervision of staff. While on the course, students are encouraged to practice skills taught in the group setting.

5 Day Two-Hour School - $175 per session Ages 8 to 17
Beginners or very limited playing experience

| Jr. Golf School I | Monday – Friday | June 8, 9, 10, 11, 12 | 6pm – 8pm |
| Jr. Golf School I | Monday – Friday | June 15, 16, 17, 18, 19 | 9am – 11am |
| Jr. Golf School I | Monday – Friday | June 22, 23, 24, 25, 26 | 9am – 11am |
| Jr. Golf School I | Monday – Friday | July 20, 21, 22, 23, 24 | 9am – 11am |
| Jr. Golf School I | Monday – Friday | August 10, 11, 12, 13, 14 | 9am – 11am |

5 Day Six-Hour School - $450 per session Ages 10 to 17
Intermediate and above level players

| Jr. Golf School II | Monday – Friday | July 20, 21, 22, 23, 24 | 9am – 3pm |
| Jr. Golf School II | Monday – Friday | July 27, 28, 29, 30, 31 | 9am – 3pm |
| Jr. Golf School II | Monday – Friday | Aug 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 | 9am – 3pm |
| Jr. Golf School II | Monday – Friday | Aug 17, 18, 19, 20, 21 | 9am – 3pm |

**Avid Golfer Full Summer Program**

This is a program for the very serious golfer. A full summer of instruction and play for seven weeks at Neshanic Valley's Learning Center. Registration is limited to the first 16 approved applicants. Players must be experienced and receive the Director of Instruction's approval based on playing ability. Each day will begin with instruction on specific clubs and/or shots. Group sessions will include video and launch monitor assessment by professional staff members throughout the summer. Participants will then go to Academy Course to practice skills under playing conditions. Following 9 holes on the Academy Course, players will break for lunch (participants may bring or purchase at clubhouse). They will then return to the Learning Center for additional instruction in small groups. The minimum number of weeks to participate in this specific program is three weeks (Monday through Friday 8am – 3pm). Fees for this program only, include participant receiving a county registration card and reduced green fees at all Somerset County Park Commission golf courses.

| Monday – Friday | June 29 – July 3 |
| Monday – Friday | July 6 - 10 |
| Monday – Friday | July 13 - 17 |
| Monday – Friday | July 20 - 24 |
| Monday – Friday | July 27 - 31 |
| Monday – Friday | August 10 - 14 |
| Monday – Friday | August 24 - 28 |

**Golf Tournament Schedule 2020**

The 2020 golf tournaments require pre-registration and an entrance fee. Application forms are available at the Golf Shops.

**16th Annual William W. Anderson Match Play Tournament (Men and Women)**
April 25 – 26 and May 2 – 3 at Neshanic Valley Golf Course
18-Hole Medal Play. Open to registered golfers, ages 10 and older. Tournament format is match play for low 16 stroke play qualifiers.

Fee: TBA
Neshanic Valley Golf Course, Branchburg
908 369-8200

**Club Championships**
May 16-17 at Green Knoll; July 18-19 at Warrenbrook; June 6-7 at Spooky Brook; June 27-28 at Quail Brook; and August 8-9 at Neshanic Valley
Open to registered golfers, age 10 and older. Tournament format is 36-holes, low gross. Prizes are in the form of gift certificates awarded to first, second, and third place finalists. Call for entry fees.

Tee times vary
Branchburg, Bridgewater, Franklin, and Warren
908 369-1458 ext. 5427

**61st Annual Dr. Michael S. Kline Memorial Somerset County Golf Tournament (Men and Women)**
First Round September 5-6 and 12-13 All courses
Open to registered golfers, ages 10 and older. Players must have a 2014 USGA Handicap. Flights conducted at designated courses. Awards in each flight. Medal play. Call for entry fees.

Tee times vary
Branchburg, Bridgewater, Franklin, and Warren
908 369-1458 ext. 5427

**42nd Annual Senior Golf Tournament (Men and Women)**
September 23
18-Hole Medal Play
Open to registered senior golfers, ages 62 and older, men and women. Players compete in flights based on age. Awards in each flight. Fee: TDB
Spooky Brook Golf Course, Franklin
908 722-1200 ext. 5421

---

**908 722-1200 ext. 5421**
Spooky Brook Golf Course, Franklin
Branchburg, Bridgewater, Franklin, and Warren
Tee times vary

**5 Day Six-Hour School - $450 per session Ages 10 to 17**
Intermediate and above level players

| Jr. Golf School II | Monday – Friday | July 20, 21, 22, 23, 24 | 9am – 3pm |
| Jr. Golf School II | Monday – Friday | July 27, 28, 29, 30, 31 | 9am – 3pm |
| Jr. Golf School II | Monday – Friday | Aug 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 | 9am – 3pm |
| Jr. Golf School II | Monday – Friday | Aug 17, 18, 19, 20, 21 | 9am – 3pm |
**Winter Activities**

Winter doesn't have to be cold and dreary - it can be filled with opportunities for play in the snow. Pretend you are an Olympic skater on the ice skating ponds. Work off those holiday pounds through cross-country skiing. Have fun, improve your health, and make some memories with your family and friends. When weather conditions permit, Somerset County Park Commission offers the opportunity to experience these pleasures, through participation in outdoor winter activities. Please check the availability of these activities by calling the winter activity hotline at 908 722-1200 ext. 5351.

**Winter Walkers**

Start the New Year by joining our weekly walking program that will meet at the Duke Island Visitor Center every Wednesday morning at 9:30am beginning January 8, 2020. Warm up with coffee, tea, and refreshments following the walk. For more information, call the Recreation Department at 908 722-1200 ext. 5236.

**Winter Yoga**

Come and enjoy the benefits of Classic Hatha Yoga beginning Tuesday, January 7 and Wednesday, January 8, 2020 at the Somerset County Park Commission Headquarters in North Branch Park. There are three sessions offered this winter: a basic beginner class from 9am – 10am on Tuesdays and 5:30pm – 6:30pm on Wednesdays and an advanced beginner class 7pm – 8:15pm on Wednesdays.

The cost for a ten week basic beginner session is $80. The cost for an advanced beginner session is $100. Wear comfortable clothes and bring a yoga mat. For more information call 908 722-1200 ext. 5226. A registration form can be found on page 24.

**Cross-country skiing**

Cross-country skiing is available on the trails at the Environmental Education Center (EEC) located on Lord Stirling Road in Basking Ridge (908 766-2489) from 9am - 5pm.

Skiers may not use the trails solo, so please come with a partner. Please call the phone numbers listed for additional information.

**Sit-skiing**

Two Nordic sit-skis are available for use by persons with physical disabilities on the trails at the Environmental Education Center located on Lord Stirling Road in Basking Ridge. There is no fee for equipment use, but skiers are asked to call 908 722-1200 ext. 5002, 24 hours in advance to make a reservation. Individuals with a hearing or speech impairment may use the Relay Service at 711. The EEC is staffed from 9am - 5pm daily.

**Spring Activities**

**Spring Walkers**

Join our weekly walking program that meets at the Duke Island Visitor Center every Wednesday morning at 9:30am. Enjoy coffee, tea, and refreshments following the walk. For more information, call the Recreation Department at 908 722-1200 ext. 5236.

**Hatha Yoga**

Relaxation, meditation, flexibility, and tranquility are all benefits of yoga. Learn yoga techniques or improve your existing skill level at Hatha yoga to be held at North Branch Park in Bridgewater. The 10-week spring yoga program will be conducted on Tuesday mornings and Wednesday evenings March 31 or April 1 through June 2 and 3. Registration is required and space is limited. There are three sessions offered this spring: a basic beginner class from 9am-10am on Tuesdays and 5:30pm - 6:30pm on Wednesdays and an advanced beginner class 7pm - 8:15pm on Wednesdays. The cost for a 10-week basic beginner session is $80. The cost for a 10-week advanced beginner session is $100. Wear comfortable clothes and bring a yoga mat. For more information call 908 722-1200 ext. 5226. A registration form can be found on page 24.

**Adult Bocce League**

Colonial Park is home to eight regulation Bocce Courts and the host venue for the SCPC Adult Bocce League. League Play begins on Tuesday evening, May 5, 2020 at 6pm. League play continues for six consecutive Tuesdays followed by a week of playoffs and the Championship Finals will be held on Tuesday, June 23. Teams are comprised of 2 - 4 players. Registration fee is $10 per team. The mail-in registration form can be found on page 5 or call 908 722-1200 ext. 5226 for registration information.

**Tennis**

Eighteen all-weather composition courts comprise the two outdoor tennis facilities. Each court is open for day and night play from March 28 through October 30, 2020. Green Knoll Tennis Center, located in Bridgewater Township, features summer instructional clinics and a variety of youth and adult tournaments. Colonial Park Tennis Center, in Franklin Township, is accessible to persons with physical disabilities, and is ideal for organized league play. During the months of April through October, reservations may be made at Green Knoll Tennis Center 24 hours in advance by calling 908 722-1200 ext. 5021. The cost per court hour is $8 on weekdays until 3pm. The cost at all other times is $10. There is no charge for use of the walk-on courts at Colonial Park, except for permitted league and tournament play. During the winter months, there is no charge for use of any of the courts.

For information on tennis lessons, please call 908 722-1200 ext. 5021. Individuals with a hearing or speech impairment may use the Relay Service at 711.

**Green Knoll Tennis Center – Opening Day Activities**

Join us on Saturday, March 28, 2020 from 9am - 3pm. Register for youth and adult tennis lessons. Tournament information for singles, doubles, youth, and mixed doubles events will be available.

**Putting Course**

Colonial Park is the home of an 18-hole putting course unlike the traditional resort type miniature golf courses. The one-and-a-half-acre course has no amusements, and instead offers players mini-gardens and natural landscaping features. Instead of traditional “boxed” holes, the fairway greens range from twenty-five to seventy five feet long! Each hole has been designed to provide a fun and challenging experience for both the experienced golfer and first-time player. In order to accommodate players with physical disabilities, all 18 holes are accessible; only the second course in the country to achieve that feat. The Putting Course is open May 9 through September 27. Course fees are $8 for adults, $5 for children and seniors, and a group rate of $6 is available for 10 or more players. Ten-visit passes are also available at a discounted rate. The Putting Course phone number is 908 722-1200 ext. 5023. Individuals with a hearing or speech impairment may use the Relay Service at 711.

**Paddleboats**

Coupled with the Putting Course facility, the paddleboats operate the same season as the putting course, but always close at dusk. Four-seat duck-themed boats and standard boats are available for rent on Powder Mill Pond. There is a boat with hand-operated pedals for persons with limited mobility. The price for a half-hour rental is $15 per duck-themed boat and $10 for a standard boat. Tickets in combination with the putting course are available at a discounted rate. The phone number for the Paddleboats and Putting Course is 908 722-1200 ext. 5023.

**Spray Park**

Come cool off in Colonial Park's newest amenity! The spray park has 20 features including a spouting water tower, turning buckets, a squirting frog, and much more! Bring your suits and a towel. All children must be accompanied by an adult. The spray park will be open May 23 – September 27. Days and hours of operation vary so please check our website or call 908 722 1200 ext. 5023.

**Picnic Opportunities**

Looking for a place to hold your next outdoor picnic? Somerset County has picnic areas complete with tables and grills in Colonial Park, North Branch Park, Duke Island Park, and East County Park. Reservations can be made on-line at www.somersetcountyparks.org under Online Registration. Residents can enter their request on March 1, and non-residents April 1. For information on picnic reservations, please call Somerset County Park Commission at 908 722-1200 ext. 5225. Individuals with a hearing or speech impairment may use the Relay Service at 711. Please allow a minimum of three weeks when scheduling picnics.

**Park Permits**

Park permits are available for the following activities:
- Softball
- Tennis leagues
- Athletic fields
- Scout camping
- Dog/Horse shows
- Special events
- Picnics
- Showmobile

If you are interested in obtaining a permit for any of the above, please call 908 722-1200 ext. 5225. Individuals with a hearing or speech impairment may use the Relay Service at 711. Please allow a minimum of two to four weeks when scheduling use of facilities. Please note that individuals and organizations...
requesting a permit must agree that while using the facilities made available by the Somerset County Park Commission that will not discriminate in any manner against any person by reason of race, color, gender, disability, age, sexual orientation, national origin, or religious or political affiliation.

**Warrenbrook Pool Registration**
Warrenbrook Pool, located in Warren Township, is an outdoor swimming facility offering patrons a choice of seasonal passes or daily admissions. Swim instruction is offered from toddler level classes through intermediate. Ability levels include Toddlers, Beginner I, Beginner II, Advanced Beginner, and Intermediate. All classes run for two-week sessions, Monday through Friday, for forty minutes either from 10:15am-10:55am or from 11am-11:40am. 2020 swim lesson dates are:

- June 29 - July 10
- July 13 - July 24
- July 27 - August 7

Registration for swim lessons and season and county ID passes begins January 3 for county residents, and April 1 for non-county residents. Registration applications can be downloaded from our website at www.somersetcountyparks.org. Patrons have the option of registering online, printing the application and mailing it with a check payable to the Somerset County Park Commission, or in person during business hours at Park Commission Headquarters located at 355 Milltown Road, Bridgewater. The Warrenbrook Pool phone number is 908 722-1200 ext. 5018.

**Flying Field**
Flying enthusiasts who hold a valid AMA License, FAA registration, and a Park Commission Flying Field Permit may use the flying field at North Branch Park. Flying hours are 10am-7:30pm on weekdays, and 10am-5:30pm on weekends/holidays.

