

Essex County Environmental Center ~ Public Programs

SPRING 2019



The Essex County Environmental Center is located at 621-B Eagle Rock Avenue in Roseland in Essex County West Essex Park and is a facility of the Essex County Parks System. Hours of operation are Monday through Friday from 9:00am to 5:00pm and Saturday from 10:00am to 2:00pm. Essex County West Essex Park is open to the public every day from dawn until dusk. Pre-registration is required for all programs unless otherwise noted. **All programs require a minimum number of participants to run.** For more information, please call 973.228.8776.

CLUBS FOR CHILDREN

LITTLE EXPLORERS SPRING NATURE PROGRAM

For 2 year olds (Toddlers)

Tuesdays—March 5, 12, 19, 26; April 9, 16, 23; May 14, 21, 28

10am to 11am



For 3 year olds (Tots)

Thursdays—March 7, 14, 21, 28; April 11, 18, 25; May 2, 16, 23

1pm to 2pm

For 4 and 5 year olds (Pre-K)

Tuesdays—March 5, 12, 19, 26; April 9, 16, 23; May 14, 21, 28

4pm to 5pm

OR Thursdays—March 7, 14, 21, 28; April 11, 18, 25; May 2, 16, 23

9:30am to 10:30am

This child-caregiver class uses stories, walks and crafts to develop an awareness and appreciation for science and nature for the child as well as the caregiver. Each week, a different nature or science topic is covered. **Registration is taken on a first-come, first-serve basis anytime during the enrollment period.** Advance registration and payment are required; call 973.228.8776. **Fee: \$12 per child/session**

BUG CLUB

Tuesdays—March 12, April 9, May 14, June 11

4pm to 5pm



For children ages 6 to 10. The Bug Club is devoted to children who want to explore the wonders of insects through field walks, games, stories and crafts. Advance registration, payment and minimum number of participants are required; call 973.228.8776. **Fee: \$10 per child per session**

FROG POND SCIENCE CLUB

Wednesdays—March 20, April 17, May 15, June 19

4pm to 5pm

For children ages 5 through 9. Uncover and discover ecosystem interactions at the frog pond. Explore with nets, magnifiers and microscopes to investigate what lives at the pond and learn from a naturalist what can be done to protect and conserve the pond inhabitants. Advance registration, payment and minimum number of participants are required; call 973.228.8776. **Fee: \$10 per child per session**



BIRD CLUB

Thursdays—March 21, April 11, May 9, June 13

4pm to 5pm



For children ages 5 through 10. Come explore our wooded wetland and see what birds live here. Use binoculars, field guides, and a keen sense of observation to discover and identify all sorts of birds. Advance registration, payment and minimum number of participants are required; call 973.228.8776. **Fee: \$10 per child per session**

PUTTING ESSEX COUNTY FIRST

CLUBS FOR CHILDREN



4-H YOUNG GARDENERS CLUB

Tuesday—May 28

4pm to 5pm

For children in grades 1 through 10. Have you ever wondered how vegetables and flowers grow? From where spaghetti sauce comes? How you can find a rainbow in a garden? The 4-H Young Gardener's Club can provide the answers to these questions and more. Learning and fun happen all the time here. Meet in Garibaldi Hall. Advance registration is required; call 973.353.1337 or visit essex.njaes.rutgers.edu/4h/.

WEEKLY PROGRAMS FOR ADULTS

CHAIR YOGA

Tuesdays— March 5, 12, 19, 26; April 2, 9, 16, 23, 30; May 7, 14, 21, 28

3pm to 4pm

For adults. If you are new to yoga or feel that most yoga classes might be too strenuous for you, chair yoga can provide the more easy-going supported style you've been wishing for. Come experience how gentle yogic breath decreases stress and increases comfort and fluidity of movement, not only through your yoga practice, but potentially throughout your life. All poses are enjoyed at your own pace, seated or standing next to a chair and using it for support whenever you like. Our class will end in a peaceful restorative pose and optional gentle shoulder massage, and may you float out of class with a song in your heart. All levels are welcome. Dress comfortably. Advance registration, monthly pre-payment and a minimum number of participants are required; call 973-228-8776. No refunds for missed classes. **Fee: \$15 class, \$10 for those 65 and older**



THURSDAY EVENING YOGA

Thursdays— March 7, 14, 21, 28; April 4, 11, 18, 25; May 2, 9, 16, 23, 30

6:30pm to 7:45pm

For adults. In this "all levels" yoga series, each student is invited to explore and play through the breath and asanas/poses, flowing at your own pace with self-compassion and joy; followed by an optional gentle shoulder massage and restorative pose or Savasana of transformation and peace. All levels are welcome. Dress comfortably and please bring your own mat. Advance registration, monthly payment and minimum number of participants are required; call 973.228.8776. No refunds for missed classes. **Fee: \$15 per class, \$10 for those 65 and older**



MONTHLY PROGRAMS FOR ADULTS

HORTICULTURE FOR SENIORS

Mondays—March 18, April 15, May 20, June 17

1pm to 3pm

For senior citizens. Join the Rutgers Master Gardeners of Essex County for this horticulture class especially designed for senior citizens. The monthly topics are: *Raising Rhizomes: Oxalis from A to Z* (reserve your seat by March 11); *Arranging Spring Flowers*, take home a lovely flower arrangement (reserve your seat by April 8); *Starting Spring Greens*, planting salad greens (reserve your seat by May 13); *Succulents in the Sand*, how to grow succulents (reserve your seat by June 10). Meet in Garibaldi Hall. **Advance registration is required one week prior to program**; call Helen at 973.731.0717 or the Master Gardener Helpline at 973-228-2210. **Free**



NEW JERSEY WOODTURNERS

Mondays—March 25, April 22, May 20

7pm to 9:30pm

For adults and children ages 3 and up. Learn to turn with the NJ Woodturners Association. Discover the wonders of creating art from found pieces of wood. Topics vary by the month. Call Gualberto Malave at 908.310.3557 for details. Meet in Garibaldi Hall. **Fee: \$10 per adult, free for NJWA members**



NEW JERSEY AUDUBON SOCIETY ESSEX COUNTY BIRDING FIELD TRIPS



NEW JERSEY
AUDUBON
www.njaudubon.org

Led by Dave Hall, Associate Naturalist

Spring field trips offer the opportunity to see species of birds that are passing through New Jersey on their way to breeding territories farther north and other migrants that are returning to the state to nest. The trips also offer a chance to learn the territorial songs and behavior of birds that are residents all year long. This is a wonderful time of year to visit the Essex County Parks System.

Registrants will receive a confirmation call/e-mail in the event of a cancellation. **Trips are designed for adults and children 12 and older.** Advance payment may be made via credit card. Onsite payment by exact cash or check only. Please contact the Scherman Hoffman Wildlife Sanctuary at 908.396.6386 to register.

THURSDAY MORNING FIELD TRIPS

Essex County Weequahic Park

Thursday, March 14

8:30am to 11am

This Newark park is a fascinating place to view a variety of gulls, ducks, and geese, plus some woodland birds on their northward migration. All can be viewed along an easy trail around the lake. Enter and park at Meeker Avenue and Empire Street and meet in the large parking area on the south side of the lake. **Free**

Essex County Hilltop Reservation

Thursday, March 21

8:30am to 11am

Explore edge and meadow habitats for spring migrants with an easy walk through the reservation. Meet at Mountain Avenue and Courter Lane, North Caldwell. **Cost: \$6 NJAS members, \$8 non-members**

Essex County Becker Farm

Thursday, April 18

8am to 11am

Explore both field and forest while enjoying beautiful vistas of the Passaic River Valley. This is the right time to discover spring migrants in all their glory, including warblers in full song. Meet at Essex County Environmental Center, 621 B Eagle Rock Avenue, Roseland. **Cost: \$6 NJAS members, \$8 non-members**