All flyers are considered “students” until rated by a designated Check Pilot, and students must fly with the assistance of a pilot. Members of the Somerset Signal Senders serve as volunteer check pilots, and conduct check flights for students to demonstrate proficiency in flight skills, safety techniques, and knowledge of flying field rules and regulations. Once a student has passed the required skills, pilot status will be issued and may be renewed on an annual basis.

Permits are valid for a calendar year; expiring December 31. In order to make the renewal process as simple as possible, you may renew your permit online or by mail. Please send a copy of your 2020 AMA membership card, and FAA Registration, along with the actual 2019 Park Commission permit card to: Somerset County Park Commission, P.O. Box 5327, North Branch, NJ 08876. Please also enclose the appropriate fee in a check made payable to the “Somerset County Park Commission.” The 2020 fees are as follows:

- Somerset County resident $30.00
- Non-resident $50.00
- Youth $15.00

New flying field users must file for an initial permit in person. For a list of check pilots, flying field regulations or information about obtaining a permit, please call Somerset County Park Commission at 908 722-1200 ext. 5226. Individuals with a hearing or speech impairment may use the Relay Service at 711.

The Therapeutic Recreation (TR) Department is dedicated to providing year round recreation and leisure opportunities for people with developmental disabilities. The goal of the TR Department is to promote an active leisure lifestyle that improves social, physical, cognitive and emotional functioning while enhancing each person’s abilities in order for them to become integrated into their community.

Therapeutic Recreation teaches new recreation skills and skills that can be transferred into everyday life as well as the constructive use of leisure time, enhances self-esteem and confidence, improves overall health and well-being, increases physical activity, fosters peer relationships, improves social skills, and develops life-long leisure skills.

With trained staff, adaptations, a structured, goal oriented program and activities modified to meet the needs of our participants, a variety of arts and cultural, social enrichment, culinary, sports and fitness, horticulture, and community outing programs and activities are offered in the evening or occasional weekends. Come discover the benefits with us.

The program is a cooperative effort between the Park Commission and various municipalities. Participating municipalities include:

- Bedminster
- Bernards Township
- Bernardsville
- Bound Brook
- Branchburg
- Bridgewater
- Green Brook
- Hillsborough
- Manville
- Montgomery
- North Plainfield
- Somerville
- South Bound Brook
- Warren
- Watchung

To be placed on our mailing list, find out about registration, or obtain more information about our programs, please contact the Therapeutic Recreation office at 908 526-5650. We are here to help you recreate!

**Inclusion Services**
The Therapeutic Recreation Department recognizes that some people with disabilities may choose to participate in local recreation programs and/or camps with persons without disabilities. The TR staff is here to help support inclusion by assisting other Somerset County Park Commission departments and municipal recreation departments with program adaptation or modification, behavior management support, and staff training. When a referral is made, TR staff will conduct an assessment of a person’s abilities and develop a written accommodation plan that includes modifications and supports necessary in order for the person to successfully be included in a program or activity. Call Dina Trunzo, CTRS at 908 526-5650 for more information. Remember, inclusion benefits everyone!

To be placed on our mailing list, find out about registration, or obtain more information about our programs, please contact the Therapeutic Recreation office at 908 526-5650.
EQUESTRIAN ACTIVITIES AT LORD STIRLING STABLE

Lord Stirling Stable offers a full complement of riding activities for riders of most ages and abilities. The Stable is located at 256 South Maple Avenue in Basking Ridge, and the office is open daily from 9am to 5pm or may be reached by calling 908 766-5955. Riders may also call the activity hotline at 908 722-1200 ext. 7216. All riders are required to wear an ASTM/SEI approved equestrian helmet and shoes or boots with hard, smooth soles and a moderate and definite heel. Helmets and boots may be rented for $4 each. All riders must be at least 9 years of age and activity-based weight limits apply to riding programs. Somerset County residents are required to show proof of residency.

Lead Line
Lead Line is the perfect way to introduce children to riding. Parents/legal guardians may rent a pony or small, gentle horse for a half hour and lead their child(ren) around the outdoor pony ring or the covered Pony Pavilion. A stableworker will demonstrate the proper and simple technique for leading the pony/horse. Children must be old enough to sit up and hold onto the saddle without assistance. All riders are required to wear a certified helmet approved by ASTM and/or SEI. An approved equestrian helmet is required and small sizes are available for use at no additional cost.

Pony Parties
An unforgettable way to celebrate a birthday or other special occasion is unbelievably simple with a Lord Stirling Stable Pony Party! Our two-hour package includes the use of two ponies for the first 45 minutes, plus a staff member to provide, supervise, and remove the ponies at the appropriate times. Adults from the party lead the ponies. Guests spend the remaining time in the climate-controlled party room, where three tables and 30 chairs are provided for your use. The birthday child receives a special pony party sash and a stuffed pony. Call or stop by the Stable at least two weeks prior to the desired date to make your reservation! Pony Parties are available seven days a week. There is a maximum of 30 people (adults and children combined) allowed in the party room.

Group Trail Rides and Hayrides
Lord Stirling Stable has unique program options available for group activities. Youth groups, businesses, clubs, and other organizations can design a team-building exercise with a difference. Families and friends may want to try something out of the ordinary, just for fun. Experience some of the 16 miles of beautiful equestrian-use trails from the back of a horse or from our tractor-pulled hay wagon. No 'horse experience' is required!

Group rides for adults and youth (ages 12 and older, and ages 9-11 when accompanied by a parent/guardian) include a brief lesson with a certified instructor who will then guide your one-hour trail ride.

Tractor-pulled hayrides are an excellent option for those who would love a trail experience but are not sure about riding a horse. They are also an option if your group is very large (up to 30 people) or if there is a broad age range to accommodate. Add a 30-minute campfire for an additional fee; please call the office for details.

By horse or by wagon, the trails of Lord Stirling Stable are definitely worth a visit. Call today to reserve the date for your group's special trail experience!

Scout Troop Horse Program
Scouts ages 9 and older will learn skills to help them earn horse-related badges, where available, or just have fun learning about horses. Topics include safety in the barn and around horses; an introduction to breeds, colors, and parts of the horse; and the important roles of the veterinarian, the farrier, and the equine dentist. Each scout will have the opportunity to gain hands-on experience learning to groom a horse. Add a hayride or a one-hour horseback ride for an additional fee. Minimum group size is 6 with a maximum of 12 participants. For more information and to reserve a time, contact the Stable at 908 766-5955.

Spring Group Riding Lessons
English Saddle Balanced Seat riding lessons are offered from beginner through advanced levels for youth and adults. Trail, jumping, and various specialized flat classes are also available. Classes are scheduled one hour a week for 10 consecutive weeks. Adults have the option of a five-week session. Students may register online or in person at the Stable office. Please refer to the online program registration section for details.
The schedule of classes will be available two weeks prior to the opening day of registration. Youth must be a minimum age of 9 at time of registration. Riders must weigh under 225 pounds for flat classes and under 200 pounds for jumping classes. Prospective students with riding experience need to be evaluated for a classification card prior to the registration date. Please call the Stable office for more information.

Students who do not reside in Somerset County may purchase an annual Non-County I.D. Card. This entitles each individual card holder to a discounted rate on riding lessons. Savings multiply with each class registration. Please call the Stable office for more information.

**Spring Private and Semi-Private Riding Lessons**
A limited number of private and semi-private one hour lesson sessions with instructors from Lord Stirling Stable are available.

**Horse Care Workshops 101-104**
Horse Care workshops offer the opportunity to gain experience and confidence around horses. Each program builds upon the one before it to logically expand students’ knowledge in a safe, enjoyable environment.

- **In Horse Care Workshop (HCWS) 101,** participants learn the proper way to safely handle, groom, and tack a horse. The parts of the horse, saddle, and bridle are discussed in addition to horse breeds, colors, equine behavior, and basic horse care.
- **Horse Care Workshop 102** introduces students to more advanced topics such as nutrition, clipping, bandaging and basic conformation, as well as the important role the farrier and veterinarian play in a horse's life.
- **Horse Care Workshop 103** focuses on topics related to horse ownership: selection, boarding, equipment, etc.
- New this year, **Horse Care Workshop 104** is specifically for volunteers in training, concentrating on developing skills required to be a safe and effective barn volunteer.

The Workshops are open to participants ages 9 and older, and are offered on five consecutive Saturdays. HCWS 101 is the only pre-requisite for HCWS 102, 103, and 104. Registrations will be accepted until the first day of class, space permitting. This program does not include riding.

**Horse Rentals (Hacking)**
Riders who can post the trot and are secure and comfortable at the canter may rent horses for a one hour ride in our large indoor arena or two outdoor rings. Riders must be at least 9 years old and weigh less than 225 pounds. Please call for times.

Hours for hacking vary and may be cancelled due to extreme weather conditions. Please call the stable office at 908 722-1200, ext. 7217 for daily information. Riders choose horses on a first come, first served basis.

**Private Horses**
For an annual fee, people who have their own horses may enjoy the trails or outdoor rings, weather and ground conditions permitting. Single day passes are also available. A current negative Coggins (within twelve months) is required.

**Room Rental**
Lord Stirling Stable has a large room overlooking the indoor riding arena available for rental. Amenities include bleachers, tables, and chairs. Audio/visual equipment and limited kitchen facilities are also available. Please call the Stable at 908 766-5955 for prices and availability.

**FRIENDS OF LORD STIRLING STABLE EVENTS**

The Friends of Lord Stirling Stable (FLSS) is a 501(c)(3) organization which supports the equestrian activities of the Somerset County Park Commission Lord Stirling Stable by contributing ideas, volunteering time, and donating revenue generated from sponsoring events to help provide a continuous and expanding program of activities.

**Dog Walks**
Dog walks along the equestrian trails are led on Saturdays. The traditional New Year's Day “Meet New Friends” Dog Walk will be held on Wednesday, January 1, 2020 at 1:30pm. Regular Saturday dog walks begin at 10:30am, except May 23 through August 29 when the walks will begin at 9:30am.

**Clinics**
Horseback riding clinics are offered throughout the year.

**Dressage Show - CANCELLED**
This is a great opportunity for the experienced or green horse and rider to perform a Dressage Test in a fun, no-pressure environment. Eleven divisions will be separated into two sections – one includes those riders with privately owned horses and the other includes Lord Stirling Stable students on school horses. Divisions include USDF Intro Level, Test 1 (walk/trot), Training Level Tests 1 through 4, First Level Tests 1 through 4, and two “Test of Choice” divisions. Quadrille, freestyle, and musical kur entries are also welcome.

**Spring Nature Ride - CANCELLED**
This leisurely horseback ride provides individuals with little or no English saddle riding experience the opportunity to enjoy the trails and nature from the back of a horse. Pre-registration is required; please see the Friends’ website for more information and forms.

**Private Horse Hunter Pace - CANCELLED**
Teams of two or three competitors ride a well-marked course approximately 6 - 8 miles in length designed for those horses still being brought back into condition after their winter break. Thirty to 40 fences vary in height up to three feet. All jumps have ample room to go around for riders who prefer to stay on the flat, making the course very friendly to green horses. Western riders are encouraged to participate.

The event includes five divisions: Open, Senior, Junior, Hilltopper, and Family. Ribbons are awarded to the six teams in each division that finish the course closest to the “ideal time” set by the Pace Team. All riders must wear an ASTM/SEI approved equestrian helmet. There is ample parking for trailers. This event is co-sponsored by the Somerset County Park Commission and the Friends of Lord Stirling Stable.
Junior Rangers
If you enjoy hiking through the woods watching wildlife, wonder about animal tracks and animal homes, and are interested in learning more about the environment, then you may be a perfect Junior Ranger. Somerset County Junior Rangers are 6-12 year olds who care about the environment and its inhabitants. By learning about the natural world, you can understand how ecosystems work, and can help the Park Rangers in the parks. Park Rangers offer monthly Junior Ranger programs throughout the county’s park system to look at the variety of those ecosystems. We look forward to meeting all future Somerset County Junior Rangers and their families. For further information, please contact the Park Rangers at 908 722-1200 ext. 5121.

Park Ranger Group Programs
If you have seen a fish, a wildflower or a tree that you could not identify or have wondered the difference between a meadow and a forest, then ask the Park Rangers to add some insight. The Park Rangers will be leading three types of programs: Tree Identification, Fishing Our Park Waterways, and Interpretive Hikes. To register your group or for more information, please call the Park Rangers at 908 722-1200 ext. 5121.

Tree Identification
Have you ever wondered from what tree a baseball bat is made or which trees and shrubs can be used for food or drinks? Come and learn how to identify trees and shrubs in all seasons and discover how important trees are in our world today.

Fishing Our Parks’ Waterways
Learn fishing basics and find out where to catch “the big one”. Fishing 101 will teach you everything including how to identify your catch, state fishing laws, fishing etiquette and where our parks’ fishing hot spots are. Afterward, you can show off your fishing skills at one of the “hot spots”.

Interpretive Hikes
Hikes will contain information on our environment and its inhabitants. We will explain what lives in our parks presently, as well as in the past. Hikes can be tailored to your specific interests or you are welcome to stroll with us on an interpretative hike of our choice.

Volunteer Park Patrol
The Park Rangers are accepting applications for the Volunteer Park Patrol (VPP), a group of year-round volunteers dedicated to assisting visitors through trail patrols and maintaining trails in Washington Valley Park and the Sourland Mountain Preserve. The VPP has been instrumental in helping maintain trail conditions to the high maintenance standards set for the county’s trails. A wide variety of opportunities are available for everyone; certainly the group could utilize your special talents, skills or time. If interested in becoming an active member of the Volunteer Park Patrol, please contact the Park Rangers at 908 722-1200 ext. 5121.