Essex County Branch Brook Park

Thursday, April 25

8:30am to 11am

Explore an iconic urban park. This is the right time to enjoy cherry trees in bloom and to discover early spring migrants in all their glory, including warblers in full song. Meet at Essex County Cherry Blossom Welcome Center, between Mill Street and Heller Parkway, Newark. **Free**

Essex County Hatfield Swamp

Thursday, May 9

8:30am to 11am

Exploring varied habitats for spring migrants such as warblers and raptors along with views of late-departing waterfowl will make this an exciting trip! Footing may be wet. Meet at Stop & Shop, 875 Bloomfield Avenue, West Caldwell. **Free**

Essex County Hilltop Reservation

Thursday, May 23

8:30am to 11am

Explore edge and meadow habitats for spring migrants with an easy walk through the reservation. Meet at Mountain Avenue and Courter Lane, North Caldwell. **Free**

NEW JERSEY AUDUBON SOCIETY ESSEX COUNTY BIRDING FIELD TRIPS

SATURDAY MORNING BIRDING FIELD TRIPS

Essex County South Mountain Reservation Birding Walk

Saturday, March 30

8am to 11am

Explore the reservoir and other habitats for early migrants with an easy walk through the reservation. Meet in front of Essex County Turtle Back Zoo, 560 Northfield Avenue, West Orange, by the gate to the Reservoir path. **Cost: \$6 NJAS members, \$8 non-members**

Essex County Verona Park

Saturday, April 6

8:30am to 10:30am

Take an easy walk around the pond looking for signs of early spring migrants. Meet at the Boat House near the paddle boat rental area in Essex County Verona Park, Bloomfield Avenue and Lakeside Avenue. Verona. **Free**

Troy Meadows

Saturday, April 20

8:30am to 11:30am

Explore both fields and forested wetlands in one of the largest well-preserved swamps in northern New Jersey. This is the right time to discover spring migrants in all their glory, including warblers in full song. Meet at Essex County Environmental Center, 621 B Eagle Rock Avenue, Roseland. **Cost: \$6 NJAS members, \$8 non-members**

Essex County South Mountain Reservation

Saturday, May 4

8:30am to 11am

Explore the reservoir and meadow habitats for spring migrants with an easy walk through the reservation. Meet in front of the Essex County Turtle Back Zoo, 560 Northfield Avenue, West Orange, by the gate to the Reservoir path. **Cost: \$6 NJAS members, \$8 non-members**

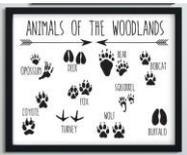
Essex County Kip's Castle Park

Saturday, May 25

8:30am to 11am

Join us for late spring song bird migration with spectacular valley views from First Mountain in Verona. This is a great place to view warblers and other woodland birds. This walk is generally easy mostly on paved walkways. Meet at Essex County Kip's Castle Park, 22 Crestmont Road, Verona. **Cost: \$6 NJAS members, \$8 non-members**

MARCH 2019 SEASONAL PROGRAMS



ANIMAL TRACKING: UNCOVERING WILDLIFE IN WINTERTIME

Saturday, March 9

10:30am to 12pm

For families. Be a nature detective and discover evidence of wildlife. Kids will become familiar with the footprints of several kinds of wild animals through observation on a short hike. An animal story will be read, and the children will create the story's events with ink prints of animal tracks on their own map. Advance registration and minimum number of participants are required; call 973.228.8776. **Fee: \$30 per family (up to two adults and two children) or \$10 per child, \$12 per adult**

SCOUT SERVICE DAY

Saturday, March 9

12:30pm to 3:30pm

For scouts ages 10 and up. Open day for scout troops with adult leaders to attend and work with us to spread woodchips, remove invasive species and participate in other physical outdoor improvement projects. Please come dressed for outdoor work. All participants must have a signed liability waiver on file. Advance registration is required; call 973.228.8776. **Fee: \$10 per child**