WINTER/SPRING HORTICULTURE PROGRAMS

Are you a beginning or advanced gardener, or do you just admire the lovely plantings that others have nurtured? Here are some programs to enhance your knowledge and enjoyment. Please note that programs will be conducted rain or shine, unless noted. Pre-registration is required. For more information and to register for the programs in Colonial Park Gardens, please call 908 722-1200 ext. 5721. For Leonard J. Buck Garden programs, please call 908 722-1200 ext. 5621. Online registration is available by visiting www.somersetcountyparks.org.

Houseplants: How to Choose and Grow Them Successfully
Saturday, January 25 10am – 12pm
Fee: $20 per person (Limit: 30 people)
Pre-registration and payment is required by January 22
Horticulture Supervisor, Shauna Moore will present a demonstration on “Houseplants: How to Choose and Grow Them Successfully.” There will be a PowerPoint presentation on the basics of houseplant selection, care, and maintenance. Following the presentation, there will be a demonstration on repotting, watering, fertilizing, and propagation of some of the most popular houseplants. The program will be held at the Park Commission Headquarters, North Branch Park located at 355 Milltown Road, Bridgewater. Please meet in the reception area.

Beyond the Potted Palm: Victorians and Their Houseplants
Saturday, February 15 10am – 11:30am
Fee: $15 per person
Pre-registration and payment is required by February 12
The Victorian Era was also Great Britain’s Golden Age of Plant Exploration. It was a time for a growing interest in natural history and a public obsession with “collecting” plants. The variety of houseplants available for purchase burgeoned during Queen Victoria’s reign, and ever since, both the Brits and Americans have been in love with them. Not only can houseplants complement and enhance any room’s decor, but NASA studies confirm their ability to remove indoor air pollution. Learn about the plants that populated Victorian parlors, how to care for them, and the simple ways to bring a Victorian touch to “plantscaping” your home. Garden writer and historian Lesley Parnes leads this illustrated lecture. The program will be held at the Park Commission Headquarters, North Branch Park located at 355 Milltown Road, Bridgewater. Please meet in the reception area.

Inspirations for the Grand Redesign of the Perennial Garden at Colonial Park
Saturday, February 8 10am – 11:30am
This program is free to the public
Pre-registration is required by the public
In this informative lecture, Landscape Designer Susan Cohan, FAPLD, the Principal and Design Director of Susan Cohan Gardens, will share her design inspiration, process, and goals for Colonial Park’s newly redesigned and currently being renovated Perennial Garden. Please join us as we get an early look at our beautiful new Perennial Garden, and as we anticipate watching it unfold in our cherished Colonial Park. The program will be held at the Park Commission Headquarters, North Branch Park located at 355 Milltown Road, Bridgewater. Please meet in the reception area.

Art and Photography Exhibit
Weekdays: February 18 – March 20 10am – 4pm
Suggested donation: $6/adult; $3/senior or child
Showcasing the four seasons at Leonard J. Buck Garden, this exhibit will feature photographs, paintings, and drawings of Buck Garden. See the garden’s many faces through the works of talented artists and photographers. This exhibit will be held at the Leonard J. Buck Garden Visitor Center in Far Hills. For additional information, please call 908 722-1200 ext. 5621.
Pruning Workshop
Saturday, March 28  10am – 11:30am
Fee: $15

Is that shrub in your backyard getting too big? Do you want to prune it yourself, but need some guidance? Then join the Buck Garden staff to learn basic pruning techniques used in the Garden. Proper pruning tools will be discussed. There will be an outdoor presentation, weather permitting, so please dress appropriately for outdoor activities. Pre-registration is required by calling the Leonard J. Buck Garden, Far Hills at 908 722-1200 ext. 5621.

Woodland Walks
Sunday afternoons in April and May (except holiday weekends) at 2 pm
Fee: $7

Brighten your spring with a captivating and informative tour of Leonard J. Buck Garden in Far Hills. Enjoy the magnificent drifts of native wildflowers and spring perennials blooming throughout the garden, as well as azaleas, dogwoods, and many colorful flowering shrubs and trees. Discover the great variety of plants growing among the rock formations and woodlands, and immerse yourself in the natural beauty that surrounds you. Tours will be held on April 5, 19, 26 and May 3, 10, 17. Please no organized groups.

Hummingbirds - NEW
Thursday, April 16  10am – 11:30am
Fee: $15

Found only in the Americas, throughout the centuries, hummingbirds have captivated all who have watched them dance and hover through the air. This program begins with an investigation of the common attributes of the 320 distinct species of hummingbird, and then delves more deeply into the life and habits of the Ruby-throated Hummingbird, the only hummingbird native to New Jersey. In addition, the program explains how to use plants and feeders to attract the Ruby-throated hummingbird to backyards. Weather permitting, we will take a short walk in the garden, so bring your binoculars. This program will be held at the Leonard J. Buck Garden in Far Hills and pre-registration is required by calling 908 722-1200, ext. 5621.

Spring Plant Sale and Earth Day Celebration
Saturday, April 25  10am - 5pm
Sunday, April 26  12pm - 5pm
Suggested donation: $6/adult; $3/senior or child

Enhance your garden with some spectacular new plant treasures, and help us celebrate Earth Day. Weekend highlights include a plant sale featuring many choice selections of rock garden plants, perennials, ferns and woody shrubs. There will be inspiring garden lectures, and guided tours of this magnificent naturalistic rock garden. This event will be held at Buck Garden in Far Hills. For additional information, please call Buck Garden at 908 722-1200 ext. 5621.

Honey Bees: One of our Favorite Pollinators
Thursday, May 7  1pm – 2pm
Fee: $15

Do you know how a bee finds its way home? Join apiarist John Garretson and learn interesting facts about bees. Topics include a bee’s life span, their jobs in the colony, who rules the hive, and honey production. This educational and fun program is geared toward everyone who wants to know and learn the latest buzz on bees. Emphasis is on honey bees. Pre-registration is required by calling the Leonard J. Buck Garden, Far Hills at 908 722-1200 ext. 5621.

Forest Bathing
Saturday, May 9  Noon–2pm
Fee: $25 per person (Limit: 12 people)

Pre-registration and payment is required by May 7
The Japanese practice of Shinrin-yoku, which translates as “forest bathing” is intended to help foster a connection with nature that feeds mind, body, and spirit. Join yoga instructor Megan Soucy for a forest bathing experience at Colonial Park Gardens. The experience will include an easy, slow hike through the gardens and arboretum. It will also include meditation and centering sessions intended to encourage the nurturing qualities of being present within nature. Participants are encouraged to bring a small blanket or towel to sit on, water, and suitable shoes for walking. Please meet the entrance of the Colonial Park Rose Garden, Parking Lot A.

Smartphone Photography Workshop
Sunday, May 24  10am-12pm
Fee: $20 per person (Limit: 12 people)

Pre-registration and payment is required by May 21
The best camera for the job is the one you have with you. These days that camera is your smartphone! Photographer Joy Yagid will lead this hands-on workshop where participants will learn the best tips and tricks to get the most out of smartphone photography in nature. Joy will individually guide participants in identifying photo opportunities, and share how to edit these photos directly on their smartphones. Please meet at the Colonial Park Gardens Horticulture Building, Parking Lot A.

Guided Tours of the Rudolf W. van der Goot Rose Garden
Thursday, May 28  6pm
Fee: $5 per person

Pre-registration is not required
The public is invited to tour the internationally recognized Somerset County Park Commission Rudolf W. van der Goot Rose Garden. The Rose Garden is in full spring beauty in May and June when thousands of varieties of roses of both modern and historic significance are in peak bloom. Tours for individuals and families will be led by the Colonial Park Gardens Rosarian or designated staff. Please no organized groups. Meet at the entrance of the Rose Garden, Parking Lot A.

Follow us on Facebook and Instagram
www.facebook.com/colonialparkSCPC
www.instagram.com/colonialparkSCPC
www.facebook.com/LJBuckGarden
NATURALIST PROGRAMS

HOURS
The Environmental Education Center is open daily 9:00am-5:00pm and the trails are open from dawn to dusk unless otherwise noted. The building is closed on all holidays, however, the trails will remain open.

REGISTRATION INFORMATION

Online and walk-in registration will begin Wednesday, January 15, 2020 at 9:00am.
Phone-in registration will begin Wednesday, January 15, 2020 at 11:00am.

Online and walk-in registration for Coyote Kids, Eco-Explorers, AWESIM KIDS, and Xtreme Adventure Summer Programs will begin on Wednesday, February 5, 2020 at 9:00am.
Phone-in registration for Coyote Kids, Eco-Explorers, AWESIM KIDS, and Xtreme Adventure Summer Programs will begin on Wednesday, February 5, 2020 at 11:00am.

AGE GROUPINGS
• Some of our programs are shared parent-child experiences and require an adult with each child.
• Other programs are for children only.
• Programs with age ranges are only for children who fall into that range by the class date.
• Adult programs are for anyone 15 years old and older.
• All Ages programs have no age limits. However, a registered adult must accompany anyone who is younger than 15.
• Senior fees are calculated upon the minimum age of 60 years.

PROGRAM LOCATIONS
Somerset County Park Commission Naturalists lead all of the programs. Many are conducted at the Environmental Education Center in Lord Stirling Park, Basking Ridge. Classes also meet at other Somerset County parks. The location for each class is abbreviated under the class description and defined in the class code box at the bottom of most pages. Registration for all classes is through the Somerset County Park Commission Environmental Science Department office at the Environmental Education Center. All Naturalist-led trips and their enrolled participants will begin from, and end at, the Environmental Education Center without exception.

THERE ARE FOUR WAYS TO REGISTER
(We encourage registration to occur no later than 24 hours prior to a program start time and only for his/her own household members).

Online: Registrations can be facilitated through our website www.somersetcountyparks.org. First-time users of this system must establish an account either by calling the Environmental Education Center or by personally enrolling online. To establish an account online, visit our website and click “Online Registration”. Scroll to the last paragraph and use the “click here” access. Fill out the application and submit. You will be assigned a specific household number and a password. You will use this each time you register for a program in the future. Program registration cannot be facilitated without your household number! We advise establishing a household account as soon as possible to avoid delays. NOTE: Leisure Pursuit cards and gift certificates cannot be used for online registration payments.

In-person: Visit the Environmental Education Center, 9:00am-4:30pm, seven days a week (closed holidays). We accept checks, credit cards or cash! If registering for more than one trip, and paying by check, you must bring a check for each trip program and one to be used for general programs.

Mail: Complete the Program Registration Application form located in the Parks, Programs & People guide. Send to the Environmental Education Center, 190 Lord Stirling Road, Basking Ridge, NJ 07920 along with a separate check for each program. Please make your checks payable to Somerset County Park Commission. If you are not currently in the computer system, you will be contacted by the Environmental Education Center staff to complete necessary information.

Phone: Call the Environmental Education Center at 908 722-1200 ext. 5002 to register. The registration office is open between 9:00am and 4:30pm daily. Payment by credit card – Visa, MasterCard, Discover or American Express – is required at time of registration. Individuals with hearing or speech impairments may call the Relay Service at 711 to register.

SPACES IN OUR PROGRAMS ARE NOT RESERVED UNTIL PAYMENT IS RECEIVED. YOUR RECEIPT IS YOUR FINAL NOTIFICATION OF THE PROGRAM(S), TIME(S), AND DATE(S) IN WHICH YOU HAVE ENROLLED. YOU WILL RECEIVE NO FURTHER REMINDERS.

WAITING LISTS: Some classes fill very quickly and we take names for waiting lists. We cannot guarantee enrollment.

CANCELLATIONS (by us): Programs are sometimes cancelled due to low enrollment or weather conditions. You will be notified by phone and given an option of a credit or a full refund.

CANCELLATIONS (by you): The Somerset County Park Commission will refund program registration fees if notified a minimum of seven days prior to the start of the program. Exceptions may apply for specified non-refundable or non-transferable programs, such as summer camp programs, day trips, and overnight trips.

RESOURCE LIBRARY
The Center houses a comfortable, user-friendly, resource library. A large number of books and a variety of periodicals regarding the many facets of our environment are available during regular building hours. A wide range of children’s environmental books and magazines are also available. The library has tables and chairs for on-site research and reading. Because it is a resource library, not a lending library, all materials must remain on-site. Our resource library and auditorium have WiFi available for public use.

‘THE GREAT SWAMP EXPERIENCE’ EXHIBIT HALL
‘The Great Swamp Experience’ on the lower lever of the EEC features interactive displays, vignettes, taxidermy, and archeological artifacts highlighting the history and ecology of the Great Swamp. The exhibit is open seven days a week from 9:00am to 4:30pm. Admission is free.

REASONABLE MODIFICATIONS
For all of our programs, a minimum of three weeks notice is required for any requested reasonable modifications. Please indicate this request when registering or you may call us at 908 722-1200 ext. 5324. Individuals with a hearing/speech may call the Relay Services at 711.

PARTICIPANT EXPECTATIONS

Most classes are conducted outside. Please dress accordingly.
Programs may require appropriate minimum skill levels.
Somerset County Park Commission reserves the right to remove disruptive participants or children who do not meet the age requirements.
Should any participants (pre-registered or unregistered) arrive after the advertised time for the start of a program, it may not be feasible for you to participate in that program. Consequently, registration fees for pre-registered individuals will not be refunded.
When participating in a program or trip, both children and adults are expected to be respectful to one another as well as the Naturalist(s) leading the program or trip. Individuals who are disrespectful may be asked to leave a program, therefore forfeiting their paid program fees, and may be declined registration for future programs and trips. If you have any questions, comments or concerns, please contact the Naturalist(s) and/or management.
The Art of Photography at the EEC  
Camera Naturalists Photo Club

Camera Naturalists is the only club in New Jersey dedicated strictly to the art of nature and scenic photography. Meeting at the Environmental Education Center, the club offers educational programs, competitions, field trips, slide shows, and participation in public exhibits. Guests are welcome, and anyone interested in nature photography is invited to join. Meetings are generally held on the second Thursday of each month from 7:30pm-9:30pm at the Environmental Education Center.