MARCH 2019 SEASONAL PROGRAMS

CHILD & ME: THERAPEUTIC PLAY-DOH

Saturday, March 16



For children ages 3 to 7. Did you know essential oils can help children stay calm and focused? In this craft, each child will make Play-Doh scented with therapeutic grade essential oils. Jenn Forino, founder of plusoils.com, will teach a kid-friendly, mini-workshop on how essential oils can be powerful tools for overall health and wellness. Each child will pick their favorite essential oil aroma to add to their Play-Doh. For more information, please call, 973-228-8776. Pre-registration and minimum number of participants required. **Fee: \$15 per child**

11am to 11:45pm

OWL PELLET DISSECTION

Thursday, March 21

For children ages 7-13. Learn about our beautiful and mysterious silent hunters of the night. Discover what they are eating as we discuss predators, prey and food chain dynamics. Carefully reconstruct the bones found inside owl pellets! Advance registration and minimum number of participants are required; call 973.228.8776. **Fee: \$10 per child**

6pm to 7:30pm



ATTRACT BIRDS WITH NATIVE PLANTS

Saturday, March 23



For adults. When we garden, we have the chance to support biodiversity through the plants we choose! Join native plant expert Deb Ellis in this workshop where you will learn how to bring beautiful birds to your backyard by using native bushes, flowers and other tips for creating a bird habitat. This is a great workshop to prepare for gardening season, whether you are a new or experienced gardener. Ellis has had a Certified Backyard Habitat through the National Wildlife Federation since 2005 and became a Master Gardener in 2014. She is a co-leader of the Essex County chapter of the Native Plant Society of New Jersey. Advance registration and minimum number of participants are required; call 973.228.8776. **Fee: \$12 per adult**

11am to 12pm

BUILD A BIRD HOUSE

Saturday, March 23

For adults and children ages 8 and older who are accompanied by an adult. Build a home that encourages breeding birds and other wildlife to take residence. Putting out your bird house now creates a good chance of having a nesting pair of songbirds in your garden by spring. Advance registration and minimum number of participants are required; call 973.228.8776. **Fee: \$10 per child; \$12 per adult** (*adult fee waived for second adult if one is registered for 'Attract Birds with Native Plants' lecture*)

11am to 12:30pm



ECO-ART

Saturday, March 30

For ages 10 and up. Master Gardener and artist-naturalist Maya Bloom will teach how to make jewelry using recycled and natural materials. All materials will be provided. This is a great class to make gifts (not only jewelry) for friends and family, to incorporate seeds from around the world and to simply have some fun. For more information, call 973.228.8776. Pre-registration and minimum number of participants required. **Fee: \$15 per child, \$20 per adult**



11am to 1pm

FAMILY YOGA

Saturday, March 30

For ages 5 and up. Happy Baby, Cats and Cows, Tree, Elephant and Child's Pose. Welcome to our Family Yoga Class, where you'll share and enjoy an adventure of calming breath, fun asanas/poses, and gentle stretches with your nearest and dearest in a friendly, go-with-the-flow atmosphere. Advance registration and minimum number of participants required; call 973.228.8776. **Fee: \$10 per child, \$12 per adult**

11am to 12pm



MARCH 2019 SEASONAL PROGRAMS



PROTECTING BIRDS IN (SUB)URBIA

Saturday, March 30

12pm to 1pm

For ages 8 and up. Did you know that this year's Earth Day theme is "Protect Our Species"? Humans, animals, plants and micro-organism all rely on each other, and we all need to sustain a healthy planet together. Join a Ricoh USA representative in this thoughtful presentation to learn about how one way in particular, throughout (sub)urban landscapes, the lives of many beautiful inspiring birds are threatened every day. Ricoh USA offers a simple solution to take action for protecting our species together! **Fee: FREE**

APRIL 2019 SEASONAL PROGRAMS

BIKE RIGHT – LEARN TO RIDE

Saturday—April 6

10am to 12pm

For children ages 5 and older. Make learning to ride a bike easier for your child with TransOptions' Bike Right Learn to Ride class. Bike Right Learn to Ride will teach your child the safe, easy and effective way to learn to ride. Using this "balance first" method, parents help get their children rolling while the child does most of the work. Participants learn the basics of balancing, starting, stopping, and steering a bike, as well as proper helmet fit and adjustment. Please bring a helmet and a bike (without training wheels). In the event of rain, this program will be rescheduled. Meet in Garibaldi Hall. Advance registration and minimum number of participants are required; call 973.228.8776. **Fee: \$10 per child**



PLANT A PIZZA GARDEN

Saturday, April 6

10:30am to 12pm



For families. Learn about the herbs and plants needed to make a great tasting pizza. Participants will work in our Geodesic Biodome to create the beginnings of their own pizza garden. Each family will leave with their own potted pizza garden to take care of and harvest as needed. Advance registration and minimum number of participants are required; call 973.228.8776.

Fee: \$30 per family (up to two adults and two children) or \$10 per child; \$12 per adult

CLIMATE CRISIS: HOW EATING SUSTAINABLY GROWN FOODS BENEFITS OUR BODIES AND OUR PLANET!

Thursday, April 11

7pm to 8:30pm

For adults. Sustainable farming methods must be resource-conserving, socially supportive, commercially competitive, and environmentally sound. Is organic meat and produce better than sustainable foods? This talk given by Sandy Williams of Field Goods explores many of the problems and questions related to our nation's broken food system—including climate change and the healthcare crisis. Climate change may seem insurmountable, but individuals can make a meaningful difference. Find out how! Program includes samples and tasting of products and produce from small sustainable farms. Advance registration required; call 973.228.8776. **Free**



fresh foods from
small farms

SPRING FOREST EGG HUNT

Saturday, April 13

11am to 12:30pm



For families with children ages 1 to 6. Celebrate the beginning of spring with a story of the Little White Rabbit, a visit from a live rabbit, and an egg hunt within the forest grounds of the Environmental Center. Kids should bring their favorite basket to collect eggs and earn surprises! We encourage participants to go green by exchanging eggs for small prizes. When the eggs are turned in, the Center is able to reuse them for future events and programs. Find a golden egg for an "eggstra" special surprise (valued over \$100). Light refreshments and photo-op with bunny included. Bring your own camera. Bad weather cancels. Advance registration is required and limited spaces available; call 973.228.8776. **Fee: \$15 per child**

APRIL 2019 SEASONAL PROGRAMS



SPRING CAMP

Tuesday, April 16; Wednesday, April 17; Thursday, April 18

OR Tuesday, April 23; Wednesday, April 24; Thursday, April 25

12:30pm to 4:30pm

For children in grades 1 through 5. Restore the bond between children and nature. Children will have the opportunity to explore nature right here at the Essex County Environmental Center. For details, call the Center at 973.228.8776. Advance registration and payment are required. **Fees: \$160 per child for all 3 days OR \$60 per child/per day**

FAMILY YOGA

Saturday, April 20

11am to 12pm

For ages 5 and up. Happy Baby, Cats and Cows, Tree, Elephant and Child's Pose. Welcome to our Family Yoga Class, where you'll share and enjoy an adventure of calming breath, fun asanas/poses, and gentle stretches with your nearest and dearest in a friendly, go-with-the-flow atmosphere. Advance registration and minimum number of participants required; call 973.228.8776. **Fee: \$10 per child, \$12 per adult.**



EARTH DAY

Saturday, April 27

11am to 4pm

Bring your family, friends, and neighbors for our annual outdoor Earth festival. On this special day, celebrate nature with crafts, games, and recreational opportunities, such as canoeing and hiking. Enjoy demonstrations, information, a local eco-vendors' sale, with Environmental Center staff and partner groups on hand to guide you throughout the day. Admission is **FREE** but eco-vendors will be selling merchandise.