Become an EEC Volunteer!

Interested in learning about the ecology of the Great Swamp basin? Want to dedicate your efforts toward environmental education and land stewardship? Then join our team as a volunteer! We rely on volunteers from our community to fulfill our mission: To stimulate awareness and understanding of the natural world, and to preserve, maintain, and improve natural areas of Somerset County Parkland. EEC Volunteers work in a variety of positions, including special events, gardening and horticulture, trail repair, host, and Naturalist assistant. Ages 14 and older. Please call 908 722-1200 ext. 5323 for more information.

Volunteers Needed for the newly-created EEC Invasive Strike Force

The EEC is seeking adult volunteers to help identify and remove invasive plants as part of the new Invasive Strike Force team. Invasive species damage and take over habitats that native plants and animals need to survive. Preventing and containing the spread of invasive species is vital to protecting the natural beauty of the park. The team will meet for 2-3 hours once a month, or as needed, starting in April. If you are interested in helping, or learning more, please contact Dan Ross at 908-722-1200 ext. 5336, or dross@scparks.org. No prior experience necessary. Gloves and tools will be provided.
The Passport can be secured when you attend a program listed in this guide. Present the Passport each time you attend a paid program at the Environmental Education Center. Receive a stamp for each paid participant within your household. (Passport must be present at the time of the program in order to receive a stamp.) For every ten stamps, receive one Leisure Pursuit Card!* Collect as many stamps as you can! Advance registration is required for all paid programs.

Please note: Promotion may end anytime at the Environmental Education Center’s discretion.

**February 2020**

* A Leisure Pursuit Card’s value is a maximum of $20 per use and may be applied toward one of the following activities: paddle boat rental, Colonial Park Putting Course, Green Knoll Pitch and Putt, admission to Warrenbrook Pool, tennis court rental, one round of golf, Environmental Science program, hack or intro ride at Lord Stirling Stable or reduced fee for a picnic grove. The cards cannot be redeemed through online or phone-in registration.
**Animal Tracks**
(All Ages)
Join a Naturalist on a hike and search the trails for signs of the animals that live in the park.
$6 per person
Course Code: 51805
EEC-04  Saturday, February 1
1:00pm-2:00pm

**Forest Fitness**
(Adult)
Get active with us! Walking outdoors has proven to help your wellbeing. Ditch the treadmill and join a Naturalist on the trails. This weekly walking group will move continuously at a moderate pace with occasional breaks. Please dress for the weather. Waterproof boots are strongly recommended.
$15 for 3-day session per person
Course Code: 51708
EEC-59  Sundays, February 2, 9, 16
9:00am-10:00am
$20 for 4-day session per person
Course Code: 51708
EEC-60  Tuesdays, February 4, 11, 18, 25
9:00am-10:00am

**Snowshoe Hike**
(All Ages)
Join a Naturalist for fun in the snow! We will snowshoe on the trails at the Environmental Education Center and enjoy the winter scenery. Bring your own snowshoes or borrow a pair from the Environmental Education Center (limited amount of snowshoes available – first come, first serve). Pre-registration is required.
FREE
Course Code: 51670
EEC-12  Sunday, February 2
2:30pm-4:00pm

**The North Shore Tour**
(Adult)
If you love birding along the Jersey Shore, then join us for a day you will never forget! Depending on where the birds are, we might visit the Shark River estuary, the Manasquan River, Spring Lake, Wreck Pond, and/or Lake Como. All of these places are great for viewing thousands of winter waterfowl. Bring binoculars, lunch, and bundle up!
$50 per adult/$40 per senior
Course Code: 51919
EEC-19  Tuesday, February 4
8:30am-5:30pm

**Penguin Party**
(Ages infant-5 with parent)
Chilly Willy the penguin is one cool guy! Did you know that some penguins live close to the equator? Through games and hands on activities you will learn all about the many different types of penguins, where they live, what they eat, and much more!
$10 per pair/$5 per additional child
Course Code: 51820
EEC-19  Thursday, February 6
10:30am-11:30am

**Swamp Kids**
(Ages 8-10)
Become a Swamp Kid! This program is designed to let the child’s curiosity and passion guide their learning. Nature is the greatest teacher! Each week this outdoor afterschool series will focus on a different seasonal theme. Please dress for all kinds of weather and warm, waterproof boots are a must.
$24 for 4-day session per person
Course Code: 51820
EEC-19  Thursday, February 6, 13, 20, 27
4:00pm-5:00pm

**The Green Team**
(Ages 12-15)
Is natural science a subject you find interesting? Do you like the outdoors? Is the Great Swamp a place you like to visit? If so, join us at the Environmental Education Center and contribute your talents to our fun and educational projects and special events. Pre-registration is required.
FREE
Course Code: 51438
EEC-N6  Saturday, February 8
1:00pm-4:00pm
EEC-N7  Saturday, February 15
1:00pm-4:00pm

**Rockin’ Raccoons - NEW**
(Ages infant-5 with parent)
Come learn about the North American Raccoon! The raccoon is a common animal that we often see evidence of in the Great Swamp. Join a Naturalist on this adventure and see what you can discover about raccoons! Please dress for the weather. Waterproof boots are a must.
$10 per pair/$5 per additional child
Course Code: 51870
EEC-01  Monday, February 24
10:30am-11:30am

**Shawangunk Grassland Birding**
(Adult)
Join us as we explore the Shawangunk Grasslands National Wildlife Refuge for wintering raptors such as Northern harriers and Short-eared owls. The 566-acre refuge is located near the hamlet of Wallkill, New York. This exceptional grassland habitat was formerly the Galeville Military Airport. Please bring binoculars, a bag dinner, and bundle up!
$50 per adult/$40 per senior
Course Code: 51725
EEC-03  Wednesday, February 26
2:00pm-9:00pm

**Did You Know...**that the Somerset County Park Commission has a Therapeutic Recreation Department that offers adapted recreation opportunities for children and adults with developmental disabilities. The department also provides inclusion support services to municipal recreation departments in Somerset County. Call 908 526-5650 to be placed on our mailing list or for more information. Individuals with a hearing or speech impairment may call the Relay Service at 711.
### 18 - Naturalist Programs

**EEC - Environmental Education Center**  •  **DIP - Duke Island Park**

#### The Young Explorers Club
*(Ages infant-5 with parent)*

It is never too early to get little ones outdoors to experience the wonders of nature. This series will focus on developing their five senses through simple activities. Parents will share the excitement with their children during this special hour and return home with ideas to explore nature close to home. Please dress for all kinds of weather. Waterproof boots are a must.

$36 per pair/$18 per additional child for 5-day session  
Course Code: 51667  
EEC-05  
Mondays, March 2, 9, 16, 23, 30  
10:30am-11:30am

#### KinderNats
*(Ages 5-7)*

KinderNats is a program designed and geared for children who love being outdoors. This afterschool series will get them outside to study science and explore the natural world. These junior Naturalists will be engaged through hiking, games, activities, and much more! Each week will focus on a different seasonal theme. Please dress for all kinds of weather. Waterproof boots are a must.

$30 for 5-day session per person  
Course Code: 51666  
EEC-53  
Mondays, March 2, 9, 16, 23, 30  
4:00pm-5:00pm

---

### March 2020

**Environmental Education Center**  
**190 Lord Stirling Road, Basking Ridge, NJ**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sun</th>
<th>Mon</th>
<th>Tue</th>
<th>Wed</th>
<th>Thu</th>
<th>Fri</th>
<th>Sat</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| **Maple Sugaring (All) Noon & 2pm**  
$1 per person | **Young Explorers Club**  
*(Inf-5 w/p)*  
10:30-11:30am  
$36/$18  
51878-06  
**KinderNats**  
(5-7)  
4-5pm  
$30  
51666-53 | **Forest Fitness**  
*(Adult)*  
9-10am  
$25  
51708-61  
**Tree House Gang**  
(3-5)  
12:45-3:15pm  
$65  
51488-32 | **Swamp Kids**  
(8-10)  
4-5pm  
$24  
51820-23 | **Fabulous Flies**  
*(Inf-5 w/p)*  
10:30-11:30am  
$10/$5  
51802-02  
**Birds of the World 2**  
(10+)  
7-8:30pm  
FREE | **Maple Sugaring (All) 10am, Noon, 2pm**  
$1 per person |
| 8   | 9   | 10  | 11  | 12  | 13  | 14  |
| **Maple Sugaring (All) Noon & 2pm**  
$1 per person | **Young Explorers Club**  
*Continued*  
**KinderNats**  
*Continued* | **Forest Fitness**  
*Continued*  
**Tree House Gang**  
*Continued* | **Birding at Middle Creek**  
*(Adult)*  
8am-7:30pm  
$50/$40  
51689-5 | **Swamp Kids**  
*Continued* | **Birds of the World 3**  
(10+)  
7:00-8:30pm  
FREE | **The Green Team**  
(12-15)  
1-4pm  
FREE  
51436-NB  
**Maple Sugaring (All) 10am, Noon, 2pm**  
$1 per person |
| 15  | 16  | 17  | 18  | 19  | 20  | 21  |
| **Birds of a Feather exhibit closes**  
**Maple Sugaring (All) Noon & 2pm**  
$1 per person | **Young Explorers Club**  
*Continued*  
**KinderNats**  
*Continued* | **Forest Fitness**  
*Continued*  
**Tree House Gang**  
*Continued*  
**Green is the Color!**  
*(Inf-5 w/p)*  
10:30-11:30am  
$10/$5  
51402-12 | **Swamp Kids**  
*Continued*  
**Tot Trek**  
*(Inf-5 w/p)*  
10:30-11:30am  
FREE  
51214-01 | | **Bernards Township Art Show exhibit opens**  
**River Rats**  
(5-8)  
10:30am-Noon  
$18  
51740-36  
**Family Nature Walk**  
(All)  
1-2pm  
FREE |
| 22  | 23  | 24  | 25  | 26  | 27  | 28  |
| **Winter Walkin' in the Pines**  
*(Adult)*  
8am-9pm  
$50/$40  
51376-20  
**Family Nature Walk**  
(All)  
1-2pm  
FREE  
**Butterfly Gardening with Native Plants**  
*(Adult)*  
1-2pm  
FREE | **Young Explorers Club**  
*Continued*  
**KinderNats**  
*Continued* | **Forest Fitness**  
*Continued*  
**Spring Sensations**  
*(Inf-5 w/p)*  
10:30-11:30am  
$10/$5  
51211-9 | | **Swamp Kids**  
*Continued*  
**Birds of the World 4**  
(10+)  
7:00-8:30pm  
FREE | **River Rats**  
*Continued*  
**The Green Team**  
(12-15)  
1-4pm  
FREE  
51438-N9 |

---

**Pre-registration is required.**  
Low enrollment may necessitate cancellation.  
908-722-1200 ext. 5002  
somersetcountyparks.org
Forest Fitness
(Adult)
Get active with us! Walking outdoors has proven to help your wellbeing. Ditch the treadmill and join a Naturalist on the trails. This weekly walking group will move continuously at a moderate pace with occasional breaks. Please dress for the weather. Waterproof boots are strongly recommended.
$25 for 5-day session per person
Course Code: 51708
EEC-61 Tuesdays, March 3, 10, 17, 24, 31
9:00am-10:00am

Tree House Gang
(Ages 3-5)
Bring your little ones to the Environmental Education Center for fun science and nature programming. These two-and-a-half hour afternoon classes will enhance learning by spending up to two hours outside exploring, hands-on activities, meeting live animals, and learning by experimenting. Each month has a different theme. Please send a small snack with your child. Please dress for the weather. Waterproof boots are required.
$65 for 4-day session per person
Course Code: 51488
EEC-32 Tuesdays, March 3, 10, 17, 24
12:45pm-3:15pm

Swamp Kids
(Ages 8-10)
Become a Swamp Kid! This program is designed to let the child’s curiosity and passion guide their learning. Nature is the greatest teacher! Each week this outdoor afterschool series will focus on a different seasonal theme. Please dress for all kinds of weather and warm, waterproof boots are a must.
$24 for 4-day session per person
Course Code: 51820
EEC-23 Thursdays, March 5, 12, 19, 26
4:00pm-5:00pm

Fabulous Fliers
(Ages infant-5 with parent)
If you could have any superpower what would you choose? Invisibility, lightning speed, super strength? How about flight? We see birds, bats, and insects flying all the time but they do not have superpowers. How do they do it? Find out how animals fly while learning about fascinating animals we see taking to the skies.
$10 per pair/$5 per additional child
Course Code: 51802
EEC-02 Friday, March 6
10:30am-11:30am

Birding at Middle Creek
(Adult)
Middle Creek PA Wildlife Management Area, located in the heartland of southeast Pennsylvania, is a popular birding destination. This 6,254 acre facility is particularly noted for the thousands upon thousands of ducks, geese, and swans that drop in during spring migration. We will spend the day exploring the area by van and foot. Bring binoculars, lunch, and bundle up!
$50 per adult/$40 per senior
Course Code: 51689
EEC-5 Wednesday, March 11
9:00am-7:30pm

The Green Team
(Ages 12-15)
Is natural science a subject you find interesting? Do you like the outdoors? Is the Great Swamp a place you like to visit? If so join us at the Environmental Education Center and contribute your talents to our fun and educational projects and special events. Pre-registration is required.
FREE
Course Code: 51438
EEC-N8 Saturday, March 14
1:00pm-4:00pm
EEC-N9 Saturday, March 28
1:00pm-4:00pm