MAY 2019 SEASONAL PROGRAMS

SHINRIN-YOKU "FOREST BATHING"

Saturday, May 4

11am to 12:30pm

For children ages 5 and up. Take a relaxing forest walk in the new year. Shinrin-yoku is a term in Japanese that means "taking in the forest atmosphere" or "forest bathing." We'll follow cards along our trail that prompt us to participate in an awakening activity such as smelling an aromatic plant, touching a textured tree bark or stopping to fill our lungs with fresh forest air. Advance registration and minimum number of participants required; call 973.228.8776. **Fee: \$10 per child, \$12 per adult**



FROG POND ADVENTURE

Thursday, May 9

6pm to 7:30pm

For families. This "rrribbetting" program will take an up-close look at our pond ecosystem. Search out and identify the life found in the pond through magnifying glasses, microscopes and field guides. Advance registration and minimum number of participants are required; call 973.228.8776. **Fee: \$30 per family (up to two adults and two children) or \$10 per child, \$12 per adult**



MOTHER'S DAY ANNUAL PLANT SALE

Saturday, May 11

9am to 3pm

For all ages. Stop by the Rutgers Master Gardener's annual plant sale for a wide variety of annuals, perennials, ornamentals, shrubs, small trees, tomatoes and herbs. For more details, call the Rutgers Master Gardeners' Helpline at 973.228.2210 from Monday to Thursday between 10am and 2pm. Master Gardeners' Annual Plant Sale will also be hosted at the Essex County Presby Memorial Iris Gardens on Friday, May 3 from 10am to 4pm and Saturday, May 4 from 9am to 3pm at the Presby Memorial Iris Gardens, 474 Upper Mountain Avenue, Montclair. **Admission is FREE but plants will be for sale**

MAY 2019 SEASONAL PROGRAMS

MOMMY & ME FRIENDSHIP BRACELETS

Saturday, May 11

11am to 11:45am

For children ages 4 to 9. Celebrate mom by creating nature-inspired, matching diffuser bracelets! Did you know essential oils can help children stay calm and focused? Jenn Forino, founder of plusoils.com, will teach a kid-friendly, mini-workshop on how essential oils can be powerful tools for overall health and wellness. Each child will make a set of diffuser bracelets (one for themselves and one to give mom on Mother's Day). Additionally, each child will receive a roller bottle of therapeutic-grade essential oil, diluted so it is safe for them to apply to their diffuser bracelet. Advance registration and minimum number of participants are required; call 973.228.8776. **Fee: \$25 per child/adult participant**



FOREST GNOMES

Saturday, May 18

10:30am to 12:00pm

For families. Uncover the legend of forest gnomes as we explore the mystery and folklore of these mythical creatures. Design homes with natural materials to attract these fun friends and make your very own felt gnome hat. Advance registration and minimum number of participants are required; call 973.228.8776. **Fee: \$30 per family (up to two adults and two children) or \$10 per child, \$12 per adult**



BOW DRILL FRICTION FIRE

Thursday, May 23

6:30pm to 8:30pm

For adults or children ages 8 and up with accompanying adult. Try this primitive skill. Participants will learn to select proper wood, understand the principles that lead to success and try their best effort at the form and technique required for flame. Advance registration and minimum number of participants are required; call 973.228.8776.

Fee: \$10 per child/\$12 per adult



CRAYFISH AND AQUATIC LIFE ALONG THE PASSAIC

Saturday, May 25

10:30am to 12pm

For adults and children ages 6 and up. Explore along the red trail to the river's edge and visit the "muddy ditch" to scoop for crayfish. This location is a camper favorite and allows us to find a variety of aquatic organism to better understand the myriad creatures that call the Passaic River ecosystem home. Advance registration and minimum number of participants are required; call 973.228.8776.