Green is the Color!
(Ages infant-5 with parent)
Let’s make sure that St. Patrick is not the only one wearing green on this special day! We will learn a little bit about the Emerald Isle and the traditions of Ireland. After a typical Irish treat, we will take a hike to see who else is wearing green. Feel free to be festive and come dressed in greenery!
$10 per pair/$5 per additional child
Course Code: 51402
EEC-12 Tuesday, March 17
10:30am-11:30am

Tot Trek
(Ages infant-5 with parent)
Calling all tots! Leave the stroller behind and join a Naturalist for a walk on the trails of Lord Stirling Park. Explore the natural world around you by using all of your senses! You will be surprised to find out how much fun you can have outside! Pre-registration is required.
FREE
Course Code: 51214
EEC-01 Thursday, March 19
10:30am-11:30am

River Rats
(Ages 5-8)
Come join us for this exciting weekend learning adventure. During each monthly session, we will hike, observe the natural world, interact with live animals, and explore the Great Swamp. Each month’s activities will be themed. Bring a water bottle and a snack, dress to be both indoors and out, and boots are strongly recommended.
$18 for 2-day session per person
Course Code: 51740
EEC-36 Saturdays, March 21 & 28
10:30am-Noon

New York Botanical Garden Orchid Show
(Adult)
See thousands of dazzling Orchids on display! The Enid A. Haupt Conservatory is transformed into an irresistible paradise of fragrance and color, assembled from thousands of blooms in every conceivable color and shape! The spectacular exhibition will include rare and endangered species from their collection.
$75 per adult/$65 per senior
Course Code: 51181
EEC-65 Tuesday, March 24
9:00am-4:30pm

Winter Walkin’ in the Pines
(Adult)
Join us on a winter’s day for some easy walking down in the Pine Barrens of New Jersey. Our travels may include Whitesbog Village, the Evert Nature Trail, the Franklin Parker Preserve, and/or Lebanon State Forest. We will hike five to six miles total, at an easy pace, while doing some winter birding. Bring a bag lunch, binoculars, and, of course, dress for the weather.
$50 per adult/$40 per senior
Course Code: 51376
EEC-20 Sunday, March 29
8:00am-6:00pm

Spring Sensations
(Ages infant-5 with parent)
Welcome to the wonderful world of spring! Enjoy a guided walk with a Naturalist, while putting your senses to the test by feeling, listening, looking, smelling, and tasting.
$10 per pair/$5 additional child
Course Code: 51121
EEC-9 Tuesday, March 31
10:30am-11:30am
20 - Naturalist Programs

Tot Trek
(Ages infant-5 with parent)
Calling all tots! Leave the stroller behind and join a Naturalist for a walk on the trails of Lord Stirling Park. Explore the natural world around you by using all of your senses! You will be surprised to find out how much fun you can have outside! Pre-registration is required.
FREE
Course Code: 51214
EEC-02
Thursday, April 2
10:30am-11:30am

Swamp Kids
(Ages 8-10)
Become a Swamp Kid! This program is designed to let the child’s curiosity and passion guide their learning. Nature is the greatest teacher! Each week this outdoor afterschool series will focus on a different seasonal theme. Please dress for all kinds of weather and warm, waterproof boots are a must.
$30 for 5-day session per person
Course Code: 51820
EEC-24
Thursdays, April 2, 9, 16, 23, 30
4:00pm-5:00pm

April 2020

Environmental Education Center
190 Lord Stirling Road, Basking Ridge, NJ

Sun | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat
---|---|---|---|---|---|---

Preregistration is required.
Low enrollment may necessitate cancellation.
908-722-1200 ext. 6002
somersetcounty.org

Find us on Facebook
Follow us on Instagram

2
Tot Trek
(Inf-5 w/p) 10:30-11:30am FREE
51214-02
Swamp Kids
(8-10) 4-5pm $30
51820-24

3
Birds of the World 5
(10+) 7-8:30pm FREE

4
River Rats
(5-8) 10:30am-Noon
$27 51740-37

5
Sleepy Snakes
(All) 2-3pm FREE
51361-10

6
Young Explorers Club
(Inf-5 w/p) 10:30-11:30am $30/$15
51677-06
KinderNats
(5-7) 4-5pm $24
51666-54

7
Reservoir Dogs
(7+) 7:30am-7pm $75
50764-14
Forest Fitness
(Adult) 8-10am $20
51708-02
Tree House Gang
(3-5) 12:45-3:15pm $85
51468-33

8
Cool Camouflage
(All) 1-2pm $8
51863-02

9
Swamp Kids
Continued
A Paddling
Afternoon
(10+) 2-9pm $60
50761-85

10
Holiday
Building Closed

11
River Rats Cont.
Birding By Ear
(8+) 1-2:30pm $10
51832-04
The Green Team
(12-15) 1-4pm FREE
51438-M1

12
Easter Sunday
Building Closed

13
Young Explorers Club
Continued
KinderNats Cont
D&R Canal Paddle
(10+) 2-7pm $60
50757-83

14
Forest Fitness
Continued
Tree House Gang
Continued

15

16
Swamp Kids
Continued
CAN-U-CANNU
(7+) 5-7pm $14
50350-20

17
Spring Peepers
(Inf-5 w/p)
10:30-11:30am
$10/$5
51852-02

18
River Rats Cont.
Macro Photography
Workshop
9:30am-Noon $20

19
Bernards Township
Art Show exhibit closes
Millstone Meander
(7+) 8am-5:30pm $75
50753-17
Family Nature Walk
(All) 1-2pm FREE

20
Young Explorers
Club Continued
KinderNats Continued

21
Forest Fitness Cont.
Tree House Gang Cont
Jamaica Bay Birthing
(Adult) 8:30am-9:30am $65
51296-8

22
Habitracks
(Inf-5 w/p)
10:30-11:30am
$10/$5
51871-01
Passaic Paddle
(10+) 4-7pm $30
50756-15

23
Swamp Kids Cont.
Holland Ridge Tulips
(Adult) 9:30am-3:30pm
$35/$45
51866-02
Herbal Tea Making
(Adult) 1-3pm FREE
KAN-U-KAYAK
(10+) 6-7pm $25
50448-21

24
Saturday Bird Walks
(All) 6-9am FREE
Family Nature Walk
(All) 1-2pm FREE
The Green Team
(12-15) 1-4pm FREE
51438-M2

25

26
PROJECT E.A.R.T.H.
Swamp Search
(All) Noon-3:30pm FREE
Rizzo’s Wildlife World
(All) 2:45-4:30pm FREE

27
Young Explorers
Club Continued
KinderNats
Continued

28
Forest Fitness Cont.
Tree House Gang Cont.
Early Birds Paddle
(10+) 6:30-8:30am $20
51491-29

29
Mr. Whistle Paddle

30
Swamp Kids
Continued

April Showers
Bring May Flowers
River Rats
(Ages 5-8)
Come join us for this exciting weekend learning adventure. During each monthly session, we will hike, observe the natural world, interact with live animals, and explore the Great Swamp. Each month’s activities will be themed. Bring a water bottle and a snack, dress to be both indoors and out, and boots are strongly recommended.
$27 for 3-day session per person
Course Code: 51740
EEC-37 Saturdays, April 4, 11, 18
9:30am-3:30pm

Sleepy Snakes
(All Ages)
If you really and truly believe that snakes are slimy, then this is the class for you! We will dispel the incorrect myths about snakes, learn the real and amazing facts, and have the opportunity to meet a real, live snake! Pre-registration is required.
FREE
Course Code: 51361
EEC-10 Sunday, April 5
2:00pm-3:00pm

The Young Explorers Club
(Ages infant-5 with parent)
It is never too early to get little ones outdoors to experience the wonders of nature. This series will focus on developing their five senses through simple activities. Parents will share the excitement with their children during this special hour and return home with ideas to explore nature close to home. Please dress for all kinds of weather. Waterproof boots are a must.
$30 per pair/$15 per additional child for 4-day session
Course Code: 51667
EEC-06Mondays, April 6, 13, 20, 27
10:30am-11:30am

KinderNats
(Ages 5-7)
KinderNats is a program designed and geared for children currently who love being outdoors. This afterschool series will get them outside to study science and explore the natural world. These Junior Naturalists will be engaged through hiking, games, and activities. Each week will focus on a different seasonal theme. Please dress for all kinds of weather. Waterproof boots are a must.
$24 for 4-day session per person
Course Code: 51666
EEC-54 Mondays, April 6, 13, 20, 27
4:00pm-5:00pm

Forest Fitness
(Adult)
Get active with us! Walking outdoors has proven to help your wellbeing. Ditch the treadmill and join a Naturalist on the trails. This weekly walking group will move continuously at a moderate pace with occasional breaks. Please dress for the weather. Waterproof boots are strongly recommended.
$20 for 4-day session per person
Course Code: 51708
EEC-62 Tuesdays, April 7, 14, 21, 28
9:00am-10:00am

Tree House Gang
(Ages 3-5)
Bring your little ones to the Environmental Education Center for fun science and nature programming. These two-and-a-half hour afternoon classes will enhance learning by spending up to two hours outside exploring, hands-on activities, meeting live animals, and learning by experimenting. Each month has a different theme. Please send a small snack with your child. Please dress for the weather. Waterproof boots are required.
$65 for 4-day session per person
Course Code: 51488
EEC-33 Tuesdays, April 7, 14, 21, 28
12:45pm-3:15pm

Cool Camouflage
(All Ages)
Critters that use camouflage are cool! Come meet some critters and learn how their camouflage helps them survive! Our guest list includes snakes, lizards, and more! If time allows, a story and a short hike will be part of the fun.
$6 per person
Course Code: 51853
EEC-02 Wednesday, April 8
1:00pm-2:00pm

Birding Seminar: Birding by Ear
(All Ages, 8 years and older with parent)
A continuation of our seminar series, this program will focus on bird songs, bird calls, and how to identify local species by sound. If time and weather permits, we may take a short hike.
$10 per person
Course Code: 51832
EEC-04 Saturday, April 11
1:00pm-2:30pm

The Green Team
(Ages 12-15)
Is natural science a subject you find interesting? Do you like the outdoors? Is the Great Swamp a place you like to visit? If so join us at the Environmental Education Center and contribute your talents to our fun and educational projects and special events. Pre-registration is required.
FREE
Course Code: 51438
EEC-M1 Saturday, April 25
1:00pm-4:00pm

Spring Peepers
(Ages infant-5 with parent)
April showers bring more than just flowers. Come learn about the different frog species we have in Lord Stirling Park. We will take a hike, read stories, and make frog-themed crafts. Please wear footwear appropriate for hiking.
$10 per pair/$5 per additional child
Course Code: 51852
EEC-02 Friday, April 17
10:30am-11:30am

Jamaica Bay, Mon
(Adult)
Join us for a day of birding in and around the Jamaica Bay National Wildlife Refuge, part of Gateway National Recreation Area in Brooklyn, NY. This urban wildlife refuge is well known as a prime birding spot. Some places we will visit include: East Pond, Jacob Riis Park, Fort Tilden, Canarsie Pier, Plumb Beach, and possibly Greenwood Cemetery for Monk parakeets. Please bring lunch, binoculars, and money for dinner.
$65 per person
Course Code: 51296
EEC-8 Tuesday, April 21
8:30am-8:30pm

Habitracks - NEW
(Ages infant -5 with parent)
Did you know you can gather a lot of information from animal tracks? Join a Naturalist on a tracking expedition to figure out some of the animals in the Great Swamp habitat.
$10 per pair/$5 per additional child
Course Code: 51871
EEC-01 Wednesday, April 22
10:30am-11:30am

Holland Ridge Farm Tulip Festival
(Adult)
The Garden State has a new treasure, the Holland Ridge Farm Tulip Festival! With more than two million tulips, this farm is home to the east coast’s largest tulip farm! Enjoy walking through this living rainbow of blooms! Learn a bit about the biology and cultural history of this beloved plant. Dress to be outside. Boots are strongly recommended. Bring a bag lunch or money for lunch, and to purchase tulips-by-the-stem.
$55 per adult/$45 per senior
Course Code: 51856
EEC-02 Thursday, April 23
9:30am-3:30pm
### Naturalist Programs

**EEC - Environmental Education Center**  
**DIP - Duke Island Park**

#### Birding Identification Workshops: Warblers
*(All Ages, 8 years and older with parent)*

A continuation of our birding identification series, this program will take a look at the northeastern United States' most iconic group of birds, the warblers! We have close to 30 different warbler species in our area and each one is just as pretty as the next.

- **Cost:** $10 per person
- **Course Code:** EEC-14
- **Dates:**
  - EEC-14: Saturday, May 2, 1:00pm-2:30pm
  - EEC-M3: Saturday, May 16, 1:00pm-4:00pm
  - EEC-M4: Saturday, May 23, 1:00pm-4:00pm

#### The Green Team
*(Ages 12-15)*

Is natural science a subject you find interesting? Do you like the outdoors? Is the Great Swamp a place you like to visit? If so join us at the Environmental Education Center and contribute your talents to our fun and educational projects and special events. Pre-registration is required.

- **Cost:** FREE
- **Course Code:** 51438
- **Dates:**
  - EEC-M3: Saturday, May 2, 1:00pm-4:00pm
  - EEC-M4: Saturday, May 16, 1:00pm-4:00pm
  - EEC-M5: Saturday, May 23, 1:00pm-4:00pm
**Garret Mountain**
(Adult)
Can you believe that such a fantastic birding spot is located in Paterson, NJ? Spend the morning roaming and birding around Garrett Mountain Reservation. If time permits, we may visit the majestic Great Falls waterfall. Bring lunch, binoculars, and dress for the weather.

*Price:
$50 per adult/$40 per senior
*Course Code: 51691
EEC-7  Tuesday, May 5
6:00am-Noon

**Tree House Gang**
(Ages 3-5)
Bring your little ones to the Environmental Education Center for fun science and nature programming. These two-and-a-half hour afternoon classes will enhance learning by spending up to two hours outside exploring, hands-on activities, meeting live animals, and learning by experimenting. Each month has a different theme. Please send a small snack with your child. Please dress for the weather. Waterproof boots are required.

*Price: $65 for 4-day session per person
*Course Code: 51488
EEC-34  Tuesdays, May 5, 12, 19, 26
12:45pm-3:15pm

**Secrets in Somerset County – Bluebell Magic**
(All Ages)
Meet at the playground kiosk at Duke Island Park and head out for an exploratory hike with a Naturalist. Identify local trees and search for early blooming wildflowers along the Raritan River. Find one of Somerset County’s best kept secrets, the bounty of blooming bluebell wildflowers of Duke Island Park. Pre-registration is required.

*FREE
*Course Code: 51729
DIP-08  Tuesday, May 5
1:00pm-2:00pm

**Squirmy Wormies!**
(Ages infant-5 with parent)
Wiggly worms are very important for many reasons. They make the soil much better for other plants and animals, and are a tasty treat for birds, frogs, and other critters. Learn more about worms, and create a habitat for your very own pet worm!

*Price: $10 per pair/$5 per additional child
*Course Code: 51209
EEC-19  Thursday, May 7
10:30am-11:30am

**Swamp Kids**
(Ages 8-10)
Become a Swamp Kid! This program is designed to let the child’s curiosity and passion guide their learning. Nature is the greatest teacher! Each week this outdoor, afterschool series will focus on a different seasonal theme. Please dress for all kinds of weather and warm, waterproof boots are a must.

*Price: $24 for 4-day session per person
*Course Code: 51820
EEC-25  Thursdays, May 7, 14, 21, 28
4:00pm-5:00pm

**South Jersey Breeders**
(Adult)
Every birder knows about Cape May, but southern Jersey birding has much more to offer. Late May offers the chance to see some specialty southern breeders such as Yellow-throated Warbler, Kentucky Warbler, Prothonotary Warbler, and Summer Tanager. We will also stop by the bayshore to search for shorebirds! Make sure to bring binoculars, lunch, bug spray, and sunscreen!

*Price: $65 per adult/$55 per senior
*Course Code: 51800
EEC-02  Tuesday, May 19
5:00pm-7:00pm

**Woodland Wildflowers**
(All Ages)
In the springtime, woodland wildflowers are at their peak, carpeting the forest floor in the dappled sunlight. Join a Naturalist for a leisurely walk through Lord Stirling Park in search of these spring beauties. Pre-registration is required.

*FREE
*Course Code: 51751
EEC-07  Tuesday, May 19
10:30am-11:30am

**Paxson Hill Farm**
(Adult)
Meet Bruce Gangawer, horticulturist and lover of flora and fauna. His degree in ornamental horticulture from Rutgers University led him on a determined path to create a greenscape at this 32-acre Bucks County, Pennsylvania property where he lives and grows plants at his nursery. His fertile imagination dances in the wind and plants itself among the extraordinary gardens he designed on the farm to inspire all who visit. You will tour the gardens for inspirational ideas then shop the nursery to bring a new creation home! Dress to be outside and please bring a bag lunch.

*Price: $65 per adult/$55 per senior
*Course Code: 51873
EEC-01  Thursday, May 21
9:00am-5:00pm

**Forest Fitness**
(Adult)
Get active with us! Walking outdoors has proven to help your wellbeing. Ditch the treadmill and join a Naturalist on the trails. This weekly walking group will move continuously at a moderate pace with occasional breaks. Please dress for the weather. Waterproof boots are strongly recommended.

*Price: $25 for 5-day session per person
*Course Code: 51708
EEC-63  Sundays, May 3, 10, 17, 24, 31
9:00am-10:00am

*Price: $20 for 4-day session per person
*Course Code: 51708
EEC-64  Tuesdays, May 5, 12, 19, 26
9:00am-10:00am

**The Young Explorers Club**
(Ages infant-5 with parent)
It is never too early to get little ones outdoors to experience the wonders of nature. This series will focus on developing their five senses through simple activities. Parents will share the excitement with their children during this special hour and return home with ideas to explore nature close to home. Please dress for all kinds of weather. Waterproof boots are a must.

*Price: $22 per pair/$11 per additional child for 3-day session
*Course Code: 51667
EEC-07  Mondays, May 4, 11, 18
10:30am-11:30am

**KinderNats**
(Ages 5-7)
KinderNats is a program designed and geared for children who love being outdoors. This afterschool series will get them outside to study science and explore the natural world. These Junior Naturalists will be engaged through hiking, activities, and much more! Each week will focus on a different seasonal theme. Please dress for all kinds of weather. Waterproof boots are a must.

*Price: $18 for 3-day session per person
*Course Code: 51666
EEC-55  Mondays, May 4, 11, 18
4:00pm-5:00pm

**Sensational Spring Sounds**
(Adult)
“Drink Your Tea”, “Who Cooks Who Cooks For You”, “Sweet Sweet Sweet I Am So Sweet”. The days are getting longer and the weather is getting warmer, which means springtime has finally arrived. Just like us, birds, frogs, insects, and other animals around the EEC are awakening from their winter slumbers and celebrating the return of spring. Join one of our Naturalists for an hour-long program all about the sensational sounds that we can hear while hiking this time of year.

*Price: $10 per pair/$5 per additional child
*Course Code: 51804
EEC-02  Friday, May 15
10:30am-11:30am
**Tot Trek**
(Ages infant-5 with parent)
Calling all tots! Leave the stroller behind and join a Naturalist for a walk on the trails of Lord Stirling Park. Explore the natural world around you by using all of your senses! You will be surprised to find out how much fun you can have outside! Pre-registration is required.
**FREE**
Course Code: 51214
EEC-03
Thursday, May 21
10:30am-11:30am

**It's a Skink, I Think! - NEW**
(Ages 4-6)
Is a skink a salamander? Come find out the difference between skinks and salamanders and the common ones we might find in the Great Swamp! Join a Naturalist on this adventure turning over rocks to find hidden critters.
$6 per person
Course Code: 51872
EEC-01
Thursday, May 21
4:00pm-5:00pm

**Morven House and Garden**
(Adult)
Spend a memorable day walking through pieces of New Jersey's role in America's history. Tour the National Historic Landmark house, newly refurbished gardens, and enjoy a 'tea' with the tours. Tea will be served at 1:00pm and includes tea sandwiches, scones, and assortment of fresh fruits and sweets.
$75 per adult/$65 per senior
Course Code: 51874
EEC-01
Wednesday, May 27
9:00am-4:00pm

---

**YOGA**

**WINTER**
Beginner Yoga: Tuesday 9:30am-10:30am
January 7 – March 10, 2020
Wednesday 5:30pm-6:30pm
January 8 – March 11, 2020

Advanced Yoga: Wednesday 7:00pm-8:15pm
January 8 – March 11, 2020

**SPRING**
Beginner Yoga: Tuesday 9:30am-10:30am
March 31 – June 2, 2020
Wednesday 5:30pm-6:30pm
April 1 – June 3, 2020

Advanced Yoga: Wednesday 7:00pm-8:15pm
January 8 – March 11, 2020

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Method of Payment</th>
<th>Winter</th>
<th>Spring</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Check</td>
<td>☐</td>
<td>☐</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cash (Exact)</td>
<td>☐</td>
<td>☐</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Credit</td>
<td>☐</td>
<td>☐</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| ☐ I have a disability and may need a reasonable modification(s) in order to participate. | ☐ | ☐ |

**WINTER**
- Beginner 9:30-10:30am
- Beginner 5:30-6:30pm
- Advanced Beginner 7-8:15pm

**SPRING**
- Beginner 9:30-10:30am
- Beginner 5:30-6:30pm
- Advanced Beginner 7-8:15pm

Beginner Sessions $80
Advanced Session $100

Classes held at North Branch Park
355 Milltown Road, Bridgewater

Wear comfortable clothes. Bring a yoga mat.

Register online at:
www.somersetcountyparks.org or complete the form. For additional information, please contact the Recreation Department at 908 722-1200 ext. 5226.

Please return payment and form to:
Somerset County Park Commission
Recreation Department
PO Box 5327, North Branch, NJ 08876
Join a Naturalist for a fun and educational birthday celebration. Forget the paper cups and plates, the balloons, and party streamers! You bring the cake and guests, and the Naturalist will do the rest with reusable and recyclable materials. For children five years and older, any day between 11am and 4:30pm, the Environmental Education Center party room is available for parties of up to 15 guests, including host, parents, and siblings.

Choose a theme: Where the Wild Things Live or Cool Critters and then contact the Environmental Education Center at 908 722-1200 ext. 5332 to make a reservation.

The Party Package includes:
- Two-hour party room rental
- One-hour Naturalist program
- Setup and cleanup
- Decorations and paper goods
- Invitations
- Pre-party tips and suggestions.

Fees for In-county residents- $175; Out-of-county- $250. A $50 deposit is required.

Availability is limited, so please make your reservation early. We recommend calling 4-6 months in advance! Space is also limited so please limit your party to the prescribed maximum of 15 people.

BUY-A-BRICK APPLICATION - “Foundation of Opportunities”

☐ $100 per brick - Please allow 5-7 weeks for delivery and installation from time of payment.

Each Brick can be engraved with a maximum of three (3) lines of twenty (20) characters including spaces and punctuation.

```
```

Insert the desired engraving in the spaces above. Limit one (1) letter, punctuation mark, blank or character per space.

Your signature below indicates that you have reviewed the text and format to be inscribed on the Brick you are ordering.

Signature ____________________________  Name ____________________________
Address ____________________________  City ____________________________  State ______  Zip__________
Telephone ____________________________  Email ____________________________

Please return application and payment of $100 per brick to:

Somerset County Park Foundation
P.O. Box 5147, North Branch, NJ 08876

Checks payable to: Somerset County Park Foundation
2020 SUMMER CAMPS at the
Environmental Education Center, Lord Stirling Park

It has been our pleasure to offer enriching and fun summer camp programs to the children of our community for more than 20 years! Unique camp programs for ages 4 to 16 are offered. We aim to inspire a life-long love and respect for the natural world, while cultivating a curiosity about the environment and a fondness for science. Outdoor lessons and hands-on experiences are just some of the benefits of our engaging summer programs. With nearly 500 acres of fields, forests, ponds, and river, the Environmental Education Center at Lord Stirling Park offers unique opportunities in a natural learning environment for children of all ages.

Online and in-person registration begins Wednesday, February 5, 2020 at 9:00am. Phone-in or mail-in registration begins at 11:00am. Enrollment is on a first-come, first-served basis. Please call (908) 722-1200 Ext. 5002 or visit somersetcountyparks.org.

Coyote Kids
(Ages 4-6)

Hoooooowl! Join the pack for a fun, five-day nature program full of outdoor exploration, live animals, hands-on activities, games, and water play! This program will take place rain or shine. Pack a snack and come prepared to be outside!

Full payment is due at the time of registration. Program fee is refundable if cancellation occurs a minimum of seven days prior to the start of the session.

Mud
Dress for a mess – this is mud week! Explore soils, mud pie creations, and mud art.
$125 per person  
Course Code: 51752  
EEC-16  
Monday-Friday, June 22-June 26 9:00am-Noon

Habitats
Focus on a different habitat each day while exploring the field, forest, swamp, and gardens!
$125 per person  
Course Code: 51752  
EEC-17  
Monday-Friday, July 6-July 10 9:00am-Noon

Animals
Discuss a different type of animal each day such as mammals, reptiles, amphibians, and birds!
$125 per person  
Course Code: 51752  
EEC-18  
Monday-Friday, July 20-July 24 9:00am-Noon

Bugs
Bugs are everywhere! Discover butterflies, dragonflies, aquatic insects, and creatures under fallen logs!
$125 per person  
Course Code: 51752  
EEC-19  
Monday-Friday, August 3- August 7 9:00am-Noon

For more information regarding Coyote Kids, please contact Rebecca Vermeech at 908.722.1200 Ext. 5334 or rvermeesch@scparks.org.

Eco-Explorers
(Ages 7-9)

For more than 20 years, Eco-Explorers has offered participants a fun-filled adventure in learning and discovery! We help develop an appreciation for nature and a fondness for science through hands-on activities. Hiking, nature lessons, canoeing, field trips, environmental games, arts and crafts, water play or pool time, guest speakers, and more will add up to a fun and educational summer!

Each week will include an off-site field trip with school bus transportation. All trips are related to session theme and may include sites such as Turtle Back Zoo, Liberty Science Center, and various parks throughout the state. Trip locations are chosen within a 60-minute radius from the Environmental Education Center.

Eight nature and science-themed sessions are offered. Description, duration, and price vary per session.

A non-refundable, non-transferrable deposit of $150 per person, per session is due at registration. Non-refundable and non-transferrable balance is due by Friday, May 1.

Extended care is available for each session from 4:30pm-5:30pm for an additional $42.50 fee. For the week of June 29, the extended care fee will be $34 due to the July 4th Holiday schedule.