Fee: \$10 per child, \$12 per adult



FAMILY YOGA

Saturday, May 25

11am to 12pm

For ages 5 and up. Happy Baby, Cats and Cows, Tree, Elephant and Child's Pose. Welcome to our Family Yoga Class, where you'll share and enjoy an adventure of calming breath, fun asanas/poses, and gentle stretches with your nearest and dearest in a friendly, go-with-the-flow atmosphere. Advance registration and minimum number of participants required; call 973.228.8776. **Fee: \$10 per child, \$12 per adult**



PHOTOGRAPHY ON EXHIBIT

MARCH

WILDLIFE AND NATURE

By Jane Murphy

APRIL

WILD ABOUT FLOWERS

By Maria “Mané” Robinson

LOOKING AHEAD

WILDERNESS SKILLS SUMMER CAMP

Wednesday, Thursday, Friday—June 26 to June 28

OR Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday—July 1 to July 3

9:30am to 2:30pm

For grades 5 to 8. Join *Traditional Earth Skills* Instructor Mike Dennis for up to two sessions of outdoor skills building. During session one, students will take a traditional approach and, during session two, a modern approach will be followed. Participants will identify plants, learn to track animals, create fire, go canoeing, make natural rope, build shelters and more! Call the Center at 973.228.8776 for details. Advance registration is required. **Fee: \$195 per child/per week**



4H OUTDOOR ADVENTURE CAMP

Monday July 1st through Wednesday July 3rd

Join Rutgers Staff and Teen Ambassadors at our Outdoor Adventure Camp! Teens will be challenged to grow stronger character through adventure-based activities, team building, and leadership training. Games, Snacks and the Great Outdoors. Register online at

https://rutgers.ca1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_bw5VeBvWgtGb4Bn



NATURE EXPLORERS SUMMER CAMP

July 8 to July 19, Grades Pre-K and Kindergarten

July 22 to August 2, Grades 1 and 2

August 5 to August 16, Grades 3 and 4

12:30pm to 3:30pm

12:30pm to 4:30pm

12:30pm to 4:30pm

Enjoy exploring and discovering woodland and river habitats for insects, birds, amphibians, Lenape life and much more. Sign up for one or two weeks per grade level. Call the Center at 973.228.8776 for details. Advance registration is required. **Fee: \$160 per child/per week for Pre-K and K, \$180 per child/per week for Grades 1 and 2; \$200 per child/per week for Grades 3 and 4**



BUTTERFLY TENT SAFARI

Monday, July 15 through Friday, July 26

Saturdays—July 13, July 20 & July 27

Special Programs TBA

12pm to 3pm

For all ages. Flutter on over and visit our live butterfly tent. All are welcome to make-and-take a butterfly craft and participate in table activities. More information on registration and fees will follow in our summer brochure.



2019 ESSEX COUNTY PARKS PHOTOGRAPHY CONTEST

Submissions are due by Wednesday, September 11, so grab a camera and visit an Essex County Park! Anyone with a camera is invited and encouraged to submit photos that capture a part of your visit to the County Park System. For rules and regulations, please contact the Essex County Environmental Center at 973.228.8776



EXPLORE, EXPERIENCE, EDUCATE AND DISCOVER AT THE ESSEX COUNTY ENVIRONMENTAL CENTER

The Essex County Environmental Center is situated in a wooded wetland habitat with access to the Passaic River which makes for an interesting and affordable site to book a naturalist-led field trip for school groups, scouts, adult and community groups.

Book our state-of-the art facility for an educational birthday party, community event, or a corporate business outing. Take advantage of this County facility, stay local and explore the nature of Essex in your own "backyard!"

Programs for Adults and Children to Enjoy!