Aquatic Adventures
Learn about the properties of water and observe aquatic wildlife during this water filled adventure!
$360 per person  
Course Code: 50101  
EEC-25  
Monday, June 22-Friday, June 26 8:30am-4:30pm

Dino Rocks - NEW
Love Dinosaurs? This 4-day session is for you! Learn about a variety of dinosaurs and all their fascinating characteristics.
$288 per person  
Course Code: 50101  
EEC-26  
Monday, June 29-Thursday, July 2 (No program Friday, July 3) 8:30am-4:30pm

Bugtastic
Put on your lab coat and conduct fun, wacky experiments while finding out more about the science behind nature!
$360 per person  
Course Code: 50101  
EEC-27  
Monday, July 6-Friday, July 10 8:30am-4:30pm

Scales & Tails - NEW
What do Bearded Dragons, Ball Pythons, and dogs have in common? They are all pets! Meet a variety of pets and learn the importance of pet care while assisting with critter care.
$360 per person  
Course Code: 50101  
EEC-30  
Monday, July 27-Friday, July 31 8:30am-4:30pm

For more information regarding Eco-Explorers please contact Vanessa Darras at 908.722.1200 Ext. 5335 or vdarras@scparks.org. A parent handbook is also available at www.somersetcountyparks.org.
**AWESIM KIDS**
(Ages 10-13)

The AWESIM KIDS program will be starting its 25th summer season this year! AWESIM KIDS offers a unique combination of learning and summer vacation fun. Spend days hiking, boating, learning about local wildlife, exploring the park, meeting interesting people and professionals, and going on unique day trips. AWESIM KIDS encourages hands-on learning and peer leadership opportunities while working together in both small and large groups. Each two-week session, although individually themed, offers a variety of STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics) projects. In addition, favorite activities such as berry picking, boating, and swimming are repeated throughout the summer.

An optional overnight (sleepover) will take place the first Thursday of each session. A healthy dinner, snacks, and drinks will be provided. Evening activities may include night hikes, star gazing, and other weather permitting activities. *Please note: participants get picked up the following Friday, between 7:30am-9:00am.*

Each week AWESIM KIDS will travel by van to an off-site location. Group will depart at 9:00am and return at approximately 4:30pm. Each trip is related to the session theme.

A **non-refundable, non-transferable deposit of $150 per person, per session is due at registration. Non-refundable and non-transferable balance is due by Friday, May 1.**

Extended care is available for each session from 4:30pm-5:30pm for an additional $85 fee. For the session starting June 22, the extended care fee will be $76.50 due to the July 4th Holiday schedule.

**H Meets O**

Every living thing on Earth depends upon water. Learn about our amazing blue planet while exploring both salt and fresh water habitats. Plan to get wet and dirty while paddling on ponds, exploring streams, and spending time in kayaks. Paddling experts will teach strokes and safety while having a good time with friends.

Sleepover Thursday, June 25; pick-up Friday, June 26 between 7:30am-9:00am

$648 per person

Course Code: 50102

EEC-50

Monday, June 22-Thursday, July 2
(no program Friday, July 3)
8:30am-4:30pm

**Survive**

This session is all about the basics of both animal and human survival including finding safe water for drinking, shelter for protection from the environment, gathering food, and additional hands-on activities. Whether making a piece of rope, learning to tie basic knots or learning basic wilderness first aid, there will be a challenge every day.

Sleepover, Thursday, July 9; pick-up Friday, July 10 between 7:30am-9:00am.

$720 per person

Course Code: 50102

EEC-51

Monday, July 6-Friday, July 17
8:30am-4:30pm

**Science Rules**

Nature and science go hand-in-hand. From slug slime to sticky webs, flashing fireflies to glowing worms, calling frogs to soaring songbirds, observe nature’s rules about locomotion, adaptations, and much more. Spend time hiking, boating, exploring the swamp, and adventuring on day trips. STEM challenges will be part of the daily fun!

Sleepover, Thursday, July 23; pick-up Friday, July 24 between 7:30am-9:00am

$720 per person

Course Code: 50102

EEC-52

Monday, July 20-Friday, July 31
8:30am-4:30pm

**Yum**

Enjoy nature's bounty while learning about wild edibles and growing organic food in the AWESIM KIDS garden; test your creative culinary skills during the awesome iron chef challenges. Spend time hiking the trails in search of high bush blueberries and wild blackberries, when perfectly ripe, are tasty treats, and search for the pollinators responsible for making our food grow.

Sleepover, Thursday, August 6; pick-up Friday, August 7 between 7:30am-9:00am

$720 per person

Course Code: 50102

EEC-53

Monday, August 3-Friday, August 14
8:30am-4:30pm

For more information regarding AWESIM KIDS please contact Christa Wood at 908.722.1200 Ext. 5337 or cwood@scparks.org. A parent handbook is also available at www.somersetcountyparks.org. Once registered, please add kawesim@scparks.org to your contact list to ensure you receive email communication.

**XTREME ADVENTURE**
(Ages 13-16)

Disconnect from electronics and let nature reconnect you to your wild side! Challenge yourself to an unforgettable week of fun and adventure! Two Environmental Education Center Naturalists are sure to teach you how to crank up the Xtreme factor! No experience is necessary; all you need is a will for adventure!

A **non-refundable, non-transferable deposit of $150 per person is due at registration. Non-refundable and non-transferable balance is due by Friday, May 1.**

**Xtreme Adventure Week**

**July 13-July 17**

Adventures may include stand up paddling, kayaking, hiking, and spending a day at a great ocean-side destination. The following is a tentative schedule for the week.

- **Monday, 8:30am-4:30pm:** Orientation and Stand Up Paddling Trip
- **Tuesday, 8:30am-Noon:** Intro to Kayaking at the Environmental Education Center
- **Wednesday, 8:30am-8:00pm:** Pine Barrens Kayaking Trip
- **Thursday, 7:30pm-11:00pm:** Night Hike at the Environmental Education Center
- **Friday, 10:00am-8:00pm:** Island Beach State Park and Seaside Boardwalk Trip

Please note drop-off and pick-up times vary each day and the schedule is subject to change. For more information, please contact Ben Barkley at bbarkley@scparks.org or 908.722.1200 Ext. 5326.

$450 per person

Course Code: 50103

EEC-67
**CROSS-COUNTRY SKIING & SNOWSHOEING**

The Environmental Education Center has several miles of trails suitable for cross-country skiing and snowshoeing when weather conditions permit. The trails are mostly level and wide, making this beautifully rustic area particularly suitable for beginners or novice skiers and snowshoers. Please bring your own equipment, a limited amount of snowshoes are available to borrow at the front desk. Our building is open every day from 9:00am-5:00pm (closed on all holidays). For safety reasons, we suggest coming with a partner or friends. Skiing and snowshoeing are only allowed when there is more than four inches of snow on the trails.

**CANOEING AND KAYAKING PROGRAMS**

The Somerset County Park Commission offers a variety of canoeing and kayaking opportunities to stimulate awareness and understanding of the environment, build an appreciation of New Jersey waterways, and promote interest in canoeing and kayaking.

Come enjoy fantastic times on the river with our enthusiastic, experienced Naturalist/river guides. Our dedicated and professional guides are sure to provide you with a super river experience! We offer everything from easy, relaxing flat water to more adventurous beginner whitewater. No matter what you choose, your river memories with us will be sure to last a lifetime!

All canoeing and kayaking programs are designed for adults and families with children age seven and older for canoeing and age ten and older for kayaking. **Children under the age of 15 must be accompanied by a registered adult.** Attendance of introductory programs is mandatory and required prior to participating in canoe or kayak trips. **A person may register for his/her own household only. Program registrations are not transferable to other individuals or households.**

**CAN-U-CANNU??**

After a “splashing” time at this introductory canoe class, you will learn the basic paddling techniques, safety aspects of canoeing, and handling a canoe in and out of the water. This program offers an opportunity for adults and children, ages seven and older, to learn to canoe. An adult must accompany children under the age of 15. Each canoe can accommodate two paddlers and a child passenger. Classes will take place on Branta Pond at the Environmental Education Center. All equipment will be provided.

$14 per person  
Course Code: 50350  
Canoe-20  
Thursday, April 16  
5:00pm-7:00pm  
Canoe-21  
Sunday, May 17  
2:00pm-4:00pm

**KAN-U-KAYAK??**

This introductory kayaking class will teach you the basic paddling techniques, safety aspects of kayaking, and handling a kayak in and out of the water. This program offers an opportunity for adults and children, ages ten and older, to learn to kayak. An adult must accompany children under the age of 15. Participants will use solo kayaks (but tandem kayaks are available upon request). Classes will take place on Branta Pond at the Environmental Education Center. All equipment will be provided.

$25 per person  
Course Code: 50448  
Kayak-21  
Thursday, April 23  
5:00pm-7:00pm  
Kayak-22  
Sunday, May 31  
10:30am-12:30pm

**Kayak Pool Training Session**

During this required session, you will learn how to successfully wet exit your kayak. You will also practice getting in and out of the kayak from the pool deck, as well as the water. Please wear a bathing suit, bring a towel, and be prepared to get completely wet. All equipment will be provided. **Price included with Kan-U-Kayak Program**

**These dates will not be available until summer registration in May 2020**

**CANOEING AND KAYAKING TRIPS**

All trips will be for both canoes and kayaks together (Canyak) or just kayaks. The trips are intended for beginner to intermediate paddlers. **Prior participation in one of our CAN-U-CANNU or KAN-U-KAYAK classes is required.** Children under the age of 15 must be accompanied by a registered adult and both child and adult(s) must take the appropriate pre-requisite classes. Boats, equipment, transportation, and leadership are provided. Participants are welcome to bring their own equipment, at their own risk, however, there is no reduction in price. A review of basic canoeing and/or kayaking techniques and river safety begins each trip, then onto the water for an exciting educational experience. All return times are approximate. Duration and degree of difficulty of the trips are listed in ascending order and river trips are also rated using our system below. Due to possible low water conditions, there may be changes in destinations or cancellations. Trips will run unless dangerous or threatening weather occurs and participants will be notified in a timely manner.

Please read and review the following considerations PRIOR to registering for a river trip:

♦ Please wear appropriate paddling clothing that can get wet and/or dirty - non-cotton, synthetic, quick-drying fabrics are best. Please also wear proper foot attire – closed-toed shoes that are attached to your foot. Flip flops, clogs, slides, and slip-ons are NOT allowed!

♦ 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 are not met.

♦ It is the participant’s responsibility to consult the ratings listed below for each trip and match their skills accordingly. Come expecting to get wet on all trips!

**CANOE AND KAYAK RIVER TRIP RATINGS**

A. Must complete required pre-requisite classes prior to a river trip  
B. Children under the age of 15 must be accompanied by a registered adult  
C. Good for beginners and families  
D. Must negotiate some easy river turns  
E. A few portages possible  
F. Continual paddling for several hours  
G. Must negotiate many quick river turns  
H. Must paddle in open water & be able to handle wind, waves, tide  
I. Prior wet exit with a skirt required  
J. Must handle easy whitewater rapids and negotiate rocks  
K. Danger – cold water! Please bring a full change of clothes in a waterproof bag.  
L. Half day or less trip – please bring snack, drink, towel, and full change of clothes (including underwear, socks, shoes)  
M. Full day trip – please bring lunch, snacks, drink, towel, and full change of clothes (including underwear, socks, shoes)  
N. Will stop for ice cream on our return to the EEC  
O. Prior participation in at least two, 4-miles or less river trips
Early Birds Paddle  
2 miles  Rating: A, B, C, J  
Rise and shine! Start your day with a quiet paddle on the Passaic. See swamp sights before the day gets busy. This paddle will help you get centered for beginning your day! 
$20 per person  
Course Code: 51491  
Canyak-01  Tuesday, April 28  
6:30am-8:30am  
Canyak-02  Sunday, May 10  
6:30am-8:30am

Full Moon Paddle  
2 miles  Rating: A, F, J  
Enjoy the EEC and Branta Pond after dark as we paddle our canoes or kayaks by the light of the full moon! Find out what the Great Swamp sounds and feels like once the sun has set. Perhaps we will hear owls or see bats? Bring a flashlight or headlight if you have one. 
$20 per person  
Course Code: 50407  
Canyak-12  Thursday, May 7  
7:30pm-9:30pm

Passaic Paddle  
3 miles  Rating: A, B, C, D, E, K, L  
The Passaic River winds through the Great Swamp basin, flowing through floodplain forest, and many unique wetland habitats. We will paddle this gentle river, home to turtles, herons, frogs, and fish. All classes will meet at the Environmental Education Center. 
$30 per person  
Course Code: 50756  
Canyak-15  Wednesday, April 22  
4:00pm-7:00pm  
Canyak-16  Thursday, May 28  
5:00pm-8:00pm

Delaware & Raritan Canal Paddle  
4 miles  Rating: A, B, C, F, L, N  
Quiet, peaceful, and still, the Delaware & Raritan Canal is an ideal place for an evening paddle. Cruising along as the sun sets, we will enjoy the sights and sounds that the waterway has to offer. Please bring a bag dinner and money for ice cream. 
$60 per person  
Course Code: 50757  
Canyak-83  Monday, April 13  
2:00pm-7:00pm

A Paddling Afternoon  
4 miles  Rating: A, B, D, E, F, H, L  
Join us on some of the best local backwaters of New Jersey for a relaxing afternoon paddle. We will start our journey at the Environmental Education Center and possibly head to Cranberry Lake, Monksville Reservoir, Saxton Lake, Black River, the Rockaway River or the Passaic River (depending on water levels). These are some of the more beautiful areas of the state that are untouched by the rush of powerboats. Bring a snack, water, and money for dinner! Return time is approximate. 
$60 per person  
Course Code: 50761  
Canyak-85  Thursday, April 9  
2:00pm-9:00pm  
Canyak-86  Wednesday, May 20  
2:00pm-9:00pm