- **Book a Field Trip/Outreach for your School, Scout, Adult or Community Group**
- **Lenape Learning Programs with Traditional Earth Skills**
- **Professional Development Workshops for Educators**
- **Earth Day, Arbor Day, and Fall Family Celebrations**
- **Spring, Summer, Winter & Holiday Break Camps**
- **Sustainable Homes & Habitats Gingerbread & Parks Photo Contests**
- **Adult Yoga & Meditation Programs**
- **Nature Birthday Parties**
- **Tot and Pre-K Little Explorers Club, Bug Club, Healthy Living Kids Club & Gardening Programs**



ANNOUNCEMENTS

ESSEX COUNTY 4H—Join us at the County Fair! Essex County 4-H would like to invite all youth K-12 to participate in the county 4-H Spring Fair. The fair will be held in partnership with the Earth Day Celebration at the Essex County Environmental Center on Saturday, April 27th. A detailed fair submission book can be found at <http://essex.njaes.rutgers.edu/4h>. All projects will be showcased and awarded based on the Danish judging system. Each submission will receive a participation ribbon and judges' notes. Youth can submit projects in any of the spring divisions including: indoor gardening, arts and crafts, small animals, writing technology, photography and environmental education. Scouts, school groups and homeschool groups are encouraged to submit projects!

ESSEX COUNTY ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION—Meetings are typically held the first Monday of each month at 6pm at the Essex County Environmental Center. Some dates may change. For an up to date listing of meeting dates or for more information, please contact Essex County Environmental Affairs Coordinator Tara M. Casella at 973.228.8776.

FARMERS MARKET QUALITY PRODUCE—Delivered to Essex County Environmental Center

Sign-up for Field Goods to get a delightful variety of fresh and healthy, sustainably grown produce and artisan products. Fruit and vegetable bag subscriptions, as well as, a la carte local produce items, bread, cheese, eggs, pasta, salad, yogurt, and more from over 60 small farms and producers. Orders start at \$16. New customers save \$10 with code REALFOOD10. Produce is non-GMO and mostly organic. Go to www.field-goods.com, click "Order Now" and search Essex County Environmental Center location.

GARDENING — Do you have garden-related questions? Contact Rutgers Cooperative Extension of Essex County and a Master Gardener will gladly assist you on their FREE helpline service. Helpline hours are Monday through Friday from 10am to 2pm. Call 973.228.2210 or e-mail mastergardenerec@gmail.com.

WOODTURNING — The NJ Woodturners Association would like to diversify its membership and gain more participation from women and children. The Association has half a dozen very talented female members, but is encouraging women and children to come to the meetings and learn about the wonderful world of woodturning. The Woodturners meet on the fourth Monday of every month from 7pm to 9:30pm in Garibaldi Hall. Contact Bob Amarant at 908.442.4729 for more information.

ESSEX COUNTY ENVIRONMENTAL CENTER PARTNER AGENCIES

New Jersey Audubon (NJA) – Kelly Wenzel 908.396.6506

Essex County Beekeepers Society (ECBS) – Joe Lelinho 973.403.8662

West Essex Park Conservancy (WEPC) – Ron Pate 973.669.8030

Rutgers Master Gardeners of Essex County (MGEC) – Jan Zientek 973.228.3179

New Jersey Woodturners Association (NJWA) – Bob Amarant 908.442.4729

Essex County 4-H Youth Development Program (4-H) – Marissa Blodnik 973.353.1337

ATTENTION:

If you are not already on our e-mail list, and you would like to receive an electronic file of our brochure as well as other e-notices and alerts, please call the Center (973.228.8776) at your earliest convenience or e-mail tcasella@parks.essexcountynj.org with an e-mail address. Thank you!



Our Environmental Center has become the premiere location for environmental education and nature appreciation. With the help of our partner groups, our dynamic schedule of events and activities will captivate all ages. Walk in our woods, discover habitats, get pointers on gardening, learn about nature photography and much more. It's all about nature and it's all at our Environmental Center.

Joseph N. DiVincenzo, Jr., Essex County Executive

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COUNTY OF ESSEX

Department of Parks, Recreation, and Cultural Affairs

ESSEX COUNTY ENVIRONMENTAL CENTER

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