Millstone Meander  
8 miles  Rating: A, B, C, D, E, F, K, M, N, O  
“Matawong”, the Native American name for the Millstone River, means “hard to travel”, however, this broad stream is anything but, with a valley so flat that the river has actually changed its direction since the ice age. Our trip will offer us the chance to glimpse herons, red-tailed hawks, and more – never more than a stone’s throw from the Delaware & Raritan Canal. Please bring a bag lunch and money for an ice cream stop! 
$75 per person  
Course Code: 50753  
Canyak-17  Sunday, April 19  
8:00am-5:30pm

Reservoir Dogs  
4 miles  Rating: A, B, C, F, H, M, N  
Check out this series for exploration of the different reservoirs that the tri-state area has to offer!! We will spend half the day paddling our boats in the reservoir. Then after lunch, strap on your boots for an afternoon of hiking and birding. Please bring a bag lunch, binoculars, and money for ice cream. 
$75 per person  
Course Code: 50764  
Canyak-14  Tuesday, April 7  “Merrill Creek”  
7:30am-7:00pm

Pine Barrens Paddle  
4-10 miles  Rating: A, B, D, E, F, G, M, N, O  
Pine Barrens streams offer some of the best canoeing and kayaking in the state. Enjoy paddling pristine, tea-colored streams through old cranberry bogs, rich wetland meadows, and pitch pine forest. The river will be determined by water level, but may include the Cedar Creek, the Wading River or the Batsto River. Please bring a bag lunch and money for an ice cream stop. 
$75 per person  
Course Code: 50765  
Canyak-01  Sunday, May 10  
7:30am-7:00pm

All Day on the Water - NEW  
4-10 miles  Rating: B, C, D, E, K, L, M  
Join us for a great day of paddling! The location will be the Naturalist’s choice - maybe a reservoir, maybe a lake? Pack up your stuff and get ready for an adventurous day on the water! 
$75 per person  
Course Code: 50775  
Canyak-02  Tuesday, May 26  “Blue Marsh Lake”  
7:30am-7:00pm

Maple Sugaring  
Maple sugaring is a tradition in the Northeast that began centuries ago with the Native Americans and colonists. People of all ages are invited to see this tradition brought to life at the Environmental Education Center (EEC). You will see how trees are tapped, view sap-collecting methods past and present, and see the boiling process that produces delicious New Jersey maple syrup. This 90-minute program is conducted at our Sugar Shack, a ½-mile hike from the EEC. Please arrive at the EEC 20-30 minutes before the program start time and dress appropriately for the weather conditions. Boots are recommended as the trails can be wet, muddy, and/or covered by snow. Organized groups should call 908 722-1200, ext. 5332 to schedule a weekday demonstration (schools) or weekend demonstration (scouts). 
Suggested donation: $1 per person  
February 22, 23, 29  
March 1, 7, 8, 14, 15  
Saturdays - 10:00am, Noon, and 2:00pm  
Sundays - Noon and 2:00pm

Project E.A.R.T.H – Swamp Search!  
Join us for an exciting scavenger hunt on the Environmental Education Center trails to learn about the importance of the Great Swamp as an ecological and recreational resource. Learn interesting facts about the Great Swamp and its inhabitants. This event is for friends, families, scouts or other groups to get outside and travel our trails to find answers to our scavenger hunt questions. 

Return to the EEC for a program by Rizzo’s Wildlife World featuring a fascinating live animal show, including reptiles, mammals, and insects, as well as a ten foot long Burmese Python! This program will educate and entertain visitors of all ages. 
This is a rain or shine event – please call the EEC for scavenger hunt status in case of inclement weather. If it is raining on the event day, or has rained significantly the week before, we suggest participants wear waterproof boots/shoes to protect against traversing through puddles and mud on our trails. 
FREE  
Sunday, April 26, 2020  
Noon-4:30pm
PHOTOGRAPHY WORKSHOP

Macro Photography
Camera Naturalists Photography Club will host a dual part photography seminar at the EEC. The first part will feature an outstanding Macro Photography program presented by Roman Kurywczak, an accomplished macro photographer, and leader of “Roamin’ with Roman” tours. The program will begin with a presentation on macro photography followed by a hands-on opportunity to try out the new skills you learned.

Participants will be given tips, suggestions, and an understanding of how to overcome some of the most common obstacles pertaining to macro photography. There will also be a demonstration of photo stacking to boost participants' confidence with all aspects of macro photography, regardless of skill level.

The second part will provide participants a hands-on opportunity to take macro photos with their own equipment. This session will take place inside the Environmental Education Center and may continue outside, if weather permits. Please bring your own camera, macro (or 50-200mm range) lens, flash, and tripod. For more information about the workshop please contact Dan Ross at dross@scparks.org. To learn more about the Camera Naturalist Photo Club visit www.cameronaturalist.org.

$20 per participant
Saturday, April 18, 2020
9:30am-Noon

EXHIBITS

Nature Through a Child's Eye
This annual children's environmental art exhibit features Somerset County kindergartners through sixth graders who have expressed their love of our natural world, our environment, and our Earth through their artwork.
FREE
Tuesday, January 7 through Sunday, February 2, 2020
9:00am-4:30pm except Martin Luther King, Jr. Day

“Birds of a Feather”
“The skies are emptying out. The number of birds in the United States and Canada have fallen by 29 percent since 1970. This year, scientists reported there are 2.9 billion fewer birds taking wing now than there were 50 years ago”, according to Carl Zimmer of the New York Times. As a way to bring attention to this blight, Ridge High School's AP Studio Art class studied and explored the relationships of structure, pattern, and form of birds for large-scale drawings and paintings. Students from National Art Honors Society and Social Skills Club collaborated on larger than life size sculptures. Their observations rendered dynamic compositions both in twist of scale and bold quality of mark making. The students pushed the concept of “Birds” in a unique format, experimenting with materials to yield a truly remarkable exhibit! A reception will be held on Wednesday, February 12 from 6:00pm to 8:00pm. Snow date: February 13, 6:00pm-8:00pm
FREE
Saturday, February 8 through Sunday, March 15, 2020
9:00am-5:00pm; closed February 14 and 17.

Bernards Township Community Art Show
Bernards Township is partnering with the Environmental Education Center to host the ninth annual non-juried art show, “Inspired by Nature”. Bernards Township residents age 16 and older will showcase their artwork in a variety of mediums. Artist registration takes place in January and February, visit www.bernards.org for more information. An opening reception will be held on Saturday, March 21 at 10:00am.
FREE
Saturday, March 21 through Sunday, April 19, 2020
9:00am-5:00pm; closed Good Friday and Easter Sunday.

“Transformations of Nature, Natural and Manmade; Changes in Agriculture and a Close Look at Metamorphosis”
This year the Ridge High School ceramics students will be collaborating with the RHS Advanced Placement Science classes to examine the idea of “transformations” by combining art and science in one exhibition. The exhibit will feature an integration of educational posters focused on transforming farmland away from the traditional Agribusiness model to a more environmentally-integrated and sustainable approach. While the work of the ceramics classes will be showcasing nature's amazing transformations specifically within the context of the stages of metamorphosis of insects and reptiles. The resulting exhibit will be a combination of informative posters displays and a mix of handmade tiles, vases, and “think big” sculptures set up on pedestals.
A reception will be held on Tuesday, May 5 from 5:00pm to 7:00pm
FREE
Saturday, May 2 through Sunday, May 31, 2020
9:00am-5:00pm; closed Memorial Day

FEATURED PROGRAM SERIES

The Birds of the World
(All Ages, 10 years and older with parent)
One of the greatest joys of birding is seeing beautiful jays, cardinals, chickadees, and goldfinches right in your backyard. However, there are over 10,000 spectacular bird species found throughout the world. Over the next several months we will be learning about each and every bird family in taxonomic order. The lectures will cover a few new families at a time and will introduce their life histories, ranges, descriptions, and interesting facts. Each presentation will provide you with a new appreciation for the world of birds! Pre-registration is not required. Check our Facebook page (https://www.facebook.com/EECscparks/) for any changes or cancellations to the programs.
FREE
7:00pm-8:30pm

Friday, February 28: Ostriches, Kiwis, and Friends
Friday, March 6: Pheasants, Quail, Ducks, Flamingos, and Friends
Friday, March 13: Hummingbirds, Swifts, and Friends
Friday, March 27: Cuckoos, Rails, Cranes, and Friends
Friday, April 3: Shorebirds, Gulls, Terns, Auks, and Friends
Friday, April 17: Penguins, Albatross, Boobies, and Friends
Friday, May 1: Hawks, Owls, Trogons, Hornbills, and Friends
Friday, May 15: Kingfishers, Toucans, Woodpeckers, and Friends
Friday, May 29: Falcons, Parrots, and Friends

*Programs will continue in the summer and fall of 2020.
Butterfly Gardening with Native Plants
(Adult)
Come learn which native plants help to support butterflies! Whether you garden in sun or shade, there are many native plants that will attract butterflies to your garden. Author Jane Hurwitz, from the North American Butterfly Association will be presenting on butterfly gardening at home, a gardening method used to protect the entire life cycle of butterflies. This talk explores the relationship that butterflies have with specific native plants and suggests easy steps to protect these relationships in order to enhance our local ecosystems, as well as your own garden.
FREE
Sunday, March 29, 2020
1:00pm-2:00pm

Rizzo's Wildlife World
(All Ages)
As the grand finale to our "Project E.A.R.T.H. – Swamp Search!" Rizzo's Wildlife World will show off their collection of reptiles, mammals, and insects, as well as a ten foot long Burmese Python! This fun and lively presentation will offer everyone in attendance an opportunity to learn fun facts about each animal and best of all, attendees will be able to interact or touch the majority of the animals that are presented! See more information about our Project E.A.R.T.H. – Swamp Search in the Special Events section. The program will be held rain or shine.
FREE
Sunday, April 26, 2020
3:45pm-4:30pm

Tribute Bench and Living Legacy Tree Program
About the Program
Honoring a loved one through a donation of a tree or park bench is a thoughtful way to recognize and pay tribute to family and close friends. The Somerset County Park Foundation provides the opportunity for members of the community to donate these within the park system through guidelines that allow for a coordinated and consistent program. The cost for a bench or a tree is $2,000, and is tax-deductible. The Somerset County Park Foundation is a 501(c)(3) created to preserve, support, and promote Somerset County Park Commission programs, facilities, and open space through advocacy and fundraising.

The Park Foundation will maintain a listing of all plantings and benches. The records will also contain information concerning the donor and the person being honored or memorialized.

Tribute Benches
There are three bench styles depending upon the type of park in which the bench is to be placed. The bench style is based on park design and maintenance. The criteria for the site list per park is based on the needs in each park, as well as a determination of the maximum number of benches appropriate for each park. We hope to keep the park system beautiful for all to enjoy, while also honoring the memory of your loved one.

A Park Commission representative will meet with you to discuss the park in which you would like to have the bench located. The maintenance of the bench will be the responsibility of the park staff. The order time for benches is approximately eight weeks. Upon receipt of the bench, park staff requires a minimum of two weeks to arrange installation.

Gardens: The plaques on benches located in the gardens are 2” x 4” anodized aluminum plate, and are black with silver letters. The font is Roman, block style, with upper and lower case letters.

Parks and EEC: The plaques on benches located in the parks and at the EEC are 8” x 5” cast bronze plate, and have a leatherette background texture, dark oxide stain background finish, with bronze letters. The font is Optima, block style, with upper and lower case letters.

The wording you select is written on the application, and will be ordered and installed by the park staff, along with the bench. All plaques must be located on the bench and not on the bench base. The Park Foundation will replace the plaque for up to ten years if it is damaged or vandalized.

Living Legacy Tree Program
The Living Legacy tree program provides individuals and organizations with the opportunity to honor people and commemorate special events by planting trees in Somerset County Park Commission parks. Trees may be donated by individuals in memory of a loved one or to celebrate special events, such as births or weddings. Although we accept living legacy requests year-round, trees will only be planted in the spring or fall to give the trees the best chance to survive. Through communication between Park Commission Horticulture staff and the contributor, an approved species will be chosen based on the desired planting site. Deciduous trees will be at least 1.5” to 2.5” in diameter and Evergreen trees will be 5’ to 6’ in height.

A donor may also choose an already established tree, designated as a Tribute Tree. A commemorative plaque engraved according to the donor’s specifications will be placed at the base of the tree. All newly planted and already established trees will be maintained by Park Commission staff. If disease or any other unforeseen circumstances affect the tree within a ten-year period of its planting or endowment, Park Commission staff will replace the tree with a species of its choosing.

Yes, I am interested in purchasing a bench and/or tree. Have someone from the Somerset County Park Foundation contact me.

Name

Company/Organization Name (if applicable)

Address

City State Zip Code

Telephone E-mail

Mail to:
Attn: Tribute Bench & Legacy Tree Program
P.O. Box 5147
North Branch, NJ 08876

For questions or for more information, please call 908 722-1200 ext. 5237
2019 First Place Photo Contest Winners

1. SCENIC - Taken at Duke Island Park
   Photo Credit: Michele Tyler

2. WILDLIFE - Taken at Lord Stirling Park
   Photo Credit: Lisa Cohn

3. EVENTS - Taken at the Environmental Education Center
   Photo Credit: Judy Sedlak

4. PEOPLE - Taken at Colonial Park
   Photo Credit: Dennis Kalnicky

5. HORTICULTURE - Taken at Leonard J. Buck Garden
   Photo Credit: Dennis Kalnicky

Please visit www.somersetcountyparks.org for photos of all our winners.
Photos are also featured on Facebook and Instagram.

Congratulations!